

Attendance:

Brianna Doucet [EDFL], Oluyinka Taiwo [COMM], Pierre-Olivier Pire [MODL], Grayson Stepanek [MBA], Sumona Mumu [KINS], Bilal Khan [ENGL], Clement Okolo [GSO-P], Abdelrahman Garbie [GSO-VP/MCHE], Benjamin Vidrine [GSO-S/HIST]

Nine Attendees [All Representatives]

Meeting Started: 12:02 PM

Meeting Ended: 12:43 PM

Meeting Called to Order

Opening Remarks

- Introductions are made by Committee Chair Abdelrahman Garbie, GSO Vice President

New Business

- Mourning
 - GSO reaction to the situation and the necessity of discussion on our statement on the issue and what actions we should take. Committee members agreed that we cannot disclose the names or the nature of their death under legal and ethical rationales. A statement, no matter how well articulated, will be beneficial to provide an outlet for students' anger.
 - This discussion then followed with a brief breakdown of the lack of student mental health resources. Representatives brought forth data that shows UL Lafayette critically understaffed in its counseling program. Said program has only three staff members when the standard is one counselor per one-thousand students.
 - Said counselors are also students and the department exists with a lack of specialists for trauma situations.
 - Committee members agreed that, while expanded funding would assist the situation immensely, better training is also necessary for any programs to be effective.
 - Reviews of a draft statement from the GSO pointed to better phrasing in regard to the students' passing as well as more inclusion on the measurable steps the GSO will take with the Graduate School to advocate for better student mental health resources.
- EID celebration tomorrow

- Roughly 50 people RSVP'd for the event, and it still took place at Six O'clock PM in Griffin 315.
- The English Department representative Bilal Khan shared that their department would hold a vigil at Seven O'clock. Committee members agreed that the Eid Event would likely end at Seven and so the GSO coordinated on being in attendance for the vigil.

Old Business

- Shopper Shuttle Initiative
 - Executive Board Members are meeting with Dean Perez and Shopper Shuttle Initiative Leaders.
- SGA
 - ACTION Party Candidates have won their election to the SGA Big Three
 - All three of which [Cade Roy (President), Jasim Ali (V-President), Brooke Davenport (Treasurer)] attended GSO Meetings and shared their goal of better SGA to Graduate School Communication
 - Advocacy Committee members shared that they looked forward to growing cooperation.

Concerns/Questions/Other Advocacy

- The floor is open to any discussion.
 - “Is it possible for Reps to gain access to survey data that prioritize the issues we have discussed in previous meetings? This allows us to plan out the response to the graduate school on these needs via the data gathered.”
 - Specifically, the Parking Survey, as it provided options for responders to note any further developments they may have wanted.
 - SGA Leadership can provide information on the survey.
 - Also, for the pay survey, while GSO is not extremely involved, other organizations can provide the data necessary for us.
 - Issues continue to affect the entire University as key requests for students to access buildings after hours, such as Griffin Hall, are still being denied.
 - Strategies were discussed, namely on meeting with department heads and ensuring a complete understanding of their rights and authority is expressed.
 - Department heads can make requests for keys, and they must be filled by the Office of Facilities.

Adjournment