

## GSC Assembly Meeting

Held on Zoom

Sunday, April 7th, 2024

- I. Members in Attendance:
  - A. Nick Plummer, President
  - B. Tia Epps, Vice President
  - C. Sam Hicks, Chief of Staff
  - D. Cameron Heard, Treasurer
  - E. Dom Farrace, Coordinator of Public Affairs
  - F. Shelly Zaid- Kunz, Coordinator of Social Events and Outreach
  - G. Susan Creager: Assistant Director of Financial Aid
  - H. AM, Assembly Member
  - I. NB, Assembly Member
  - J. KC, Student
  - K. AI, Student
  - L. JP, Student
  - M. K, Student
- II. Organization Updates
  - A. Susan Creager: Graduate School & Affordability
    - 1. How to Pay:
      - a) Self-pay & Employer Pay
        - (1) Pay in full
        - (2) Sign up for a payment plan with SU
        - (3) See if a future or current employer will pay
        - (4) Notify the Cashier's Office if you have payments from scholarships, employers, and 529 plans coming in after the due date
      - b) Graduate Assistant (GA)
        - (1) Positions offer Tuition Remission/ Waiver and small living stipend
        - (2) Apply through Graduate School for
          - (a) Graduate Assistantship
          - (b) Teaching Assistantship
          - (c) Research Assistantship
        - (3) Apply through SU Housing Office for
          - (a) Resident Director Assistantship
      - c) Scholarships are available
        - (1) MD Scholarships- [mhcc.maryland.gov](http://mhcc.maryland.gov)
          - (a) Graduate & Professional Scholarship Program
          - (b) Legislative Scholarships
          - (c) Workforce Shortage Assistance Grant Program
          - (d) Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship

- (e) Conroy Grant/ Cryor Memorial Scholarship
- (2) SU Graduate Scholarships- SU Scholarship Site
- d) Federal Financial Aid (FSFA)
  - (1) Available to students who are enrolled at least ½ time
  - (2) Graduate Unsubsidized Federal Student Loan
  - (3) Graduate Plus Federal Student Loan
- 2. Federal Loan Repayment
  - a) Loan Exit Counseling
    - (1) Current balance
    - (2) Federal loan servicer
    - (3) Repayment options
    - (4) Verification of contact information
  - b) Studentaid.gov
    - (1) Payment Plans
    - (2) Deferment/ Forbearance
    - (3) Consolidation
    - (4) Loan Forgiveness
  - c) Updates Coming to Federal Loan Servicing
    - (1) More user friendly
    - (2) Allow FSA more access to loan servicer data to improve borrower experience
    - (3) Enhance cyber security
    - (4) Centralizing all account management to StudentAid.gov

B. General:

- 1. Successful survey of graduate student professional development interest – a diverse pool of over 45 responses!
- 2. This month GSC will be meeting with the office of Administration and Finance to discuss student fees and their expected impact on graduate students.
- 3. Dr. Lepre will be joining our last meeting of the semester
- 4. The Graduate School is official!
- 5. GSC elections - interest period closed today!

C. President – Nick Plummer

- 1. SU Internal recruitment efforts
- 2. Fee changes potentially taking effect next year on a health fee
  - a) GSC is asking to be informed earlier
- 3. Elections process (brief overview)
- 4. GA parking concerns
  - a) Working for parking accommodations since the GA's work on in different areas of the campus
- 5. SGA Forum Presentation went well

D. VP – Tia Epps

- 1. Aurora (Vice President of Admin & Finance) is attending the Executive meeting on the 17th- come prepared!
  - a) Ask about what fees look like and will look like for graduates

- b) If you have any questions, please send them to us
- E. Chief of Staff – Sam Hicks
- F. Treasurer – Cameron Heard
  - 1. Grad Night in the Box
    - a) Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - b) Registration is open
    - c) Catered
    - d) 50 people Limit
  - 2. Met Jessica about the budget and we are looking good.
- G. Public Relations – Domanique Farrace
  - 1. Spotlights/ Instagram Takeover
  - 2. Questionnaire Form: T-shirt Giveaway
  - 3. LinkedIn Profile
- H. Social Events and Outreach- Shelly Zaid- Kunz
  - 1. Planning for our Spring Gala/ Social is underway!
    - a) Cookout
    - b) Relaxed & Family Oriented
    - c) Date & Time: May 8<sup>th</sup> at 5-7
    - d) Pavillion in Seagull Square
- I. Assembly/Campus Reports- AM
  - 1. Spring Arts Festival took place Friday
- J. Assembly/Campus Reports- NB
  - 1. Blurb for Grad Night in the Box
  - 2. What: Grad Night In the Box
  - 3. When: Wednesday, April 10th at 7 PM
  - 4. Where: Sea Gull Stadium
    - a) Calling all Graduate students! You are invited to join the Graduate Student Council and your fellow graduate students at Sea Gull Stadium this Wednesday. Watch the Men Lacrosse game from the President's Suite and enjoy complimentary food and drinks as you sit back and enjoy the game. The game is scheduled to start at 7 PM on Wednesday, April 10th when SU will face off against the University of Mary Washington. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity!!

Please follow the link or scan the QR code to pre-register if you would like to attend. Note: space is limited!

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/P2mHdvjiP2>

### III. Upcoming Events:

- A. Grad Night in the Box @ Sea Gull Stadium: Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- B. Administration and Finance staff will be attending the executive board meeting: April 17th at 4:30 PM to discuss fee changes for next year
- C. Joint Session (Closed Meeting): April 24<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 PM
- D. Grad Gala/Spring Social: May 8<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm, Seagull Square lawn and Pavillion

E. Spring Graduate Commencement—May 22nd @6 PM

F. Join Session—April 24<sup>th</sup> @3:30 PM

IV. Concerns

V. Questions

VI. Action Items: