

Meeting Minutes
2/18/21

(Note: February meeting agenda, "January 21, 2021" was incorrect, page 2, above Council Agenda)

- Ryan Karl, (*GSU President*), introduced guest speaker, Dr. Jill Pentimonti
- Dr. Pentimonti
 - Holds a Ph.D from The Ohio State University
 - Education Researcher & Director of Research Advancement at ND
 - Office in Washington D.C.
- Discussed life after grad school
 - Many opportunities in D.C.area
 - Lots of non-profit research firms
 - Lots of industry related jobs
 - Think tank jobs
 - Research is a little different
 - More internally funded
 - Policy related
 - Lots of agency jobs
 - Quite a few opportunities for Ph.D holders
 - Stalk the websites for industry & research jobs
 - People are happy to talk about jobs with you
 - Federal agency jobs
 - Connecting with an alum or someone affiliated with ND for opportunities
- Question from David Marshall, (*Sacred Music, Department Rep*)
 - How do we get involved in a Think Tank?
 - Handy lists on internet
 - Google!
 - Do your research on political meanings of each, given your research
- Question from Brandon Czowski, (*Professional Development Chair, Chemistry & Biochemistry*)
 - What was your timeline for job search?
 - Ten months to one year in advance
 - Reach out to people to narrow things down
- Dr. Pentimonti still feels very connected to colleagues from grad school
- Anyone may email Dr. Pentimonti with questions (jpentim2@nd.edu)
- Approval of January meeting minutes
 - Janeala Morsby (*GSU Co-Vice President*)
 - Made motion to vote
 - David Marshall seconded this motion
 - Meeting minutes were approved
- Committee reports were read
- Ryan Karl, Helping Hat presentation

- Hat was designed with similar intention of *The Shirt*
 - 50% of sales going to Grad School Emergency Fund
 - Cost is \$18 per hat
 - We make \$3.50 per hat sold
 - Rest of funds to support grad clubs & organizations
 - Pre-Orders are being taken currently through March 15, 2021
 - [Link](#) to purchase hat thru Student Shop ND
- GSU Constitution & Ad Hoc Committee was discussed
 - GSU current Constitution
 - Poorly written
 - Contains many contradictions & ambiguities
 - New Constitution provides more clarification
- Conference Presentation Grants discussed
 - CPG will fund conference memberships within reason
 - Extra funds available due to travel ban
 - All November & December application requests were funded
- Quality of Life committee proposal
 - To show appreciation to Teaching Assistants
 - (2) NR 95 masks
 - \$5 coffee gift cards
 - \$7000 cost
 - Academic Affairs committee will contribute \$500
 - Q of L committee will contribute \$500
- Amy Kryston (*CEEES Department Rep*)
 - Feels it's a lot of money for masks when the University has provided fabric masks
- Xing-Jie Zhong (*Social Chair, Computer Science & Engineering*)
 - How many are TAing?
- Alan Costello (*Quality of Life Chair, Biological Sciences*)
 - Approximately 741
- Phoenix Pedro (*Anthropology Department Rep*)
 - May be frustrating for TAs to receive masks as a "thank you"
 - For putting themselves at risk
 - In -person environments
 - With highest risk population at ND
 - When taking risk is not optional for TAs, it's a requirement
- Alan Costello
 - Masks are offering a bit more protection to TAs
- David Marshall
 - Likes idea of filling out Google form for those TAs who want masks & gift cards
 - Only those interested will fill out form
- Janeala Morsby
 - Great job to Q of L committee for this idea
 - Looking at overall cost & some TAs not being on campus
 - Possibly consider a certificate of appreciation, signed by higher ups

- Amy Kryston
 - If cost of masks are cheap, why not buy for all grad students who want one, not just TAs
- Alan Costello
 - It's about targeting people at higher risk level
- Kristi Haas (*Q of L Chair, Theology*)
 - Great question Amy
 - Think of this as a pilot initiative to show ways to appreciate TAs
- Amy Kryston
 - I haven't seen evidence of classroom transmission
 - Seems like most happens in dorms
 - Great first place to start with appreciating TAs
 - Feels masks should be available to all grad students
 - Possibly give these funds to Grad Emergency fund as opposed to masks & gift cards
- Jian-Ren Lim (*Academic Affairs Chair, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering*)
 - We want to show appreciation to TAs
 - To make them feel we care about them & putting themselves at risk
 - This initiative is targeting TAs because of they are at risk
 - NR 95 masks are more protective
 - This is how & why we reached this proposal
- Amy Kryston
 - Prefers to improve safety of all grad students by giving masks to all
 - Questioning best use of funds
 - Consider asking University for funds
- Ola Abdalsalam (*Electrical Engineering Department Rep*)
 - Doesn't feel gift cards are as important as masks are for all grad students
- Lorraine Mihaliak (*Sacred Music Department Rep*)
 - Better to petition the school at large or get all students masks or give funds to hat fund
- Kristi Haas
 - Appreciates comments & concerns
 - Does GSU want to support this initiative more broadly for grad students?
 - Hears that people are interested in making masks available to all grad students
- Breakout Sessions
- Alan Costello addressed concerns
- Ryan Karl asked for any motions on issues
- Amy Kryston
 - GSU has the funds
 - Proposes to spend funds on masks for everyone. People in labs need as much as TAs
- Bridgette Befort (*Academic Affairs Chair, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering*)
 - Thanks for this discussion

- Next steps are to clarify the budget further, work on more logistics & add a certificate of appreciation
 - For next meeting
 - Do we want to fund masks for all?
- Phoenix Pedro
 - Frustrated about University's inability to adequately address situation & actual risks
 - Supports GSU offering masks as available to all who want them as part of this specific project
- Benjamin Pykare (*Medieval Studies Department Rep*)
 - Great ideas especially masks for all
- Kristi Haas
 - Made motion that GSU allocate a fund that is designated for events that are now impossible
 - Up to \$5000
 - Knowing it will be less depending upon number of sign ups
 - Can be more of an indication model
- Alan Costello seconds this motion
- Alan Costello proposes all committees donate \$500 each for an extra \$2000 to enable masks for all
 - Motion to amend current motion
 - All get masks & TAs get gift cards as well
- Jamie Trost (*Psychology Department Rep*) seconds this motion
- Vote for amendment to original motion
- Motion passed
- Voting on current amended motion
- Motion passed
- Announcements
- Mimi Beck (*Advisor to GSU, Director of Grad Life*)
 - [Election timeline](#) posted on GSU website under 'About', Elections
 - Nominations now open
 - Talk to Mimi or GSU Officers
 - Campaigning begins March 15
 - Professional Development Opportunity
 - Green Dot (virtual) Training
 - March 1st & 3rd, must attend both
 - Teaches how to recognize problematic behaviors & how to safely take action
 - Grad School (virtual) Town Hall
 - March 3, 8:30 p.m.
 - [Submit questions](#) by February 24
 - [Housing Fair](#) (virtual)
 - March 11
- Ryan Karl asks if we have a motion to adjourn meeting

- Kristi Haas makes motion to adjourn
- Alan Costello seconds this motion
- Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Quorum was met, with 25 departments represented & all officers present