**Graduate Student Senate: May 1st, 2017 Minutes.**

**Announcements**

* Interest Meeting for Association for Graduate Students with Disabilities (AGSD) E-mail Adam Harvey (**aharvey1@umbc.edu)** if interested.
* GSA Award Ceremony will take place on May 11, 2017 at 5:00pm. Attend! There will be free food!

**1. Executive Council Reports**
*1.1 Treasurer Report:*

* Scott Riley(Treasurer) gave report on GSA budget. No major issues reported.
* **Important:**the deadline to submit any reimbursement forms this semester is **June 16th, 2017**

**2. Committee Reports**

*2.1: University Committees*

* Library Committee:
	+ Eyal Katz attended the April meeting. Library is looking to become more financially insulated from other departments. Note this is normally done through a fee increase.Therefore, the Library Committee encourages us to campaign for stable fundingsourced separately from fees.
	+ Library is hoping to use the funds to update the building and services
		- See [Strategic Framework (link)](https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B5k5xnRs9UZGaF9EWWVvRXJ2RUUxRVZSYXEzb0NxOG1xUDZ3) for full description of their vision
* Human Relations (HR) Committee:
	+ Gian attended the April meeting. The committee aims to ensure everyone on campus gets equal treatment and opportunities.
	+ HR is looking for a specific role on campus. Campus issues that HR might be able to address
		- Conservative Voices
		- Sexual Assault
		- Graduate Assistant Support
		- Bullying
		- Athletic Minimum Health
	+ The committee is looking to involve other UMBC Shared Governance Senates
* Steering Committee
	+ Deanna attended the April meeting. Committee is composed of all heads of leadership from campus. Next month meeting the elected leadership
		- Discussed Human Relations Committee
		- Campus Climate Committee has been created. Committee will address UMBC’s social climate
	+ Plan of Organization will be officially approved by President’s Council
* USMSC Committee:
	+ Dan & Deanna attended. Board of Regents approved student fees
	+ **Controversy At College Park**
		- College Park instituted fees for international student without consulting Fee Advisory Board analog. It resulted in protests from the students. University Leaders responded with, “ If they don’t like it, they don’t have to come here”.

*2.2 Senate Committees*

* Treasury
	+ Adam Harvey presented report
		- Worked with Roy and EBoard to review and revise Governing Documents
		- Discussed Resolution to give Senate oversight to Grants Program
	+ Meeting tomorrow to discuss yearly spending
	+ Work on recommendations for next year
* Legislative Concerns
	+ Tom Cole presented report
		- Last meeting was last week. Discussed recommendations and expectationsfor next year
* Graduate Research Committee
	+ Scott presented for Onimi
		- Discussed next year’s plan
		- Plug for GRC next year

**3. New Business**

*3.1 Summer Positions*

* Senate voted on whether to fund GSA office positions over the summer
	+ Senate voted to not fund the **Writing Advisor, Communication Manager,** and **Community Liaison Officer.**
	+ Senate votedto fundTravel and Grants Coordinatorfor 10hr/week with 1 credit of tuition remission

*3.2 New GSO Proposed*

* A new GSO, **Sister Scholars**, aims to foster a sense of committee for UMBC’s Black Female Graduate Students. It would link students with alumni and professors.
* Motion to create the GSO passed by 29

*3.3 Senate Committee Compensation*

* Senate voted to fund Senate Committees for Spring activities ( see point 2.2)

*3.4 Governing Documents*

The Executive Council and related committees have streamlined and coordinated all the governing documents (Bylaws and Constitution) for the Graduate Student Senate. For summary of changes please click [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4zx6IqX4p9FQnZmckplc1h5bTg/view?usp=sharing). All new (and old) documents can be found [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4zx6IqX4p9FQnZmckplc1h5bTg/view?usp=sharing). The following are the big changes.

1. **Annual Points of Policy:** Published each year, it will describe major milestones, due dates and activities for the Senate and GSA.
2. **Standing Committees:** Several special (i.e. ad hoc) committees will be converted into standing (i.e. permanent) committees. Compensation will be increased to reflect their larger role. Potential Standing committees are
	1. GRC and GAAC
	2. The remaining Senate committees will stay Special Committees
3. **E-Council Restructuring**
	1. Removed VP\_GRC
	2. Combined with VP\_EA to make VP
4. **GSOs retain voting rights**
	1. GSOs will retain voting rights, even if inactive. But GSOs can been disbanded by the senate if they are inactive for a TBD period of time.
	2. The Executive Council **will not** be making changes to GSOs without going through the Senate first.
	3. Process to create/recreate GSO will not change
5. **Codified Relationships with Graduate School**

Governing Documents were approved by 27 votes.