

I. Presentations from the 2018-2019 GSC Officers

- GSC President, Anna Terebus
 - Introduces all GSC officers.
 - Offers an opportunity to join the executive committee. If interested in taking part of said committee, please contact: GSC-OFFICERS@listserv.uic.edu
 - Informs the representatives of their function: distribute the information and promote the events discussed in the monthly meetings to their respective departments.
 - Presents GSC goals:
 - Supporting graduate students by hosting seminars and workshops.
 - Graduate students are encouraged to join conferences by supporting them with travel awards.
 - Bringing them together with various social events and project awards.
 - Allows for \$500 in project award grants.
 - Representing them in many different committees and meetings throughout the year.
 - Department representation during monthly meetings, which will be held on the first Thursday of every month.
 - Speakers from different administrative offices will be brought in for every meeting.
 - Representatives can provide feedback, opinions and critiques towards the speakers
 - We urge the representatives to Present your point of view and keep being vocal.
 - Representatives are welcome to present new ideas for speakers or offices they wish would present.
 - Career events and possible ideas for workshops
 - President asked for ideas:
 - Roundtable discussions for TA's was presented.
- GSC Vice-President Carrie Nacht
 - Announcements:
 - Executive meetings are twice a month
 - Functions of the executive committee are to help present and organize events for GSC.
 - Attendance is voluntary.
 - Volunteer committee was introduced.
 - A committee dedicated to volunteer and outreach.
 - The committee is open to all students from any department.
 - Form will be sent to representatives to allow for ideas and feedback of the meeting and new speakers.
 - 3-minute thesis:
 - Point is to convey research or project that allows for collaboration and public speaking practice for GSC representatives.
 - Completely voluntary.
 - Allows for constructive criticism from other representatives.
 - The Vice president gave a exemplary 3-minute thesis presentation of her research in Kenya.
- GSC Treasurer Sai-Siva Kare
 - Discussed travel awards:

- Students that are participating in an officially recognized event are eligible for travel award reimbursement of a maximum of \$275.
- Students who apply must be part of a department that has **active** representation.
 - Active representation is defined by having attended the 8 general monthly meetings.
- Students can only be awarded one every academic year
- Processing academic award is defined by quarters:
 - Quarter 1: May – July
 - Quarter 2: Aug- Oct
 - Quarter 3: Nov – Jan
 - Quarter 4: Feb – April
- Awards are on a first come, first serve basis. Late applicant can be rejected due to a lack of funds.
- Application is best submitted on the quarter to which the last day of the conference falls. Example: Conference is from April 30th- May 3th, so best would be quarter 1
- Treasurer addresses question: We will present the number of awards available by the next general meeting.
- Application is in the Graduate Student council website: gradstudentcouncil.uic.edu
 - Travel award application is in the Awards page behind the Click Here button. Reading the award policy are very important beforehand.
- Submission will provide an application number, which is very important.
- Downloading the application is also important as this is the means to which you, your advisor and DGS sign the form.
- Representatives themselves can apply for the award.
- Proof of acceptance is needed. Preferably, proof is the email or letter confirming your acceptance into the conference.
- You must state whether you're getting funds from another source.
 - Treasurer confirms this will not affect your eligibility for the award.
- You must acquire a real signature and as GSC doesnt encourage the use of electronic signature.
- Treasurer reiterates that reimbursement is timing sensitive.
- Question from representative: Is this restricted to your activity or location?
 - Treasurer: Conference location does not affect eligibility.
- Discussed Project awards:
 - Any one student or group enrolled as a grad student(s) can apply for a project award.
 - Project must be to the benefit of or open to UIC students.
 - The link for application is gradstudentcouncil.uic.edu/project_award.html
 - Application form must be completed and sent to GSC-OFFICERS@listserv.uic.edu
 - Presentation template will be sent to submitter(s), allowing them to present their project to representatives in the monthly meeting.
 - The representatives will take a vote towards the project, thus deciding whether they'll be funded by GSC.
 - Question from representative: Can the project be a social event?
 - Treasurer: It can be any activity or event. As long as its geared towards UIC grad students.

- Dean Deanna: The money must be used for students and/or towards the benefit or interest of graduate students, as the money comes from student fees.
- GSC Secretary Juan Maldonado Weng
 - Reminded representatives of the importance of attendance to maintain active representation and to allow grad students from respective departments eligible for travel and project awards. Either the representative or alternative representative can account for the department's attendance.
 - Secretary will keep track of attendance.
 - QR codes will be implemented to account for attendance. If you have not received your personalized QR code, contact the secretary.
 - Secretary reiterates the role of representatives is to voice opinions, concern and feedback. Can email the GSC officers at any time. (GSC-OFFICERS@listserv.uic.edu)
 - Secretary's function is to keep track of the meeting's minutes and send out to the representatives.
 - In charge of re-organizing the GSC website.
 - Imposed a deadline of November.
 - Secretary answers question on how both primary and secondary representative should have QR codes.
 - Secretary acknowledged the concern of developing website with accessibility in mind. Especially with the visually challenged. The website will be in coordination of experts in the field of UIC web design.
 - Minutes for each meeting along with PowerPoints of the meeting.
 - Project awards presentation will also be sent a week before to allow representatives to prepare.
 - Representatives will also be receiving the agenda at least a week beforehand.

II. Speakers

- **Linda Deanna**, Associate Vice Chancellor for student affairs, Dean of Students and Advisor for GSC.
 - Welcomes representatives to the first meeting.
 - Has been our supervisor for 18 years.
 - The role of representatives is to represent the graduate students.
 - Concerns of their life in or out of UIC can be discussed here.
 - Darius Newsome is a graduate student who is also the student member of the Board of Trustees.
 - Dean of Students (DoS) office supports all students, not strictly disciplinary, as it offers many services for UIC students.
 - DoS have assisted in many types of incidents ranging from food insecurities, violence, and accidents.
 - U&I care award is a new award that provides funding towards unseen and unexpected incidents for students enrolled in UIC.
 - Case example: International student who was scammed, was awarded enough money for one-month rent.
 - Accessible in a form at the DoS office and online.
 - Student legal services is also located in the DoS.
 - Helps students with legal service, as afforded by student fees.
 - There is a lawyer and paralegal available.

- If you don't know where to go nor the right person to go to, you can contact the DoS office.
- She ended by offering anyone to contact her directly if need.
- **“Yes Apply Illinois”**, student-led movement to remove “invasive and humiliating” questions from the state higher education admissions process.
 - It's a student led coalition working towards abolishing the invasive and humiliating admissions question about past convictions and high school disciplinary violations.
 - They ask representatives to invite students to the coalition meetings and aid them in removing the questions.
 - The Common App system allows schools to decide whether they ask the questions.
 - The student coordinator stated that the question was removed from grad school applications.
 - Answering a representative's question: The aforementioned questions in the application process are whether they have a history of high school disciplinary violations or any time incarcerated?
 - The questions are mandatory in the application process.
 - They want to welcome all students and remove questions of exclusion.
 - GSC representative asked: Are students turned away by the question?
 - Response: The administration has said that students are not turned away by the question.
 - GSC representative asked: Is there any research between disciplinary questions and their success in undergraduate research?
 - Response: They cited a study from New York stating that the questions prevent people from submitting the application. They also state that college success is correlated with decreased chances of repeat incarceration.
 - GSC representative asked: Do you know if whether the students that have had a past history will stop application cause of these questions?
 - Response: It is a matter of perception. They served their time so they shouldn't go through the humiliation of answering the question.
 - Treasurer asked: How do they plan to change the application's questions?
 - Response: A task force was created to confront the administration. They state they have the support of many administrative offices and a legislator.
 - GSC representative asked: How would a student with a violent crime affect the student body? Safety concerns.
 - Response: That the question of people who enter are not concerned with the question itself.
 - GSC representative question: Is there empirical evidence that these questions are affecting the student applications?
 - Response: They cite the study from NY that the people don't follow through the application cause of the question. People have to disclose that prior conviction after admissions, so the application question is not appropriate.
 - GSC Representative states: Article study from Brookings institute that this can be a discriminatory question for people of color. The African American community are most likely to have a history, and this is who the question is targeting. Its important to remove the question in order to further education. And this is also a threat to the most incarcerated are people with disabilities.

- President stated that if people are interested in helping they can gather information from the student coordinator.

III. **Project Award Application:** Irene Finestrat “UIC Bilingualism Forum”.

- Megan Marshall presented the project award from the School of Hispanic studies
 - o It’s the sixth annual “BilForum”
 - o Dates: October 11-12, 2018
 - o Target audience: Linguistics, Spanish Linguistics, Latino studies, Psychology
 - o Benefits of this forum spotlights the reality of bilingual students across all majors on campus.
 - o Access to learn from a network with experts in the field of bilingualism/multilingualism
 - o Provides students with the ability to organize an event.
 - o Showcases the work of graduate students and allows for different groups to present and meet.
 - o They are asking for \$500 from GSC.
 - o They are gathering funds from different sources such as the department of Hispanic studies and from registration fees.
 - To which they only charge registration fees from non-UIC faculty or students.
 - o Costs go into covering fees of speaker and honorarium, food and coffee.
 - o Attendance was over 110 attendees and at least of 47 were from UIC. We had registered from distinct states.
 - o Treasurer asked: Will the logo of GSC on the flyer/banner?
 - Response: Yes.
 - o They stated that advertisement for the event will be sent out by email to every department. Facebook account will also promote the event.
 - o Vice-President asked: Are they depending on most students from outside of UIC?
 - Response: Yes, but based on past events this should not be a problem. If funds run low than they will cut funds for food and drinks before they charge UIC students for registration.
 - o GSC representative stated that the fact that the project award should be given money by need and the presentation.
 - o The project award applicants argued that the five hundred allows for more students to come to the event.
 - o GSC Representative: If funding becomes critical would they stop UIC students from coming?
 - Response: They would not limit UIC students but they would turn around non-UIC students and just prioritize UIC and/or cut the refreshments
 - o Dean Deanna reiterated that the project award grants are supposed go towards UIC students, as they come from the graduate student fees.
 - o The majority of the students voted yes on the project.

IV. Updates to the **GSC Constitution**.

- President stated that we didn’t have time to discuss the proposed changes of the constitution and they will be sent with the original by email to allow representatives to form their judgement.

Meeting adjourned.