

## **GSC General Meeting Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday September 1, 2020  
6PM virtual meeting

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- I. Welcome
- II. Land Grant Recognition
- III. GSC Vision, Mission, Introduction
- IV. Officer Introductions
- V. GSC Officer Introductions
  - A. Co-Presidents, Matt Saxton and Lindsay Winkenbach
    - i. GSC Initiatives for 2020-2021
      1. Combat decentralization of the graduate programs and organizations
      2. Continue improving access and services for both mental and physical health care
      3. Formalize systems to improve the mentor-mentee relationship and improve graduate student power. (i.e. Being a mentor to graduate students is a privilege for faculty that can be revoked)
      4. Improve graduate student stipends university wide
      5. Ensure the graduate student voice is heard through broad representation on all university committees
      6. Work with graduate school to create more comprehensive policy regarding retaliation
      7. Continue to expand our budget and support for awards and programs which directly benefit graduate students
  - B. VP of Graduate Advocacy, Zaria Vick
    - i. Advocacy initiatives for the year in brief
      1. Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee
      2. Graduate Student Support Group
      3. RBEI Proposal (Race, Bias, Equity Initiative)
  - C. VP of Graduate Engagement, Juli Scamardo
    - i. Awards this year
      1. Travel Award – currently suspended due to COVID-19
      2. Professional Development and Supply Award – available in late Sept.
    - ii. Send around list for representative contact info
    - iii. Representative introduction letters sent out to each department
    - iv. GSC Virtual Game Night and Committee Check-in
      1. September 17, 2020 at 6pm
      2. Food provided, more information to follow
  - D. VP of Finance (Treasurer), Kaylee Clark
    - i. Brief budget overview
    - ii. Funding for student organizations available
  - E. VP of Information (Secretary), Theresa Berger
    - i. Virtual meetings via Zoom – check website for access and previous meetings
    - ii. Resources for graduate students available on GSC website
    - iii. Email GSC to advertise upcoming graduate student events

- VI. Committee introductions  
Please see the agenda for a sign-up form to join a committee
- Healthcare
  - Diversity and Inclusion
  - Finance
  - Graduate QTs
  - International Student Committee
  - Faculty Council/Student Fee Committee Representatives

Contact us if you'd like to start a new committee!

- VII. Department representatives  
To be a department representative you must:
- Attend all GSC meetings
  - Volunteer once a semester in the community or for GSC
  - Help with grading travel awards
  - Represent the voice of graduate students from your department

See sign up form on agenda to become a representative

- VIII. Upcoming events
- i. Virtual game night
  - ii. Graduate student showcase
  - iii. Town hall meeting for policy and teaching related to COVID-19
  - iv. Next meeting Oct 6<sup>th</sup> at 6m MST

- IX. Guest Speakers  
Dean Mary Stromberger, Graduate School

- i. Employee Assistance Program for Graduate Teaching Assistants

**Eligibility requirements:**

- GAs must currently be enrolled in at least 1 credit (RI) with a minimum 0.25 FTE assistantship.
- GAs must be in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress toward degree completion.

**The EAP Benefits:**

- Graduate Assistants and dependents are offered six free counseling sessions per family member, per issue, per calendar year from a licensed provider in the community. OUTSIDE CSU HEALTH NETWORK
- Telemedicine virtual counseling sessions are also now available.
- EAP benefits also include access to legal, financial, and work-life guided resources within the community.
- Program details are available at [eap.colostate.edu](http://eap.colostate.edu)

The EAP benefit is available to GAs *in addition* to student services provided by the CSU Health Network and through the Student Health Insurance Plan (as opposed to being a replacement or substitute).

ii. Graduate School Strategic Planning 2020-2025

- 2016 CSU Strategic Plan is organized around five pillars:
  - We will champion student success.
  - We will make a global impact and translate discoveries into products of knowledge, creative artistry, and innovation.
  - CSU will engage with people and communities to solve problems, share knowledge, and support progress.
  - CSU will be a rewarding, inspiring, productive, and inclusive community for all employees – and enhance faculty as its foundation.
  - CSU will be accountable, sustainable, and responsible.
- GS Strategic Plan will align its objectives with those of the CSU Strategic Plan (currently being revised).
  
- Objectives/initiatives around graduate student success and supporting graduate student research, scholarship and artistry
  - Multi-year plan to increase competitiveness of graduate student compensation packages
    - Increase minimum stipends
    - 5 years of funding for PhD's, MFA's
    - Tuition match for foundation awards, training grants
    - In partnership with college leadership, Provost, and Vice President for Research
- Also related to graduate student success
  - Establish transparent and accountable policies and practices on graduate student/postdoc mentoring
    - Mentoring bill of rights
    - Informal and formal grievance process
    - Accountability for anti-mentoring
    - NEED GSC HELP TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN!!!!
- Creating diverse and inclusive community for graduate students
  - Develop an anti-racist culture within the Graduate School that is reflective in its policies and practices
    - Admissions best practices and policy language around use of standardized test scores
    - Identify department-level gaps in admissions, degree progression, time to degree completion, and completion rates by gender, minority, and international status; develop program accountability measures
- Mentoring resources
  - Mentor Mondays
  - Graduate Center for Inclusive Mentoring
  - Check Graduate School website for more information
    - Graduate School has a one hour seminar on Mentoring Best-Practices for Diversity and Inclusion

- iii. Inclusive Pedagogy training module with TILT
  - The Graduate School and TILT received funding from the Race, Bias and Equity Initiative (RBEI) to develop and launch an Inclusive Pedagogy training module for GTAs.
  - We are wrapping up the development of the 3-week training module and will pilot it with a group of GTAs (20-30) this November, along with our assessment tool. A full launch will occur in Spring 2021, with 200+ GTAs.
  - With the Inclusive Pedagogy training, GTAs will develop competencies on creating an inclusive classroom environment, recognizing and mitigating bias, diversifying the curriculum, and facilitating classroom discussions on free speech and cultural differences related to course materials.

Associate Dean Colleen Webb, Graduate School

- i. NEW: Professional Development Roadmap found on Graduate School website includes:
  - Individual Development Plan (IDP)
  - Competencies Road Map
  - Graduate Professional Development Series in collaboration with University of Colorado Boulder
- ii. Graduate School monthly office hours with Associate Dean of Graduate School Colleen Webb
  - Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 4-5pm starting Sept 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Access office hours: <https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/virtualhour/>
- iii. Graduate Student Environment Survey
  - Available September 14 through October 3
  - Please provide your feedback!

Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO)

- i. Request for Temporary Work Adjustments for faculty and staff available
- ii. Process to submit forms and verification
- iii. Contact OEO for more information

X. Concluding remarks

- i. Email GSC with any questions: [gccsu@gmail.com](mailto:gccsu@gmail.com)
- ii. Visit GSC website: [gsc.colostate.edu](http://gsc.colostate.edu)
- iii. Will be sending out a September Newsletter
- iv. Next meeting October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm MST