

## Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)

Notes from October 5, 2020 | 7:00 p.m. | Centennial Ball Room & Zoom

### CALL TO ORDER

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

moved to approve the minutes.

Seconded.

The minutes approved by the majority.

#### OPEN FORUM

Cathleen Dill-Unionize UNL (Graduate Student Workers) Union already exists as a collective of graduate students. Working on a signature survey to get 30% of student workers to move to legalize the union. This is a practice run for the true 90 day trial.

Question by \_\_\_\_\_: When do you hope to get the data? Answer: The union committee is building the survey right now, hoping to send it out right in two-three weeks. Wanting to use as a dry run to see how many signatures within 90 days.

Question by Tim (Social)- How big is your legal team, and if I sign will this compromise my contract as a GA? Answer: No legal team, will form one after this survey if we have enough interest and we affiliate with a union. Can assure you that the right to unionize is legally protected by law.

Statement TLTE rep- Most of the international students may not be able to be supported by the union (gave example from another university). Answer- We want to protect international students. Urbana Champlain got free summer student housing. Cost of living in Lincoln is about \$28,000 for a family, but my stipend is \$17,000.

Comment Jess- Will the survey be sent with pre-written email with text? Suggest you send contact information and link. Also, what to do if people do get retaliation Answer- Yes, good comment.

Cathleen- We are not yet ready to legally unionize. Will work with a legal affiliate. Working on language to clearly articulate our mission, who we are, website, etc. Working on social media, a discord server, and email.

Conner- Is there any guarantee in a "right to work" state like Nebraska? I think this is important to do but it seems like a lot of us are worried about how we could provide evidence that we were fired for unionizing as opposed to another reason. Answer- We still need to figure that out.

Khalid-How would students paid by grants and fellowships be covered in the union? Answer- Anyone who is paid by the university. But doesn't know yet specifically and she knows they need to talk to a legal team.

Tim-What does the Union have to offer? Answer- she wants a union. The cost of living and vision is her reason. The number of workers will help us to make chance.

Communication rep-What can we do? Answer- follow Unionize UNL on Facebook & Instagram

At-Large Yi Xuen Tay- commission on women, invite women to a forum to talk about women here at UNL, college of Law, next Tuesday, 5:30-7:30  
International advisory board- Hear your experience as interational students.

## **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

### **President Rodene**

- Academic planning meeting and graduate counsel this next Thursday (10/7/2021).

### **Executive Vice President Donesky**

- In isolation. Have considered preferences for internal committee. Will on next representative communication within one week. If you asked to be on an external committee, trying to get those filled first. If you are not placed externally, you will be placed internally.

-Per the bylaws, representative terms are one year from the first day of Sept to the last day of August.

-if you have questions talk to Venn

### **Vice President of Student Affairs Mowat**

-External committees will be assigned by Friday.

-If you didn't fill out the survey, either email me tonight or you will be put on an internal community by default.

-If you are on an external you will be cc'd on an email to the committee from me (VP of Student Affairs) saying that GSA is nominates you as our representative. Please follow up with the person and let me know when you have been accepted on to the committee or if you haven't been.

### **Vice President of Representation Jemkur**

No Report

### **Vice President of Finance Herzfeld**

Total budget \$30,300. Half will go to GTAP, if you want to spend money email VP of Finance.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

D&I report-Diversity and Climate survey results

Working on having a huskers dialog for graduate students to talk about D&I topics.

Meeting with university D&I to try and start it at least by Fall 2022.

Question (Agricultural leadership and education rep)- how did you code diversity  
Answer- coded when the word showed up in the survey either in positive or negative terms.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **GSA Bill # 1**

**Question (modern languages and literatures)- no details, what do I tell my people? Answer- at a coffee shop, still shopping around for the best price**

**Bill #1 passed by majority votes.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:40p.m.