

GSAC General Body Meeting

Friday, October 30th, 2020

Virtual meeting via Zoom

- I. Executive reports
 - a. President – Zachary Sandoval
 - i. Career Services will be the guest speaker next week
 1. This is a really important resource on campus
 - b. VP of Programming – Lacey Jenkins
 - i. Trick or Treat booth
 1. Today at 12-2 on Library Quad
 - ii. Turkey Tom
 1. Starting next Friday (11/6)
 - iii. Fully virtual events coming soon
 - c. VP of Administrative Activities
 - i. Volunteer opportunity
 1. Civic Engagement and Volunteerism Office
 - a. Food Pantry
 - b. 5-7PM on 11/5 and 11/19
 - d. VP of Public Relations – Kristy Workman
 - i. Social media giveaways coming soon
 1. Follow GSAC social media pages
 - a. Facebook: eiugsac
 - b. Twitter: @EIU_GSAC
 - c. Instagram: eiu_gsac
 - ii. Social media spotlight entries still open
 - e. Graduate Student Dean – Brock Hammond
 - i. Funding available to assist those impacted by COVID-19 pandemic
 1. There is relief being put together by alumni and donors
 - ii. International student survey results
 1. If anyone would like to discuss the survey, please reach out to Brock
- II. Graduate School liaison report
 - a. Headspace for work update
 - i. Budget
 1. We're starting with a \$10,000 budget. Some of the money has already been set aside for scholarships (\$1,000), spring awards (\$1,500), and events (\$700-\$1,000), leaving us with about \$6,000 for general use.
 2. If we were to buy 500 of these, the price would be between \$4,000 and \$4,500 for one-year subscriptions. Every 500 we get, they give

\$1 off per license. If we had 100-500, they would charge us \$8.99 per person.

ii. Wellness committee

1. If anyone is interested in giving feedback on this and joining the wellness committee, email Austin

b. GN4U mentors

- i. If you would still like to sign up, you can. This is a great way to give back to our undergrad student population and the time commitment is low

c. Information on forming professional graduate student groups

- i. A lot of students are interested in forming these groups. We're working on putting together a 101 sheet on how to get started
- ii. We are also researching best practices on what to do once the group is formed. This is being actively worked on

III. Departmental updates

a. Aging studies – no updates

b. Biology – no updates

c. Communication Disorders and Sciences – no updates

d. Chemistry – no updates

e. Communication – those who are teaching Intro to Speech are about to have their students give their persuasive speeches; nothing new department-wide

f. Curriculum and Instruction – no updates

g. Counseling (clinical) – selling department apparel and hoodie/crewneck that says “going to therapy is cool”; you can contact CSI president, Austin, or Karen if interested

h. Clinical psychology – no updates

i. College Student Affairs – there have been professional development opportunities that they have been excited about

j. English – Friday the 13th there will be a meet and greet for three of the creative writing department; visit the writing center if you need help with anything

k. Geographic Information Sciences – no updates

l. History – “Teaching Social Studies in Historic Times” event on November 6th; free virtual via Zoom but please register if you are planning to attend

m. Health Promotion and Leadership – no updates

n. Human Services Program and Administration – no updates

o. Business (MBA) – no updates

p. Music – no updates

q. Political Science – great quote from one of the department’s students in response to the question “Why did you choose EIU?” The student said, “I chose EIU for numerous reasons. It offered me the flexibility to earn my master’s degree online, yet feel connected to a physical university. The professors are amazing and while I did not know it at the time, I think it would be difficult to find this quality of education elsewhere” ; Dr. Kevin Anderson gave a talk on fundamentals of US

presidential election and explained the Electoral College and Popular Vote. It was recorded so let Brock know if you are interested in watching it

- r. Special Education – no updates
- s. School Psychology – no updates
- t. Sustainable Energy – no updates
- u. Technology – no updates