



## **General Assembly Meeting**

2021-11-11 @ 2:30 PM

Online via [Zoom](#)

### **Advisors/Graduate Student Life**

Julie Choe Kim (Advisor, and Director, Graduate Student Life)

Bernard Asakiba Atieme (GPA, and Advisor, Graduate Student Life)

### **GAPSA Executive Officers**

Steven Zhou (President)

Wai Ling Fong (Executive Vice President)

Dylan V. Scarton (VP of Fairfax)

Troi Dixon (VP of Arlington)

Marissa Howard (VP of SciTech)

Jane Aronds (Director of Communications)

### **Guests**

Jimmy Hazel (Rector, Board of Visitors)

Juliet Blank-Godlove (Dean of Students, University Life)

Emilie Dubert (Director, Contemporary Student Services)

### **Program Representatives**

Aayushi Hingle (Doctoral, Communication Department)

Alamin Molla (Doctoral, Geography and Geoinformation Sciences)

Aleyah Dawkins (Doctoral, Mathematics)

Amara Orji (Doctoral, Public Health)

Andrew Leisner (Doctoral, Physics)

Anna Tsybko (Master's, School Of Business)

Antarjot Kaur (Master's, Bioengineering)

Ashish Hingle (Doctoral, IT)

Christopher Russo (Doctoral, Economics)

Daniel Mark Harrison (Master's, Chemistry)

Dina Abdo (Doctoral, Health Administration and Policy)

Douglas Nedza (Doctoral, Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth Sciences (AOES))

Drew Bonner (Doctoral, Sociology)

Emily Jeffries (Master's, Public Policy)

Emily Linda Richard (Doctoral, Psychology (CBN))

Esteline Marie Pascua (Master's, Real Estate Development)  
Eunice Kim (Master's, English)  
Greta Swain (Doctoral, History)  
Hannah Abraham (Master's, Data Analytics Engineering)  
Huy Phan (Master's, Social Work)  
Ian Hamilton (Master's, Applied Industrial and Organizational Psychology)  
Isaac Gibbons (Master's, Cybersecurity Engineering)  
Jonathan David Banse (Master's, History)  
Jonathan Marine (Doctoral, English)  
Kathleen Klingenberg (Master's Art History Graduate Association (AHGA))  
Katrina Burkett (Master's, Sociology)  
Kimberly C Talley (Master's, International Security)  
Krista Beran (Doctoral, Nursing)  
Leslie Escobar (Master's, Higher Education and Student Development)  
Lorne Epstein (Master's, Organizational Development and Knowledge Management)  
Nia Pollard (Doctoral, Chemistry)  
Nicole Burke (Master's, Special Education)  
Ninon Nelson (Master's, Global Affairs)  
Olugbemi Aroke (Doctoral, Civil Engineering)  
Peng Warweg (Master's, Educational Instructional Technology)  
Peter McEachern (Master's, Psychology)  
Piper Biery (Doctoral, Political Science)  
Precious Ugwu (Master's College of Health and Human Services)  
Sarah Mong (Master's, MBA)  
Shrishti Singh (Doctoral, Bioengineering)  
Shuai Wang (Doctoral, Computer Science)  
Susannah E Barnes (Master's, Economics)  
Sydnee Bryant (Master's, Sports and Recreation Studies)  
Terilee Edwards-Hewitt (Doctoral, Cultural Studies)  
Yang Long (Doctoral, Statistical Science)  
Zachary Machuga (Master's, Earth Systems Science)  
Zikun Li (Doctoral, Education)

## **Agenda**

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM Special Guest: Jimmy Hazel, [University Rector](#)  
*Topic: Mason's 50-Year Anniversary & Future Strategic Planning*

3:00 PM - 3:10 PM Announcements  
*Sign in!*  
*Updated GA website*  
*Grad Ed Reimagined*

*Career services updates: “resume competition” and alumni panel  
Mason Lobbies on February 3*

*Mason Interdisciplinary Conference on April 8*

3:10 PM - 3:40 PM Breakout Rooms: Town Halls

*Fairfax (Dylan Scarton)*

*Arlington (Troi Dixon)*

*SciTech (Marissa Howard)*

*Online & Other (Steven Zhou)*

3:40 PM - 4:00 PM Special Guest: Emilie Dubert, [Director of Contemporary Student Services](#)

*Topic: Graduate Student Support Services*

- Visit from [Rector Jimmy Hazel](#)
  - Rector Hazel is very interested in hearing graduate student concerns and perspectives, especially as the University celebrates the 50 year anniversary in 2022 and makes plans for a strategic vision moving forward. If you have more thoughts you’d like to share or follow up on, please email us and we will pass them along!
- Town Halls
  - Our VPs are hard at work leading various initiatives. Please keep connected [on Slack](#) to find out more and get involved in initiatives such as career development, financial transparency, telling the graduate student story, DEI, and more!
- Visit from Emilie Dubert, Director of [Contemporary Student Services](#)
  - Off-Campus Housing Overview [Presentation Slides](#)
  - The CSS office has a number of resources to support graduate students, including assistance with off-campus housing (see attached slides that you can share), resources of military and veterans, students who are parents, and more. Please feel free to contact them if you need help!

Opportunities to get involved in:

- Mason Lobbies is officially happening on Thursday, February 3! We will be taking a bus down to Richmond VA to meet with state legislators, with the goal of advocating for funding and support for graduate students at Mason. Previous years were only undergraduate students; this is the first year that graduate students will be included. Here’s a [video](#) of the 2019 event. Please [sign up here](#) if you are interested!
- We have been meeting with various stakeholders at the University who are interested in featuring graduate students in various Mason channels (e.g., magazines, e-newsletters, or even in-person events). The goal would be to share exciting news about graduate student accomplishments, to generate public interest in Mason as a graduate school and potentially increased funding for graduate students. Please email us if you might be interested in something like this – it is very open right now, and we are just looking for

students who are interested and willing to step up to represent their fellow students to the broader community.

- Save the date! The annual Mason Interdisciplinary Conference will be on Friday, April 8, 2022 on Fairfax campus (all day). This is a great opportunity to practice presenting your research or applied projects to a small but engaged audience, and it's a great addition to your resume/CV! Call for proposals will open in January.

Finally, our Spring **General Assembly** meetings will be on the following dates/times. Please mark your calendars! I know not everyone will be available (it's hard to find a time that works for everyone!) – but please do your best to hold these times. If you cannot make it, please arrange for a fellow student in your program to attend on your behalf as a proxy.

- Thursday, February 10 from 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM (HYBRID)
- Thursday, March 10 from 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM (ZOOM)
- Thursday, April 21 from 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM (ZOOM)