



General Assembly Meeting
2023-02-10 @ 2:00 PM Online
via Zoom

Advisors/Graduate Student Life

Julie Choe Kim (GAPSA Advisor, and Director, Graduate Student Life)
Bernard Atieme (GAPSA Advisor, GPA, Graduate Student Life)

GAPSA Executive Officers

Ayondela McDole (President)
Xiaorong (Sherry) Shan (VP of Fairfax)
Emily Diana Crawford (VP of Arlington)
Ninon Vict Nelson (VP of SciTech)
Ashish Hingle (Director of Communications)

Guests

Diana Rodriguez Rosales (Student Health Services)
Jessica Harley (Student Health Services)
Laurence Bray (Associate Provost for Graduate Education)

Program Representatives

Aayushi Hingle (Doctoral, Communications)
Aya Nusir (Doctoral, Neuroscience)
Brandi Williams (Doctoral, Chemistry and Biochemistry)
Catherine Marvin (Master's, Global Affairs)
Douglas Nedza (Doctoral, Climate Dynamics)
Gergana Hardy (Master's, Sociology)
Gretchen Baas (Doctoral, Criminology, Law, and Society)
Hernan Nelson Adasme (Doctoral, History)
Inaki de Guzman (Marco Ignacio) (Master's, Sport and Recreation Studies)
Jacob Custer (Master's, Economics)
Jeff Vomund (Doctoral, Education)
Kathleen Klingenberg (Master's, Art History)
Kelby Gibson (Doctoral, Writing and Rhetoric)
Kellie Wilkerson (Doctoral, Sociology)

Krista Beran (Doctoral, Nursing)
Kyle Tiemeyer (Master's, International Security)
Lauren Ashley Poole (Master's, Management)
Nora Cleary (Doctoral, Public Health)
Rafaella Irene Silva (Master's, English)
Teresa Martin (Master's, Social Work)
Yang Long (Doctoral, Statistical Science)

Agenda

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| 2:00pm – 2:05pm | General Introductions and Check-In (Ayondela) |
| 2:05pm – 2:10pm | Mason Graduate Student Success Poll (Ayondela) |
| 2:10pm – 2:45pm | Student Health Services Town Hall (Diana Rosales) |
| 2:45pm – 3:25pm | Graduate Division Debut (Julie and Laurence) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online Orientation Walk-Thru• GRAD Center |
| 3:25pm – 3:30pm | Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Next Assembly scheduled for March 10th at 2pm.• Submission Deadline for the Mason Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference is due Sunday February, 12th.• Associate Dean for CHSS Graduate Affairs is giving a presentation on the recent IE plan Wednesday, February 15th at noon.• 12 free counseling sessions for all Mason students through Timely Care (https://timely.md) Get the app! |

Student Success Poll

1. The university is doing everything they can to ensure the success of Mason's graduate students.
 - a. Strongly Agree: 7%
 - b. Agree: 37%
 - c. Neutral: 22%
 - d. Disagree: 26%
 - e. Strongly Disagree: 7%
2. University could do more to support Mason's graduate students but are choosing not to.
 - a. Strongly Agree: 11%
 - b. Agree: 44%
 - c. Neutral: 33%
 - d. Disagree: 4%
 - e. Strongly Disagree: 4%
3. Mason's graduate students need more support but there is just no way of providing it at this time.

- a. Strongly Agree: 0%
 - b. Agree: 22%
 - c. Neutral: 22%
 - d. Disagree: 44%
 - e. Strongly Disagree: 7%
4. The support for Mason's graduate students is sufficient, no additional support is needed.
- a. Strongly Agree: 0%
 - b. Agree: 4%
 - c. Neutral: 19%
 - d. Disagree: 41%
 - e. Strongly Disagree: 26%

Student Health Services Town Hall

Diana Rodriguez Rosales and Jessica Harley work with Student Health Services (SHS) and the ARIE initiative. The department is working on creating an actionable plan for equitable health practices and briefly presented the department's work. They have collected surveys and responses from undergrad students but have not heard as much from graduate students about health and well-being on campus. They reached out to GAPSA to discuss campus health for graduate students.

[Presentation slides](#)

Feedback from GA:

- The Arlington Campus services were closed for a while, and some resources are opening, but they are currently open one day a week.
- The SciTech campus has little advertising or marketing for services.
 - There are many services, such as dinners at Beacon Hall, that could be used as means to spread awareness.
- Good experiences for student health, but compared to other universities, there seems to be a lack of engagement for graduate students.
- Appreciation for the TimelyCare platform.
 - New team marketing TimelyCare to be more visible to students.
 - There are differences between this platform and other online platforms, so encouragement to check out the platform.
 - According to the website, they are available to both part-time and full-time students.
- There were issues when the student health insurance provider switched from United to Aetna.
 - Being charged twice for follow-up visits (wasn't an issue with United Health)
- Patient Advocates at Student Health Services can help talk and interact with insurance on behalf of students.
- Wait times can be up to 2 weeks, which is too long.

Graduate Division Updates (Laurence Bray and Julie Choe Kim)

- Mentoring for Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence (MARIE) Program
 - New program started this past year
 - First group of funded projects will be announced soon!
 - New projects will be opening soon
- Graduate Teaching Training
 - New e-learning platform for training Graduate Teaching Assistants and Graduate Lecturers.
 - Will be coming in August 2023.
- Graduate Student Funding on Sponsored Research
 - Incentive-based model to encourage more students to work on externally funded research.
- Disseminating Info
 - Graduate Student Newsletter - Cross collab with Graduate Student Life and GAPSA
 - Graduate.gmu.edu
 - Social Media opportunities
- Graduate Resource and Academic Development (GRAD) Center
 - Graduate Division has proposed a physical space for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to access key resources and support their success.
- Graduate Student Orientation Platform
 - Demo'd the online platform for the General Assembly.
 - Question about accessibility (languages, disability services etc.)
 - Specialized tracks for international students, doctoral students, master students
 - Option for a 4th track. Recommendations?

Closing Remarks

- Next meeting on: 3/10/23
- Call for proposals for Mason Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference closes on Sunday, Feb. 12. Please attend if you can't present!
 - All welcome to present! <https://gapsa.gmu.edu/conference/>
- CHSS giving a presentation next Wednesday (2/15) on Inclusive Excellence plan for the college.
- 6 workshops for Career Services for Graduate Students
 - Graduate Student Career Workshop: Writing an Effective Cover Letter on 2/16, 2-3pm! <https://cmlink.me/2d7/r2035182>