

DARTMOUTH

Graduate Student Council

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Hello GSC General Body Members,

On **Thursday, May 26th, 2020**, members of the 2020 - 2021 **GSC Executive Board** met for their first executive board meeting. Below are the points of discussion:

- **Topic 1. Initiatives for 2020-2021**

- The Board set two main goals for the upcoming year aimed at improving the graduate student experience: **“Building Bridges”** between the executive board, general body members, the general graduate student body, the administration, and the Upper Valley; and **fostering transparency** between the executive board, general body members, and the general graduate student body.

- **Topic 2. Anonymous Submission Form Logistics**

- We now have an anonymous submission form [<https://forms.gle/beqdcTf5FHkA6vWV6>] that you can submit concerns and questions
- We intend to **compile submissions monthly** and bring them up at each general body meeting. Each submission will have an **action item** that will ensure that it is addressed in the best way possible.
- Right now, students have submitted concerns surrounding **the research and course ramp-up for graduate students** and **new leasing terms for on-campus housing that may detrimentally impact certain students based on their graduation timeline.**

- **Topic 3. Orientation**

- Orientation will be **fully remote** this year and consist primarily of a **Canvas page with paperwork** and **Zoom panels.**
- The Guarini administration is currently soliciting **ideas on how the GSC can be involved in this new format**, including **how to replace the activities’ fair** and **how to host a virtual welcome mixer.**
- There is also talk of creating a **Graduate Student Ambassador Program**, which would **connect current students** in each department with **new students.** These “ambassadors” would help field questions new students may have surrounding topics such as departmental requirements, graduate school expectations, or life in the Upper Valley.

As always, please feel free to reach out with questions or concerns! We look forward to seeing you at our next general body meeting, if not sooner!