

DARTMOUTH

Graduate Student Council

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Hello GSC General Body Members,

On **Tuesday, January 23th 2021**, members of the 2020 - 2021 **GSC Executive Board** met for their executive board meeting. Below are the points of discussion:

- **Topic 1. Committee Updates**

- **Diversity and Inclusivity Chair (Isaiah):** Organized the Brothers and Sisters Vigil in honor of Ahmaud Arbery that was on the 23rd.
- **CARE (Alexandria and Divya):** Black History Month profiles, expanding the academic assistance program at EEES to all of Guarini (and re-naming it the Scholars Program), updating student resources for BIPOC students, continuing to figure out how to set-up mutual aid for graduate students, looking at diversity awards for students, and working on Mental Health Month events with the Student Life Committee for May. Email care@groups.dartmouth.edu if you are interested in joining!
- **Service (Kali):** continuing to get engagement in the service tracker and award gift cards. In April, the Service Committee is looking to do more in-person small group service events.
- **Social (Stephanie and Sumy):** Speed Friending event went well, working on upcoming events.
- **Academic (Alberto):** Working on the 3-minute thesis competition.
- **Finance Chair (Jordan):** Soliciting feedback to share with other Ivy+ schools about how we have been using funds during COVID and how the administration has been supporting students financially.

- **Topic 2. Update on the Ombuds Office Proposal**

- The Dartmouth wrote a news article about the effort <https://www.thedartmouth.com/article/2021/02/brown-ombuds-campaign>
- Currently trying to build support from senior administrators before pushing Hanlon to address the issue.
- Sign the petition if you have not!
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdMyQQMZ_bTkJxsvATLi3SoRuR84MfG3RXotGI-d3B4K1hPfA/viewform

- **Topic 3. Childcare**

- GSC President is meeting with Tuck's President to make a survey to ask students their needs.

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- A professor mentioned that she knows graduate students who have used the Dartmouth College Childcare Center, despite their policy of not allowing graduate students. Following up with her.

- **Topic 4. Parking**

- GSC reps met with Jon Stark (facilities director for Geisel and Thayer) and he said the proposed parking fees are not set in stone. Moving forward, a student representative will be included in the conversations.

- **Topic 5. CGS Meeting Update**

- The Council of Graduate Studies (which is composed of faculty who are department chairs) approved a program change to the Digital Arts MS.
- We need to keep pushing them on clearly communicating program changes; one solution could be that programs have to show they solicited student feedback before voting on approving program changes.
- There was some discussion about the efficacy of the Ethics training. Programs that incorporated librarians and library resources seemed to have better discussions. There was no mention of the Professional Responsibility training that Alberto has been working on with Jane Seibel.

- **Topic 6. Elections Update**

- We have been brainstorming, along with CARE, ways to make GSC elections (both for departmental representatives and the Executive Board) more inclusive. One of the big issues is simply advertising, making everyone aware they can run.
- Change the process so people do not have to self-nominate, but rather people can apply themselves or nominate other people.
- Host office-hours during the first week of April (when Executive Board nominations start) where people can talk to the current Executive Board members about what their role is like.
- Any other ideas on how to better publicize and diversify GSC elections would be appreciated!

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!