



GSS

Meeting

Agenda

Minutes

March 11, 2021

5:30 pm EST

<https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/97984956361>

Opening Remarks

- Attendance-50 In attendance
- Minutes were introduced and officially approved.
 - First motioned by 57, the second by 58

Committee Updates

- Equity & Diversity - Ashley Browning
 - Discussing gaps in services and resources for students and creative ways to bridge them
 - Big Orange Pantry will now provide diapers and wipes for students who are parents
 - Tentative talks re: Mutual Aid Summit collaborative event with UT Knoxville and community organizations
- Fee Waiver Resolution Update
 - Faculty Senate passed resolution
 - Information in the resolution was gathered using a FOIA request in 201

 - Resolution on Graduate student fee waiver were introduced
 - Resolution on Graduate student fee waiver vote passes (%85 voted in favor)
- Graduate Student Well-Being
 - Research done by PhD student in the psychology department on graduate student experience at UTK. Preliminary data will be available in a couple months and will be supplemental or replace a survey from our committee.

- Counselling center is at 30% less utilization than normal for this time of year
- Counselling center survey from students who received at least 1 treatment session, data will be shared when available
- If anyone has any concerns or poor experiences with the CC please have them reach out to me or to the center directly. They really want to make sure people have a positive experience
- Raising general concerns about first- and second-year students, requesting the administration look into this a little further
- questions brought up about vaccines for graduate students and those in higher education/concerns raised about returning to teaching in person before getting a vaccine
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- Legislation & Steering
 - No updates
- Programming & Events
 - March: Trivia at Fieldhouse social 3/25 and Virtual Yoga (Speaking w/Kate on March 12)
 - April: GPSAW week (target 3-4 events)
 - 4/5/21 Knoxville zoo Kickoff 6-9pm (waitlist)
 - 4/9/21 Virtual cooking/crafting class
 - Ongoing scavenger hunt/selfie race throughout the week
 - May: UT Graduate picnic social (Dogs welcome)
- Travel Awards
 - Austin talked about the spring travel award is live and encourage everyone to apply
 - 32 asked whether it is possible to buy the organization membership through the department? Dr. Thompson replied that the students need to apply individually

New Business and Open Floor

58 asked to responds to OIT survey

48 asked how UT would handle the Covid in next fall?

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting #36, 2nd #58

Next Meeting: April 14 at 5:30pm on zoom