

GENERAL BODY MEETING MINUTES



The University of Vermont

Date: April 8th, 2022

Time: 0800-0900

Facilitator: UVM Graduate Student Senate Vice President, Miki Beach

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the March 22nd meeting were approved

Motion: Holly Paige Chaos

Second: Baxter Worthing

President's Update

- Discussion of the President's Appreciation Event and GSS Awards Banquet
- Reminded students of the GSS Feedback Forum
- Introduced the UVM Staff United resolution from SGA and other correspondence from staff members regarding the staff unionization project to the general body
 - o The correspondence was read to the general body
 - o Opinions of senators shared on the topic of the correspondence and resolution

Vice President's Report

- Update on the TA/RA work survey
- Addition of another senate meeting on May 6th
- Graduate student graduate regalia will go online on April 25th
- Update on executive council elections and the nominations for the next year's exec board

New Business

- Compensation and Benefits Committee Update
 - o Discussion of the committee's efforts to answer the question: "Where does the money I pay in fees go?"
 - o Reviewed the cost of the comprehensive fee (\$2036 per year) and the breakdown of how this fee is distributed

- Provided an overview of the process through which the committee has gone to obtain the breakdown of the fees
 - Discussion about alternatives to having a comprehensive fee and the impact that halving the fee or drastically reducing it might have on the university's budget
- Graduate Student Advocacy & Experience Committee Update
 - Discussed the publishing of the Pawbook
 - Introduced additional ways to utilize the food sharing funding and the development of the Graduate Student Discord channel
 - Question raised about having options other than Discord for communication within the graduate student community
 - Hosting public committee meeting on April 13
- Resolution brought to the floor to remove the name Justin Morrill from Morrill Hall
 - Brought to the floor by Justin Salisbury
 - Discussion of the meaning of land grant universities and their relation to colonialism

Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 0849