

# GSA Meeting Agenda

• FEBRUARY 26 2021 •

## WELCOME

- Attendance

## DEPARTMENT & RELATED EVENTS (MICAYLA SPIROS)

- S/SN option again this semester
- Grad Student Workshop— Suggestions were brought to the department
  - Dr. Morgan adamant about making the changes that the students suggested into consideration
  - Will start working on making those changes
- Unified Grade System
  - Ex. 90 or 91 is an A in a class
  - Pushing to make it standardized across the college
- REMINDER – The next SS' 21 GCPC turn in date for comprehensive exams and dissertation proposal defenses is Monday, March 1, 2021
- Student annual reviews were on Monday
  - Talk to your advisor if you haven't heard anything about your review yet
- Dr. NiCole Buchanan (Research bias and epistemic exclusion: Barriers to diversity and inclusion)
  - Dr. Tetrault shared this recorded talk with GSA to share with graduate students

## COGS & ACTIVITIES UPDATE (EMILY MILTON)

- RCR Form
- Health and wellness is looking at applying to a grant to construct a new outdoor structure
- \$300K in investments— New DEI award for individual graduate students or groups
  - Early in the works
  - Looking for feedback for what the award will look like, how much to give out, how many awards to give out, etc.
- The Lansing State Journal— Title IX violations at MSU and identified at least five faculty still employed; they've asked that Departments speak on this directly & are reaching out to Biden's administration to create stricter legislation
  - Want there to be a zero tolerance policy
  - Want there to be a campus-wide email that goes out any time a case is opened (i.e., want better transparency)
- Free teaching kits available
  - [https://shop.msu.edu/products/its-02?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=5018adc53&\\_ss=r&fbclid=IwAR2fy0zydj\\_3e7jrQ0n8jbBluy5HHRZ0cbQC5a5qPD5EoJJPjbMI5TmlMqQ](https://shop.msu.edu/products/its-02?_pos=1&_sid=5018adc53&_ss=r&fbclid=IwAR2fy0zydj_3e7jrQ0n8jbBluy5HHRZ0cbQC5a5qPD5EoJJPjbMI5TmlMqQ)
  - Marked as sold out, but may make more available soon!
- Online stats for the spit test
- COVID vaccines– students will need to sign up with multiple providers, do not get a COVID vaccine within 14 days of a flu shot
  - Igham Co. is still in 1A phase, but MSU has put in a bid to get us vaccinated
  - If you want to sign up, you need to sign up with all orgs in the area
- Tech Award money is still available
  - \$50 one-time award

- For any technology you have purchased for COVID related working at home
- COGS elections are coming up, please contact the E-Board directly
  - Looking for people to apply! Reach out to COGS if you would like to be involved

#### TREASURY UPDATE (ELENA WATSON)

- GSA WorkLife Event
  - March 5<sup>th</sup>, 3pm EST
  - Topic: Busting the Myth of Work Life Balance
  - GSA will send out a reminder email

#### GEU UPDATE (JEFF BURNETT)

- Strengthening university support for international graduate students
- Getting the university to support undocumented graduate students
- Divesting the University from ICE
- Stronger, more effective, and more respectful anti-harassment and discrimination policy
- Need more active TAs
  - Currently at ~40% and need to reach 50% or the union can be disbanded
  - We have less representation in Chemistry

#### OPEN FLOOR

- Any questions, comments, concerns?

#### ADJOURN