



MINUTES

6.24.20, Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rohail Premjee – Co President (Booth/Harris)	William Grubbe – PME
Kimberly Liu – Co-President (PSD)	Nikita Mehta – BSD
Steven Wendeborn – Grad BOT Liaison (Booth)	Derek Nettingham – SSA
Elizabeth White – PSD	Alexis Monical – BSD
Fanmei Xia – Harris	Prakriti Pushkarna – Booth
Joseph Ludmir - Law	Rhys Povey – PSD
Maddy Oswald – SSD	Ryan Duncome – BSD
Olga Leitch – Div	Max Freedman – Law
Steven Wendeborn – Booth	Aimee Gonzalez – Hum
Bonnie Scott – Div	Xiaofeng Li – SSD

Meeting Called to Order 7:30

DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

1. BSD (Nikita, Alexis)
 - a. Food Drive with Deans Council in response to COVID-19
 - i. Collab w/Chicago Food Bank
 - b. Dean hosting bi-weekly town halls
 - i. Faculty hiring and diversity conversations
 - ii. Depts having individual diversity conversations as well
2. Booth (Prakriti)

- a. No updates
3. Divinity (Bonnie, Olga)
 - a. Survey about online learning highlighted issues with quality of education
 - b. Additional funds added to the emergency fund
 - c. Ongoing funds for Divinity students (Swift Cares mental wellness, family care, etc.)
4. Graham
 - a. No updates
5. Harris (Fanmei)
 - a. Diversity & Inclusion discussion in regard to hiring
 - b. Career support for returning and graduated students
 - i. Particular focus those affected by COVID
 - c. Executive order concerns with international students
6. Humanities (Aimee)
 - a. Minimal communication with the dean
 - i. Limited communicative channels open
 - b. Looking for examples of dean interaction from other divisions
7. Law (Max, Joseph)
 - a. Awaiting guidance on fall
 - b. New director of Diversity and Inclusion at Law
 - c. Faculty hiring committee
 - i. More women this year than in the past ten
 - ii. First year since 2006 women came in laterally
 - iii. University won't centralize hiring and offer spousal jobs
 - d. Guaranteeing all classes will be accessible online for the fall
 - e. Working on keeping student community strong
 - f. Focus on career services for 1Ls
 - g. 240 sig petition submitted this past week for tuition freeze
8. PME (William)
 - a. Everyone is back as of Monday at 25% lab capacity
 - b. Dean hosting tri-weekly town halls
 - c. Student led initiatives documenting bias and practices of hiring and current faculty
9. Pritzker
 - a. No updates
10. PSD (Elizabeth)
 - a. Some division wide efforts but lots of departmental conversations
 - b. Labs reopening
11. SSA (Derek)
 - a. New cohort came on this summer so we are navigating online community building
 - b. Trying to navigate global programs with travel restrictions
 - c. New section of website created for online learning and events
 - d. COVID-19 emergency fund by dean of students
 - e. Significant staff movement
12. SSD (Xiaofeng)
 - a. Students worried about being remote
 - b. PHD job placement concerns, career seeking concerns

GENERAL UPDATES

1. COVID Student Advisory Group
 - a. Admin formed student advisory committee with Rohail, Kimberly, and Steven
 - b. Announced creation of ad-hoc COVID Committee
 - c. Message Ad-hoc Group Application to your divisions by Friday
 - i. Group will gather feedback and represent it to admin
 - ii. Create surveys and gather info
 - iii. Meet at least twice a month over zoom to discuss and make plans
2. Strategic Plan and Agenda
 - a. Finalized and submitting on Senior University Admin by Friday
 - b. Presenting to UChicago GRAD on Monday
3. Moving to Slack!
 - a. Primary comms platform for GC
 - b. Please message Rohail to be added on
 - i. Add to desktop and phone
 - ii. Once registered add Name, Position, and Photo
4. New Grad Council Exec Team Structure
 - a. Added VP of Health and Wellness, Executive VP, College Council Liaison
 - b. Exec Selection Process
 - i. Interviewing 30 Applicants – All Grad Divisions Represented
 - ii. Holistic Selection Process – Quantitative Scoring of Applications
 - iii. Finalize Selections by Mid July
5. Celebration of Graduate Research, Scholarship, and Creativity
 - a. Starting next spring
 - b. Planned events
 - i. GC President's Honors Dinner
 - ii. Thesis Showcase
 - iii. Science Symposium
6. Graduate/Professional Student Survey
 - a. Closing on Friday
 - b. Sharing Preliminary Results with Provost's Office
 - i. Nearly 1200 responses, with no real dominant school
 - ii. Identifying largest impediments to learning
 - iii. Thoughts on fall quarter very divided between strong feelings of remote and on-campus
 - iv. People ranked financial support and critical space as highest critical need
7. Letter of Support for Chinese International Students
 - a. Presented by BSD
 - i. after requests by many students for a more robust conversation surrounding support for Chinese International Students
 - b. Please send to all divisions.

VOTING ITEMS

1. Resolution on Immigration Policy in Response to COVID-19 - **PASSED**
 - a. Limited on response options by Kalven report, justification for resolution comes from the existential threat this executive action poses to the operating model of the university

- b. Aimee Question – Can we expand this to include all international students and make sure that all countries are being considered, even those who have had issues getting visas even before this executive order.
 - i. Rohail – yes absolutely the be it resolved section applies to all international students
 - c. PASSED by unanimous consent
2. Resolution on Temporary Adjustment to Signatory Powers of Graduate Council - **PASSED**
- a. Brought up because unlike the structure of other graduate student government at peer universities, we believe in autonomy of graduate divisions
 - b. Voting
 - i. Yay – Harris (2/3), PSD, Law, SSA, SSD, Divinity, Booth, PME, Humanities
 - ii. Nay – Harris (1/3)

Motion to Adjourn 8:20