

**PhD Leadership Meeting  
December 9th, 2022**

**Deans' Updates** (10 minutes)

**Sr. Assoc. Dean for Graduate School Administration** *Brad Gano*

- Absent

**Sr. Assoc. Dean for Student Affairs and Career Development** *Basil Hanss*

- Has been systematically informing students about the mistreatment process

**Director of Postdoctoral and Student Affairs** *Matt Cipriano*

- General Updates

**Sr. Assoc. Dean for PhD Programs** *Matthew O'Connell*

- Absent

**PLM Discussion** *Sally Claridge, Carisse Lansiquot* (5 minutes)

- Newsletter with November and December updates
  - Letter from the Office of Student Affairs
  - Mistreatment form blurb from Basil

**Student Council** *Alexandra Magee, Anina Lund, Christian Stevens* (5 minutes)

- Ally Magee is being replaced with Anna Bright and Adriana Sistig (first year PhD reps)
- Constitution update: Student body vote to expand StuCo voting opportunities
  - Results blurb after GBM

**THAW** *Bryce Rowan, Mackenzie Herb* (5 minutes)

- No real updates—check back in January
- January 11th: Come Chill with THAW
- December 1st Graduate Peer Mentorship was a success!
  - Going to plan a spring mixer, probably after cores are over?
- **PEERS** *Mackenzie Herb* (5 minutes)
  - November module—Toxic Academia
  - Dip in attendance with the first years, so thinking of doing a PEERS-sponsored happy hour to discuss module topics and to bring WAs together with first years in a less formal setting

**URiSM** *Qixiu Fu, Kristie Oluyemi* (5 minutes)

- Some Biomedical Science students have brought up the moving stipends that the Neuroscience students got in this last year
- Contact Matthew O'Connell about leading this conversation
  - Get the timeline from the Neuro department
  - Try to take action by April 15th
- oSTEM is hosting a holiday party next Thursday

**Graduate Steering Committee** *No representatives*

- No business

**Student Affairs** *Pushkala Jayaraman* (5 minutes)

- Discussed “Intro to SAC” survey to get input about programming we can help push for
- Coffee Hours to introduce the O of SA

### **Feedback Form Discussion** *Alexandra Magee, Anina Lund (15 minutes)*

- PhD Y2s gave 62% of 18 PhD responses
- Free coffee in the grad office!
- Increased stipend: We are working on it!
- Conference and travel reimbursement: You can request funds early!
- Housing subsidy for living off campus:
- Request window screens: Ping to housing committee
- Ping Brad about language about equivalent housing subsidy
- Update the names of course instructors and credits: Ping feedback to Matthew to address this issue
  - How do we address the Systems Biomedicine credit issue for meeting credit requirements? → Sally will email
  - Adriana send feedback to Sally
  - Mack send Systems update to Sally
- Direct deposit for stipends should be set up prior to move in
- How do we address acclimation to school for first years?
  - October-ish: Mixer should happen earlier in the fall
  - In the last year, there was no PhD Program Manager so there may have been a lack of communication with incoming students
- Talk to Matthew about required graduate school scavenger hunt during orientation?
- Discuss with housing committee announcing move-in instructions earlier—is the rapid turnaround on move-in date Aron specific?
  - Might be worth coordinating with med/grad? Anina will coordinate
- Sally email Cristian Rosario about blurb for newsletter
- Like the THAW flowchart, can we make a resource flowchart for where to ask questions? Link PhD survival guide to PhD newsletter?
  - Talk to Student Affairs about funding an infographic
- Brad: Talk about direct deposit and issue with checks not being available from finance when students first start
- Emergency funding loan is process through Financial Services if needed
- Ask Matthew O'Connell to touch base with MTA directors and encourage them to respond to students
- Have a question about resources available to students? Email Student Affairs!
- Mentor the Mentors training program is in development by the Office of Faculty Development that will be required for all faculty to take
  - Main course and annual refresher course
  - Specialized training options are in the works
  - Different trainings for new faculty vs more experienced faculty
- Prospective faculty seminars and chalk talks are usually advertised by each department

### **Wrap-up** *Sally Claridge (5 minutes)*

- Please send newsletter blurbs to Carisse by next Friday!