SGA General Body Meeting

Agenda

Monday, November 2, 2020

5pm-6pm

**Call the meeting to order: 5:02pm**

Introductions in the Chat box

1. **Introductions**- “The meeting will now come to order”
   * SGA E-board
     1. My name is Judith Park and I am serving you all this year as the SGA President, we also have on the call Joy Scalabrin who is our SGA Vice President and Caitlin Balicki who is the Corresponding Secretary
   * OSS- Ms. Washington, Dean Taylor
     1. We also have on the call Ms. Washington from the Office of Student Services who has been a great support to the SGA and students
     2. Dean Taylor is usually on the calls with us as well but couldn’t make it today
   * Review Agenda
2. **Meeting Minutes from October** - The minutes will be approved as read- if you have any changes you would like to make to the minutes please email the SGA
   * Link to minutes: <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/sga/sga-meeting-minutes/>
   * Always posted on website after meeting
3. Reports/Updates (2-3min per group)
   * Active Student Groups (*names underlined in attendance*)
     1. DREAM Disability Justice (Dana Kobrin)
        + Newly active student group and chair Dana Kobrin - introduce yourself and the group?
        + Goal of DREAM is accessibility, increasing disability awareness
        + First meeting was last week, will have another meeting in December
     2. OASIS (La’Nia Latimer, Sakiera Malone, Sierra Somerville, Jasmine Thornton, Lezer Getahun)
        + Not present
     3. The Alliance (Nina Duzhikhin, Ivania Morales, Shanice Harris)
        + Next meeting is November 16 at 5pm about repairing harm and taking accountability, other students involved in the Alliance have helped to plan this meeting
     4. MSU -Macro Student Union (Eva Bialobrzeski & Lucy Zhao)
        + Next meeting is November 20 at 12pm- will be hosting a panel about social workers and politics with 4 or 5 panelists
     5. QCA-Queer Community Alliance (Edgar Fields)
        + Held first meeting

* Have recently been making connections with other student groups including DREAM and AOWG
* Want to collaborate with MPC to discuss replacing textbook used in SOWK 645 that has transphobic language
  + 1. ISWO (Anna Thompson & Sheila Winter)
* Working on meeting date for November-possibly November 16
* Collaborating with the Student Global Advisory Council to hold meeting with international students on November 30
  + 1. LUCHA- Latinx Unidos for Community Healing and Awareness (Melody Concas, Daniela Pulido)
* First meeting was successful
* Planning committee to do coat drive and planning next meeting
  + 1. AOWG (Yael Ben-Chaim, Isabel McLain, Mj Lanier, Loraine Arikat, Melia Jannotta)
       - Formed three committees last meeting
       - Amendment to the mission statements was passed by AOWG members by majority vote - would you like to give us a brief update on the amendment that was made?
         1. Added one more sentence to mission statement, “We support movements to abolish policing, abolish the incarceral system and decolonize therapy and education.”
       - I would like to move that we finalize this amendment to the AOWG vote by general consensus since the amendments have already been accepted by majority vote of AOWG members. Do I have a second?
         1. Is there any opposition at this time to the constitutional amendments made by AOWG (please speak up now or comment in the chat)?
         2. There is no opposition so the constitutional amendments are now officially accepted.

More info on each student group can be found at: (Email student groups if you are interested in joining) <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/sga/sga-supported-groups/>

* + Faculty Committees
    1. DAO Diversity and Anti-Oppression Committee (Isabel McLain)
* Had a meeting last Monday
* DAO is dividing into committees- looking for more involvement and anyone can attend, do have to be a member to vote
* Had conversation around restructuring DAO and considering if it should it be a faculty organization or be outside of that so it can be more equitable and support DEI initiatives
* Next meeting is November 16
* Can email Isabel for more info or if interested in attending the meetings: [imclain@umaryland.edu](mailto:imclain@umaryland.edu)
* Can also share feedback on Structural Oppression classes at DAO meetings
  + 1. Macro Curriculum Committee (Eva Bialobrzeski)
* Have decided to introduce Macro specialization in organizational management that will start next semester
  + More info will be provided at end of semester
* Can email Eva if have any feedback to share: [eva.bialobrzeski@umaryland.edu](mailto:eva.bialobrzeski@umaryland.edu)
* There are also multiple 1 credit macro electives that are going to be offered next semester- can check them out on the course calendar
  + 1. Clinical Concentration Committee (Julia Petre)
* Discussed having a online only program
* SBIRT- inclusion in Individuals class or only in advanced Addictive Behaviors class? Or as a 1 credit course?
* Can email Julia to share any feedback: [jpetre@umaryland.edu](mailto:jpetre@umaryland.edu)
  + 1. Masters Program Committee ( Joy Scalabrin, Anna Britton)
* Meeting held last Monday
* Talked about students struggling this semester- more leaves of absences- what can faculty do to support students?
  + Looking for more feedback from students- can email Anna if want to share feedback: [abritton@umaryland.edu](mailto:abritton@umaryland.edu)
  + There were 300 responses to survey sent out by Dean Lehning but can still continue to share feedback on virtual learning
  + Discussed changing cap sizes for online classes so that they would be smaller
  + Also formed committees including evaluating the structural oppression class, curriculum delivery approaches
    - Can share feedback about structural oppression class with MPC as well as DAO
  + Next meeting is on November 23rd
  + MPC is open to any students attending committee meetings but not all committees are open to students- can reach out to SGA if want more info on this or have questions: [sga@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:sga@ssw.umaryland.edu)
  + USGA Senators (Mj , Olubunmi, Chris (primary), Julia, Lindsey)
    1. We have 5 total senators now with Lindsey Van Wagner joining us as our newest senator
    2. Updates
       - Any updates on tuition? Nothing official yet, students recently received activity fees reimbursement
       - Concerns about lack of transparency in regards to tuition raises during Covid pandemic
       - Student group funding- if student groups have anything for USGA to promote during meetings, can email Chris at: [csdaniel@umaryland.edu](mailto:csdaniel@umaryland.edu)

1. Open Leadership Positions
   * USGA
     1. Senators- 6 seats are reserved for reps, 1 seat is still open, also have one seat available for a alternate senator
        + Fill out leadership interest form: <https://umbforms.wufoo.com/forms/z1hxn6ma03arlm2/>
   * Student Group leadership
     1. In-active student groups:
        + Student group info- <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/sga/sga-supported-groups/>
        + IFSW- Intersectional Feminism and Social Work
          1. Is now inactive- looking for students who are interested in leading
        + TIKKUN- the Jewish social work student organization
        + SSW Parent Alliance
        + QCA is also looking for additional e-board members - please fill out leadership interest form if interested
     2. Link to student leadership form: Also on the SGA website <https://umbforms.wufoo.com/forms/z1hxn6ma03arlm2/>
2. New Business
   * Virtual Learning Check-In
     1. There was a virtual Q&A session regarding virtual learning held by the school last month and a survey that was sent out to get feedback from students
        + Survey that was sent out received 300 responses
        + Other than that, how are people doing? Whether that be Academically, mental health
          1. Finding it challenging to build community virtually
          2. Zoom fatigue, hard to separate home and school with everything virtual including field

the accessibility of student meetings has been great, but it’s difficult to stay engaged in a virtual meeting

* + - * 1. Meetings online are more accessible- peer mentor groups etc.
        2. Informal “Lets Talk About It” meetings held by other SSW students are helpful
        3. Virtual group projects are really hard- expectations should be adjusted for group projects
        4. Lecture recordings for every class would be helpful-some students have technology issues
        5. The school is becoming more understanding and being more restorative now because of the pandemic, but it should always operate this way

Expectations should have been changed before, not just because of the pandemic, will these things continue after the pandemic is over?

* + - * 1. Concerns about field placement being challenging

Concerns with the field office

Can always reach out to OSS for support in regards to field or virtual learning. OSS can help to intervene and advocate for students, email: [studentservices@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:studentservices@ssw.umaryland.edu)

* + - * 1. Other concerns about inflexibility with field placements from the field office
        2. Virtual format allows students to attend more student group meetings- and is more accessible for students that work or take night classes--would this continue in the future once classes are in-person again?

ISWO has held meetings in person and online in the past (pre-pandemic)

* + - * Can continue to email SGA to share feedback about online learning as well, so we can share feedback with administration and continue the conversation: [sga@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:sga@ssw.umaryland.edu)
    1. Let's Talk About It: Peer Edition
       - Every Wednesday 5-6pm and Thursday 12-1pm, an informal gathering will be hosted by students for students to connect, ask questions, vent, make new friends, and engage with other classmates!
       - Zoom Link: [https://umaryland.zoom.us/j/96319895161…](https://umaryland.zoom.us/j/96319895161%E2%80%A6)
       - This event is free and open to any UMD students, please reach out to dshafer@ssw.umaryland.edu with any questions.
  + SSW Facebook Group
    1. The UMB, School of Social Work group is maintained by UMB-SSW Student Government Association (SGA) as an effort to create more cohesion among the schools, student group activities, and more awareness among the student population.
       - The SGA also addresses student needs, ideas and concerns in the School and works to move the school to action on behalf of those concerns. If you have anything that fits into the above sentence, please post it on our Discussion Board.
       - Please DO post about local events happening or new resources that have community-wide appeal.
       - Please DO NOT post disrespectful comments. Many people in the UMB Social Work community are connected to this page, so be mindful of what you post. Any hate speech, bullying, threats, or irrelevant posts (videos, business advertisement, etc) will be removed by administrators.
    2. The group was originally created to be for current students to interact and get important information but it has become more of a general social work resource page and most interaction on the page is between alumni
       - The SGA e-board is working with OSS and Dean Postmus to make changes to the FB group
    3. As students, what do you think about it and how would you like to see it improve?
       - If you’re a member of the FB group, what has been helpful or not helpful that you’ve seen in the group?
       - What do you imagine it would look like as a helpful resource for current students?
       - Email SGA with feedback about FB: [sga@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:sga@ssw.umaryland.edu)
  + **Any other new business?**

1. Upcoming Events

* Events- take advantage of these meetings to know what is going on in the school and if you can’t attend, email the facilitators or email us so we can make sure this info is shared - important that they know students are interested
  + Also be sure to check the daily bulletin every morning- it’s the best way to stay updated on important announcements and events!
* November 4th at 5-6pm
  + An email was sent to all students with election resources and events- everyone is invited to join processing spaces after the election. The purpose of these spaces will be for attendees to prioritize interpersonal connection as a shared source of community resilience, process their feelings and thoughts, and articulate their hopes and fears related to the election outcome. These can also be spaces to come and just listen.
  + Join Zoom Meeting: <https://umaryland.zoom.us/j/92890253994>
    - Meeting ID: 928 9025 3994
* November 6 at noon
  + Email was sent out to all students that the Office of Field Education is hosting a COVID town hall meeting
  + Registration is required
  + They will give an update of events and developments in field education, including a recent communication from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) extending some of their accommodations for field during COVID. They also want to hear more about how field education is unfolding for us this year.
  + We highly encourage students to attend this event even if it’s just to listen since this is the first open town hall the field office has offered since the beginning of the school year and given all the feedback we’ve heard from students regarding the challenges of field this year
* Social Work Affinity Spaces
  + In response to the needs of our school community, and in an effort to further our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion is piloting the Social Work Affinity Space Initiative (SWAS).
  + Any questions- email our new DEI Dean Celestine-Donnor at ncelestine-donnor@ssw.umaryland.edu
* A Space for People of Color- Held on the second tuesday of every month at noon - November 10 @ 12
  + The space aims to create a supportive community of learning, advocacy and radical self-care for faculty, staff, and educators of color.
  + <https://calendar.umaryland.edu/ssw/?month=10&day=25&year=2020&view=fulltext&id=d.en.488627&timestamp=1604984400&>
* A Space for White Accountability- Held on the second tuesday of every month at noon - November 10 @ 12
  + This space is geared toward white people who want to take an anti-racist stance in learning about race and who are willing to face their discomfort, uncertainty, or anger in the process. It provides time and space to work explicitly and intentionally on understanding privilege and to increase one's critical analysis around core concepts.
  + <https://calendar.umaryland.edu/ssw/?month=10&day=25&year=2020&view=fulltext&id=d.en.488628&timestamp=1604984400&>
* November 17 at noon - A Space for People with Disabilities - every 3rd tuesday of the month
  + The purpose of this space is to create a supportive community of support and advocacy for faculty and staff with disabilities. It is a space for staff and faculty interested in disability advocacy and justice to share their experiences and build community with each other. We hope this space can help to cultivate a more welcoming and inclusive environment for faculty and staff with disabilities.
  + <https://calendar.umaryland.edu/ssw/?month=08&day=28&year=2020&view=fulltext&id=d.en.488631&timestamp=1600185600&>
* November 10th @ 5 pm
  + Fall 2020 Social Justice Lecture series continues on Tuesday, November 10th, from 5-6:30pm. This event will be a forum for brainstorming how we respond as individuals, a school, and a community, given the outcomes of the election at the local, state, and national levels. The event will include those from The Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle, Job Opportunities Task Force, and Baltimore Public Justice Center.
  + Please register here: <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/about-the-ssw/ssw-news/thursz-lecture-election-tuesday-.php>
* November 12 at 5:30pm - Crazy Stressed Asians Meeting
  + Link to flyer for registration: Email was also sent out by Dean postmus with this info <https://files.constantcontact.com/57c33206301/1925f4d4-32f6-4677-80b8-a42e54cc2414.pdf>
  + Group’s purpose: Creating a safe community for Asians and Asian Americans of all ethnic backgrounds to explore the impact of their culture, heritage and identity on mental health and wellness.
  + They hold monthly virtual meetings and This month’s discussion topic is WHO AM I? Exploring our identity between worlds, cultures and values and its impact on mental health.
* November 13th- time TBA
  + SSW Fall Community Town Hall w/ Dean Judy Postmus
  + There will be discussion on a new building for the School of Social Work, budget impacts from COVID-19, and more! We highly recommend students join in on this important discussion and also come with any questions you might have.
  + If can’t make it can share with SGA ([sga@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:sga@ssw.umaryland.edu)) , SGA can provide updates to students
* November 16th at 5pm
  + The Alliance is hosting a virtual event and they also have a General body meeting on December 4 at 5pm
  + do any of the group leaders want to talk more about that?
* November 26-29 is Thanksgiving break
* Are there any other events anyone would like to announce?

1. Other

* It's important to share updates and information from these meetings with classmates, not everyone can attend GBM meetings, there are lots of ways to get involved as a student, this also helps to build a community as students