GSO Steering Committee Meeting
November 14th, 2017
SSW Room 104

Members Present:
Jennifer Lassman: Graduate Student Organization Secretary
Stephanie Luczak: Graduate Student Organization Co-Chair / Educational Review Committee
Naomi Reid: Graduate Student Organization Co-Chair / Educational Review Committee Representative
Bree’anna Johnson: Graduate Student Organization Treasurer
Ariel Barber: Casework Chair
Sherise Truman: MSW Student
Samantha Lew: Just Community Representative
Michal Klau-Stevens: Administration Concentration Chair
Jenevieve Johnson- Students Against Mass Incarceration Co-Chair / Field Education Advisory Committee Representative
Tara Butricks- ICAC Student representative
Nelson Veras- Interest Group Chair
Michelle Jefferson- OBSW Chair
Milagros Marrero-Johnson - Director of Student and Academic Services / GSO Advisor

I. Call to Order
   a. Meeting was called to order on November 14, 2017 at 6:02pm

II. Culture Chest

III. Voting on New Leaders
   a. Bre’anna Johnson requested to fill position as treasurer
   b. Jenevieve motions to approve Bre’anna as GSO treasurer
   c. Michal seconds motion
i. Discussed Bre’anna’s previous experience which lead her to GSO position

10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

IV. Voting on October Minutes

a. Samantha motioned to approve October minutes

b. Nelson seconds motion

10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

V. Voting on Expenditure Reports

a. Expenditure for November 2017

i. Samantha motions to approve the November expenditure

ii. Michal seconds motion

10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

b. Expenditure to approve Dr. Klau’s speaking engagement and workshop

i. Michal steps out of room due to conflict of interest

1. Ariel motions to approve Dr. Klau as speaker

2. Jenevieve seconds motion

  8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention

3. Floor opened for questions, comments and concerns:

   a. Jenevieve: Asked if this service would be in kind, stated her worry on amount of payment

   b. Ariel: Mentioned conflict of interest for Michal to pay her brother

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c. Samantha: States that Dr. Klau brings great insight but she is concerned about audience engagement

d. Stephanie: Discussed that we should utilize resources already at school, also expressed concern about student turnout

e. Milagros: Mentions importance of keeping group autonomy to pick topic of event

ii. Discussed expenditure adjustment by subtracting $200

8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

c. Expenditure voids

1. GSO Mobilizing: New Park Pizza

2. Giveaways for academic year: Increased original amount

3. SAMI void for Giveaways and Bear's smokehouse

Lara Spero (MSW Student) entered at 6:35pm

d. Expenditures due November 27th

Michelle (OBSW Chair) enters at 6:39pm

e. Yearly Budget:

i. Jenevieve motions to accept yearly budget

ii. Ariel seconds motion

11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

VI. Voting on Interest Group
a. Pending interest group members were not able to attend. To be discussed at a later date

VII. **Updates**

a. **General Updates:**
   
i. Discussed Mobilizing event:
   
   1. Positive reviews, decent turnout
   
   ii. Possible Luncheon, date and time TBD

   a. Expenditure form will be created

b. The Color Purple at Bushnell: December 8th at 8pm

c. Footwear With Care: Providing footcare for the homeless
   
i. Jennifer will be sending out Google Doc Sign up sheet for those who are interested in attending

d. Sutra Restaurant: Event space available

e. Giveaways will be delivered shortly:
   
i. Please request items in advance with Natalie in OSAS
   
   1. Include when items needed by and amount needed

f. IGF Chair - Breanne Ferraro stepped down as IGF chair
   
i. Recruitment for position in progress
g. Next Steering Committee meeting is December 5th, 2017

h. Co-Chairs
   i. Discussed letter sent to represent concerns regarding ERC achieving due process
   ii. Discussed absence of safeguard in place before a student is considered for ERC
   iii. Discussed email sent to dean Heller/ Dean Holsinger regarding ERC
      1. Create committee to review policies and procedure of ERC and create documentation
   iv. Stephanie stated that the co-chairs need the support of the steering committee for ERC review committee
   v. Opened floor for questions:
      1. Milagros: Stated that the school has a responsibility to be gatekeeper, discussed instances when ERC is necessity.
      2. Samantha: Stated that the ERC needs to be a fair process; giving clear reasoning, documentation, and records of services offered to help the student
      3. Milagros mentions that the ERC has a consultation stage before the student degree is up for question
   vi. Vote for endorsement of ERC Committee will be delayed until december
1. Co-chairs will send out email with information regarding the context of the email to the GSO Leaders

i. **Interest Groups**

   i. **IHEART:**

      1. Nelson discussed event regarding institutional racism
      2. Possible speakers:
         a. Superintendent of Hartford Leslie Tores
         b. Director of Culture and Climate in Hartford

   ii. **LASO:** Not Present

   iii. **Mindful Soul:** Not Present

   iv. **OBSWS:**

      1. Will hold meeting this upcoming Thursday
      2. Possible events:
         a. mentoring program for next semester,
         b. coat drive,
         c. Black history month event next semester
      3. Discussed Black history month Meeting with Assistant Dean Comer

         a. Host video at spotlight theater

            i. Would have to buy rights for video to any place other than UConn property.
1. Discussed possibility of using Public library

ii. Suggested movie tickets for February

iii. Co-chairs will reach out to further discuss plan for event

v. SAMI:

1. Collaboration with LASO for toy drive

2. Discussed Let’s Talk Mass Incarceration Event that was held on October 31st

   i. Jenevieve will forward powerpoint from event to leaders

3. Possible events for Spring Semester:

   i. Criminal justice forum in Feb Date TBD

   ii. Film showing

   iii. Giveaway in December

4. Stephanie stressed the importance of utilizing break to plan for spring semester events

vi. DSO: Not Present

j. Concentrations

i. Casework:

   1. Co-sponsoring “The Color Purple” event at Bushnell on December 8th at 8pm
2. Possible Events:

   a. Richard Fisher to speak on suicide prevention and awareness, date TBD

   ii. IGF: Not Present

   iii. CO: Not Present

   iv. Policy: Not Present

   v. Group Work: Not Present

   vi. Administration: Briefly discussed Field Meeting breakfast

k. School Committees

i. Field Education Advisory Committee:

   1. Discussed October’s Meeting:

      a. Raised concerns about only meeting once a semester

      b. No solutions seem to be given for problems

      c. Discussed possibly establishing smaller group meetings

      d. Concern that Field placements don’t match with class timelines

      e. Discussed need for fewer process recordings for certain concentrations

         i. Contract documentation don’t apply to all concentrations

   1. Committee will look into making adjustments
f. Stressed importance of voicing concerns or problems with Field Placement to Field Advisor or Dr. Berthold

g. Received support from Dr. Berthold on the various topics

2. Milagros suggested emailing Dr. Berthold about meeting more frequently

3. Michal mentioned connecting ERC Committee with Field education changes

ii. ICAC:

1. International potluck postponed due to flooding, new date and time TBD

iii. Just Community:

1. Two remaining Solidarity Time Meetings
   a. November 30th, time TBD
   b. December 5th, time TBD

2. Possible Events:
   a. Collaboration with Policy concentration on how to engage as Social Worker’s
      i. Tentative date of December 5th
   b. Lecture on racial justice in Spring semester
   c. Program Proposal from Officer Barrett of Hartford

3. Opportunities in community posted on website

VIII. Additional questions, concerns, recommendations
IX. Adjournment

a. Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm

Signatures:

_______________________  ____________________
Jennifer Lassman        Date
GSO Secretary

_______________________  ____________________
Milagros Marrero-Johnson Date
GSO Advisor