

Graduate School Advisory Council

Friday, September 15th, 2023, 11 a.m. - 7th Street Underground (in-person and ZOOM).

I. Next meeting: Sept. 29th in the 7th Street Underground.

II. Executive Reports

Board members:

- i. Elian Mackey
- ii. Okewa Owoeye
- iii. Gabe King
- iv. Attainea Toulon
- v. Myra Taylor
- vi. Dr. Allan

III. Word from Dean of Graduate school

He encouraged graduate students to assist with ensuring EIU undergraduates enroll for graduate programs.

Words from Gabe

He encouraged them to take their mental health seriously by having good sleep, staying hydrated and eating healthy.

Words from Elian

He talked about homecoming and encouraged people to participate in the parade and tent city.

Words from Okewa

She encouraged people to be involved in student activities on campus.

Word from Attainea

Attainea would be representing GSAC as a student liaison officer and she is very open to comments, concerns, and feedback.

Word from Myra

She encouraged people to reach out when there is a need.

IV. Elections and Open Positions

A. Overview:

Three positions are open, a student is nominated and it is seconded by a member of the board. The nominated student expresses why they are deserving of the position and a vote is held.

Open Position:

Vice President of Programming

Duties:

- Assist building the GSAC community through programs/events.
- Coordinate Guest speakers for each semester

Nomination:

- Lois nominated herself based on her prior leadership experience.

Open Position:

Vice President of Public Relations

Duties:

- Creates all print and digital marketing materials.
- Creates and published monthly newsletter.
- Social media and website management
- Public and campus coordination

Nominations:

- Efosa nominated himself and talked about his experience with social media. He showed us organizations that he has worked with.
- Nancy asked him what comes to mind when it comes to creating content. His response was asking a question about what it is about, to have a picture in mind and create the content.
- Sruthi
- Nominated herself because of her different campus engagement.
Elia asked her why she was interested in the position and she talked about her travel experience and her love for photography skills.

Open Position:

Vice President for Inclusion and Diversity

Duties:

- Serves as a liaison between GSAC and student body.
- Focuses on the inclusion of all students.
- Attainea gave an overview of the position and explained in detail about the roles needed. She talked about finding ways to get graduate students involved and mentioned the need to have a holistic view about it.

B. Nominations:

- Alex Sasha nominated herself.
- She has been working with students with disabilities. She is interested in the position especially because there are lots of international students which makes our university more diverse. She says it's also about recognizing different minority interests and recognizing them. She has worked across board and willing to focus on internal diversity. Motion to open floor.

- Alex works talked about his involvement with student bodies and office of leadership an engagement. He has also volunteered at the student pantry and worked with the director of diversity and inclusion and put up a summer camp for students from diverse background.
- Elian asked what diversity and inclusion means to him, his response was the different walks of life.
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- Gemin is presently a student of cyber security. He knows about diversity because he studied in India, a place where he didn't understand their culture or language. He believes he represents a body of diverse student.
- Attainea asked him what his first program would be and he talked about approaching people to let their culture be known.

V. Department Updates

- a. Sustainability is working on study groups to ensure success in professional exam.
- b. Health doesn't have anything going now.
- c. Chemistry dep would be having their first social tonight.
- d. MBA- upcoming event: they encouraged us to join the finance club to learn about the stock market.
- e. Communication Disorders and Science: started diagnosing people. Second year grad students are doing internships event on Oct. 21st on autism and augmentative communication. Also, dept. chair is organizing a trip to Trinidad and Tobago for interested students.
- f. Cybersecurity would update us on the coming events.
- g. Political science just had picnic last Saturday.
- h. School of psychologig just had their first meeting.
Teaching is excited to be part of GSAC and encouraged us to follow their social media page.

VI. Upcoming Meetings

**Meeting Sept. 29th, 2023, at 11 a.m. in 7th Street Underground.
Theme: Autumn**