

**Minutes October 23, 2018**

**GSO Steering Committee**

**1:30-2:30**

**HTB Room 216**

**Members Present:**

**Milagros Marrero-Johnson-** GSO Advisor

**Bree'Ana Johnson-** GSO Co Chair (Arrived at 1:41pm)

**Laura Salerni-** GSO Co Chair

**Nary Rath-** Treasurer (Left at 2:00pm)

**Ciara Velazquez-** Secretary

**Sarah Dottor-** PRIDE Co Chair

**Elizabeth Halla-Mattingly-** Administration Chair

**Kristina Jackson-** OBSWS Co Chair

**Aliyah Henry-** SAMI Chair

**Maria Cosgrove-**Advanced Standing IGFP Co Chair

**Morgan Reiss-** Field Education Student Representative/ Policy Practice Chair (Arrived at 1:45pm)

**I. Meeting called to order at 1:34pm by Laura Salerni**

**II. Quick Discussion of Pronouns**

- a. Laura raised the importance of using pronouns and asked Sarah to present on this topic
- b. Sarah explained the importance of pronouns and correlated it to the social work profession, stating it creates an inclusive climate.
- c. Within the language of pronouns there is a definitive way to ask someone what are your pronouns? Instead of what are your preferred pronouns.
- d. Pronouns are not gender related. Most common pronouns are he, his, him and she, hers, her. But some gender-neutral pronouns are they, them, theirs
- e. Sarah explained if you misuse a pronoun the easiest thing to do without offending someone is apologizing, correct the pronoun and move forward that way it does not feel awkward.
- f. Sarah states that on the UConn Rainbow Center Website has a lot of resources on pronouns.
- g. Milagros states we should use these platforms to educate and inform others.

**III. Leadership Introductions**

- a. Laura informed the committee that Marcus Spinner has written a letter stating he is choosing to disband and no longer be part of the committee as chair of the Students for Social Justice because he wanted to be in a different name outside the confines of a prominently white institution's control.
- b. Nary informed the committee that she will be stepping down as the treasurer effective Dec. 4, 2018.

**IV. Approval of September Minutes**

- a. September minutes were sent by Laura to GSO members via email for review
- b. Laura requested a motion
- c. Krystina motioned to approve the minutes
- d. Morgan second the motion  
10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

**V. Treasurer Report****A. Approval of Voucher Request Report**

- a. Nary has edited the corrections for the request for vouchers
- b. Nary requested a motion
- c. Elizabeth motioned to approve the October Voucher Check Report
- d. Morgan second the motion  
10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

**B. Approval of Budgets**

- a. Nary reviewed the submitted budgets for the following groups and requested a motion to approve:  
DSO \$800.00, SAMI \$777.00, Policy Practice \$582.50, OBSWS \$777.00, PRIDE \$777.00, GSO \$19,415.00, IGFP \$525.00, ADMIN \$582.50
- b. Aliyah motioned to approve
- c. Maria second the motion
- d. Aliyah had a question regarding funding and an event for SAMI
- e. Nary explained the reimbursement request process that groups are only charged for the actual amount of the expense even if they requested an amount for more money
- f. Krystina asked if the event occurred and a voucher was not submitted could it be a personal reimbursement?
- g. Nary explained the process, Milagros stated all vouchers have to be pre-approved
- h. Nary gave an extension until Monday for any voucher check request for the next report

10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

**VI. Updates**

- a. Bree'Ana would like to do a leadership dinner at the end of December and asked for feedback
- b. Bree'Ana will send out a doodle to everyone to determine the best time for everyone. City Steam is a possible location.

**A. Debriefing Bowling Event**

- a. Although it was a low turnout, it was a good social experience for students
- b. Ciara shared it was a nice way to engage outside of school groups and enjoy everyone's company

**B. Football Game**

- a. There are 9 additional UCONN football tickets
- b. Tickets are available for those who have RSVP'd
- c. Bree 'Ana suggested to share the information with classmates about the free football tickets.

**VII. Interest Groups****A. LASO** no report due to vacancy**B. OBSWS**

- a. Krystina states their next meeting is on 10/25/2018. It will be a casual meeting.
- b. She has also informed the committee that the Greater Hartford Alliance Student Chapter for Black Social Workers are looking for 6 students from UConn to be part of their chapter.
- c. Krystina states she and Shamika are interested in joining but will inquire more information on 11/7/2018 regarding the requirements before deciding on joining.
- d. Bree 'Ana shared that NAACP is looking for volunteers for the get out and vote function on 11/4, 11/5 and 11/6

**C. PRIDE**

- a. Sarah states PRIDE has had great turnout with their meetings with 5 to 10 people showing up.
- b. PRIDE will be collaborating with OBSWS on a future event

**D. SAMI**

- a. Aliyah stated her main event panel is in mid-November in the social work building, the room is TBD
- b. The panel will consist of students and faculty and to give people space to ask questions

**VIII. Concentrations****E. IGFP**

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> mixer will be held on Friday 10/26/2018 from 11am-1pm in the student lounge.

- b. Hot chocolate, donuts, and coffee will be served

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- c. IGFP will be planning a mixer support group in November to process how the semester is going and how to face some of their challenges.

#### **F. ADMN**

- a. Elizabeth wants to do a panel event to talk about different admin work that social workers due
- b. Milagros suggested collaborating with other groups

#### **G. CORG no report due to vacancy**

#### **H. POPR**

- a. Morgan is working with Nary to coordinate a political luncheon date and time TBD
- b. The luncheon will have students talking about having more placements who deal with political issues; a social work professor may be speaking at this event

### **IX. School Committees**

#### **I. Educational Policy Committee- Not Present**

#### **J. Educational Review Committee- Not Present**

#### **K. Field Education Advisory Committee**

- i. Morgan met with Megan and Regina who wants the students to choose two topics of importance and present it to the committee.11/6/2018, they are open to any ideas.
- ii. There was discussion around the American Databank and student frustrations
- iii. Aliyah stated students being comfort in the field is important because there are internships where there is tension around racial inequalities
- iv. Morgan stated there could more of a focus to determine better field options
- v. Krystina shared hearing stories from students about the field environments not being conducive for their learning
- vi. Maria adds supervisors take advantage of interns giving them their workload and not providing the correct number of supervision hours
- vii. Bree 'Ana stated it would be helpful for incoming students to get handout fact sheets
- viii. Bree' Ana stated the CSWE competencies helped her to understand the expectations of the students rules in field
- ix. Morgan states she will bring to the committee the educational contract barriers students are encountering and the other ideas shared

#### **L. Just Community- Not Present**

**X. Additional questions, concerns, recommendations**

- a. Milagros stated she is proud of everyone for all the work they have put in and appreciates everyone's time and efforts and the support they have provided to each other
  - b. OBSWS has pictures of the voting event on social media they will send to Milagros to include on the website
  - c. Sarah provided an update of their requested to EPC student chairs to present inclusive language which include the use of pronouns in the syllabus
  - d. Laura asked for a motion to approve for the EPC co-chairs to present it to their committee
  - e. Elizabeth motioned for EPC co-chairs to bring PRIDES request to their committee.
  - f. Krystina second the motion
  - g. Morgan asked is there enough people who understands for example what dysphoria means?
  - h. Sarah stated it would be too much to expand on this meeting and it should be up to the instructor
- 9 favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions
- i. Milagros states it has been approved
  - j. Sarah's next step is to email the EPC chairs that it was approved by GSO and that they should request it to be on the EPC agenda
  - k. EPC will discuss it and bring it to the larger faculty to discuss it
  - l. Process will take possibly 2-3 month

**XI. Meeting adjourned at 2:43pm****Signatures:**

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Ciara Velazquez, Secretary

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Date

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Milagros Marrero-Johnson

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Date

GSO Advisor

