

# GGSA Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2021

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## Officer Updates:

- **President: Michelle Jonika** **michelle19@tamu.edu**
  - EC Meeting
    - Doctoral student filing/feedback system- have a streamline system of stats for students and program to make APR easier
      - Google form going out
      - Workshop for us to learn the reporting system? Prefer to just have an instructional video
    - Students/ Faculty social (one per semester)
      - What to do?
        - Something outside - maybe tailgating games
        - Something with alcohol
        - Cookout?
        - A sports game - not necessarily football
    - Recruitment
      - Summer student recruit coming - want to do a social tailgate
        - Don't know game time yet
    - Degree name change
      - GGEN - Genetics and Genomics
    - EC to come to one GGSA meeting/ semester for Q/A
      - TBD which one they will come to
    - Fellowship Insurance
      - Departmental problem, not a program problem
      - HSC/ Agrilife don't know we are in their department?
      - HR contacting us not the program to answer questions
      - More transparency on conditions of fellowship and when we get paid
      - Michelle to schedule a separate meeting for this
    - Mastering Out
      - No serious concerns from EC
    - Handbook Clarifications
      - Updated Course Catalog
      - Insurance, Fellowship information
      - Requirements for PhD candidacy changed...
      - Coursework and degree plan
        - Courses not on og degree plan but that we take
        - Seminar presentation 4th years
    - Messengers

- Problems that we have seem to go through 4 people before we get a direct answer
    - Orientation Week
      - Elect Advisory Committee Chair & form committee
    - Coursework
      - Email Dr. Threadgill for a course to be voted on for competency
    - Recruitment Weekend
      - Recruits with fellowships - can't do anything about this
        - Recruitment earlier in future?
        - Life Sciences joint recruitment
      - Recruitment: February 10-12, 2022
    - Grant Proposal Repository
      - Instead of repository, better communication with PI or use whatsapp
  - Advisory Committee
    - Chair Elect: Amanda Jons
      - self nominate, Lily and Sandy second
    - Committee Members:
      - Sandy, Ashley, Serina, Lily, Allie, Elyssa, John, Shelby, Autumn
- **Vice President: Mike McGill** **mpmcgill@tamu.edu**
  - APR lunch this month - Sign up  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TPX8VOR1KDKYCpWCp1dX8FSRPAu-Se4DffvNzSIlesk/edit#gid=0>
  - T32 Workshop
    - All GENE faculty should go to something like this
      - Priority for giving presentations at orientation to faculty members who get training
    - Active PIs versus ghost faculty
      - What happens to students if their PI gets cut
    - A student only workshop for handling problems with PIs
- **Treasurer: Khushboo Rastogi** **khushboorastogi5@tamu.edu**
  - N/A
- **Secretary: Madison Williamson** **mmwilliamson@tamu.edu**
  - Sign in sheet
  - Merchandise:
    - Google form going out
- **Recruitment: Serina Taluja** **serinataluja@tamu.edu**
  - N/A
- **GPSC: Ashley Coffell, Allie Denham, Ben Thomas**  
**acoffell@tamu.edu** **adenham1@tamu.edu** **magicairben6@tamu.edu**
  - Resolutions
    - Addressing concerns for COVID efforts

- More flexibility and transparency
    - GPSC COVID Graduate Student Representative
    - None of these got resolved
  - Travel Forms due Oct 8, 2021 for travel grants

## Committee Reports:

- **Advisory: Amanda Jons** **amandajons87@tamu.edu**
  - Committee Members:
    - Sandy, Ashley, Serina, Lily, Allie, Elyssa, John, Shelby, Autumn
- **Membership: Brittni Ming-Whitfield** **bamw1220@tamu.edu**
  - N/A
- **Seminar: Sandy Labonte** **sandyl\_27@tamu.edu**
  - Student involvement is changing
    - Student participation in all seminars - lunches, driving etc.
- **Website: Amanda Jons** **amandajons87@tamu.edu**
  - Will update website asap before APR
- **Reception: Sandy Labonte** **sandyl\_27@tamu.edu**
  - N/A
- **Social: Joe Romanowski** **joeromanowski@tamu.edu**
  - Halloween Social Tentatively Oct 29
    - Andrew, Ashley, Josh house?
  - Movie Night
    - Rent out theater for viewing
    - Food? BYOB allowed?
- **Podcast: Serina Taluja** **serinataluja@tamu.edu**
  - Listen to podcast and spam our social media

## Additional Business:

**~Take pictures doing social things for Tamara :)**