

Senate Meeting Notes  
July 21st 2021  
12:00 – 1:30pm Zoom  
Open Meeting

**Attendance:**

- |                    |                              |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Alyana Ladha    | 8. Lyse Fedjanie Barronville |
| 2. Andree Entezari | 9. Mahogany Price            |
| 3. Blake Ferris    | 10. <b>Maria Bakas</b>       |
| 4. Eric Delgizzo   | 11. Maria Costa              |
| 5. Jackie Bowes    | 12. Nick Gooler              |
| 6. Kaitlyn Grevera | 13. Shelley Barne            |
| 7. Laura Badgett   |                              |

**Excused absences:**

1. Lunise Joseph
2. Ahmad Yassine

**Non-Senate Members:**

Ryann Monteiro

**Approval of last month's meeting minutes:** Yes approved by Jackie and Andree

**ACTION ITEMS ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN BOLDED BLUE**

**AGENDA ITEM 1: First Gen Mentor Program - Ryann Monteiro**

- Graduate Student Life is launching a First Gen Program
- GSL is recruiting faculty and staff members who are interested in being mentors
  - Mentors should also be First Gen (first in their lineage to attend a graduate level program or professional studies/certificate)
  - Mentors are matched with a "Pod" based on their professional qualifications and mentee needs/wants. "Pods": 3-4 students
  - Mentors are responsible for conducting monthly "Pod" meetings
  - GLS is offering training to Mentors
  - The purpose is to help students to create their own definition of success and mentors are asked to help facilitate, navigate, and further these goals
  - There will be mentor check ins with GSL
  - Info sessions for potential mentors will be announced shortly
  - **Contact Ryan Monteiro if interested - [ryanmon@bu.edu](mailto:ryanmon@bu.edu)**
  - **[Link to First Gen Mentor Program](#)**

**AGENDA ITEM 2: Staff Handbook Updates - Nick Gooler**

- Checking with Vanessa about deadlines for any updates to the handbook
- Need to add sections about subcommittees
- **Meet with your subcommittee and discuss sections pertinent to your group - bring comments and changes to Nick Gooler (deadline dependent we can use Senate Meeting time to discuss)**
- **[Staff Handbook](#)**

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: Governing and Admin Council Updates - Nick Gooler**

- GC: Discussion on gender equity in the workplace and updates from Department Chairs
- AC: Finalizing remote/flexible work policy, merit increases, staff mentorship program, and the Think/Teach/Do awards
  - Please complete the Staff Mentorship Survey
  - [New Awards and Recognition Program](#)

### **AGENDA ITEM 4: Subcommittee Check-ins**

- Staff Survey
  - Communicated with the other subcommittee to make proposed changes to next year's staff survey
  - Made additions to the survey questions and shared with Vanessa - they will decide what is actually included in the Final Survey
- Staff/Faculty Relations
  - Main focus is working with Alana Brennan, Kevin Lane, and Lora Sabin to lead a panel for the annual school retreat
    - 3 moderators
    - 4 panel members
    - Idea is to focus on creating an inclusive work environment
- Awards and Recognition
  - Discussed how to get more Senate involvement/sent questions to Andree for the Survey to help with this goal
  - Working with SPH Comms to create a Senate highlight and use this to get more involvement from the Staff Community. Can also be used to get more engagement in the Awards and Recognition Program for Staff
    - This could include a resources page for staff: FSAO, Ombudsman, etc.
    - [Contact Moe if interested in working with this group](#)
- PDAT
  - Determine what PD looks like during the next academic year - contingent on funding for trainings and development opportunities
    - Need to chat with Ira
    - [Will report back at the next Senate Meeting](#)
- Communications
  - [Want to create a calendar of event for regular and important dates for the Senate](#)

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: Any other business**

- Is there a way to use the Senate Meeting more for discussion and less working only in our siloed subcommittees?
- Entertain the idea of meeting earlier in the month if the handbook deadline is sooner rather than later
- Let Moe if you are interested in participating in Student Orientation (either SPH Reads book talk or campus tours)
  - [Link for book talk participation](#)