

**Graduate Student Advisory Council**  
**May 4, 2022, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.**  
**President's Conference Room – Kretzmann**

---

In attendance: Ivan Steven Abdel Aziz Zongo, Leeann Wright, Zubaidah Albaro, Doreen Olguin-Flores, Michael Trevithick, Patrick Falls, Nate Izewski, Candace Roberson, & Carlos Luna

Guests: Dr. Mike Tyler, Stephanie Kinkade, Jessica Segally, Jordin Billings, & Chloe Kiser

- I. Lunch
- II. Welcome from Leeann Wright, GSAC Chair
- III. Graduate Admissions Update – Jordin Billings, Graduate Admissions Specialist
  - Currently hosting webinars for prospective students
  - Looking forward to hosting webinars to assist with VISA interviews
  - Nurses week is this week
- IV. University Council Update – Leeann Wright
  - Restructuring Campus Community Policy Committee (CCPC)
  - No major updates
- V. Events Committee Charge
  - Event ideas for next year: mental health week or stress relief events, finals week grab & go snack station
- VI. Student Senate Update – Leeann Wright
  - Senator Wright is officially a member of Student Senate representing graduate students (sworn in on Monday, 5/2)
- VII. Feedback, Ideas & Check-in
  - End-of-the-year survey
  - Dr. Tyler report:
    - Mentioned to Leeann about considering the possibility of having an online student become the Student Senator for graduate students
    - Discussed the housing options for graduate students may be changing by next academic year
    - Graduate student space has been decided (2<sup>nd</sup> level of Harre Union where the Esports lounge is currently)

  
VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

- Growing enrollment will allow us to continue our awesome graduate student-centered events
- Blackboard – don't have access to past courses?
  - May be a professor limiting visibility
    - Gina Rue, Instructional Designer, said that you should be able to access the courses that you've taken from up to 5 years ago, but if you don't see them then the professor has changed the setting to unavailable for whatever reason. If you'd like to access the course, you need to reach out to the professor to ask them to change that setting.

VIII. Discussion - Program Updates & Celebrations

- Read our 2021-2022 GSAC accomplishment list (below)
  - Graduate Student Welcome picnic
  - Open house day
  - January: Orientation - new students welcomed
  - GSAC recognized as student group on [valpo.edu/myvalpo](http://valpo.edu/myvalpo)
  - Cowboy Boot Friday was introduced
  - First "Grad Student Night" at the ARC
  - Be Our GSAC Valentine event was a success
  - For 2022-2023 academic year, GSAC will have a seat at Student Senate
  - Bi-Semester newsletter
  - Graduate School Workshop Series has been a big hit
  - Invited to Student Organization End-of-the-Year Gala
  - Discussed student concerns and shared with appropriate leadership
  - Graduate student space has been decided

IX. Save the Date:

- Commencement Banquet: Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (Ballrooms - Harre Union)
- Commencement Ceremonies: Saturday & Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (ARC)
  - Congrats to Patrick Falls, Candace Roberson & Chloe Kiser on graduating in May!

X. Stay tuned for next year's

---