**Graduate Student Advisory Committee**

**Agenda**

**March 26, 2020**

**12:00-1:00, Blue Jeans**

### ATTENDEES

### Staff

Mariah Fiumara

Jeanne Murabito

Mary-Ann Mycek

Tiffany Porties

Andria Rose

Eric Rutherford

Shira Washington

**Students**

Laura Andre

Brian Bittner

Sarah Bork

David Geroski

Aaron Gladstein

Erik Hall

Joshua Mashl

Brooke Mason

Chris Rockewell

Bosun Roy-Layinde

Laura Saunders

Hang Yang

**Guest**

Gabriel VanLoozen

### DISCUSSION

### COVID 19 Discussion—Mary-Ann Mycek & Jeanne Murabito

<http://covid-19.engin.umich.edu/student-resources>

* Share your concerns, challenges, and thoughts around the situation
* Dean Mycek – We are here for you and are currently working with Rackham on addressing issues
* Please reach out and let us know what resources you need that we are not addressing
* Sarah said that Rackham Student Government did a survey with students with 120+ responses
  + How to handle information to make sure it’s accurate
* Information is conflicting and confusing
* If you are confused about communication, let Jeanne or Mary-Ann know
* If you identify a conflict in information, please let us know so that we can address at a college-

wide level

* There are town halls that they are putting on, including those with CAPS
* Concerns about power dynamics
* Concerns about lack of certainty around next steps, communication from various places and this
* Issues with power dynamics between advisors and students and what should be a priority
* Deadlines for graduate students have been expanded and that email went out this morning
* Grading policies for graduate students should go out this week – and is coordinated with the
* entire University
* What resources do you need?
* If you want to discuss issues privately, you can talk with Jeanne or Mary-Ann
* Website is helpful
* Questions about student healthcare: <https://www.uhs.umich.edu/dship>
* Laura Saunders said that students are worried about degree progress with changes in deadlines, etc.
* Social Isolation – Are there any departments that are doing unique virtual events? If so, please share them with Andria.
* BME department is working with GSI’s through a BlueJeans meetings
* MSGC – As an e-board had a meeting after the announcement to cancel classes
* Moved everything virtually and kept going
* Have had social events like online video gaming social
* Python Training virtually
* MSE – GSC and Department is having a quarantine gathering
* Weekly seminars with faculty
* “Quaranteam”--2 virtual gaming systems to promote socialization online in ECE
* On-line happy hour in BlueJeans
* Town hall meeting
* Using BlueJeans or Zoom with large groups is difficult
  + Mariah said that break-out groups can be utilized
* Online coffee hour to see each other in the department
* Arbor and State Trails are still open, just practice social distancing
* CEE – GSAC is hosting a happy hour and online gaming
* Department Chair had a fireside chat
* Healthcare Benefits for PhD students (Gradcare)
* Need to change address while social isolation, then there are steps you need to take, please add

this to CoE Covid Website

* If you are considering taking a leave of absence, then there may be questions about if you will

have healthcare. We will be checking in on this and reach back out.

* <https://www.uhs.umich.edu/dship>
* How to reach out about other healthcare issues – call UHS or your healthcare provider as

everyone is handling this differently

* Emergency Funding for Students - https://scholarships.engin.umich.edu/
* Online Classes
* Don’t feel that things have changed to greatly as students are still quite busy. It is more difficult

though now and stressful due to the other responsibilities that have increased and the increase in

distractions.

* Some classes have deteriorated to nothing/stopping. The lectures have been canceled and

everything has moved to papers.

So far, GSI and Faculty have seemed to be supportive for classes

* Many have moved lectures to recorded video and then ask that you email questions. Have found

the ME professors have been quite supportive. Although, it is hard to be productive.

* There has been a learning curve for the faculty and for students, but they are being as

understanding as possible and are trying to move forward as planned.

* Asking for more help for faculty on how to use virtual resources
* Should we encourage Virtual Study Groups to help with staying motivated?
* It has not been organized by students, but others have been using virtual office hours that

have been helpful.

* A few friend groups have done this informally, but not sure how to do this for research
* Those that work in wet labs are worried about how this will affect progression towards degree and

requirements needed

* Please use mental health resources at this time as the stress is unprecedented – C.A.R.E., CAPS,

etc.

* + It would be good to teach faculty how to use the technology needed to teach online
  + Are virtual study groups being created? Laura Andre said profs have been having online office hours so students can see each other’s comments.

### Energy Communication Network—Gabriel Vanloozen, [gsv@umich.edu](mailto:gsv@umich.edu)

* Communication network for grad students across UM who are interested in the energy industry
* Participating schools; Law, Ross, SEAS, Ford
* Looking for members from CoE

1. Follow-up on proposal for the dual-degree CoE/MBA program—Joshua Mashl, [jmashl@umich.edu](mailto:jmashl@umich.edu)
2. Future Events
   * Please let Andria know if you have any suggestions for social events or workshops for the upcoming year

**FUTURE GSAC MEETINGS**

*Note: these may be held virtually, if needed*

5/28 11:30-1:00, Johnson Rooms  
7/28 12:00-1:30, Johnson Rooms  
9/23 12:00-1:30, Johnson Rooms