



Steering Meeting *Minutes*  
November 6, 2020

*Attendance:*

Present:

Sllvia Rivera Alfaro (SRA), Katherine Anderson (KA), Edward Charnley (EC), Sharanya Dutta (SD), Roderick Hurley (RH), Adam Kocurek (AK), Sara Oritz (SO), Natacha Pawa (NP), Cristina Pardo Porto (CPP), Christian Martinez (CM), Carolyn McDonough (CMD),

Meeting called to order at 4:35PM

**I. Approval of Agenda**

RH moves to approve the agenda with the following emendations:

Add:

1. *DGSC Micro-Grants*
2. *GC Library Services*
3. *DGSC Steering Response to GC Email "How Anxiety Can Be Your Superpower"*
4. *DGSC Steering Statement on Advocacy/Solidarity*

Remove:

*Steering Committee Online Office Hours*

Seconded: CMD

Vote: Passes unanimously

**II. Approval of Minutes of the October 2, 2020 Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes: SO

Seconded: EC

Vote: Passes unanimously

**III. Executive Committee Reports**

**A. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Sharanya Dutta)**

- I dropped the ball on this one; I'm so sorry. Thank you Adam and Rod, for rallying. We are trying to schedule the first meeting with the GTF committee.
- Chartered Orgs: I'm in the process of updating chartered org leaders into my database and sending out reminders to all the orgs. For your part, if you haven't done so already, IN YOUR OFFICE HOURS, please help sign chartered org rosters! You can find the list of chartered orgs here: [Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council – Chartered Organizations](#)
- The AP co-coordinator application deadline was extended to Nov 1 and we now have a few more applicants, all v strong I think. Michelle and Jamila will let me know next steps, it's really mostly up to the hiring committee now. They/I or some combination of us will be in touch!
- PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR SPARC TRAININGS BY DEC 1.

- We have been dealing with a lot of international student situations with delayed checks and even fraud. Thankfully, direct deposit for NRAs seems to be up and running—many of us got paid this Thursday. Hopefully this means that we get our fellowship monies from Spring onwards in direct deposit which is way faster and hassle free. This is a big win for us, thank you EVERYONE for pushing this. But special thanks to Rod and Adam for their tireless work on this. Also I think we should send out a thank you email to whichever admin offices were involved in this. I know it's the least they can do, but also it's a really important thing they managed to get done fairly quickly by CUNY standards.

### **B. Co-Chair for Communications (Rod Hurley)**

#### Recent Meetings:

- 10/26 - DGSC Executive Committee Meeting with President Robin Garrell. The President provided a brief overview of the budget and plans for Fall 2021. We expressed the needs that students have for emergency funding and access to materials and facilities to make progress toward their degrees. We presented the results of the international students survey and the petition for support for international students, and raised questions about the difficulties international students are facing. The President seemed open to hosting a town hall meeting to discuss the issues with students. We also asked to be copied on communications sent to international students, and for more a transparent view of the budget.

#### Updates/Announcements:

- Remember to engage with Social Media Correspondent, Inma Zanoguera Garcias to promote events and send announcements through the DGSC's social media accounts. You can do so by using our [Social Media Event Submission Form](#) or by emailing Inma at [socialmedia@cunydsc.org](mailto:socialmedia@cunydsc.org).

#### Upcoming Meetings:

- 11/18 - Co-Chairs Monthly Meeting with Office of Student Affairs
- 11/19 - GC Reactivation Committee Monthly Meeting  
AH - We need a new student representative for the GC Reactivation Committee.  
AK - I am happy to take that on.
- 11/20 - DGSC Plenary Meeting - Everyone is required to register for the meeting to receive the link to join.

### **C. Co-Chair for Business (Adam Kocurek)**

- Budgetary concerns: I know that many of you have seen the email from Felo regarding the state of CUNY finances. This will inevitably have a trickle down impact on us, so while I am urging program representatives to take advantage of their budgets, I am also anxious to save as much money as possible for the inevitable lean years facing us.
- I am reaching out to the individual program representatives and giving them their updated allocation totals and suggesting ways they could go about spending their allocations. So far, no programs have utilized their semesterly allocation, though this is to be expected.
- Note: we are all getting a payment increase in December, so adjust your stipend amount accordingly:
  - Co-Chairs: From \$1153.06 to \$1176.11
  - UFS/USS: From \$576.53 to \$588.06
  - Steering: From \$384.35 to \$392.04

- Bursar has finally set up direct deposit for international students. Some students have finally started to receive their check payments via direct deposit.
- Alessandro Zammato, one of the editors for The Advocate, disclosed that he is taking a leave of absence from the GC because of COVID-19, and as such, we may need to initiate a hiring call to replace him. He is expecting to return in the Spring Semester.
- Emergency Grants: as requests for emergency grants (operating on a reimbursement basis with a cap of \$50) come in, please direct them to the EC - we will look at them as quickly as possible and process them if valid.

#### **D. USS Delegate (Sara Ortiz)**

##### Federal Advocacy –

- The Department of Homeland Security recently proposed a rule change that would end the current system of "Duration of Status" (D/S) visas, which are valid for the entirety of a student's course, and replace it with fixed time-period visas with a maximum length of four years. This means almost all doctoral students and many undergraduate or masters students would be ineligible for a visa that covers the duration of their studies and would have to apply to extend multiple times throughout their course. The maximum visa length is further reduced from four to just two years for countries with high suspected visa overstay percentages, regardless of the actual number of international students from those countries. Students from countries that send relatively few students to the US, which are concentrated in Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia, will be severely impacted. Additionally, the data relies on suspected overstay cases, which can be triggered by anything as simple as an airline forgetting to collect an I-95 form and greatly overestimate overstay rates". (The proposed DHS rule may be found [here](#))
- USS has signed on to a collective student government public comment to DHS Opposing Visa Restrictions and End to Duration of Status Visas along with many other student governments across the country such as MIT, Carnegie Mellon and so much more!

##### State Advocacy –

- City Council and Mayoral races are around the corner. NYC Comptroller & candidate for Mayor Scott Stringer has proposed a "CUNY Plan" if he is elected Mayor. Click the link below to look into more of this proposed plan [Scott Stringer's CUNY Plan](#)
- USS is currently in deliberation about whether we will support this plan and suggestions we can provide to elected officials.

##### CUNY Updates-

- Student Support Services
  - CUNY has announced plans to expand mental health services and college food pantries are now open to CUNY students from any campus. USS Chairperson Juvanie Piquant is following up with the university to learn more about the implementation of this and USS will ensure that students are aware of and informed about this process. This of course does not completely fix issues students are facing and there is so much more that needs to be done but it is a step forward. Click the link below to learn more! [CUNY Expansion Plan](#)
- Academics
  - CUNY will not be moving forward with the proctoring system announced earlier this semester known as Proctortrack for various reasons. As of now , there hasn't been any conversation

regarding a new implementation of a proctoring service. I will be sure to update you all if there are any changes.

- October Events-
  - USS Scholarship Annual Awards Ceremony ~ Thursday, October 29th from 7:00pm - 9:00pm
  - USS Award Ceremony for the 2019-2020 term ~ Sunday November 1st from 7:00 - 9:00pm
  - I attended both events and was incredibly moved and inspired by the personal stories of resilience and activism of the student recipients of all awards. I believe the events were recorded and will be made available on our website, [usscuny.org](http://usscuny.org) if you would like to view them.
- USS Committees –
  - Every year USS encourages members of the plenary to participate in committees during their term. It is a great way to stay engaged and implement initiatives that will help CUNY students.
  - As a member of the Steering Committee, I joined the *International / Undocumented Students Committee* and the *Racial Equity Committee*.
- Election Updates -

The University Student Senate issued a statement calling for Academic Amnesty for CUNY students who voted in the presidential election and a resolution that has been passed by the Brooklyn College Undergraduate Student Government Association. CUNY students have played a pivotal role in mobilizing everyday New Yorkers in voter registration and partnering with CUNY Votes to raise awareness about civic engagement. I will update you all after our upcoming steering committee meeting (date TBD) as to the outcome of our petition.
- Stipend Advocacy –
  - USS steering members get \$500 a month from November 2020-Nov 2021. This includes summer stipends if the chairperson wishes to continue (if you continue being active in your roll). We must choose between a USS stipend or a DSC stipend, but not both.
  - I am currently in the process of investigating the specifics of funding and budgeting for the USS Vice-Chair stipends. Through conversations I had with my predecessor, Jane, it has come to my attention that it may be that the funding for our work on Steering for USS is allocated from a separate budget than that of Steering for our own campuses (i.e. budgeting for the USS V.C. position is funded from a separate pot than budgeting for my USS Delegate position on the DGSC at the Grad Center). I inquired with Farbod Moghadam, Budget and Finance Director of USS, why students, who are dedicating the same amount of hours in service to the student body, not be compensated for their role equitably as their fellow steering members are? As a labor organizer, I inquired because it came to my attention that I am not the only student affected by this policy on our USS steering. In a conversation with Juvanie Piquant, our Chairperson, yesterday, she said our DGSC stipend is funded by the same Student Activity Fee that the USS Steering Stipend is, therefore, those of us serving double time on both ends can only collect one stipend, but not both.
  - I will continue to advocate around ensuring our choice as student leaders and representatives in the honor and privilege of serving our students and invest our own time and resources (as part or full-time tuition paying students, workers, and some parents) does not have to come at the expense of the students we serve (100% of that student activity fee

should go directly back to our students), but that we find alternative means of funding from elected officials and CUNY (without strings attached).

#### **E. UFS Liaison (Natacha Pawa)**

- I attended the UFS Meeting on October 27 - We had a guest speaker, CUNY vice-chancellor Matthew Sapienza, who spoke about issues related to the Budget of last year, and where we are at this point of the semester. It was reported that this fiscal year began with uncertainty related to Covid-19 and its impact on CUNY budget (which was cut). However, the situation in senior colleges (who end up with 35 million in the reserve) was not as critical as it is for community colleges who are at risk.
  - CUNY had a \$20M cut in the last quarter of the fiscal year in the CUNY wide.
  - Normally we are now in the 3<sup>rd</sup> month of the fiscal year, but because of Covid and Cut, there is still a great uncertainty. For the 3 first months of the 2021 budget year, CUNY was working on a month-to-month budget. But the good news is that there was, 3 weeks ago, allocation of the budget to the remainder of the semester (from October to January 31).
  - The state is holding back 20 % of our appropriation until more certainty comes. As a result, the potential TAP payment was reduced. What is going to happen to that holding will depend on Washington as there is no stimulus bill yet adopted.
  - The Cares act was the first one the government approved. And it will be distributed through Student emergency grant \$117M ( to be dispersed by the end of the FALL). In addition, there is a mirror amount the institutional grant. Finally, 14 million were allocated to the MSI.
  - \$91M will be allocated very quickly.
  - The Cares act money is not “free money” to be used anyhow. It is only for expenses related to pandemic like purchasing things for remote learning and sponsoring professional development workshops for faculty.
  - Other issues were raised(Professor Lisa Rose) : why should we purchase at the same time almost similar expensive platforms( Zoom , office 365) ? Couldn't we just stick to one and save some money to be distributed to faculty expenses to go remotely( buying desk, office chairs, purchasing hotspot internet, etc.) to which Sapienza replied that the Cares act money has its validation criteria, which do not include faculty expenses on furniture, etc.
- Points to be discuss next meeting **December 1st 2020**.
  - Will summer 2021 require board action? (Is it almost sure to have an online Spring)
  - Ed. CRUZ will be our guest in December. By that time, the census would have voted [ News of consolidation?]
  - Online Degree Programmes are going to be featured next term to Fall 2021.
  - Nothing is heard yet on negotiations with vendors to provide university vendors proctoring. .
  - Survey of faculty attitude/ hope/expectations...
  - Who should be reached? Part time and full-time faculty are the target population

#### **IV. Steering Officer Reports**

##### **A. Officer for Funding (Christian Martinez)**

- The Grants Committee had their second meeting last week October 28th, 2020
  - There were no new grant applications to review

- As a way to increase applications, we have decided that students who organize COVID-19 Community grants (under start-up grants) will receive a \$25 gift card of their choosing
- Advertising
  - This week, I have sent out an email to both the listserve and to all program representatives about the COVID-19 community grants
  - I have reached out to our social media coordinator and am waiting on a response
  - After speaking with The Grants Committee and Rod, we have decided that we will be also advertising in the Advocate as part of the DGSC's designated free page
  - I plan to send out an additional email letting everyone know about the \$25 incentive for organizing the events
- In total, we have reviewed and approved two grants: Lit Liv Journal and the 13th annual Pedagogy Day

#### **B. Officer for Governance & Membership (Katie Anderson)**

- I have started to turn the wheels on my initiative to increase the percentage of programs that have active representation within the DGSC.
- A recently elected returning program representative has stepped down in favor of handing the seat to a newer person in the program. The transition was very nice and has provided some initial experience with having the "old" representative involved in the election of a "new" representative.
- DATAVIS completed a petition to gain representation, but the indicated rep was deemed ineligible by the office of student affairs
- I have two questions:
  - are first year (or first semester) students eligible to serve as program reps?
  - should program representation limits be set with this academic year's or last academic year's enrollment numbers?
    - specific example: ECON - 107 for 19-20, but only 99 for 20-21...

#### *Discussion:*

AK: In answer to your questions, they can be a second semester freshman or a new PhD student who is continuing from a masters at the GC. Essentially, they need a GC GPA.

Regarding the program representation limits, it is based on the previous semester's roster. Once we get the new numbers programs can petition for new seats.

#### **C. Officer for Health & Wellness (Silvia Rivera Alfaro)**

- I continue participating in the Search Committee at the Office of Student Affairs for the Student Health Insurance Manager:
  - On October 21st, Elise Perram communicated to everyone in the committee that the official name for the position is "Student Health Insurance Manager", not NYSHIP Manager as we were previously calling it. I have used the wrong name in previous DGSC minutes both for the Steering Committee and the Plenary Meetings.
  - On November 03rd the Committee interviewed the first candidate for the position. We will have another 3 interviews.
- The Navigating NYSHIP workshop will take place on November 13th at 10:00 a.m.
  - Should I create the zoom meeting from the DGSC account?
  - I will start sharing the information today.

- The Committee of Health and Wellness continues working:
  - Today we have the second meeting for working on the website. The next meeting will take place on Nov 20th 8:00 a.m
  - Deborah Leter, member of the committee and representative of Anthropology brought the subject of a letter in solidarity with uninsured students. She proposed the Steering Committee to sign this [Open Letter for Universal Open Health Insurance](#) as a response to the current situation.
- There is a focus on mental health in relation to Covid
  - On World Mental Health Day I sent information of resources to the student community including emergency resources for students. In this line, it is important to let you know that the Wellness Center can only give counseling to students who are in the State of New York; this is an issue that worries me.
  - On October 28th The Graduate Center sent an email with the subject "How Anxiety Can Be Your Superpower". I proposed the Steering Office take a collective position on this issue via email, but we have not reached an agreement.
  - On October 28th I emailed the Wellness Center asking for information on the mental health situation of our community. I got a reply saying I would receive a response on Monday November 02nd, but I still have no answer or information on this subject.

#### **D. Officer for Outreach (Cristina Pardo Porto)**

- Bursar is implementing DIRECT DEPOSIT for NRA students. Some students have already submitted their forms and it will be fully implemented for the next fellowship disbursement period (February). What is not clear is: all the students are being asked to submit their forms?
- LIVE CHAT OFFICE HOURS with INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE is now working
- The GC has confirmed that next semester will be fully online and rejected the option to make hybrid courses available for International Students
- Phyllis Shulz has explained to me why International Students are not being paid:
  - It is not just about Social Security Number, although that does play a significant role.
  - Students who do not have an active SEVP status are not eligible to work, even if they have a Social Security Number. This makes the students ineligible for the **graduate assistantship**, which is an employment based position.
  - The **lump sum payment**: all of our fellowship are NY state tax levy funds and New York is the most highly regulated state in the country. We are not allowed to issue funds to students without an active SEVP status. If the students have an active SEVP status, they must also have the Social Security Number. Apparently, this has been an issue for SPS for a number of years - they can't issue scholarships beyond tuition costs to their international students who are abroad either. SUNY Albany, who is funded similarly, also cannot issue funds to the incoming international students who remained abroad.
- I am worried about the NRA students that have not yet received their fellowship lump sum checks (Rocío, Manon, Giacomo). I wonder if there is more?
  - REMEMBER - **Steering get-together TOMORROW:**  
Saturday 7th, 1:00pm at Central Park - The Great Lawn, by the Softball field 1
  - BYOB

- Snacks to share are welcome
- You can bring another student

#### **E. Officer for Student Life & Services (Edward Charnley)**

- DGSC Discord Virtual Space for Students. I would like to create an online Discord server for the DGSC modelled on the one currently being used by the History Department - I will demonstrate Discord and its potential in the meeting.
- DGSC Directory effort.
- Meeting with Marc Kagan, PSC - I have arranged a meeting with Marc Kagan from the PSC in which he is going to fill me in on some PSC history to bring me up to date with the current and historical relationship, in practical terms, of the PSC to the student body. I also hope to use this meeting to broach the subject of a more active engagement with the PSC on the part of the DGSC. Rather than just supporting PSC resolutions, I think that the DGSC could be a useful voice for student staff at the GC - Marc hopefully will be able to give some direction on how this could be facilitated.
- Student Activities Film Screening - *All We've Got*.
- The Library
  - I bring to the attention of the steering committee the continued problems being faced by the library.
  - Students and staff I have spoken to in my own department have expressed frustration and dissatisfaction with the current limits of library service. The experience of students with ILL has been mixed at best.
  - A principle part of the problem is that even in cases where the library can get books, via ILL, it can only get one chapter. This is somewhat difficult - a single chapter is not sufficient unless the prospective reader knows *exactly* what it is they want, down to the page. This is simply the nature of research for humanities students in particular.
  - This experience is even more frustrating for students who have found themselves considering resorting to ILL in the knowledge that the GC itself has the book they require, but offers no scanning service. The absence of such a service is confusing. My understanding of copyright is that if this was done on a case by case (order by order) basis, there would be no legal issue. Since the library is currently empty, and provides a wide space, it is hard to see why this should not be being done. Obviously, this would require health and safety precautions and the use of a very small number of staff - limiting staff numbers would appear to be a certain priority. However, although this would make the work slow, it would seem to be a worthwhile digital investment in and of itself.
  - Several students have expressed a deep frustration with the library's choices in terms of expanded digital collections. Those choices, some students feel, betray upsetting assumptions of normative academic study at the GC. In particular, several students have had their research badly disrupted by the absence of non-English language books. Students in the history department engaged in European and Middle-Eastern history in particular identified this as a problem.
  - These problems are compounded by the apparent absence of dialogue between the libraries and the EOs. Several months ago, when the Mina Rees first announced it had expanded its collection, I contacted my department head to ask what process the library had for determining what material each department needed. I was surprised by his response that the library had not contacted the



history department or consulted with it in any way; I was stunned to discover, when I emailed my department head earlier this week, that this was still the case.

- The continued focus on budgetary problems is prescient and valid, but does not detract from the problematic fiscal dimension of these issues for students. Some students have reported spending large monthly and weekly sums in order to keep up with their classes and research.
- This leads on to the final, and arguably most important issue; sustainability. It has become increasingly clear that this situation is not sustainable in the long term. The longer the problems with access to materials continues, the more the problem will compound.
- Despite these being obvious issues for the student body, I know of no effort on the part of the library to solicit feedback from the student body. Discussion of these issues in DGSC Plenary Meetings has revealed that it is a consistent concern, but as yet the DGSC has not attempted to aggregate student opinion in order to gain a more complete sense of the problems being faced. I have been informed that a survey was distributed by the EO Council. This survey, for confusing reasons, appears to be the source of some controversy. I have a copy of the questions of the survey which I present now for comment.
- I am forced to express my own regret with the way in which these problems have been framed by the library and the PSC.
- The PSC Executive Committee Statement issued on Friday, October 23rd 2020, stated the following: “Naturally, and for a variety of legitimate reasons, students and faculty may wish to return to the library as soon as they can. However, library faculty and staff, who are also union members, cannot, under any circumstances, be asked to re-enter an unsafe work environment in order to make this happen. Demands that the library reopen without consideration for the labor required for that reopening (and the risks involved in that labor) betray a fundamental union value: solidarity.”
  - This statement is misleading at best, and deeply unfair and saddening to loyal student PSC members at worst. There have been absolutely no demands for library staff to engage in providing any service without consideration “the risks involved in that labor.” I reaffirm here, as I have at every other time this issue has been discussed, and as every other student I have heard speak publicly on these issues has affirmed, the first priority must be the health and safety of staff and students. But accepting that provision does not automatically mean adjustments to services cannot be made, or even discussed. Statements like this give the appearance of an attempt to suppress public discussion. In attempting to conflate the discussion of necessary services and the best means to establish them with a willingness to endanger students and staff, by reducing this issue to an absurd binary of either complete reopening or total closure, statements like these betray a willingness to obfuscate and politicize this issue in a way that is inappropriate.
  - This is made even more clear by the fact that CUNY is not representative of library services city or nationwide. In fact Mina Rees is one of only 7% of libraries nationwide who have enforced such stringent methods. The NorthEast Document Conservation Center has issued guidelines on safe collection management, and the REopening Archives, Libraries and Museums Project has collated extensive research material and established scientific risk analysis. We are now the only university library system in New York which is not providing at least some access to physical materials.

<https://www.oclc.org/realms/home.html>

<https://www.nedcc.org/free-resources/preservation-leaflets/3.-emergency-management/3.5->

[disinfecting-books](#)

<https://sr.ithaka.org/blog/academic-library-response-to-covid19/>

- I suggest the following:
  - I. That the DGSC ask for clarification on the following points:
    - a) What steps have been taken by the library to engage directly with departments in relation to what materials and services are necessary for them to be able to conduct their academic programs?
    - b) In what ways is the library engaged with the work of organisations such as REALM?
    - c) Has the library begun collaborative efforts with other NYC libraries in order to provide greater access to collections?
    - d) The library lists a CUNY Libraries Plan, but there is no link - exactly what is this plan? And how does it relate to current research and the programs and systems being used by libraries throughout New York, and the greater United States, to provide services that students need?
  - II. That the DGSC release its own survey among the student body to better grasp the diverse nature of student problems, and to better understand whether or not there is a mandate for further action on our part in terms of advocating for certain services.

**F. Officer for Technology & Library (Carolyn McDonough)** **The report below was initially submitted via email for the October 2020 Plenary, and added per direction to do so in advance of the Steering Committee meeting on Friday, Nov. 6, 2020.**

**IT:**

- On Sept. 25, 2020, I attended a meeting with the IT team at the invitation of Elaine Montilla with Rod, Sharanya, and Adam. I made reference to this meeting during the Plenary later that afternoon when I gave my oral report, which is as follows: We discussed the STF as the top priority for students. Elaine affirmed that IT is highly aware of the student body's STF concerns among the many pressing matters currently facing IT, which include fending off increased phishing scams amid the CUNY-wide emergency funding (currently the only "operating budget" for CUNY colleges.) CUNY funding is beholden to NY State which has not yet submitted its budget because it is waiting for federal funds. During this meeting, I advocated for a printing station for GC students so that we may be able to 1) read offscreen 2) retain/use our allotment of 1,000 printed pages per day in some way. In an effort to ameliorate the STF situation, the IT team created a PILOT STF FORM which was sent to Rod and I to "test" by Oct. 7. I completed the form and submitted it to the IT team on Oct. 7. I have observations about the PILOT STF FORM's interface, the options within the fields provided, and the "logic" underlying the FORM, which I will take up with Elaine and Rod, after Rod and I have conferred about our experiences in completing the "test" form.

**LIBRARY:**

- In addition to my twice monthly meetings with Emily Drabinsky, Interim Chief Librarian, GC, I also attended a DGSC Library Committee meeting on Oct. 14 with Rod, Sharanya, and Adam. The 3 key takeaways, in my estimation, are as follows: 1) The Library team re-emphasized the best way for students to obtain research materials remains Inter Library Loan and they followed up with specific links to assist in this. We will ALL continue to remind/provide these links to the student body via listserv. 2) Sharanya suggested that the library create a "Covid FAQ" page. Emily and the team liked the idea very much and will create it. I suggested we re-frame/re-name this page to "Using the Library in Covid Information" to more accurately reflect its content and to accommodate

updates. 3) The library committee also re-emphasized that all staff are available to help GC students with ALL research needs in any way they can. They also noted that there is SPECIAL ACCESS to E-RESERVES available with materials delivered electronically through MARLi, but students must still apply to MARLi and go through the process of being approved.

*Discussion:*

RH: I move that the Steering Committee create an email via a google doc to be sent to the library requesting answers to the questions raised here.

EC: Seconds the motion.

Motion passes unanimously.

**V. New Business**

**A. Approval of New Program Representatives (Voting)**

KA: Moves to approve Jocelyn Lai as Program Representative for Music

RH: Seconds the motion

Vote: Passes unanimously

**B. Social Media Correspondent**

RH: I wanted to introduce the SMC to steering but she couldn't make it.

**C. DGSC Micro-Grants**

AK: Please direct grant applications to the steering committee. I did not feel it was appropriate for me to take on the entire responsibility for deciding on micro-grant applications. The three co-chairs will review the applications.

**D. GC Library Services (addressed earlier)**

**E. DGSC Steering Response to GC Email "How Anxiety Can Be Your Superpower"**

RH: I move to respond to this email on behalf of the DGSC.

CPP: I second that motion.

Motion passes

10 Ayes.

1 Nay.

0 Abstentions.

**F. DGSC Steering Statement on Advocacy/Solidarity**

RH: I think we always need to be clear on how we are advocating on behalf of students. The PSC represents staff, faculty, and students in their capacity as workers, while our charge as a steering committee is to represent students in all aspects of their GC life. In that regard, we need a clear position, which reflects what we stand for. This should be a statement of our priorities and what kind of advocacy we are endorsing and engaged with. I think that we should issue a statement which affirms our belief in the importance of solidarity with the union, and the importance of health and safety concerns, and that we are not compromising those values by advocating on behalf of students.

**VI. Announcements**

No additional announcements.

**VII. Adjournment**

Meeting is adjourned at 7:05PM.