**SGA General Body Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Monday, March 3, 2025
**Time:** 5:00 PM
**Location:** Room 2E29 and via Zoom (<https://umaryland.zoom.us/j/98597285043?pwd=gNNF1Bm9aBuQYeX46rQcrHkSCsVqIE.1>)

**Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order by SGA President Courtney Fullwood. He welcomed everyone and introduced a new segment spotlighting student opportunities, beginning with a student who studied abroad in England through the social work program. The student shared about their transformative experience, cultural differences in practice, and the need to increase awareness about antisemitism in social work education.

**SGA Updates**

* **Elections Committee:** Vice President Trinity Cephas will lead the committee to organize the upcoming SGA elections. The committee may include any students and will finalize election rules and timelines by the April meeting.
* **Constitution and Blackboard Presence:** Updates to the constitution are underway, including integrating a Blackboard page for SGA. This would allow students to opt into updates and announcements.
* **Shady Grove and Cross-Campus Engagement:** Outreach has been made to program heads at USG and the School of Social Work to share event info and foster engagement with students at Shady Grove. Efforts are ongoing to support macro student visibility and cross-campus representation.
* **End-of-Field Celebration and Field Seminar:** Planning is underway for an event allowing students to reflect on their field experiences and provide peer support. The goal is to keep the tone solution-focused rather than complaint-heavy.
* **Student Protests and Activism:** SGA is monitoring and sharing protest and organizing opportunities as they arise. A living document is being compiled to help mobilize students.

**Macro Student Union (MSU) Updates**

* **Advocacy Training:** MSU will host an advocacy workshop titled "Storytelling for Advocates" in April, in collaboration with On Our Own Maryland. The training will be hybrid, and Adam's advocacy class will participate.
* **Networking Event Planning:** A spring networking event for students and macro professionals is in early stages. Suggestions and contacts are welcome.

**Field Education Committee Updates**

* **Transition Away from Sonia Platform:** The school has decided to discontinue Sonia due to its limitations and lack of customization. Efforts are underway to tailor the existing E\*Value system to student needs.
* **Learning Agreement Revisions:** Updates are being made to suggested learning activities under each EPAS 2022 competency.
* **Feedback from Students:** Suggestions were made to provide students with opportunities to evaluate field placements and share feedback with the field office.
* **Study Abroad Recommendations:** To improve short-term placements, suggestions were made to connect students with supervisors before arrival and complete learning agreements in advance.

**UMB SGA Senate Updates**

* **Executive Orders & Research Funding:** Students conducting federally funded research were encouraged to reach out to UMB SGA for specific guidance on how executive orders may affect them.
* **Counseling Center Accessibility:** Advocacy is underway for extended counseling center hours to accommodate students with field and evening classes. The director will attend the next UMB SGA meeting.
* **Know Your Rights Resources:** Information was shared regarding interactions with ICE and federal authorities, including guidance on legal rights.

**Open Forum & Student Concerns**

* Members discussed the importance of safe spaces, transparency, and direct communication between students and administration.
* Advocacy was emphasized for student inclusion in decision-making, with faculty pledging to continue pushing for student voices to be heard and respected.

**Additional Updates**

* **Health Insurance Committee:** Students are needed to serve on the committee overseeing the UMB health insurance plan. This committee determines student insurance costs. Interested students should contact SGA by Wednesday.
* **Convocation Slide Show:** Appreciation was expressed for Emma Charles' work on the convocation slideshow.
* **Presidential Management Fellowship Program:** A recent executive order may impact student eligibility and access to this opportunity. More details will be shared once clarified.

**Adjournment**
The meeting concluded around 6:00 PM. Minutes and slides will be shared following the meeting. The next General Body Meeting is scheduled for **April 7, 2025, at 5:00 PM**.

**Attendance**

* Courtney Fullwood
* Trinity Cephas
* Christa Gloster
* Chloe Kastner
* Emma Charles
* Emma Burke
* Dean Taylor
* Additional attendees via Zoom