

GAPSA Meeting/Conference Call Agenda
VPSA Conference Conference Rm G03. LBC.
October 24, 2017, 6:30 pm

1. Call to Order **6:35 pm**
2. Roll Call

Office	Member	Present	Proxy
President	Nick Fears	x	
Exec VP	Molly Payne	x	
Uptown VP	Ana Maria Lopez	x	
Downtown VP	Dane Weinert	x	
Finance VP	Divesh Kaul	x	
Communications VP	Lauren Swintoniewski	x	
Advisor	Smita Ruzicka	x	
GSSA	Lydia Crawford		Giovanni
	Sam Luethy	x	
	Leila Pashazanusi	x	
	Devon Bowser	x	
	Davette Gadison	x	
Business	John Broussard		
	Ikenna (Ike) Onyenekwu		
	JP Navarro		
	Jon Suquet		
PNBA non-voting	Isabella Finnell		
Law	Kent Ferriss	x	
	Lisa Diaz	x	
	Garrison Boyd	x	

	Zeke Maggard		Marissa
Medical	Zachary Koretz		
	(Francis) Jeff Oser	x	
	Arianne Sacramento		
	Tomi Akingbola		
	Bailin Alexander		
Public Health	Kathryn Yoo		
	Carl Vidrine		
	Marissa Wiegner		
	Geena George	x	
Social Work	Lindsay McBeth		
	Rachel Brown		
Biomedical	Allison Bucsan	x	
	Shantanu (Shan) Guha		
Architecture	Victoria Cooper	x	
Prof. Advancement	Keith James		

3. Executive Council Reports

a. President – Nick Fears

1. Sober Event Monitoring - Role, responsibilities, & liability

*Why was the Sober Event Monitor program established? Smita: Part of implementation/protocol of new alcohol policy, a way to educate students on risk management and bystander intervention.

*Is it modeled off of other universities' programs? Smita: Yes. Many universities use a Sober Event Monitor model with event organizers and participants requiring training.

Nick: We have a more strict ratio of 1/50 compared to other universities (~1/200) because of Tulane's poor record with alcohol on campus.

*What is our role as sober event monitors? Smita: The role of sober event monitors is to observe and report violations of the alcohol policy and student conduct policy. They are also to

call TUPD or 911 in the case of an emergency. Student Affairs is looking at reviewing the roles/responsibilities this year.

*What are our responsibilities as sober event monitors? Smita: To observe and report if there is any emergency or breach of the policy. You do not have to intervene yourself, just report. This will hopefully build a community of bystanders who can find help for those who may engage in risky behavior.

*Do you have to be sober the entire event? Smita: Yes, no consumption of alcohol during the event. Everyone reacts differently to alcohol and we should not be writing individualized policies for every student.

*Do you have to be at the event from start to finish? Smita: Student Affairs is willing to collaborate for this issue and willing to modify the protocol. We need to have a better understanding of how many we need for the maximum number of students at an event, but also know that total students who attend at any one point is not equal to the total number there simultaneously.

*Could we look at comparison of undergraduate vs graduate student events and the alcohol policy? Smita: Yes, Student Affairs is willing to review and compare and take into consideration each policy. The alcohol policy has been differentiated for graduate students and undergraduate students, but we can review the policy to best fit the students.

*Could sober monitors be faculty? Smita: could be complicated - if there was any violation, actions that had to take place it may put faculty in a difficult situation as an employee of the university.

*Compensation? Could we hire 3rd party security? Smita: Peer intervention is very effective and powerful (research that shows that) and this is the basis of the policy. We have a duty and care of our peers, reduce our negligence. Paying companies is not out of the question - fraternities are required to that now. Many security companies however are not doing the jobs that they are being paid to do.

Howard: Role is called monitor, not officer. There is no heightened duty of care - same duty that everyone has - observe and report, but has gone through training. This role does not increase the liability for Sober Event Monitor beyond that of a participant of an event because the Sober Event Monitors are not acting as representatives of the university.

*Are sober monitors only graduate students, and do they have to be representatives? Can be any student 21 years or older. For GAPSA, they are almost always graduate students because events we have will not have undergraduates there if alcohol is served.

*What are our liabilities as sober event monitors? (Problem: Not much enforcement in the past)

Howard: This is a case-by-case basis, but no lawsuit thus far targeting the University because of an event by a University-sponsored group has named sober event monitor. Role is community building and a point of contact at an event (so if someone did sue, call up the sober event monitor and asked if they saw anything). It all depends on what happens at an event, but the Sober Event monitor is not a university representative and does not take on any heightened liability beyond that of a participant of an event.

*Are we University representatives as Sober Event Monitors? Howard: You are there as a point of contact, community building to create a safe environment at the event. As a practical matter, still a case-by-case basis based on what happens, but Sober Event Monitors are not university representatives, such as staff or faculty hired to perform a duty.

Howard: This is voluntary.

Nick: It is not voluntary for the 60 people that are required for us to have the event.

Nick: Can we have a writeup with liability, potential examples? Students right now have no examples, so we are taking it worse-case-scenario.

Howard: If you have issues, make suggestions/give feedback on what the responsibility is not. This may be best done in a FAQ format, however, so that we are not trying to make an exhaustive list of everything that a sober event monitor does not have to do.

*What if the sober event monitors do not do their jobs? Smita: This has happened before, organizations got reprimanded (no events w/alcohol for a semester). There are procedures through the office of student conduct to handle organizations that have Sober Event Monitors that are violating their rules. This begins with an educational conference and then may move to more serious consequences, such as losing the ability to host events.

*If the event when wrong/investigation happens, is there consequences for the sober event monitors that DID stay sober and did their job? Howard: Cannot say for sure, case-by-case basis.

*What if a sober event monitor got caught w/alcohol? Smita: This would go through student conduct process and there would be educational conference with the with event organizer (for first time/minor violations).

Smita: If something happens, communication to organization that there was a violation. Contacted for more information. Will tell you what the general violation is. 1. For minor violations - student leadership will have educational conference w/staff members, jointly decide how to move forward. 2. For higher offences - Hearing process, investigators in the Office of Student Conduct, cases could go to student panel (new this year), sanctions approved/asked to be revisited by Smita. Letter is sent to org. advisor, sanctions can include educational sanctions or events banning, could also result in individual sanctions.

These guidelines will be included in the email that will go out to the sober event monitors.

Smita: Currently there is no plan for a retroactive signing of these guidelines. The guidelines would start from here on and the guidelines will be sent to everyone who is signed up as a Sober Event Monitor at an event.

*Is there a list/contact information of who is current approved sober event monitors? Smita: We can look into adding more contact information about sober event monitors on the approved sober event monitors list.

Email Nick if you have any more questions/concerns.

- b. Executive Vice President – Molly Payne
 - 1. Homecoming Tailgate budget request (\$3,050) - Vote **Approved**
 - c. Downtown Vice President – Dane Weinert
 - d. Uptown Vice President – Ana Maria Lopez
 - e. Finance Vice President – Divesh Kaul
4. Adjournment **7:47 pm**