



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TOLEDO

Graduate Student Association (GSA)

2020-21 Summary of Academic Year

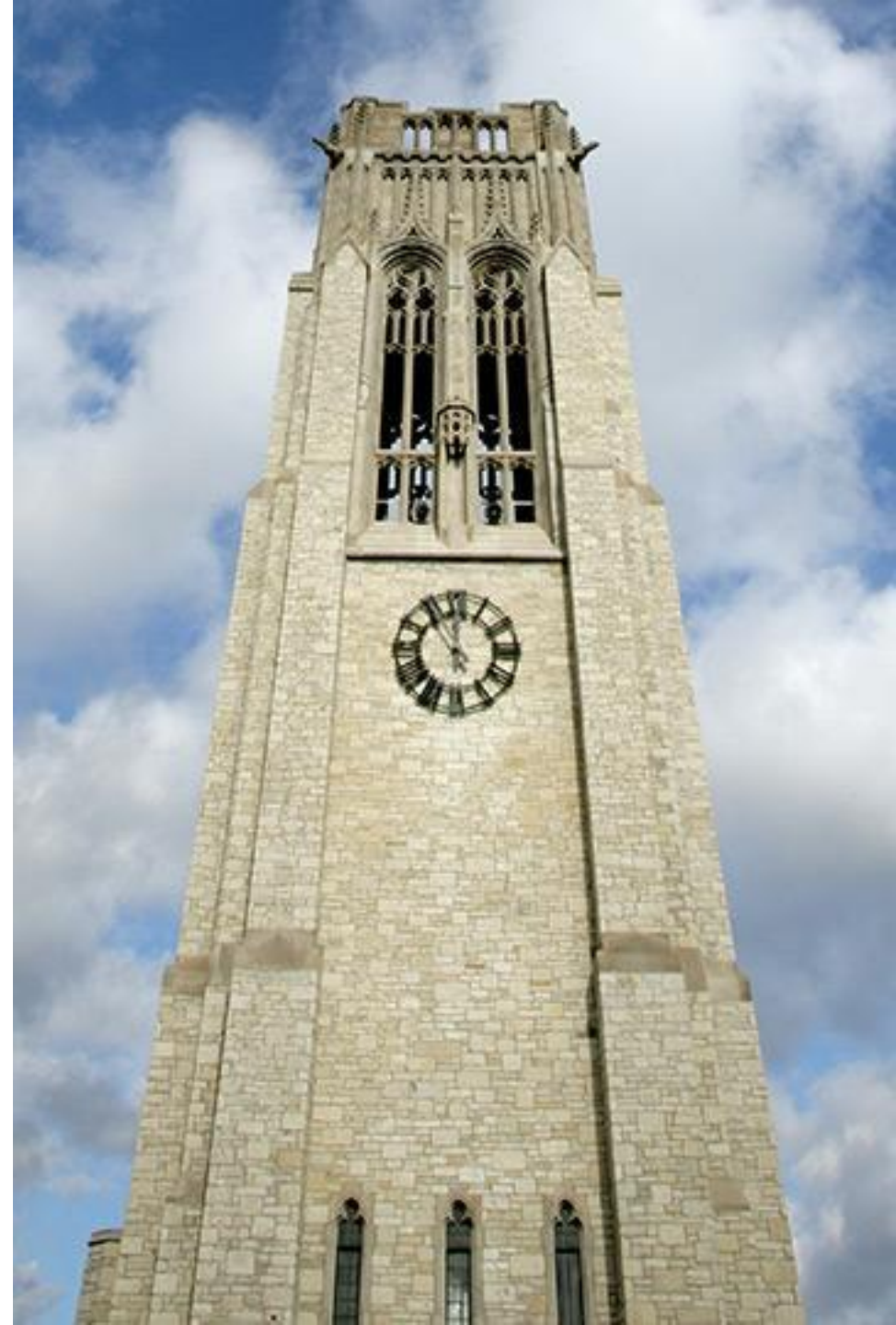
Presented by Brittany Jones, President

May 4th, 2021



The Role of the GSA

- **Advocate for the concerns and well-being of graduate students!**
- Represent over 5,000 UT graduate students from all colleges, departments, and professional programs
- Sponsor graduate programs and activities
- Sponsor the GSA Graduate Research Award
- Fund travel to conferences and symposiums
- Organize social events on and off campus, and virtual
- Organize and lead the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium
- Contribute to the focus of a student-centered culture!



Brief Review 2020-21

- First EBoard to be completely virtual for the school year
 - Prioritized engagement and incentives for students -- Conference Registration Reimbursement Program
- Amended and approved Constitution revision dealing with assistantship restrictions on Officer required hours
 - Allow for 5 extra hours for Domestic students (25 hours); split 20 hours between assistantship and GSA for International students
- Personally invited to participate on special University committees
 - COVID-19 Taskforce, Diversity Survey, UToledo Reinvestment Strategy
- Partnered with other student organizations and fellows
 - Dean's Fellow and Scholars and NOA-AGEP: virtual roundtables
 - Black Professional and Graduate Student Association (BPGSA): Equity panel
- Hosted the first virtual Midwest Graduate Research Symposium.
 - Attracted over 70 attendees!
- Launched the GSA Newsletter
 - Monthly submissions from graduate students
- Created and organized the "COVID-19 Graduate Student Survey" during Fall semester
- Participated in the Virtual Involvement Fair during Fall semester

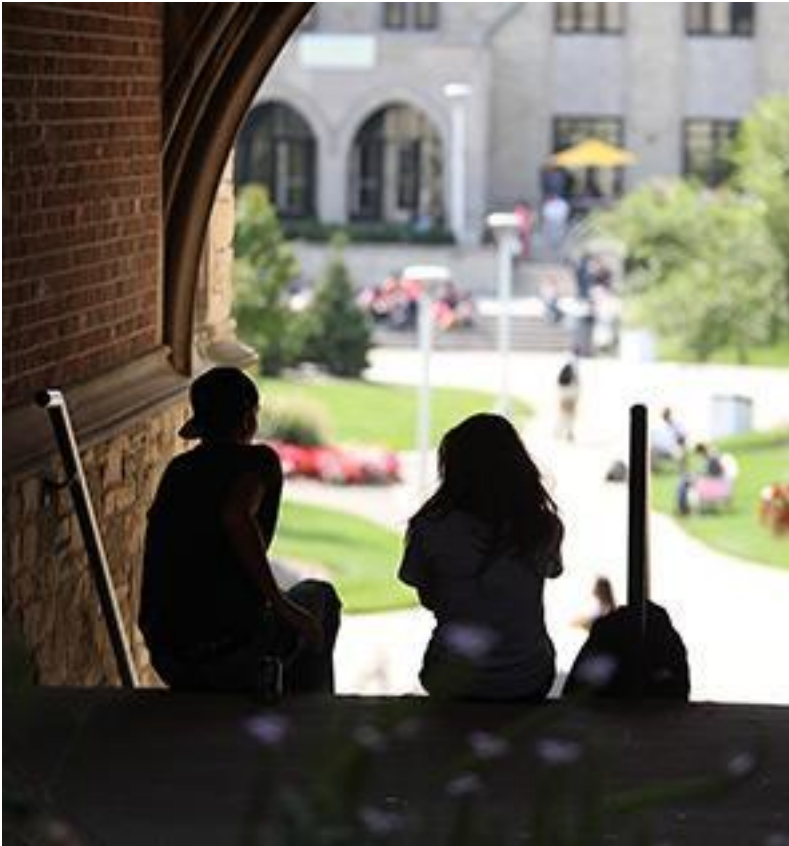


2020-21 Graduate Research Award Recipients

- Masuma Akter – Mechanical Engineering
- Daniyah Almarghalani – Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
- Sudipta Baroi – Molecular Medicine
- Rachel Golonka – Molecular Medicine
- Syed Hasan– Molecular Medicine
- Eric Huber – Ecology
- Farzaneh Naghavi – Neuroscience
- Mohammadreza Nematollahi – Mechanical Engineering
- Sara Moore -- Biomedical Sciences
- Yesmin Rina-- Chemistry

Total of \$20,000 was awarded (~\$2,000/each)

Midwest Graduate Research Symposium



- Hosted on April 10, 2021 via WebEx
- Attracted over 70 attendees to view more than 60 presentations and posters!
- Presenters included those from Purdue University, Cleveland State University, Tennessee State University, Indiana State, and our own Rockets!
- 12 winners: 6 seminar and 6 poster categories
- Included keynote address from Dr. Kristen Fussell, a Career Services lunch and learn, and 3MT finalist panel.

2020-21 MGRS Winners

<p>UT- Student Affairs Best Seminar Award Charmaine (Charlie) Renee</p>	<p>UT- Student Affairs Best Poster Award Tiangi Wang</p>
<p>UT- College of Arts & Letters Best Seminar Award Robert Campbell</p>	<p>UT- College of Arts & Letters Best Poster Award Harika Vasiredyy</p>
<p>UT- College of Engineering Best Seminar Award Sourabh Yadav</p>	<p>UT- College of Engineering Best Poster Award Arkaprabha Bhattacharyya</p>
<p>UT- Graduate Student Association 3rd Place - Seminar Alexander Marchel</p>	<p>UT- Graduate Student Association 3rd Place - Poster Gregory Marchal</p>
<p>UT- Graduate Student Association 2nd Place - Seminar Thomas Weinandy</p>	<p>UT- Graduate Student Association 2nd Place - Poster Keeley Cleghorn</p>
<p>UT- Graduate Student Association 1st Place - Seminar Abigail Kopec</p>	<p>UT- Graduate Student Association 1st Place - Poster Keri Burge</p>

GSA Fiscal Activities, 2020-21

Budget for 2020-2021

		2020-2021 Proposed	By April 20 2021	Remaining
Office	Supplies	\$500.00	\$0.00	
	Computer Equipment	\$500.00	\$0.00	
	Subtotal	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
MGRS	Expenses	\$9,500.00	\$0.00	
	Advertising		\$2,140.00	PROPOSED
	Photocopies/Printing		\$0.00	
	Subtotal	\$9,500.00	\$2,140.00	\$7,360.00
GSA Assmebly Meetings	Fall Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Spring Meetings	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
	Subtotal	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Conference	Conference Registration Reimbursement	\$20,000.00	\$1,433.00	Pre-Conference approved
	Subtotal	\$20,000.00	\$1,433.00	\$18,567.00
Travel	Graduate Travel Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Active Member Incentives	Research Awards	\$5,000.00	\$200.00	\$4,800.00
	Subtotal	\$5,000.00	\$200.00	\$4,800.00
Communication/Promotional	GSA Advertising Materials	\$2,500.00	\$19.99	
	Website	-	-	
	Postage	-	-	
	Subtotal	\$2,500.00	\$19.99	\$2,480.01



Sponsored Programs and Organizations	GSA Research Awards	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
	Internal Committee Projects	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
	Graduate and Professional Organizations	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
	Dues for NAGPS	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00
	Subtotal	\$38,050.00	\$20,000.00	\$18,050.00
Welcome Week Budget	Health Science Campus Welcome Week	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Welcome week promotional	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Reset Social	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stipends and Tuition	President - stipend	\$11,500.00	\$11,500.00	
	President - scholarship (Full Tuition and Fee)	\$11,848.23		
	Vice President - stipend	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00	
	Vice President - scholarship (Half tuition)	\$7,636.56	\$3,818.28	
	Treasurer - stipend	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	
	Treasurer - scholarship (Half tuition)	\$7,636.56	\$0.00	
	MC Secretary - stipend	\$1,850.00	\$925.00	
	HSC Secretary - stipend	\$1,850.00	\$925.00	
	Communication Specialist	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
	College of Graduate Studies	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00	
	Subtotal	\$69,821.35	\$40,668.28	\$29,153.07
Allocated Budget		\$146,871.35	\$64,461.27	\$59,043.08
Total Budget		\$154,000.00		
Unallocated	\$7,128.65			



Expenses Breakdown, 2020-21

Graduate Research Award	10 Awardees	\$20,000.00
	Total	\$20,000.00
MGRS Expenses (Proposed)	12 certificates for award winners	\$50.00
	Gift Cards:	
	39 volunteers and judges @ \$10.00	\$390.00
	6 coordinators @ \$25.00	\$150.00
	Keynote Thank you Gift Box	\$50.00
	GSA Sponsored Awards	\$1,200.00
	Keynote Speaker	\$300.00
Total	\$2,140.00	
Conference Registration Reimbursement	As of (DATE)	
	Total Pre-Conference Applications (number)	14
	Total Post-Conference Reimbursement Requests (Number)	6
	Group requests (Number)	
	Total	
Communication/Promotional	Google Storage Update	\$19.99
	Total	\$19.99
Internal Committee Projects	Conference Registration Reimbursement Info Session (virtual)	\$0.00
	Total	\$0.00



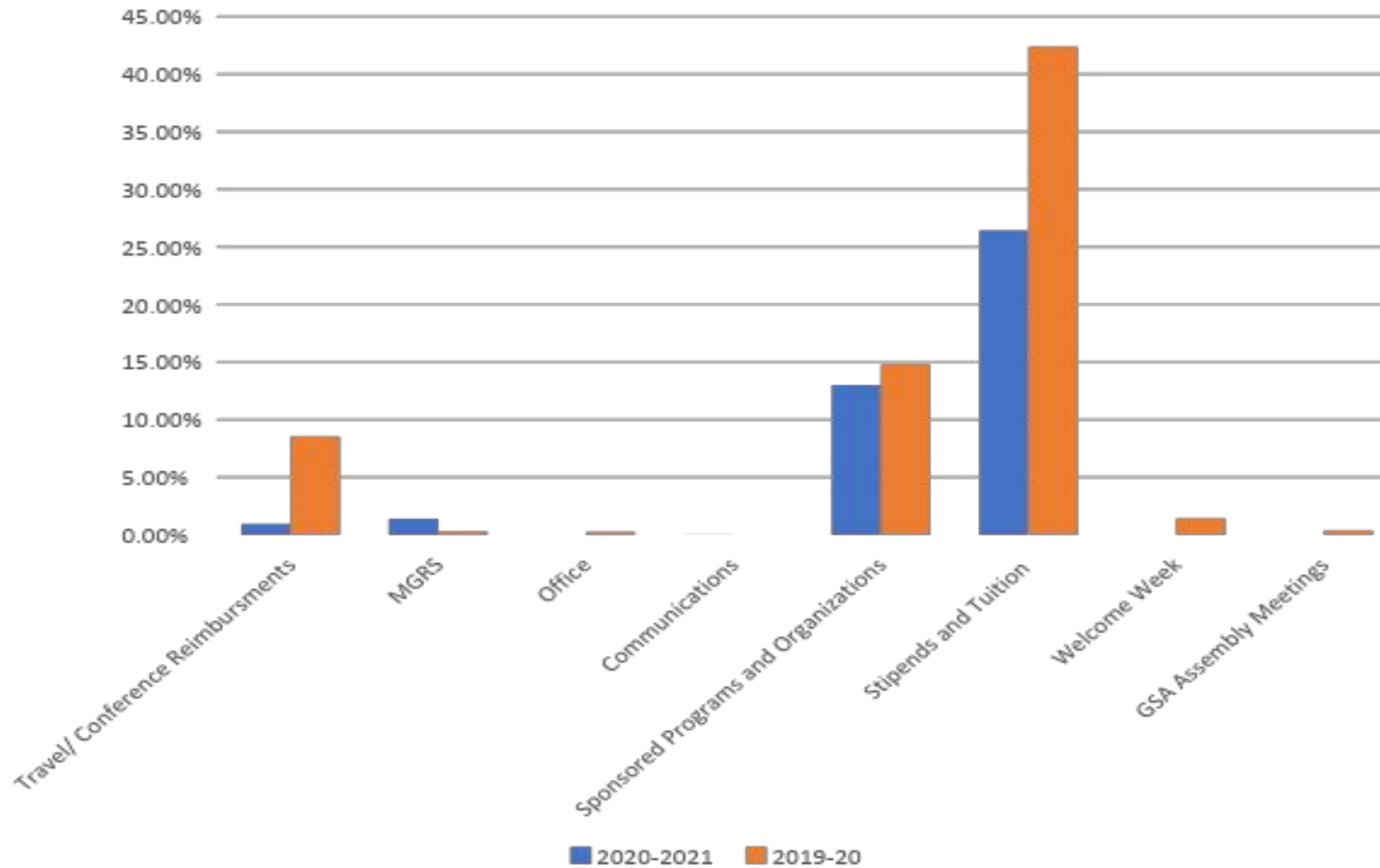
2020-21 & 2019-20 Expenses Comparison

Budget Comparison		
Sectors	2020-2021	2019-20
Travel/ Conference Reimbursements	0.93%	8.51%
MGRS (Proposed/ Incurred)	1.39%	0.29%
Office	0.00%	0.24%
Communications	0.01%	0.00%
Sponsored Programs and Organizations	12.99%	14.81%
Stipends and Tuition	26.41%	42.38%
Welcome Week	0.00%	1.43%
GSA Assembly Meetings	0.00%	0.37%

For MGRS, about \$2,200 was spent compared to almost \$15,000 last year.



Comparative expenditure between 2020-21 and 2019-20



Conference Registration Reimbursement Overview

Total Applicants: 16 (*2019-20: 202*)

Total Approved Applicants: 20 (14 pre-approved; 6 post-conference approved) (*2019-20: 95*)

Total Budget for Reimbursement: \$20,000
(*2019-20: \$20,162.22*)

Active vs Inactive applicants: 1:15



Difference from Travel Reimbursement

- Since travel is banned by the University due to the COVID-19 pandemic for this academic year, GSA has cancelled the travel reimbursement until further notice.
- Program is only valid for 100% virtual conferences,
- Must submit documentation that the conference is virtual,
- Must submit documentation that shows the actual cost of participating/ presenting in the conference
- Attending the conference should be approved by their academic advisor or their College/Department. The approval should be directly sent to GSA.
- One student cannot participate in more than 3 (three) conferences in the whole academic year using GSA funds.
- Must submit a takeaway article/ abstract after the conference for GSA Newsletter.

GSA Sponsored Events and Programs

- Due to University budget cuts, no student organizations were sponsored for any event;
- Policies are being developed regarding student organization funding in a virtual setting.



Goals for 2021-22 Academic Year

- Continue to improve communications, network with other graduate-focused student organizations, and collaborative programming
 - Expansion of social media networks (Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, etc.), utilizing Mail Chimp or other newsletter creator for readership statistics, etc.
- Work to reinstate student organization/event sponsorship and incentives for membership
 - Look for outside sponsorship to expand upon sponsorship/incentive opportunities
- Continue to advocate for an improve graduate student educational experience via serving on University committees and working with the Administration
 - Student health insurance, child care, parking, mental health, student wellness, financial support, etc.
- Improve Conference Registration Reimbursement program
 - Ensure clear instructions on process, timely submissions, and complete follow-thru of all appropriate steps
- Host more in-person events/meetings while adhering to University protocol and social distancing guidelines.
 - May institute a hybrid model to ensure open communication/participation/attendance/etc.



**GSA would like to thank you for
your continued support this
school year!**