

Hello Graduate Students, my name is Justin Clory and I am running for SU President. Since I know your time is valuable I have created a platform just for you, based on the feedback from the GSA meeting Wednesday, and the town hall documents.

Engaging:

It is clear that the SU needs to work better with you and help advocate better on the issues that matter to you.

- I will begin first by committing as President to attend *at least* two GSA meetings each month to learn about your needs and foster a better relationship. You are hard-working student volunteers, and I need be coming to you on your time asking how we can help.

I will work with the GSA and The Department of Development and Alumni Engagement to see if there is a possibility of securing funding from donors to help students in various ways.

- This funding is almost always for one-time events, so it would have to help with traveling, research funding grants, etc., and things that do not require long-term or constant funding.

Adapting:

The issue of funding is spoken about a lot in the town hall document and was an issue at the GSA meeting. I'd like to change the way the union interacts with the GSA when it comes to funding, give you more flexibility through consultation on how we can help fund students and return a larger amount back.

- Currently, the SU is looking at breaking up the Travel Fund (academic enrichment fund) so that there is an amount set aside for only the graduate students, instead of all program and levels drawing from one fund.
- I'd like to see for next year to start \$8,000 set aside in the GSA fund (currently there is 7,500 but AVC and undergrads all draw from this fund, and AVC for example alone used \$3,500 from it).
- I'd also like to set aside money to help with creating events and community for the GSA to apply for; currently, this is around 1,000, but I'd like to see this raised to 2,500.

Graduate students have very different experiences at university than undergraduates, and the union needs to adapt.

- I will begin by ensuring that all VP's reach out to and meet with the GSA to ensure that parts of their platforms are target specifically at graduate students.
 - This could mean ensuring that the VPSL ensures that grad students can access the same services as undergrads (relating to the comment on student affairs). With VPAX this would mean that when we meet with the government that some parts of our advocacy is targeted at grad students, including when we meet with the university.

These are just the beginning, and things I can see being improved very quickly. More would come once we began to meet and develop a plan to advocate and make improvements.