



CLASSIFIED SENATE NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Classified Colleagues,



What an extraordinary semester we're all working through. The past six weeks have been full of challenges and circumstances that most of us never imagined we would face, but I have been inspired on a daily basis both by the resilience of our students, and by the commitment, compassion, and dedication of our GWC Classified Professionals in responding to the needs of our students. As your Senate leaders, we recognize how hard you have all been working, and that showing up for others in a time of crisis can have an impact on our own stress levels. This is what inspired our Classified Senate Outreach Project - between April 6th and April 16th, every Classified member at GWC received a personal phone call or email from a member of our team.

We heard several common themes in those conversations - many of us are sharing our workspaces (and internet connections!) with partners, children, or roommates; juggling the expectations of homeschooling and/or caretaking on top of our remote work responsibilities can be especially difficult; we are concerned about our health and safety, and the health and safety of our loved ones. We also heard themes of gratitude and appreciation for the way your colleagues have

supported you, for the responsiveness and around-the-clock work of TSS/IT, for Public Safety going above and beyond in clearing out fridges and break rooms so that we aren't overrun by the GWC squirrels and other critters once we return, and heartfelt thanks for our essential employees who are still reporting to campus on a daily or weekly basis.

The content of our conversations with you have informed our regular discussions with college and district administrators and shaped the way that our Senate representatives are voicing the Classified perspective in shared governance committee meetings. We want you to know that these conversations aren't a one-time initiative - we will continue to reach out, and encourage each one of you to contact any member of the Senate directly anytime you have a question, suggestion, or concern.

On behalf of the entire Classified Senate, thank you all for your hard work and commitment to our students and GWC during this time. We see you, and we appreciate you!

Best,

Therese
CLASSIFIED SENATE PRESIDENT 2019-2020

UPCOMING SENATE MEETINGS

All Classified Senate Meetings will take place on Zoom ([link here](#)) until further notice;
Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833
Password: 020575 | Meeting ID: 643 492 317

- MAY 1ST - 3:00 - 4:00PM
- MAY 8TH - 3:00 - 4:00PM
- MAY 15TH - 3:00 - 4:00PM
- MAY 22ND - 3:00 - 4:00PM

Classified Senate 2020-2021 Interest Meeting
Tuesday, May 12th from 1pm - 2pm
[Zoom Link](#) | Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833
Password: 351848 | Meeting ID: 977 1280 4372

For meeting agendas and minutes, please visit the [Classified Senate Portal Site](#).

UPCOMING SENATE EVENTS

Classified Break Time - Coffee Check In
Monday, May 4th, 11:00am - 11:30am
[Zoom Link](#) | Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833
Password: 004095 | Meeting ID: 989 2854 4696

Classified Break Time - GWC Bingo
Thursday, May 14th, 3:00pm - 4:00pm
[Zoom Link](#) | Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833
Password: 01062016 | Meeting ID: 991 5889 3951

Classified Break Time - Coffee Check In
Tuesday, May 19th, 2:00pm - 2:30pm
[Zoom Link](#) | Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833
Password: 077527 | Meeting ID: 916 5936 0868

Classified Senate End of Semester Happy Hour
Friday, May 29th, 5:30pm - ???
[Zoom Link](#) | Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833
Password: 959979 | Meeting ID: 943 7744 4268

CATCH-UP WITH CLASSIFIED SENATE

GWC CLASSIFIED REMOTE WORKING MS TEAMS GROUP - This Team was created by the GWC Classified Senate in response to remote working needs



that we heard voiced by Classified Professionals. All GWC Classified are invited to participate and contribute resources that you think will benefit and assist your colleagues in this transition. [Link here](#)

CHEERS FOR PEERS! - Recognize a colleague for the amazing things/work they do. Submit a shout



out using the [Cheers for Peers form](#) and they will be recognized in the daily update. Please note, submissions are ongoing.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE CLASSIFIED TOWN HALL - The next Classified Town Hall will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 from 1 pm - 2 pm via [Zoom](#). The meeting will be recorded and uploaded to the [President's Office SharePoint page](#).

COMMITTEE REP REPORT FORM

If you're currently serving as a Classified Senate Representative on a college or district committee, please don't forget to fill out our [Committee Report Form](#) after each meeting!

UPDATE ON 2019-2020 GOALS

While much of the Senate's work this semester has been prioritized on shifting our practices to adapt to the COVID-19 crisis, we are still committed to achieving the goals we established at the beginning of this academic year.

GOAL 1 - IMPROVE ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION METHODS

While we had initially set out to issue a quarterly newsletter, our individual outreach project was incredibly effective in communicating directly with our constituents and collecting your feedback. We'll continue to publish our newsletter on a semesterly basis (fall, spring, and summer), and will revisit the publication timeline once campus is reopened. At the end of the fall semester, we made great progress in reorganizing and making our Classified Senate Portal Site more user friendly and established a Report Form that our committee reps can use to ensure that decisions and feedback are being communicated back and forth between Classified and the rest of GWC and CCCD. Both tools have served us well in our new remote work situation.

GOAL 2 - ESTABLISH AN ENDOWED CLASSIFIED SENATE SCHOLARSHIP

The campus closure on March 16th had a significant impact on our second goal. We were about to enter our final fundraising push to reach our \$5000 target during the week of the closure, and we also had plans to celebrate our success with an in-person donor reception on March 20th. Despite this setback, we are incredibly pleased to announce that we were still able to award our scholarship this year - we selected two recipients, one part-time student and one full time student. Special thanks to Kristen Hill, Jessica Jacobs, and Jill Kiefer, our Scholarship Taskforce, who had the incredibly difficult task of reading through an amazing pool of applicants! Given the extra economic securities many of our students are facing, this accomplishment feels more significant than ever, so we are truly thankful to each of you who made this possible. We're also mindful that the economic impact of COVID-19



has impacted not only GWC students, but employees, as well, so we are pausing our fundraising efforts in the interim. (If you are still able to contribute financially to student relief, we encourage you to support the [GWC Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund](#)). We will

absolutely, however, be hosting that Donor Reception Happy Hour once it's safe to do so, and we look forward to toasting you all!

GOAL 3 - CLASSIFIED CONNECTION

Prior to the campus closure, we had hosted two very successful and well-attended Campus Connection Open Houses - a campus tour with the Outreach department, and a tour of Automotive Technology. (Special thanks to Ben Olague, Diana Roachat, and James Hulbert for sharing their expertise in these areas with the rest of our Classified!) Despite our physical distance, our commitment to connecting Classified with one another is stronger than ever. On Friday, April 17th we hosted a virtual lunch, which nearly 50 Classified professionals attended. A big theme that we heard



One of our Zoom Breakout Rooms sharing quarantine stories at the Classified Senate Virtual Lunch.

from attendees was the need to make sure we're taking breaks since so many of us are now working where we live. With that in mind, we've scheduled a series of virtual Classified Breaks on a weekly basis until the end of the semester. You can stay for the whole break, or just pop in for a few minutes - whatever works best for your current schedule and working environment. And, of course, know that your partners, kids, pets, and roommates are more than welcome to join us - one of the biggest silver linings of our current situation is the chance to connect more personally with our GWC family during these times.

Want to be part of shaping the goals for next year's Senate? We'll be hosting elections for the 2020-2021 Academic Year this summer. All 6 of our Senator-at-Large positions are up for election this year, as well as 2 division-specific positions in Maintenance & Operations and Administrative Services. Join us for an Info Session on Tuesday, May 12th at 1pm. We'll talk about what the roles entail, how you can get involved, what type of time commitments you can expect, and answer any other questions you have.

For more details on our regular meetings, Classified Connection breaks, or Info Session, please check out the Upcoming Classified Senate Meetings and Events section of this newsletter.

THE 2019-2020 CLASSIFIED SENATE

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Jessica Jacobs **VP of Finance**
Student Services Senator, 2019-2021
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Did you know that all Classified are contractually allowed to attend and participate in Classified Senate meetings without using lunch or personal time? For more information, or if you're experiencing any issues, please contact any member of the Classified Senate or your CFCE leadership.