Call started: 8:33pm EST

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
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<td>Danielle Jones, Nicole Walker</td>
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<td>The Ohio State University</td>
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<td>Stephen Post</td>
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<td>Rutgers University</td>
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<td>Tamr Atieh, Nathaniel Flores, Anthony Yung</td>
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<td>University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill</td>
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<td>Manny Hernandez, Carlos Patino Descovich</td>
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<td>Yashar Aucie, Dana Duncombe</td>
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<td>University of Washington</td>
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<td>Maggie Dunham Jordahl, Abbie Shew, Matt McKeown, Giuliana Conti</td>
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<td>Total in Attendance</td>
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Approval of Minutes:

1. February Coalition Call
   a. February Coalition Call minutes can be found [here](#)
Chair: Moved and seconded. Approved.

2. February President’s Call
   a. President’s Call 3 focused on mental health. Minutes can be found here
Chair: Minutes here for President’s call. Motion to approve? Approved.

**Executive Board Reports**

1. **Chair- Manny Hernandez (chair.sage@gmail.com)**
   a. Travel Impacts - Coronavirus

Chair: As you all have seen, the Coronavirus is increasing in frequency and multiple states are declaring a State of Emergency. We are looking at what that impact would look like for our Day on the Hill. There are states which have limited travel. We wanted to be transparent with the coalition about the problems, and see if you could contact your university travel arrangements to see what cancellation/rescheduling would cost. We have been looking at our hotel situation. We have Zach from CPAGE to talk about that.

Zach: So you’re all aware; when SAGE hosts a conference, SAGE signs a contract. We guarantee that 85% of the rooms will be taken. As you get closer, that goes up. If SAGE were to cancel today, it would cost 90% of the revenue of day on the hill. That would be about $16,500 dollars.

(shocked noise)

Zach: There is something called a Fource Majeur clause in the contract that would allow us to cancel without that cost, but the hotel is pushing back. We’re trying to let you know what that will be.

Chair: Since we don’t know what DC would look like in a week, in two weeks, we’re trying to see what we can do. UNC cannot travel to anyplace with a declared State of Emergency. So if DC declares, the UNC delegation cannot travel.

VC: And Maryland has already declared a State of Emergency.

Chair: Yes. So I want to hear from other institutions that have taken any precautions, and if things change, which institutions will be out.

UT Austin: Limited international travel, nothing in US yet. UT would be in.

Michigan: Same as UT.

UCSD: Same. We are also holding the Basic Needs panel four days earlier than DoH, and still flying in folks from all over UC. So UC seems okay. Gwen, feel free to jump in.

UCD: Gwen, yes the same. We’re all set to be there.

Chair: If DC does declare a state of emergency what would that look like? Seems like most would have trouble?

VC: No, UT Austin doesn’t have any travel restrictions domestically even for declared emergencies, just international.

Ohio State: Same.

Maryland: Our campus situation is a little tenuous. We might move to 100% online after spring break (next week). Our travel situation is different, so we would still metro in. But for a sense of what people are feeling - really trying to minimize large group contact. Trying to encourage us to move it all online. Nothing’s certain yet.

Chair: So right now we’ve heard that Congress is going as business as usual. If we do have to move or cancel DoH, we want to get feedback. If we do have to move, a prime time would be mid-late April, and early May, so we could still meet with legislators on appropriations. On the downside, we have a lot of turnover and logistical issues of our hotel, and everyone’s flights and all that. If we cancel, we could have Fall Summit in DC. Which would be more financial barriers for some institutions. So there’s a lot to consider as we try to make this decision. We won’t necessarily make it right now. In hearing all of that, what are you thinking? Also, please share if you were able to speak to your university contact on travel.

VC: UT Austin still good to go.
UW: Not currently planning to limit domestic travel, and if it did, they would work with us for reimbursement. Classes are restarting for our new quarter, the week of our conference.

UCI: We would not be in transition at the time, so in a situation like this, they would work with us on reimbursement. I know it’s a sizeable financial hit, but we’re fine with whatever makes the most sense for health and finance.

UNC: We know that if DC is declares a state of emergency, we would have to self-quarantine for 14 days coming back. We would maybe be able to get credited for flights if cancelled.

Chair: Thank you to everyone who’s spoken. If DC declares emergency, will you all still feel comfortable travelling to DC?

UCSD: If DC declaring a state of emergency, would legislators still take meetings?

PD: It is very likely that they would cancel. We have talked about alternate possibilities, such as conference calls, or phone banking on our issues. But yes, DC declaring a state of emergency would almost certainly cause an impact. Not to say it’s not still worth it to be there, but there would be an effect.

UCSD: In that impact, UCSD would still attend, but few of us would go. 2 instead of 4.

UMich, Sarah: Personally, I can’t afford to take two weeks of self-quarantine. So our delegation would also be smaller.

Ohio: We would still send a strong amount of folks. We’re driving, so we could cancel easily, but maybe from from 7 to 4 or 5.

UNC, Carlos: People from my lab have already cancelled meetings in DC because of the self-quarantine issue. I can’t speak for the whole delegation, but that’s a consideration.

Chair: Yes, we have heard other contacts cancelling their meetings. Rutgers?

Rutgers: If a state of emergency were declared, we could still go. Traveling by train or bus, so not worried about cancelling. Our policy is coming from University very rapidly, so that might change.

Chair: Thank you for the feedback. I did want to be transparent in terms of our finances. If we do have to cancel, we’ll do our best to mitigate that cost, but if we are in a situation that we have to pay the $16000, that will have long term effects on our organization. Our bank account has VC: 1241.00 in bank account, about 2400 in paypal eventbrite fees for room and food expenses, so about 12500 we owe but also 12500 in the hole.

Rutgers: If they declare a state of emergency, shouldn’t we be able to cancel?

Chair: The issue is the hotel giving us a hard time for the contract.

VC: Definition of “Act of God” in our clause for cancellation. Government has not declared this an AoG yet. We are still gonna argue and consult legal advisors to ideally pay that much more money and if cancelling if at all feasible.

Chair: and if so, we can go to social media, but we’re still troubleshooting from the legal side to work something else.

Rutgers: What is the process that would lead to a cancellation?

Chair: That’s hard. There’s no state of emergency in DC, so we’re proceeding with that mindset.

VC: If we get a declaration in the next week we can send a vote out to the DC, but add provisions that if vote to cancel would have to pay 1k to get out of hotel debt. Unless someone wants to motion to what defines a go or no go vote, we should move on.

Umich: Could we pay on the basis of number of hotel rooms, and which universities are working with which student government to provide insurances if this is going to happen.

VC: Yes that is something we could consider given some don’t have rooms.

Zach: Before we move on - last two things. You have a UCDC room your second day. Even if you all want to go and UCDC shuts down, you’ll need another place. Two, the contract is based on a per-time rate, so if you all went for two days instead of four, we’d still owe money because it wouldn’t satisfy the contract.
Rutgers: Part of the conversation should be minimizing risk for the delegates instead of just what the university would allow us to do.

Chair: I appreciate that. We want to make sure everyone is safe.

2. **Vice Chair - Samantha Fuchs** (*vicechair.sage@gmail.com*)
   a. **Lobbying Prep Guide**
   VC: Abbie and I worked on this. Check it out for helpful tips.
   b. Schedule/Info Packet - two weeks out from DoH
   VC: Going out this Saturday which will inculoud MOU with CPAGE and any proposed bylaws changes
   c. SAGE/CPAGE MOU
   VC: we agreed this was good already but need to officially take care of this in person.

3. **Political Director - Abbie Shew** (*policy.sage@gmail.com*)
   a. Still have not heard from: Michigan State, Rutgers, Michigan, or Pitt on scheduling state day meetings
   PD: Still missing some schools with a list of State day legislators. Send that as soon as possible. I am scheduling for SAGE day and do not want to overlap, but want to schedule as many meetings as possible.

4. **Communications - Ashley Melnick** (*communications.sage@gmail.com*)
   a. DoH Prep sheet
   b. SAGE Shop
   Com: That’s the prep sheet for transportation. SAGE shop as well. Any money from that shop goes to us for further travel/events.

5. **Internal Affairs - Cody Love** (*internalaffairs.sage@gmail.com*)
   a. DOH Registration: 62 people
   i. Eventbrite, $40 per person for stragglers: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sage-day-on-the-hill-2020-tickets-93205701763?ref=estw](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sage-day-on-the-hill-2020-tickets-93205701763?ref=estw)
   Chair: If you have questions, please reach out.

**Old Business**

1. Membership Ad Hoc Committee Updates
Chair: Marshall, would you be able to provide a quick update from Membership?
Marshall: Me, Chasten, and RJ, along with Chair and VC have been looking at the recommendation for membership policies. We are putting together a document to help the coalition have a strategic plan to expand or not expand the membership requirements. We’ll also have membership recruitment and retention actions within the executive board of SAGE. At this point, we’re not ready to recommend, but like Manny said, in the next couple of days, we’ll have a document out with generic advice for everything, and the information you need to make a decision on membership requirements.
VC: Two bylaws at DoH for debate. 1, membership duties within the executive board, and 2, expand membership to R2 universities. Will vote on these separately.

2. Working Group Advocacy Goals/White Paper Drafts
PD: Give us your ask and the most important background to justify those asks.
   a. **Sexual Misconduct**
   UW: Sexual misconduct with stats for graduate students. We had these conversations last year, but we’re also opposing proposed Title IX changes. Want to support the House version of HEA. Has language in that bill that moves it out of DOE. Shows negative impacts. Next section is two-fold. Bills more broad with survivor resources. House and Senate bill with access to supportive care at hospitals for testing, trauma informed care. Last two are ‘combating sexual harassment in science’ which include research in STEM fields. Final is ‘Campus accountability and safety act’ ties into HEA and Clery act.
   PD: This is the last time for substantive changes.
UMich: If you can add an infographic?
UW: Not enough space
VC: Creating accountability and support on college campuses. Any other suggestions right now? Combating campus sexual misconduct? OR creating safer campuses against sexual misconduct.
UCSD: Under the first section, oppose changes to Title IX. That section of the HEA bill? Slotkin pulled that out and made it it's own bill. Our white paper on sexual misconduct has that bill. HR 5388.
UW: We had that underneath it, but for space we took it out. For continuity, we focused on UCSD: It may be too broad to put that in, may consider the more limiting language.
VC: This is the place where anyone can make a motion to change this.
PD: Context for everyone - we had a working group chair group to coordinate across everyone, with our recommendation, to focus on HEA because that's such a huge piece of legislation and some form of it will pass this year. So we did encourage working groups, sexual misconduct and student finance to focus on HEA. It's never a bad idea to include more information, so we could add 5388 to the paper.
VC: I agree i think you have space for another line so if anyone wants to make a motion to add that in we can. Then we can vote because we have to vote on them before the end of the call.
Do we have a motion to take to DoH after adding 5388
Motions to approve, UMD yes, UCSD yes
All approve? Approved.

b. Student Finance (TEXT FORMAT, thanks Christina!)
VC: What happened to the template? Why is it pictures? When in text does it fit on the same page?
UCD: I don’t know. The content is right the formatting is not. And we have to cut something. So, like Abbie said, we focused on HEA. Also a section on providing basic needs. Classifying what we do as graduate students as ‘work.’ Have some data that links to graduate completion. Finally, in going in to Student loans. Some of this is very contentious. There’s a pretty big divide, even in the house. In general, we’re asking to oppose the administration's plan to end the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. Last to create an ombuds-like person for compliance. Also have a house bill and a senate bill that require more up front language about fees and terms of repayment/deferment. Then a lot of bills on flexibility in loan repayment, refinance at a lower rate, and multiple processes for repayment. Final is straight up debt cancellation, by Warren. House version by ?
UCSD: There’s something you’re going to cut. What is it?
UCD: Sadly, I think it would be the student basic needs part. It takes more time to orient that discussion. Or two of the recommendations in the student loan option part. Top and bottom are the most ‘wish list’ type things that are not realistic.
VC: If you have original document, we can put in there and see how much we can trim without losing too much content.
UW, Mag: Are we doing HEA in a one pager, or piecemeal in papers?
VC: Its different working groups. It is only the papers but that is something up for debate.
PD: Taat is a possibility. However this is the last coalition call before DoH and we have to vote. If this is a convo we want to have, it is one worth having
VC: Bylaws say 2 weeks in advance (Sat), can motion to overrule and have another meeting next monday. Vote for areas to splice. Bylaws are written by us and if we want to do a one time overruling we can look at sexual misconduct, HEA and student finance as three different papers we can.
PD: Can only present 3 papers at meetings. Right now it's 3/5, if we add a paper it would be 3/6.
Chair: That’s one of the reasons why, with student finance, that we had HEA big in the student finance.

VC: That could be when we vote if we take misconduct and finance, the bulk of material is HEA for student finance but in misconduct is opposing title IX, but has other bills to talk about.

UCSD: Just to offer - when we went in July, we brought separate issue white papers but we also brought our priorities for HEA reform. Ours is already written. There would have to be reworking, but we would be happy to share it.

Chair: What do others think?

Matt: Do the other papers touch HEA?

VP: Immigration no

Sarah: Mental health no

UMD: I will mention that on Wednesday we will be discussing HEA. There seems to have been a deflation of energy.

Chair: What we have heard is that Senator Alexander, since he’s not running for re-election he is absolutely going to push HEA through, though maybe not everything.

VP: He is not done yet, there is more to come out of the senate. Sexual misconduct mostly has places divided.

UW, Matt: Would could make talking points for transitioning sexual misconduct and student finance to relate them together.

UCD, Gwen: I would recommend we have a primer in the white papers.

VC: Are you talking about something for the coalition, or for the legislators?

UCD: Both

VC: We have training first day. In packets we have an intro page that says this is who we are, with this number of students.

Chair: Are you talking about a cover letter for HEA?

UCD: Yes. Something with a primer of where graduate students fit in HEA. But I’m also not married to the idea.

UMich, Sarah: I would feel better if, instead of a white paper to vote on, we still have info on HEA in the packet.

VC: HEA as separate paper?

Maggie: I like the idea of carrying talking points.

VP: I do not think it is ready. Needs a little more work. Come back and go to next two?

Christina: Working on the text version right now (linked above)
   c. Mental Health (version for commenting) with pdf here (spacing accurate)

UMich: Sarah: First part is like a funnel. Start big and focus down. There are currently large impacts, which will have large impacts on the future workforce. First is on access. Lowering cost of healthcare, lowering financial barriers. Then resources. Second ask box is on campus climate for graduate students. Two bills - on eis college transparency which is pushing for collecting data for grant funding organizations, AND aggregate based upon degree level and area. Then improving mental health access for students, about suicide prevention.

VC: I love it except one thing. Starts by saying 3M postbac and then stops. Wish it would continue into sentences. Only other thing is remove “therefore we must do the following” for consistency

C: Anyone motion?

UM motion to approve, UW seconds. Approved.

   d. Immigration

Yashar: Here is the paper.

UM: Recommend black and white, so change graphic to stripes instead of color

VC: We are printing in black and white.

Yashar: I can work on that. It’s not my graphic, but I can change.
VC: One graphic is better than two. I want to link them but know they are not linked. I think you can phrase this a little differently and get rid of chart. Cut the graph B. Delete B and keep as is.
UT Austin, Jingjing: Why do we have the graphic? Showing China and everyone else? Are we trying to show decrease in overall students?
Yashar: I see, that it is not necessary.
UW,Maggie: was going to say there are loan programs for undocumented,
VC: Needs to fit on one page.
Sarah UM: Concerned about having only 2 citations
VC: Third page has them. Need to be in IEEE to be standardized.
C: Any motion?
MD motions, second by Texas AM. Approved.

e. Graduate Research Funding
UMD, Annie: The paper is similar from last time, pared down a bit. Increased graduate student funding opportunities. Acknowledging the good, but acknowledging that it’s not yet enough. So funding across fields, and increasing diversity funding.
UMD, Rachel: We also gave an example of a good fellowship to emulate. We should also think about colors on the graph. It sounds like our citations aren’t in the right format, but we can fix
VC: Can’t see graph. A Lot of background. SAGE recommend box should have key points in it. If I get rid of background text, I can make the chart bigger.
Quinh: Legend takes up alot of space, can you move it?
VC: raw data and make own?
UMD: Can look into it, no promises. Does it add at all or clearer message if removed?
C: Chart adds info and having pure text is not as friendly to the eye. Figure does help.
VC: I don’t know what point it’s making though? All funding sources are varied?
UMD: dependent on teaching assistantship and not self funding. At some point what our ask is. Cut out intro langue to get on one page to keep editing.
Sarah UMich: Try to get as close to data as real one and make new one. Pick most important data.
VC: Try to cut out what is not needed.
C: Thoughts? Motion?
Texas AM: Citation 9, can it be more updated than 2013. I found something from 2016 I can link in the comments.
Chair: Motion? With the edits we discussed?
Motion by Rutgers, UCD seconds. Approved.
Chair: Need to go back to student finance really quick. New version https://docs.google.com/document/d/171s89omhOCCVdc_Lc9J6zh74WQrlqTPhe4qZXErOvq-M/edit?pli=1
C: Recommendation to remove basic needs and make it HEA focus. WOuld align with what we are discussing. Can include talking points about basic student needs, but though conversations.
Gwen: I am fine with that.
VC: It fits!
Chair: Any other thoughts? Great figure.
Sarah, Umich: Can we add supporting acts under any place? As a person who struggled with this I think it is important to keep.
VC: I really liked it but dont think it could be its own separate category. Not sure how to combine.
Sarah: Affordable living?
VC: Can we get rid of 5 lines worth of bills? Discharge student loans entirely?
C: Congress likes talking about this.
VC: Not get rid all, but entirely forgiving student loans is not on table. Warren’s bill.
C: I would agree with that. It is true.
VC: Difference between EATS And BASIC act?
Gwen: Basic act standardizes data collection. Kind of similar, can def put into one line.
Standardize everything for simplicity and make sure we are doing everything we can to address basic needs.
Chair: merging basic needs into affordable living. Keeps us as 1 page. Any other substantial changes?
VC: Chart needs to be Black and white. Can easily fix and replicate
Chair: Motion with changes discussed?
UCSD motions, second by UMich. Approved.
VC: Yay! That's all 5!
Chair: It’s 10:10. Day on the Hill is March 19th-April 1st, and we will keep you in the loop if anything changes.

New Business

Announcements/Open Forum
Chair: Any issues to bring up? Hearing none.

Events
1. Day on the Hill! March 29th - April 1st
2. Next Coalition call: April 13th
3. Next Presidents call: late April
Chair: Presidents call will focus on transition.

UMD motion to dismiss, UM seconds. Approved.
Adjourned at 10:11pm.