**EGU Meeting Agenda**

February 19. 2021

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

[**https://zoom.us/j/95266234904?pwd=UHVhcHhrM0o1bEYxQ2M5Y2xCUmNYZz09**](https://zoom.us/j/95266234904?pwd=UHVhcHhrM0o1bEYxQ2M5Y2xCUmNYZz09)

**Password:** 3ngGr@dz

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Officers Present:** | Hannah, Martin, Alyx, Lauren, Kelli, Leah, Marisa, Claire |
| **Visitors Present:** | Sovay |

**PROPOSED AGENDA:**

1. Opening ~5-minute quiet reading buffer time to review rep reports and co-chair reports
2. Discussion of most pressing or largest topics
3. Compile Aurelie and Shelley questions (?)
4. Project/committee reports:

**Co-Chair Discussion Items (Hannah and Martin)**

**Notes from meeting with Shelley ()**

* Shelley and I are trying to plan an EGU/WP Communication Presentation on how to form better lines of communication
* From my email:
  + Fri. 3/26, 3-4pm, EGU & WP co-host a discussion/brainstorming session about communications in the WP
  + Before 3/26, EGU & WP collaborative plan event; we’ll need:
  + Advertising/promotion emails to get folks to attend brief introduction that explains problem/purpose
  + 1-2 brainstorming/discussion activities (I like looking here first for ideas: <https://www.liberatingstructures.com/> )
  + After 3/26, EGU & WP collaborative process results, prioritize some ideas/suggestions, and try to implement some for summer/fall

**Notes from meeting with Aurelie ()**

**Notes from Council Meeting ()**

* Serious concerns regarding interactions between Aurelie & JP about how to navigate the budget
* Structure of Council is Interesting

**Notes from Department Meeting ()**

Martin: Director of Online Writing put off until next year (after conversation between JP and Susan+others)

**Discussion items from Reps**

* Secretary (Claire):
  + Last meeting’s minutes for approval (2/5)
  + All approved minutes can be found on the EGU page [here](https://english.arizona.edu/english-graduate-union).
* First-Year (Josie):
  + No news.
* EDI (Alyx and Claire):
  + AIME has received the questions and results from the Grad College 2017 survey and is currently working on producing an English department version; completion date pending
  + Next AIME meeting will be 3/1
  + WP’s D&I committee has been asked by Shelley to compose a climate survey, though D&I wishes to work with external agencies such as SBS D&I to help maintain anonymity in processing answers.
    - This is a precursor to the yearly survey mentioned in the bylaws, which would be run by a particular committee for this purpose in order to gage what ad hoc committees could be formed to address WP concerns.
    - This would be different from AIME’s survey, though the people working on this current version overlap with AIME.
    - [ACTION ITEM] If you have questions in mind, please reach out to us so we can add them to the draft.
      * This is generally met with approval.
* WriPACA (Leah, Lauren, Marisa):
  + General: Next full WriPACA meeting is 3/2 at 2 PM
  + Bylaws (Leah):
    - Bylaws subcommittee meeting 2/16
      * Alan is going to send out a feedback survey asking about [two different versions of the voting policy](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13pSU01jvwC6q_tjXhixM47IfYX8sqVfsWwXO39XEFvQ/edit?usp=sharing): the current draft that excludes EGU and a revised version that includes the EGU representative language we suggested. I have asked what the questions will look like and when the survey will go out, but I have not heard back from Alan yet.
        + [ACTION ITEM] Please consider filling out the survey when Alan sends it out!

The cochairs agree to send out a reminder when the survey is sent.

* + - * I have also requested another subcommittee meeting prior to the full WriPACA meeting on 3/2 to talk about the results of the survey since discussion about EGU concerns was tabled at the last subcommittee meeting. Wanting to get feedback via the survey first was the given reason for tabling discussion.
    - Lecturer Meeting 2/17
      * Joey (bylaws lecturer rep) presented some of EGU’s concerns about the bylaws in previous lecturer meetings, and I was invited to the 2/17 meeting to further discuss our position with them.
      * Generally, I feel like the response was positive. Some lecturers asked questions about EGU’s structure and the GATs we represent. I talked about how we would like to be able to represent all GATs who work in the WP and our concerns about vulnerability and losing formal representation / voting power. No one voiced explicit concerns, but I asked them to reach out to me directly, share with Joey, and/or leave feedback on the survey Alan is sending out if they have further questions or feedback.
      * Many of the lecturers were interested in working more closely with EGU in the future.
    - We started an [EGU position statement](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E3w5wAKzqRoRrfAnTaAx4BfrYicWyBNon0uG_qUfECQ/edit?usp=sharing) doc that we would greatly appreciate feedback on! I think it would be good to have a finalized version by the full WriPACA meeting on 3/2 that we can share in support of our position on the bylaws. I do not have official confirmation, but I think that the bylaws voting policy draft could be put up for a vote after that meeting. (Under our current WriPACA voting structure, all official voting reps vote asynchronously, usually via a Qualtrics survey.)
      * [ACTION ITEM]: leave feedback on the EGU position statement before March 2.
        + Hannah proposes meeting over Zoom to discuss the position statement.
  + Assessment (Marisa)
    - We meet today to review a sample of fall 2020 portfolios and discussed different ways to teach “reflection depth” or “reflection substantiality”
    - Themes: we agreed portfolios look and read widely different; a student who makes a more technologically advanced portfolio (like Spark) may not demonstrate “deep” reflection (i.e. transfer or metacognitive awareness) like a student who wrote a traditional “easy” reflective essay
  + Curriculum (Lauren Harvey):
    - Continued work on OER planning
    - Decided on initial structure for OER organization
    - For next meeting: look for resources based on identified gaps and OER initial structure
    - Congrats to Kelli and the *Students’ Guide* team for submitting the full draft!
* EAL (Eric): No updates. Cannot attend meeting this week.
  + EAL Speaker Series!
    - Dr. Suhanthie Motha (University of Washington) will speak on the topic of “Is Antiracist and Anticolonial English Teaching Possible?”
    - Date: Friday, February 26, 2021
    - Time: 4-5pm MST
    - Zoom link: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/84059050183>
  + <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yud8YY4XjpisidIKMNeexLGWt05sZwgN/view?usp=sharing>
* RCTE (Interim, Martin):
  + Introduced the Survey (thanks for the feedback y’all!!) and talked about forming better ties between EGU and RCTE
  + Called for Community Building
  + Cristina gave a task force update
  + Other RCTE stuff
* Lit (Casey): Once again, no news!
* SLAT (Hongni): No news. Cannot attend meeting this week.
* GPSC (Kelli):
  + Discussion on how to get dependent healthcare for grad students. See [index](#yuvysxlbe7pc) of charts below
    - In the past (until 2014-2015) grad students had dependent health insurance. typically a dependent costs 4x the student in premiums. More GAs (RAs,GATs,etc) use this than other grad students.
    - It’s a tri-university plan and requires ABOR approval
    - Option 1: GAs can apply for staff insurance (roughly 80% of graduate students have an assistantship)
    - Option 2: Ask for a (single) dependent as part of the GA benefit with buy-on options for additional dependents. This would increase ERE, but not significantly.
  + International student health insurance- International students are required to get health insurance but generally don't use it. GPSC wants to gather data to prove inequalities we know are happening regarding international student insurance
    - If you are an international student, fill this out please: <https://forms.gle/oXqtg9AygeUm12ag6>
  + GPSC is planning a (free) financial literacy workshop. Looking for feedback about what topics might be helpful. Consider a separate section for international students.
    - <http://bit.ly/gpscfinance>
  + Covid testing/Wifi situation
    - If you are not getting tested every week, your wifi will get turned off on personal devices
      * [Email from President’s office](https://view.comms.arizona.edu/?qs=a07ca779f1ac98bde510beaeb10a97a4a53216e23ee80b91502ebfce6c1305e61a5780d86fb84c91ab5450f6825ef401263492201d1d936ef9050f8fc67a5f4f9820bf2279b7248f7ecb172156699dfd)
    - If your wifi gets shut off:
      * use UAGuest--it sucks, but you still have wifi
      * Use a library computer
  + New scholarship: [Arizona Financial Aid Trust (AFAT)](https://financialaid.arizona.edu/scholarshipuniverse)
    - [Need-Based Funding Awards for Graduate and Professional Students](https://financialaid.arizona.edu/scholarshipuniverse)
    - Graduate and professional students who demonstrate financial need (FAFSA required) are invited to apply for AFAT funding through **Scholarship Universe**. The award amount is $3,000. The application cycle is January 8 - July 1; priority deadline is March 1. Students enrolled in on-line programs are not eligible.
  + Listservs: You can see what lists you are on and unenroll yourself <https://list.arizona.edu/sympa/>
* Lit Grad Curriculum (Casey): Waiting on Dr. Mason to schedule our first meeting of the semester--hopefully next week but who knows!
* Undergrad Curriculum (Open): --
* Social Chair (Ruixue): No news

**Projects/Tasks**

* Constitution Revision
* Conflict Resolution/Retaliation Packet
  + Alyx, Claire, Kelli
  + Thank you for the feedback! We will be editing these documents and sending them to external groups (AASA, Disability Resources,) for their feedback as well.

**Conversation:**

* Task Force Concerns: How are other Program Reps interacting with their Program Directors (PDs)? All PDs should be on the Department of English Task Force that deals with Provost Folks and the shifting of Grad Student work.
  + There seems to be some concerns that the PDs are not working together, or at least not coming up with an economical solution/argument to present to Provost Folks. Not sure how true this is, but I would like to talk with other Program Reps to see what is happening across the department.
    - the Lit Program Director/a few other Lit faculty met with Folks (around Dec 11th) to propose changes, which Casey outlined in one of the meeting agendas from last semester. However, we have not met since last semester, in part because Dr. Mason just took over the PD position for Lit.
* Last week we talked very briefly about SLAT and how the language of EGU’s website can be worded differently. Can we continue this conversation?
* The WP and EGU communication event
  + Shelley was really receptive to being more collaborative (!!)
  + How to promote this collaboration?
    - On EGU’s side, we need to figure out the activities to bring to the event as well as marketing the event
      * Someone suggests also advertising what collaborative processing will follow to increase buy-in
      * Someone suggests getting social chair to plan it
    - Should we spend next meeting planning this event?
      * Who should lead the activity? (next time?)
      * Perhaps less direction is more helpful, especially in online environments
      * Padlet is mentioned, as well as breakout groups with whiteboards
  + How do we release the communication document around this time?
    - *Not* as feedback
    - Not dropped in meeting
    - Presented as something we have been thinking about and open for discussion (not editing).
* SBS’s dean wants to cut down to 60 GATs by 2025 (slipped in the end of last meeting)
  + We are currently at 110-120 GATs
  + There seems to be a lack of unity across the programs here, especially concerning the budget
    - Ex. Literature’s plan (without collaboration or acknowledgement from other programs)
  + Some clarification on the Lit proposal
    - ([I believe this is the proposal in discussion](https://drive.google.com/file/d/17377ub3OBTCxaH61l8y9xJ87UBTwNGah/view?usp=sharing))
    - There is an awkward situation where the proposal was purportedly sent before it was ready and without permission to Folks
      * The point was a general plan without specifics for each program; each would tweak as needed
    - The PDs seem to be moving forward from this and adapting the proposal for those programs, but the dean’s idea is conflicting and also doesn’t match Folk’s request
    - The question of what sort of deadline is needed for these decisions is put forward; the task force is meeting next week, and as of yet there is no horizon
      * No one knows their budget for next semester, and the budget scarcity is predominately the conversation to the point that no one has tenable information to work on.
        + The irony of English moving to SBS from Humanities for instructor care is not lost.
      * This is uncomfortable, as people with the most to lose in a lot of ways in trickle down ways, but faculty are the ones bearing the brunt of this right now (reduced class sizes)
    - HOWEVER, nothing is concrete or set in stone - little is decided
* The flood of survey work makes us a little nervous; a proposal for examining questions and possibly collaborating on answers (to the degree that is appropriate).
* Alan still has not sent the survey, and the WriPACA meeting is a week and a half away.
  + Getting responses is important so these issues are addressed.
  + It is probable that the draft would be put up to a vote after the WriPACA meeting, so having a position statement before that date to disseminate.
  + Hannah proposes a Zoom meeting to discuss the position statement
    - Check Slack!
* EGU/Lecturer relationship is generally positive, and they want to work together in the future!
  + How can we improve relations between the groups in the future?
    - In a better world, perhaps social outings/more meeting crossover. We do not know if we want to write this into a rep's job, though.
* It is possible there will be six standing committees in WriPACA this next AY
  + Awards, Curriculum, Assessment, D&I (?)
  + Hopefully not Bylaws but maybe!
* Reminder of the scholarship money described in the GPSC section
  + [Arizona Financial Aid Trust (AFAT)](https://financialaid.arizona.edu/scholarshipuniverse)
* Pushing the international student survey -- send it to WP-Adminlistserv
* Structure of GPSC
  + Pretty hierarchical and a fair number of members are not interested in social justice or advocacy, though the VP is making the positions transparent
  + Getting in feels like invite-only, as the space feels hostile to non-reps
    - You cannot sit in deliberation if you are not a rep
  + However, it is a very powerful position
    - Getting a SLAT position would be good

**Questions:**

* none

**New Concerns/Homework:**

* Out-reach/Getting people interested in EGU
* Look at Slack
* Determine questions for Shelley and Aurelie

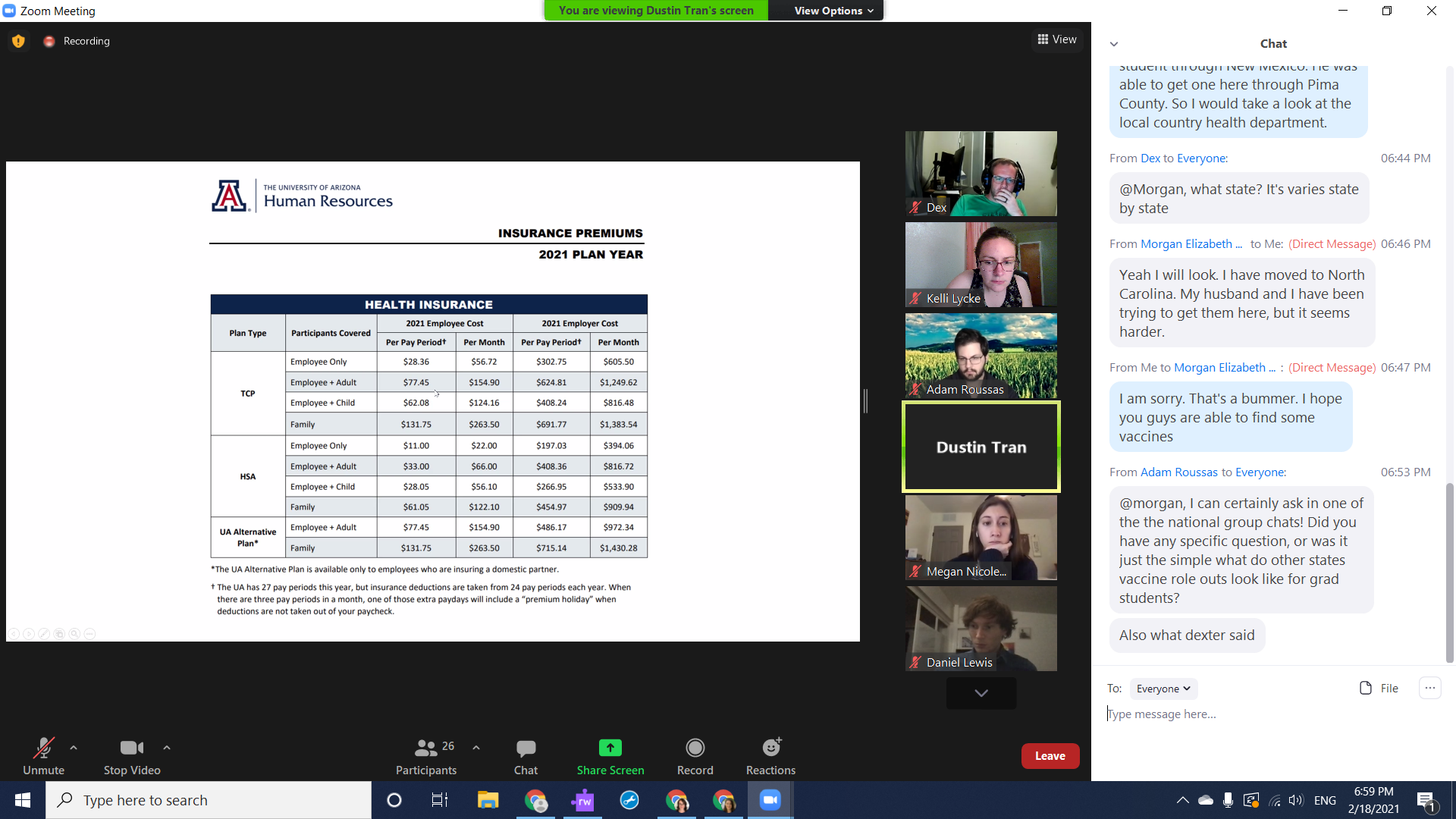
**Going Forward:**

* Continue making clear our value to the university and to make us more visible on campus

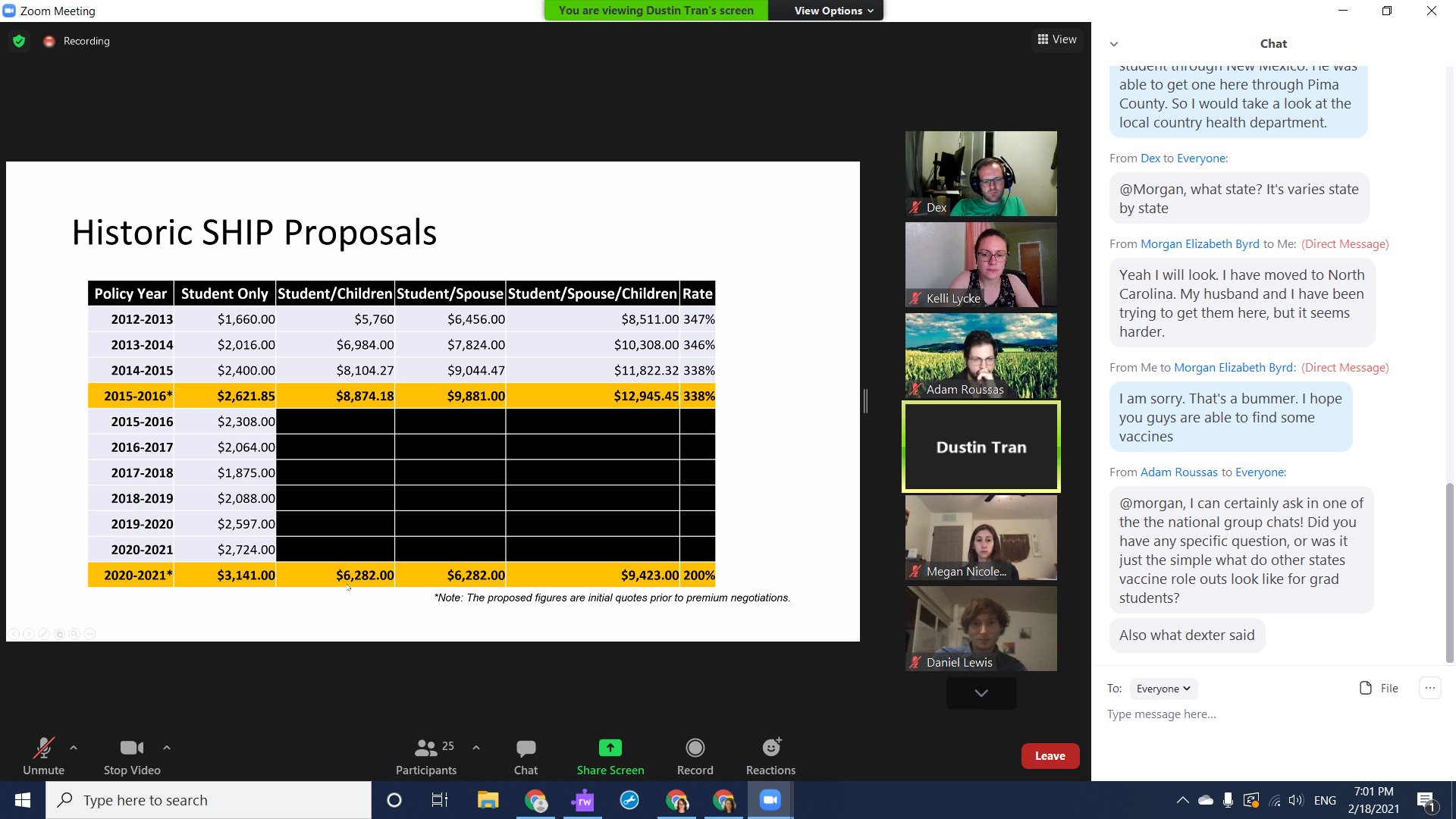
**More Ways to Get Involved:**

* The EGU Slack can be found here:
  + **Link (may need updating):** [**https://join.slack.com/t/arizonaegu/shared\_invite/zt-l3b1j8nr-tlhmBZofUm1L9cnGv74REA**](https://join.slack.com/t/arizonaegu/shared_invite/zt-l3b1j8nr-tlhmBZofUm1L9cnGv74REA)
* [CAJUArizona](https://www.cajuarizona.com/) (on Instagram under this tag)
* Attend Department Meetings
* Attend Open Hour meetings
  + [Link to all Spring 2021 WP meetings](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14AYzPB8ny8tAzkgHRJSJMxfVH1sW5dbegmXlU3k9iss/edit)

### Index



Current premium costs for staff health insurance (by comparison)



Historic Aetna proposals for student health insurance prices.