UPDATE FROM COMMITTEES/REPS:

- Exhibitions/GradEx
  - Heather gives an update:
    - Juried Show at the Chicken Box
      - Opening: April 24
      - Show is on April 22-May 4
    - Possibility to have summer GradEx shows and looking into more space to possibly have up to 8 shows a semester

- TOWN HALL UPDATE
  - Aschely gives an update of what was discussed at Town Hall:
    - Theme of Town Hall was Diversity
    - Main thoughts included:
      - Changing orientation activities for incoming students to have a forum to learn about diversity and for diverse students to feel there is open communication
      - Concerns about the curriculum to include courses that had diversity as a concern
      - Different methods of training discussed for both faculty and students and to possibly include both together instead of having a separation between faculty and students.
    - Since majority of audience was undergraduates, mostly undergraduate concerns were discussed
    - Other concerns include:
      - MICA is offering different platforms to address diversity but there has been low attendance
      - Students responded that scheduling conflicts prevent them from attending the various diversity forums

- TOWN HALL - LOW ATTENDANCE DISCUSSION
  - Why did only four Graduate students attend Town Hall?
    - One student mentioned a Fulbright Info Session occurring at the same time as Town Hall, which took priority over Town Hall for several Graduate Students
Discussion moved to what could be different or changed to improve attendance for future Town Hall Meetings?
- One student mentioned that students in their program were not interested in going to Town Hall

Discussion moved to questioning whether having a combined Town Hall that included the undergraduate population deterred graduate students from attending? Or if the location of Town Hall (at Falvey Hall) swayed grad students from attending?
- One student responded that if the Town Hall was in the Lazarus Center Auditorium that it might be easier to attend in between hectic schedules.
- Another student mentioned it was close to their opening exhibition and their program was busy getting ready for installation.
- One student responded with maybe having it earlier in the semester
- Another student mentioned previous Town Hall went almost an hour over the allotted time and that may have deterred others from attending this year’s Town Hall. It was recommended that a specific end time should be clearly stated.

Was a single topic versus having several topics an issue for anyone?
- Students preferred having a few topics to discuss.

If there were more topics, would Town Hall become more of a priority for Graduate Students?
- One student said yes because students may be involved in other sub-committees not necessarily just the one topic being discussed and would like to be able to discuss other topics of concern.

ACCESSIBILITY UPDATE
- Items to be repaired were prioritized based on need and locations that had no accessibility.
- One student mentioned that students in wheelchairs can not get out of parking lot. Especially when it is cold and the pedestrian gate freezes making it harder to push open and also that area is not shoveled properly making it hard to reach the exit button. Also the amount of time between pushing the button and getting to the gate is an issue.
- Discussion on bathroom door handles after the incident in the girl’s bathroom on the fourth floor with the handle coming off. There is a possibility for doors to change to push handles.

GRADUATE THESIS SHOW
- One student mentioned that coordinator for this year’s show was useless and felt it caused more problems.
  - Seemed like graduate students still did more, including having one program director involved.
  - Caused unnecessary stress between students
Thesis preparation began with coordinator taking on curating role but afterwards communication with coordinator became hard. It took days or weeks to get replies and office hours were not flexible enough.

Explanation on Thesis Show
- MAT showed together
- 2nd Show - Graphic Design & Post-Bac programs all showed together and were internally coordinated within each program
- 3rd Show
  - CA showed together
  - Hoffberger showed together
  - Rinehart, Mount Royal and PEM showed collaboratively
    - Coordinator helped with this group.
    - Mixed communication on role of coordinator and trying to avoid seeing her as a curator
    - Students were not happy about setup in auditorium to choose locations in free for all setting.
    - Attitude and acts of favoritism shown by coordinator were not easy to work with.

- Exhibitions was very helpful this year. James was very quick to reply to any issues students were having.
- Push back came from exhibitions on extending hours to pickup equipment.
- There was a concern about not being able to return equipment on time to exhibitions after the show.
- Going forward, students want a clear description of role of coordinator.
- Students complained of coordinator’s accessibility during setup was terrible.
  - Students were promised spaces would be cleaned up prior to their installation but they were not cleaned in a timely manner.
  - There was a leak that damaged student’s artwork and the coordinator never mentioned the leak so that students would not install in that particular area of that location.
- Student from CP brought up feeling that their program was secluded. She recommended that CP students could take a more active role in helping with Thesis to gain more curatorial experience and to be an extra helping hand for students.
- Students were not happy with D-Center - slanted floors, leaking, light flickering.
- Planning is starting already to find locations for next year to accommodate even more students graduating next year.
- Discussion followed on locations and possibly looking at other universities around the area for additional space, however, adding more locations does not seem beneficial because people tend to stay at the studio center and not travel to the various locations.
- Discussion followed on adding more shows and length of shows.
- One student recommended getting shipping containers for temporary shows on sidewalk.
- Discussion on whether to show just with program or to mix together.
● ORIENTATION
  ○ Suggestion to add more workshops for woodshop and grad lab.
    ■ Student suggested to attend workshops by program
  ○ Discussion on whether moving around campus during orientation would be better as opposed to doing everything in auditorium.
    ■ What information can be given prior to orientation?
      ● This information can be given out by GPAs.
      ● Info on what to do around Baltimore
  ○ Program Dinners
    ■ Various dinners, fancy/casual?
      ● Students agreed on a casual pizza dinner with beer would be better.
      ● Also inviting alumni to program dinners would be beneficial.
  ○ Exhibition Workshop
    ■ Students believe it should be required.
    ■ Should it be during orientation?
      ● Students agreed that right before fall installation would be more beneficial.
      ● Recommended that 2nd Years go through workshop again.

● OPEN FORUM
  ○ One student mentions that first years in his program were not sure whether the GradEx Juried Show at the Chicken Box was open to everyone and that it was done by students. It was recommend that more info about what is being done be sent out to everyone.
  ○ Illustration does not have any Water Purifying machines and would like some because the water from the fountains and bathroom sinks are cloudy.