

Governors State University

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GSU Research Day

Research Week April 5-9, 2021

Apr 9th, 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Activities in a Virtual World: Engaging Students, Faculty, and the Community

Katherine R. Drish

Governors State University, kdrish@student.govst.edu

Rama Diab

Governors State University, rdiab@student.govst.edu

Stefanie Flory

Governors State University, sflory@student.govst.edu

Dr. Lisa Pennington

Governors State University, lpennington@govst.edu

Dr. Katy E. Hisrich

Governors State University, khisrich@govst.edu

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Drish, Katherine R.; Diab, Rama; Flory, Stefanie; Pennington, Dr. Lisa; and Hisrich, Dr. Katy E., "Activities in a Virtual World: Engaging Students, Faculty, and the Community" (2021). *GSU Research Day*. 8. https://opus.govst.edu/research_day/2021/friday/8

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GSU Research Day 2021

SEA/KDP Proposal

Title of the presentation

- Activities in a Virtual World: Engaging Students, Faculty, and the Community

Names of presenter/panelists/author/coauthors. Optional: Enter email addresses for co-authors and participants.

SEA/KDP

- Kate Drish
- Rama Diab
- Stefanie Flory
- Other leaders??
- Dr. Katy E. Hisrich
- Dr. Lisa Pennington

Type of presentation:

- **Poster** live on April 7th
- **Poster** live on April 8th
- **Poster** live on April 9th
- **Presentation** on demand only
- **Presentation live** – *paper* 15 minutes
- **Presentation live** – *panel* 15 minutes
- **Presentation live** – *paper* 30 minutes
- **Presentation live** – *panel* 30 minutes

Date Preference: Friday, April 9th

Time preference: morning

Disciplines (select these 6 and type in the other 2 listed below):

Higher Education

Higher Education

- **University extension**

Education

- **Online and Distance Education**
- **Other Education**

Teacher Education and Professional Development

- **Higher Education and Teaching**
- **Other Teacher Education and Professional Development**

Type in the OTHER section:

University/college life, student clubs and activities

Abstract:

The Student Education Association and Kappa Delta Pi at Governors State University prides itself on the amount of time and thought that is put into planning and hosting our very own virtual events and socials. Our organizations have worked rigorously to create varying outlets and resources for our members. With computer screens acting as barriers

for real life interaction, we were determined to find a solution to gather people together safely to have fun, stay connected, and extend learning. We have had tremendous success in reaching this goal early on in the semester. Our first social, a Virtual Pet Show, was deemed a favorite by many due the outstanding turnout. Twice a month, the GSU community is invited to join us virtually through socials including Musical Bingo, Trivia, Paint Night, and Charades.

Along with socials, SEA and KDP student leaders and faculty advisors have put together events to engage the community as well. In this time of isolation and uncertainty, we felt it was important to continue to give back to the community. In March, a GSU alumni will help us as we make fleece tie-blankets to donate to local animal shelters. SEA and KDP leaders and advisors have conducted numerous live read-alouds on our Facebook page every month to promote literacy and provide activities to families, children, and teachers. Our organizations also scheduled three professional development workshops for students and professionals in the community throughout this semester covering topics such as careers, LGBTQ+ awareness, and literacy instruction.

Description of Program:

The Student Education Association and Kappa Delta Pi at Governors State University prides itself on the amount of time and thought that is put into planning and hosting our very own virtual events and socials. Our two student clubs have worked rigorously to create varying outlets and resources for our members. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic has put up many road-blocks to hosting events. Our group has had to adapt to this new virtual world and find alternate ways of staying connected with our members, others across the university, such as students, faculty, and staff, as well as people in the community.

At this session, several SEA and KDP student leaders, along with a couple of faculty advisors, will discuss their experiences with these new challenges in terms of planning and hosting student group activities in an online environment. Participants will gain insight into not only how to organize virtual activities in a university setting but also how to make them successful and get people engaged.

Streaming Media: ?

<https://www.facebook.com/SEAatGSU>

<https://seatgsu.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyQTPMKJLX6mU80guqcRlxQ>

**note: upload/attach this document as well*