

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA
September 17th, 2026, 7:00 PM**

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/join/92159262702?signature=TEeeKeI2ySV17b3yIIprgvTX5QuDoYm8fQy0WBcOYsS>

Call to Order

Mission Statement: Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes: (minutes from previous meeting:
(<https://www.ou.edu/sga/branches/graduate-student-senate/agendas-and-minutes>)

Officer Reports:

- Chair:
- Vice-Chair:
- Secretary:

Committee Reports: (submit your meeting minutes [here](#))

- Academic Affairs:
- Development & Philanthropy:
- External Affairs:
- Internal Affairs:
- International Student Affairs:
- Public Relations:
- Sustainability:
- Ways and Means:

Student Concerns:

Special Orders:

- **GF26-03:** Honoring the 2026 NCAA National Champions University of Oklahoma Women's Gymnastics Team
- **GF26-04:** Honoring the 2026 NCAA National Champions University of Oklahoma Men's Baseball Team
- **GF26-05:** National Voter Registration Day Resolution
- **GF26-06:** National Suicide Prevention Month Resolution Act
- **GF27-07:** SGA Executive Cabinet Appointment Act of Fall 2026

Old Business:

New Business:

Announcements:

- Senator Shoutouts

Adjournment

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI

September 8, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF26

September 17, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-01
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-03

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution honoring the 2026 NCAA
National Champions University of Oklahoma Women's
Gymnastics team and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The OU Women's Gymnastics team demonstrated excellence in competition, in the classroom, and throughout the University community; and
- Whereas: The OU Women's Gymnastics team finished the 2026 season with a record of thirty-five wins, one loss, and one tie; and
- Whereas: The OU Women's Gymnastics team completed conference competition with a perfect 8-0 record and captured its second consecutive Southeastern Conference regular-season championship and first outright SEC title; and
- Whereas: The OU Women's Gymnastics team posted a score of 198.1625 in the NCAA championship final, defeating LSU, Florida, and Minnesota to claim the 2026 national championship; and
- Whereas: Whereas: The 2026 championship was the eighth national championship in program history, the team's second consecutive national championship, and its fourth national championship in five years; and
- Whereas: Whereas: The OU Women's Gymnastics team advanced to the NCAA championship final for the twelfth time in thirteen years and captured its sixteenth consecutive NCAA regional championship; and
- Whereas: Whereas: Eight members of the team combined to earn fifteen All-America honors, while Faith Torrez captured the all-around title and Keira Wells captured the vault title, marking the twenty-third and twenty-fourth individual national championships in program history; and
- Whereas: All eighteen members of the 2026 OU Women's Gymnastics team earned Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association Scholastic All-America honors, and the team achieved a 3.77 grade-point average for the 2025-26 academic year; and

Whereas: Whereas: The accomplishments of the OU Women’s Gymnastics team inspired pride and enthusiasm among students, alumni, and members of the University of Oklahoma community; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Honoring the 2026 National Champion OU Women’s Gymnastic Team.”

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association congratulates the 2026 OU Women’s Gymnastic Team for winning the 2026 national championship and demonstrating excellence on and off the mat.

Section 3: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- K.J. Kindler, OU Women’s Gymnastics Head Coach
- All members of the 2025-26 OU Women’s Gymnastic Team
- Roger Denny, OU Director of Athletics
- Joe Castiglione, OU Director of Athletics Emeritus
- Joseph Harroz Jr, OU President
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author(s): Mercer Martin, SGA President
Josephine Nicholson, SGA Vice President
Henry Christiansen, SGA Chief of Staff
Harry Powers, Campus Activities Council Chair

Co-Author(s): Coleman Morgan, Undergraduate Student Congress Chair
Summer Edwards, Graduate Student Senate Chair

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Baker, seconded by Representative Bregnard

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 32-0-0

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI

September 8, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

SENATE SESSION GF26

September 17, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-02

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-04

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution honoring the 2026 NCAA
National Champions University of Oklahoma Men's
Baseball Team; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The OU Baseball team demonstrated excellence, perseverance, and determination throughout the 2026 season; and
- Whereas: The OU Baseball team finished the season with a record of forty-three wins and twenty-three losses, including eleven wins and two losses during the NCAA postseason; and
- Whereas: The OU Baseball team earned nine victories over nationally seeded opponents during its championship run, the most by any team since national seeding began in 1999; and
- Whereas: The OU Baseball team defeated North Carolina in Games 1 and 3 of the Men's College World Series championship series by scores of 9-3 and 13-2, respectively, to win the series two games to one; and
- Whereas: The OU Baseball team captured the third national championship in program history, joining the championship teams of 1951 and 1994; and
- Whereas: Jaxon Willits was named the Most Outstanding Player of the 2026 Men's College World Series after recording a school-record thirteen hits during the College World Series; and
- Whereas: Head Coach Skip Johnson was named the 2026 National Coach of the Year by the American Baseball Coaches Association after leading the Sooners to the national championship; and
- Whereas: The accomplishments of the OU Baseball team inspired pride and enthusiasm among students, alumni, and members of the University of Oklahoma community; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT
CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Honoring the 2026 National
Champion OU Baseball Team.”

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association congratulates the 2026 OU
Baseball team for winning the 2026 national championship and demonstrating excellence on
and off the field.

Section 3: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Skip Johnson, OU Baseball Head Coach
- All members of the 2025-26 OU Baseball Team
- Roger Denny, OU Director of Athletics
- Joe Castiglione, OU Director of Athletics Emeritus
- Joseph Harroz Jr, OU President
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author(s): Mercer Martin, SGA President
Josephine Nicholson, SGA Vice President
Henry Christiansen, SGA Chief of Staff
Harry Powers, Campus Activities Council Chair

Co-Author(s): Coleman Morgan, Undergraduate Student Congress Chair
Summer Edwards, Graduate Student Senate Chair

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Wick seconded by Representative Callahan

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 32-0-0

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI

September 15, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

SENATE SESSION GF26

September 17, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-03

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-05

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution acknowledging the
importance and recognition of National Voter Registration
Day; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The right to vote serves as the foundation of our democratic republic, enabling citizens to actively participate in shaping their local, state, and national governance; and
- Whereas: National Voter Registration Day was established in 2012 as a national nonpartisan civic holiday to mobilize thousands of organizations, volunteers, and election officials to ensure every eligible citizen has the opportunity to register to vote; and
- Whereas: Since its inception in 2012, National Voter Registration Day has helped register more than 6 million Americans to exercise their constitutional right to vote¹; and
- Whereas: National Voter Registration Day is recognized across the country and endorsed by nonpartisan bodies including the U.S. Election Assistance Commission²; and
- Whereas: The University of Oklahoma hosts nonpartisan civic engagement efforts through initiatives like Oklahoma Votes to encourage student voter education and registration³;
- Whereas: Higher education institutions serve as essential access points for young voters, helping college students navigate residency requirements, address updates, and absentee voting; and

¹ Library Staff. "Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library." Cincylibrary, 8 Sept. 2025, <https://chpl.org/blogs/post/national-voter-registration-day/>.

² "2012 Election and Voting Information Survey." US Election Assistance Commission, Sept. 2013, https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/eac_assets/1/6/2012ElectionAdministrationandVoterSurvey.pdf.

³ Voting Social Media. "Voting Information." Ou.Edu, 2018, <https://www.ou.edu/voting>.

- Whereas: According to official records from the Cleveland County Election Board, Cleveland County maintains over 180,000 registered voters participating in municipal, state, and federal elections⁴; and
- Whereas: Local municipal elections in Norman, Oklahoma, often highlight the need for continuous voter mobilization and civic awareness across all city wards; and
- Whereas: Community members, campus student leaders, and civic organizers in Norman work collaboratively on National Voter Registration Day to ensure every eligible resident has the resources needed to make their voice heard; and
- Whereas: College student voter participation remains a vital force in national elections, with voter registration among college students reaching 76% in 2024; and
- Whereas: College campus voter engagement initiatives across the country helped achieve a 53% overall student voter turnout rate in the 2024 presidential election, demonstrating the significant impact of higher education civic programs.⁵

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “National Voter Day Resolution of 2026”
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association recognizes September 15th as National Voter Registration Day
- Section 3:** OU SGA encourages the student body to take advantage of National Voter Registration Day to register to vote, update their voter registration details, and learn more about local, state, and federal elections to foster a culture of active civic participation across campus.
- Section 4:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
- President Joseph Harroz Jr
 - The OU Daily
 - The OU Nightly
 - Oklahoma Votes
 - OU College Democrats
 - OU College Republicans
 - Norman Chamber of Commerce

⁴ “Voter Registration Statistics | Cleveland County Election Board.” Clevelandcountyelectionboard.Com, 2026, <https://www.clevelandcountyelectionboard.com/voter-registration-statistics>. Accessed 6 Sept. 2026.

⁵ “More than Half of College Students Voted In 2024.” Tufts.Edu, 12 Nov. 2025, <https://circle.tufts.edu/latest-research/more-half-college-students-voted-2024>. Accessed 6 Sept. 2026.

Author(s): Madilynn Sneller, External Affairs Chair

Co-Sponsor(s): Kyla Callahan, Business Representative
 Sam Bregnard, External Affairs Secretary

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Baker seconded Representative Pasupathy

Action taken by Congress: Passed 31-1-0

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI

September 15, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

SENATE SESSION GF26-06

September 17, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-04

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-06

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution establishing the month of
September as National Suicide Prevention Month and
providing for distribution.

- Whereas: September is nationally recognized as Suicide Prevention Month, September 10 is World Suicide Prevention Day, and September 8 is 9-8-8 Day; and
- Whereas: 9-8-8 Day serves to raise awareness for the National Mental Health Hotline and is available as a suicide and crisis lifeline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week⁶; and
- Whereas: 3 in 4 people who contact 9-8-8 report receiving the support they need⁷; and
- Whereas: Suicide is the second leading cause of death for 10-34 year olds with an approximate 11% of college students seriously considering suicide within the last year⁸; and
- Whereas: 33% of the US population ages 18-25 experienced a mental, behavioral, or emotional health issue within the past year and is a consistent trend over past 5 years⁸; and
- Whereas: Mental health emergencies regarding thoughts of suicide have disproportionately affected minority communities such as the LGBTQ+ (41%), and teen girls are 2.5 times more likely to attempt suicide⁸; and

⁶ “Promote National Suicide Prevention Month.” 988 Lifeline. <https://988lifeline.org/promote-national-suicide-prevention-month/>.

⁷ “Suicide Prevention Month.” National Alliance on Mental Illness. 2026, <https://www.nami.org/stay-connected/events/awareness-events/suicide-prevention-month/>.

⁸ “Mental Health and Suicide Statistics.” The Jed Foundation. December 2025, <https://jedfoundation.org/mental-health-and-suicide-statistics/>.

- Whereas: American Indian and Alaska Native youth aged 10-24 have the highest rate of suicide of all demographic groups⁹; and
- Whereas: The military and veteran suicide rate is 1.5x higher than the national average, with an average of 22 veterans a day taking their lives¹⁰; and
- Whereas: Suicide Prevention Month serves as a time to raise awareness for mental health resources, spread hope, take action around ensuring mental health resources are available to all people; and
- Whereas: Suicide Prevention Month also serves as a time to educate ourselves and others on warning signs resources for help for mental health emergencies; and
- Whereas: Out of the Darkness Walks are hosted by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and Norman's Walk is to be hosted September 27¹¹; and
- Whereas: The University of Oklahoma Counseling Center provides mental health services to students for free 24/7 to promote the psychological wellbeing of all students on campus.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “National Suicide Prevention Month Resolution Act”.
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association recognizes the month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month, September 10 as National Suicide Prevention Day, and September 8 as 9-8-8 Day.
- Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association is committed to promoting the use of mental health resources for all students and ensuring the protection of resources available for students on the University’s campus.

⁹ “Suicide Prevention in Indigenous Communities.” National Alliance on Mental Illness. 2026, <https://www.nami.org/community-and-culture/indigenous/suicide-prevention-in-indigenous-communities/>.

¹⁰ “September is Suicide Prevention Month.” Disabled Veterans National Foundation. 2023, https://www.dvnf.org/september-suicide-prevention-month-spread-word/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=23191593775&gbraid=0AAAAADmy817WHPon1hrqipfn4XhZWkAk5&gclid=CjwKCAjwqonVBhA4EiwA9wYJ3TjpBAvmuckeYLJZ05Ov7RO5BCXFD1MJ5jp2JA1H-97rXW9yVYwvhxoCirMQAvD_BwE.

¹¹ “Join the Out of the Darkness Walk in Oklahoma to Support Suicide Prevention.” American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - Oklahoma Chapter. Facebook. 25 Aug 2026, <https://www.facebook.com/AFSPOklahoma/posts/there-is-a-place-for-you-at-the-out-of-the-darkness-walkwhether-youre-walking-to/1374371764814190/>.

Section 4: OU SGA encourages the student body to educate themselves on mental health statistics and resources, participate in local community mental health events, and serve as a resource to those who may be struggling.

Section 5: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Joseph Harroz, University of Oklahoma
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- Goddard Counseling Center

Author: Lorelai Radzanowski, Human Diversity Chair

Co-Author: Lilith Thompson, Associate

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Toyos Perez seconded by Representative Sneller

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 34-0-0

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION XX

Month DD, YYYY

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

SENATE SESSION GF26

September 17, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-XXX-XX

SENATE BILL GF26-07

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation appointing the SGA Executive Cabinet; providing for short title, providing for codification, and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

- Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “SGA Executive Cabinet Appointment Act of Fall 2026.”
- Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to appoint the position of International Student Liaison for the remainder of the Martin-Nicholson administration.
- Section 3:** In accordance with Title III, Chapter 1, Section 5, Subsection C(i) of the SGA Code Annotated, “The members of the Executive Cabinet shall consist of the Chief of Staff, and any other coordinators, assistants, and liaisons deemed necessary by the President and appropriate by the Legislative houses through advice and consent.”

The following students shall be appointed to their respective positions.

International Student Liaison – Vikki Hladiuk

- Section 4:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Authors: President Mercer Martin, Student Government Association
Vice President Josephine Nicholson, Student Government Association
Chief of Staff Henry Christiansen, Student Government Association

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____