

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

**October 20th, 2022 7:00 P.M.**

**Zoom Conference Call**

**<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/97996963479?pwd=MDRPTWIDY2NuRksrTFIkYVBFZjJxQT09>**

**Passcode: 80298305**

**Call to Order: 7:03 pm**

**Approval of the Minutes:** Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Gupta (67)

**Officer Reports:**

- Chair:
  - A friendly reminder to please be thinking about gathering some information on department events and resources to share with the GSS officers so that we can compile some insight for the Graduate College! You should have received an e-mail from me last week detailing what type of information we're hoping to receive. A huge thank you to folks who have already sent some information over.
  - In addition, we are looking for individuals who would be willing to represent the Graduate Student Senate on the Graduate Council. The Council meets once a month at 3 PM, and you would be expected to attend all of these meetings if you submit your name for consideration. At this time, we cannot accept submissions from anyone enrolled in a program in the Gallogly College of Engineering, as we already have a representative from that college serving. All names submitted will be sent to the Graduate College, where they will select representatives from those submitted. Please let Claire know if you have any questions about this! We will be accepting nominations until Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 PM.
  - My last item is an update on our conversation with the Graduate College Deans. We met with the Graduate College on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, and I want to share with you the items we discussed. First, the Graduate College is going to assist us in our conversation with Financial Services to hopefully shift our grants back to department reimbursement by fall of 2023. We recognize that having to wait for a check put an undue financial burden on many students given the long wait time and are hoping that moving back to reimbursements will streamline this process again. Second, we discussed the challenges of international graduate students pursuing internships that may benefit their hiring capabilities after graduating but are not required by their program. We have told the Deans that we will look into how other universities handle this challenge and interpretation of the policy and come back to them with some examples of potential policy changes or adjustments. Items to be discussed or that were passed along to other contacts included how graduate students and on-campus housing fit into the university's master housing plan, mental health services specifically for graduate students, and increasing access to required textbooks via e-book availability in our library system. We will certainly update you as we hear more on any of these topics, and always welcome additional items you would like us to bring forth for discussion at future meetings.
- Vice-Chair: Nothing to report
- Secretary: Nothing new to report

**Committee Reports:**

- Academic Affairs: Two groups shared their work (survey questions and web page contents) with the committee. We will be working on improvising the survey and web page contents going forward.

- Development & Philanthropy: This meeting we are deciding dates on putting out our food drive boxes. Our idea is so far to begin before thanksgiving, next Thursday is when we are planning to place them in various locations on campus. We will be removing the boxes before finals, December 8th. Our goal is to fill the boxes around the holiday seasons.
- External Affairs/Human Diversity: Quick meeting; reviewed the new Teams setup and the questions from the previous Grad SERU survey
- Internal Affairs: Jordan and Anirban had a discussing on continuing on the Graduate Council. - Have a bylaw change sitting with External Affairs. They will go over with it and make a few changes, then back to our committee for edits. We will wait for them. - More bylaw updates are coming, and Jordan will let us know when we need to work on them. We worked on them last semester. - Recommended/requested that more of the documents come through out committee so that we can do a check and assist in authoring them. We will get the next funding bill from WAM. - Has a potential conflict on aux bill, with chair requesting money. We will deal with this during the vote.
- International Student Affairs: Nothing new to report
- Public Relations: Our committee organized and discussed the information for social media accounts. Volunteers were taken to keep the accounts updated and to track new events that need to be posted. We also reviewed the senator posters that will be disseminated among the departments to promote their senators.
- Sustainability: Proposed actions: E-waste recycling drive, Tree planting project, Composting, Safer Bike-lanes, Community garden. Voted E-waste recycling drive as our first priority, with safer bike-lanes and community garden as second and third alternatives.
- Ways and Means: GSS Conference/ Research grading location is announced. The food will be ordered from Pickleman's for the grading session.

#### **Student Concerns:**

#### **Special Orders:**

- **SGA Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates – two weeks (first week in November)**
  - Carson Poupore and Beth Felkner
    - Carson Poupore and Beth Felkner introduces themselves
    - Platform touched on working/wage issues for student employees, increasing awareness for resources on campus and awareness of financial limitations, accessible learning environments, and listening to the student body
  - Christopher Firch and Emelie Schultz
    - Christopher Firch and Emelie Schultz introduce themselves
    - Platform touched on community and ensuring welcoming environments for all students, amplify DEI, and well represent student concerns.

#### **Old Business:**

#### **New Business:**

- GF22-11 2022-2023 SGA Election Commission Staff Appointment Act
  - Motion to move GF22-11 to floor by Senator Gibson (110), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
  - Author Layni Thompson, SGA Election Commission: The purpose of this act shall be to appoint the members of the 2022-2023 Election Commission Staff.

- Layni Thompson introduces Travis Handler, Alexia Charlton, Randi Wright, Nabihah Shah, and Lauren Hoelner as appointees to the Election Commission.
- Yields time for question
- Senator Walton (85): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- No objections
- Motion passes
  
- GF22-12 Auxiliary Allocation 4 Act of 2022-2023
  - Motion to move GF22-12 to floor by Senator Gupta (67), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
  - Author Demetri Papahronis, Chair, SGA Budget Committee: The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Hamilton (82): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
  - No objections
  - Motion passes

**Announcements:**

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Tessmer (120), seconded by Senator Donner (30).

**Adjournment:**

Time: 7:32 PM