

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

September 19th, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/93638222663?pwd=dFpKQUZOK2Q1U1oxV0lMUy9FUkRZUT09>

Call to Order: 7:02 pm

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 the Approval of the Minutes: (minutes from previous meeting:

<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/sga/common/GSS/minutes/2023/10-5-2023GSS-Minutes.pdf>)

- Senator Gupta (67), seconded by Senator Delafield (111)

Officer Reports:

- Chairwoman Birch:
 - Nothing new to report.
- All powerful sender-of-agendas, Vice-Chair Ferraro:
 - Nothing new to report.
- Madam Secretary:
 - Please submit your committee reports if you have not already.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs:
 - Senator Aboukelia (15): Discussed what final changes we want to make to the outstanding GA, GTA, GRA flyer before sending it off to the PR committee. Changing color to crimson, adding QR code for application, changing application deadline to March 15th, 2024 at 5 PM,
- Development & Philanthropy:
 - Senator Morrison (122): PR materials for the food drive are ready and will be going out shortly. Please share with your departments to increase awareness.
 - Food pantry efforts will help satellite pantry this semester.
 - Received the green light to host a fundraiser at Equity. Will plan this in the following meetings and intend to hold it sometime in February. Passed out food drive bins yesterday, 10/17. We will pick up the food and drop it off at the food pantry halfway through the food drive on November 1. Food drive will end November 15 at 4pm, at which point the food will be picked up and dropped off at the food pantry. Discussed getting extra bins from Claire to pass out on the South Research Campus. We discussed the Big Event so we can begin planning for it.
- External Affairs:
 - Senator Beaty (21): Nothing new to report.
- Internal Affairs:
 - Senator Delafield (111): The committee discussed the changes outlined in the \$6.2 million base pay increase for graduate assistants, the changes in the pay structure, and how it effects

the results of the survey conducted last year. Discussed potential changes to university class scheduling and how that may impact graduate college.

- International Student Affairs:
 - Senator Gupta (67): The process of Graduate Assistantship termination was discussed. Creating a brochure for new international students was also discussed to help new international students adapt to the new campus environment and its opportunities.
- Public Relations:
 - Senator Kirkpatrick (89): Discussed upcoming legislation and the SGA Sweatshirt Information Grant awards Flyer was approved and sent off Development and Philanthropy flyer for the food drive completed and being sent to the department Discussed other ideas for the Food Drive information Scavenger Hunt for Food Drive for students to submit pictures of the bins they find on campus Outstanding Graduate Student Awards Flyer discussion
- Sustainability:
 - Senator Taylor (99): E-waste recycling program
 - Would like the PR committee to produce fliers for Oct 20th event for sustainability happening at Reeves Park.
 - OU was trying to start composting initiatives, but they were disrupted by COVID-19 and they are starting from scratch now. Looking at external funding to support the composting and E-waste initiatives and mitigate university funds. Also thinking about having students petition for these initiatives to see if we can increase awareness and interest in moving these initiatives forward.
 - We started with general progress reports on what each of us is doing for the progression of bills. Ella Taylor and Alex Cabot spoke about their meeting with SGA, where they got a lot of advice on progressing our ideas for future bills. We spoke about a current E-Waste program that the University of Oklahoma holds once a year at Reeve's Park on October 28. With the future composting bill, we discussed actions in organizing duties with current university organizations. Some organizations in mind include housing, the Department of Environmental Studies, food halls, and some student-led organizations. With this bill, we also organized starting points for faculty connections, where we can get advice and help in getting various bills going. We also will be in discussion with other schools, such as UCO, where they have already implemented composting at their universities. This will give us more ideas of how to begin this process.
- Ways and Means:
 - Senator Chiareli (119): 133 submissions total for both conference and research grant applications.
 - Still a number of applications awaiting recommendations. Make sure to nudge the academic sponsor and remind them that the deadline is Friday, October 19th at 5 pm.
 - Will reach out for volunteers to help grade on November 5th. People can come and go as they need to.
 - Collect issues and both questions and concerns to send to Senator Chiareli (119) to improve the application for next semester.
 - There are currently 133 submitted applications (77 conference and 23 research). The deadline for GSS grant submission will close tomorrow, Thursday October 19th at 5pm. Senator 119 Isabella Chiareli has reached out to the Innovation Hub to finalize a location for grading on Nov. 5th, but the innovation hub has not responded at this time. An Excel spreadsheet has been sent out for ordering food during grading. The Graduate College replied to Isabella's request on how the Robertson Grant is graded. By next meeting, GSS conference and research rubrics should be finalized.

Student Concerns:

Special Orders:

- SGA Student Body President Candidates
- GF23-21 October 2023 Superior Court Appointments Act
 - Motion to move GF23-21 to New Business by Senator Chiareli (119), Seconded by Senator Clements (57)

Old Business:**New Business:**

- GF23-05 SGA General Application Codification Act of 2023 (Rec of Do Pass)
- GF23-17 Auxiliary Allocation 5 Act of 2023-2024 (Rec of No Rec)
- GF23-18 Auxiliary Allocation 6 Act of 2023-2024 (Rec of No Rec)
- GF23-19 National Freedom of Speech Week Resolution (Rec of Do Pass)
- GF23-20 Election Commission Participation Act (Rec of Do Pass)

GF23-05 SGA General Application Codification Act of 2023

- Motion to move GF23-05 to floor as a block by Senator Beaty (21), seconded by Senator Delafield (111):
- Author, Tucker Dunn, Congressional Administration Committee:
 - Adjustment to general application codification act.
- Yields time for questions.
- Senator Kaiser (97): Motion to move to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes.

GF23-20 Election Commission Participation Act.

- Motion to move GF23-20 to floor by Senator Tabak (85), seconded by Senator Triemstra (9):
- Author, Tucker Dunn, Congressional Administration Committee: Allows anyone outside of the judicial branch to be on the election commission. Wanted to open it up to more people in SGA, as the applicant pool is often very limited. Many people who would be interested in participating are likely in congress or the senate and do not believe there to be a conflict as long as no one applying is actively applying.
- Yields time for questions.
- Senator Chiareli (119): Motion to move to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes.

GF23-17/GF23-18 Auxiliary Allocation 5 Act of 2023-2024 Auxiliary Allocation 6 Act of 2023-2024

- Motion to move GF23-17 and GF23-18 to floor as a block by Senator Mirmohammad Sadeghi (7), seconded by Senator Hertensteiner (27):
- Zuyyin Izza Gulam, Chair, SGA Budget Committee: standard auxiliary allocations.
- Yields time for questions.
- Senator Delafield (111): Motion to move to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes.

GF23-19 National Freedom of Speech Week Resolution.

- Motion to move GF23-19 to floor by Senator Delafield (111), seconded by Senator Fulton (94)
- Vice Chair Natalie Armour, External Affairs Committee: Acknowledges that free speech week.

- Yields time for questions.
- Senator Young (61): Motion to move to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes

GF23-21 October 2023 Superior Court Appointments Act

- Motion to move GF23-21 to floor by Senator Young (61), seconded by Senator Chiareli (119)
- Author, Chairwoman Claire Burch, SGA Graduate Student Senate: Bill moves to appoint new justices to the superior court. Four justices graduated last year, there were 2 appointed and will move to fill the remaining spots after election season.
- Yields time for questions.
- Senator Clements (57): Motion to move to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes

Announcements:

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Senator Young (61), seconded by Senator Tabak (85).

Time: 7:38 PM