

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

February 9th, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Conference Call

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

Passcode: 80298305

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 Approval of the Minutes: Senator Gray (98), seconded by Senator Norris (112)

Officer Reports:

- Chair: Nothing to report
- Vice-Chair: Nothing to report
- Secretary: Nothing to report

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs: 1 Talked about the Outstanding graduate student award 2- Design of the website for Academic affairs committee
- Development & Philanthropy: Discussion of events continued for spring 2023. Big event? We want to do some sort of volunteer event this semester.
- External Affairs: chose a new vice chair (Michael Pham), reviewed survey
- Internal Affairs: Discussed issues concerning Bill Senator 112 will submit Discussed issues concerning SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS23-06
- International Student Affairs: nothing to report
- Public Relations: We discussed our in-person meet-up: a date has been decided and now places are being discussed.
- Sustainability: Introduction of three new senators. -Voting over future sessions' times and dates. - Candidates came forward for the role of Committee Secretary
- Ways and Means: Mostly discussed GSS grant. Strategies/plans for grading.

Student Concerns:

Special Orders: Motion to move special orders to the floor by Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Beaty (21)

Old Business: Motion to move old business to the floor by Senator Fogg (81), seconded by Senator Norris (112)

New Business:

- GS23-03 OU SGA definition of Islamophobia (Rec of Do Pass)
 - Motion to move GS23-03 to floor by Senator Fogg (81), seconded by Senator Norris (112)

- Author Nathanael Reese (Congress Member): The purpose of this resolution is to stand in solidarity with Muslim students and the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association will adopt the following non-legally binding working definition for Islamophobia
- Yields time for question
 - Senator Karami (7): What are you trying to achieve with this piece of legislation?
 - Author: This is an act of solidarity.
 - Claire: This is a resolution, so it is a statement of support.
- Senator Norris (112): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- No objections
- Motion passes
- GS23-05 The Chief of Staff Appointment Act of 2023 (Rec of Do Pass)
 - Motion to move GS23-05 to floor by Senator Chiareli (119), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
 - Author Christopher Firch (SGA President): The purpose of this act shall be to appoint the Chief of Staff of the Firch-Schultz Administration within the Executive Branch.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Fogg (81): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
- GS23-06 Campus Safety Resolution of 2023 (Rec of No Rec)
 - Motion to move GS23-06 to floor by Senator Fogg (81), seconded by Senator Norris (112)
 - Authors Abby Halsey-Kraus (CAC Chair) and Weslie Griffin (Congress External Affairs Chair): The purpose of this resolution is for the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to recommend that our state legislators maintain the current law regarding weapons on campus, in which the University President has the discretion to allow individuals to carry weapons on campus when the individual circumstances warrant it.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Norris (112): Point of clarification, the statistics are across the US, not OU students, correct?
 - Author: Yes.
 - Senator Fogg (81): What are the first amendment implications? courts have found universities have an overwhelming interest to protect education and may restrict firearms as they distract students or may make them uncomfortable and therefore not learn as effectively on campus. I think this would be stronger if you argued the first amendment and clarified how guns can be seen as a distraction to education.
 - Author: That isn't exactly what we were considering but rather we were echoing the regents. But I would be happy to include a friendly amendment including that language.
 - Senator Fogg (81): Why are you mentioning those two bills specifically, and then also citing those 80 bills?
 - Author: This is just to indicate that at the beginning of a legislative term, a lot of legislation comes in and there are over 80 pieces of legislation that have been introduced that could indirectly affect guns on campus. And those 2 bills in particular were much more explicit in their language, and these are examples of bills that would have a direct effect.
 - Senator Fogg (81): I would like to propose two friendly amendments. The first to include language about the first amendment and pedagogical concern, and the second friendly amendment to focus on Oklahoma specific statistics.
 - Author: We had a difficult time finding statistics specifically concerning Oklahoma but I can continue to look for some.
 - Senator Norris (112): Motion to extend the question time by five minutes
 - Seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
 - Claire: Can we have a general friendly amendment and Senator Fogg (81) can submit wording after the meeting?

- George: No, but you could table it to provide the senator and the author enough time to construct these amendments.
- Senator Norris (112): Motion to table the bill until the next meeting.
- Seconded by Senator Karami (7)
- GS23-07 Auxiliary Allocation 8 Act of 2022-2023 (Rec of Do Pass)
 - Motion to move GS23-07 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
 - Author Demetri Papahronis (SGA Budget Chair): 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 Norris (112): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
- GS23-08 Spring 2023 Departmental Status Act
 - Motion to move GS23-08 to floor by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Karami (7)
 - Authors Claire Burch (GSS Chair), Rin Ferraro (GSS Vice Chair), and Cooper Delafield (GSS Secretary): To update Graduate Student Senate Department status for the full academic year 2022-2023.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Norris (112): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
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Announcements:

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Senator Karami (7), seconded by Senator Mentzer (11).

Adjournment:

Time: 7:30 PM