

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

February 23rd, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/94712902920?pwd=VHBoM2tMUGJON1k5VE1EWTVRTkNUZz09>

Passcode: 44657953

Call to Order: 7:04 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 (minutes from previous meeting:

<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/sga/common/GSS/minutes/2023/GSS02-09-23Minutes.pdf>

- Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Walton (85)

Officer Reports:

- Chair:
 - Given that we are quickly approaching the end of the semester, it is time to open up nominations for the 2023-2024 Executive Office positions. In order to be eligible to serve as a GSS officer, your department must be in good standing with the Senate and you must have attended a minimum of four regular GSS meetings as a senator. Any current senator can nominate another senator for an executive position; an individual cannot nominate themselves. The nominator must submit this Engage form, which will then be sent to the nominee for final approval. Our bylaws outline the expected responsibilities for each officer, if you want an idea of what the role entails. You are also welcome to reach out to any of the current officers with any questions you might have! We will be meeting with the Graduate College deans next Tuesday and will provide a report from that meeting on our March 9th General Assembly meeting. As a reminder, we encourage all senators to bring forth any issues or concerns they would like to be discussed with the Deans. These can be shared during our student concerns agenda item, or you are welcome and encouraged to reach out to me directly if you do not necessarily want the concerns to be in the public record at this point in time.
 - <https://ou.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/579430>
- Vice-Chair: Nothing to report.
- Secretary: Nothing to report.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs: We discussed the outstanding student award flyer and application
- Development & Philanthropy: Mid-March(?) for Big Event Registration
- External Affairs: we discussed the distribution of our survey and talked about comparing our results to other universities in the area.
- Internal Affairs: Couple of different updates: Dean Wrobel is coming to talk about HLC accreditation update. Two of our (IA) bills are coming through, Jordan cannot vote because she is the author. One will have to go to roll call (the expulsion bill). I (Tom Hamilton), will call for it. Revision of the Crimson Life Ass. and it is going through our Senate just out of procedural grounds.

Got a non recommendation (not needed). Also, all of the appointments did not have a recommendation, and they were moved in bulk. There are three others bills that are getting pushed through in regards to new laws. Specifically, gender-affirming issues and LGBTQ+, with the friendly amendments. Discussed the Safety bill and the new improvements. Emily will likely give a new introduction to the student body. It is good to go. Final bill is an aux bill. No issues there. Elections are coming up. Cooper is not going to run for secretary, meaning that Jordan will need to have help running the election if she is going to run. We all need to prepare to assist, if needed. Jordan will let us know.

- International Student Affairs: We are getting ready to announce a survey for international students to the general body. The survey does address issues including, but are not limited to: food insecurity, transportation, discrimination and employment related issues.
- Public Relations: In-person meeting achieved. Re-addressed the goals of the committee Discussed the needs of the external affairs committee for their PR. Called for volunteers for External Affairs graphics Discussed more ideas for social media outlet posts
- Sustainability: A new secretary was elected, Caden Smith. New members were introduced to the committee. The minutes from the last session of Fall 2022 were reviewed for new members. We elected new members to work on the e-recycling bill proposal.
- Ways and Means: GSS Grant applications will be graded this weekend (February 25 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm). Grading instructions & rubrics are discussed during the meeting.

Special Orders:

- Dean Wrobel on HLC Accreditation Update:
 - In response to the 86 prompts from the HLC, we are presenting them with a document that shows them how we are abiding where we are, and then our plans to change in order to comply with the prompts in areas where we are not already. There will be some site visits and surveys and we encourage you all to be engaged with the accreditation process. It looks good for our university and supports our mission to make this a better place to be for graduate students. Please contact us with any questions at hlc2023@ou.edu
 - The surveys will be very short.
 - Some of the past feedback the university has received from this process were regarding our assessment processes for general education courses. The provost advisory committee on general education came up with, over the course of a year or two, a plan to improve this process along with timetables. We then gave updates and showed our progress on the plan.
 - Some important links if you would like to know more:
 - <https://ou.edu/accreditation>
 - <https://ou.edu/hlc2023>
- GS23-17 Graduate Student Senate External Affairs Subcommittee Act & GS23-18 Senate Expulsion Bill No. 1
 - Motion to move GS23-17 & GS23-18 to new business by Senator Hamilton (82), seconded by Senator Walton (85)

Old Business:

New Business:

- GS23-08 CL-Slay Revision Act of 2023

- Motion to move GS23-08 to floor by Senator Allira (9), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
 - Author Representative Carter Strickland, University College District: The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Student Government Association's Code Annotated to (1) reflect necessary changes to operations and expectations within the Crimson Leadership Association and (2) update the responsibilities of those involved.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Norris (112): Motion to pass via unanimous consent
 - Motion passes

- GS23-09 Act Appointing the Spring 2023 SGA Election Commissioner
& GS23-10 SGA Executive Cabinet Department of Communications Director Appointment Act of 2023
& GS23-11 SGA Executive Cabinet Department of the Exterior Director Appointment Act of 2023
& GS23-12 SGA Executive Cabinet Department of the Interior Director Appointment Act of 2023
& GS23-13 SGA Executive Cabinet Department of Inclusivity Director Appointment Act of 2023
 - Motion to move GS23-09, 10, 11, 12, and 13 to floor as a block by Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Fogg (81)
 - Author President Christopher Firch, Student Government Association: The purpose of these acts are to appoint the Spring 2023 Election Commissioner, SGA Executive Cabinet Department of Communications Director, SGA Executive Cabinet Department of the Exterior Director, SGA Executive Cabinet Department of the Interior Director, and SGA Executive Cabinet Department of Inclusivity Director.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Norris (112): motion to pass all the appointment bills via unanimous consent
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

- GS23-15 LGBTQ+ Safety and Wellbeing Resolution of 2023
 - Motion to move GS23-15 to floor by Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Walton (85)
 - Author Representative Ezra Koenig, Humanities District: The purpose of this resolution is to recommend the Oklahoma State Government maintain current laws regarding LGBTQ+ healthcare, education, free speech, and civil rights; and providing for distribution.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Norris (112): Motion to pass via unanimous consent
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

- GS23-06 Campus Safety Resolution of 2023
 - Motion to move GS23-06 to floor by Senator Norris (112), seconded by Senator Walton (85)
 - Author Representative Carter Strickland, University College District: The purpose of this Resolution is to recommend the Oklahoma State Government maintain current laws regarding weapons on campus; and providing for distribution.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Hamilton (82): Motion to pass via unanimous consent.
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

- GS23-16 Auxiliary Allocation 9 Act of 2022-2023
 - Motion to move GS23-08 to floor by Senator Allira (9), seconded by Senator Kedarisetty (79)

- Demetri Papahronis, Chair, SGA Budget Committee; Brandon Chenevey, Vice 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 Norris (112): Motion to pass via unanimous consent.
- No objections
- Motion passes
- GS23-17 Graduate Student Senate External Affairs Subcommittee Act
 - Motion to move GS23-17 to floor by Senator Fogg (81), seconded by Senator Solera (27)
 - Author Graduate Student Senate Internal Affairs Committee: The purpose of this Act shall be to amend the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) in adding the former Human Diversity standing committee as a subcommittee of the External Affairs standing committee with a separate subcommittee head.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Walton (85): Motion to pass via unanimous consent
- GS23-18 Senate Expulsion Bill No. 1
 - Motion to move GS23-18 to floor by Senator Fogg (81), seconded by senator Hamilton (82)
 - Author Graduate Student Internal Affairs Committee: The purpose of this act shall be to expel a member for excessive unexcused absences. Shu Sun has accrued excessive unexcused absences, the membership of the aforementioned is pending expulsion.
 - Yields time for question
 - Senator Hamilton (82): Motion to pass via roll call vote, seconded by Senator Walton (85)
 - Yes: Senator Norris (112), Senator Wilson (23), Senator Walton (85), Senator Carlton (40), Senator Beaty (21), Senator Salas (15), Senator Bruce (91), Senator Karami (7), Senator Cross (38), Senator Hamilton (82), Senator Rashidzadeh (71), Senator Singleton (5), [46 - we dont have anyone under this], Senator Whitestar (43), Senator Morrison (122), Senator Weaver (22), Senator Allira (9), Senator Chiareli (119), Senator Lander (18), Senator Cox (77), Senator Van (17), Senator Walsh (6), Senator Harmon (83), Senator White (89), Senator Buelow (59), Senator Aboukeila (16), Senator Kirkpatrick (86), Senator Tessmer (120), Senator Cabot (108), Senator Solera Guevara (27), Senator Winkle (109), Senator Khadem (34), Senator Mentzer (11), Senator Slane (63), Senator Diodosio (110), Senator Clements (57), Senator Gray (98), Senator Pham (60), Senator Hoff (12), Senator Alvarado Puchulu (95), Senator Hlanze (3), Senator Monaghan (94), Senator Sukumaran (64), Senator Baranker (105), Senator Emre (68), Senator Rieman (106), Senator Thomas (115), Senator Moguel Santos (96), Senator Kedarisetty (79), Senator Halder (90), Senator Limqueco (97), Senator Mitchell (37), Senator Mondal (4), Senator Shahriyar Parvez (54), Senator Uppaluri (29), Senator Tripathi (25), and Senator Gupta (67).
 - No: none
 - Abstain: none

Announcements:

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Senator Walton (85), seconded by Senator Beaty (21)

Adjournment:

Time: 8:08 PM

