

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

**February 29th, 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/2024/GSS-Minutes-2-15-2024.pdf>)

- Senator Gupta (67), seconded by Senator Young (61)

**Officer Reports:**

- Chair:
  - Reminder that officer elections will be coming up in about 1 month. Most likely the first meeting in April. Happy to chat about what the positions entail. We will ask for formal nominations closer to the election date.
- Vice-Chair:
  - Nothing new to report.
- Secretary:
  - Please submit your committee reports, if you have not already. I also have noticed some issues with people using the wrong senator number, so please check to make sure the number you have been using is the number you are currently assigned.

**Committee Reports:**

- Academic Affairs:
  - Senator Aboukelia (15): Finalized the application for the outstanding graduate student. The applications will open on March 7th and the deadline will be April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Development & Philanthropy:
  - Senator Morrison (122): Working on the April happy hour. It will not be on the last Friday of the month due to Norman Music festival.
  - We are planning to do a raffle at the April happy hour, so if you want to donate a baked good or any item please email Delaney Horton ([delaney.e.horton-1@ou.edu](mailto:delaney.e.horton-1@ou.edu)).
  - We plan to meet with Suzette soon to discuss logistics. Unfortunately Equity is closing in July so we need to find an alternative spot to continue our GSS Happy Hours. We are open to suggestions, it should be a place that serves food and other drinks as well as alcohol. GSS grant need to be more inclusive for the humanities. The grading process is incredibly inefficient and flawed. Final GSS Happy Hour will be at Equity on April 19. This will include a raffle and take place from 5pm-8pm.
- External Affairs:
  - Senator Beaty (21): Nothing new to report.
- Internal Affairs:
  - Senator Delafield (111): Happy leap day to all. Nothing new to report.

- Discussed upcoming DEI bill recently passed by the student senate. Also discussed upcoming meeting with Dr. Morant and preparing any questions we might have beforehand.
- International Student Affairs:
  - Senator Gupta (67): Nothing new to report. Please join the new LinkedIn group for international affairs.
  - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14240445/>
- Public Relations:
  - Senator Kirkpatrick (89): Getting PR materials ready for the outstanding graduate student awards.
  - We discussed the upcoming legislation, the changes that the Outstanding Grad Student Award flier will need, that there is no social media requests for the award just yet, and that the Standard might be a good recommendation for the development and philanthropy group might use as a new working relationship since Equity is closing.
- Sustainability:
  - Senator Taylor (99): We spoke about our communications with professors in the school, with whom we have been getting research information on the topic of our composting bill. We also spoke about our planned bill to eliminate the sale of plastic water bottles on campus. In this, we have acquired a lot more data on refill stations on campus and are beginning to brainstorm our steps forward for this bill.
- Ways and Means:
  - Senator Chiareli (119): Grant applications are due tomorrow at 5 PM. Please encourage your peers to apply for the grants and make sure they have all materials in by 5 PM (including letters from faculty sponsors/advisors).
  - We are planning to grade on March 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be getting food from Pickleman's again. Please let [GSSWAM@ou.edu](mailto:GSSWAM@ou.edu) know if you want to grade by Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Student Concerns:**

#### **Special Orders:**

#### **Old Business:**

#### **New Business:**

- GS24-05 SGA Director of the Communications Appointment Act of 2024
- GS24-06 SGA Director of the Inclusivity Appointment Act of 2024
- GS24-07 SGA Director of the Interior Appointment Act of 2024
- GS24-08 SGA Director of the Exterior Appointment Act of 2024
- GS24-09 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Matters Act

#### **GS24-05 SGA Director of the Communications Appointment Act of 2024**

- Motion to move GS24-05 – GS24-08 to floor as a block by Senator Young (61), seconded by Senator Deboard (109):
- Author, President Caden Glasscock: Senate Appointment bills for student appointments to the presidential cabinet.
- Yields time for questions.
- No questions.
- Senator Young (61): Motion to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes.

#### GS24-09 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Matters Act

- Motion to move GS24-09 to floor by Senator Delafield (111), seconded by Senator Triemstra (9):
- Author, Shrey Kathuria, Life Sciences Representative: This resolution is intending to highlight the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), as DEI is very important to who we are as a higher education institution student body. The resolution covers reasons why support for DEI efforts are important for our student body and ensuring that those from diverse or disadvantaged background have what they need to be successful. More importantly, we need to ensure that legislation being passed in the state does not negatively affect those students. This is one of the most important/critical pieces of legislation that we have seen in a long time, and it is important that we pass it in an effort to protect student programs for all students.
- Yields time for questions.
- No questions.
- Senator Kaiser (97): Motion to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes.

#### GS24-10 Auxiliary Allocation 13 Act of 2023-2024

- Motion to move GS24-10 to floor by Senator Horton (6), seconded by Senator Young (61):
- Author, Zuyyin Izza Gulam, SGA Budget Committee Chair: Last auxiliary bill for the semester. Just a standard auxiliary bill and the next bill will be for Primary budget allocation.
- Yields time for questions.
- No questions.
- Senator Delafield (111): Motion to approve via unanimous consent.
- No objections.
- Motion passes.

#### **Announcements:**

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Horton (6), seconded by Senator Delafield (111).

#### **Adjournment:**

Time: 7:23 PM