



Council of Graduate Students
The Ohio State University

Date: May 14, 2021

Location:

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/5662022979?pwd=dGITYkZxcmkzM3B4WkdLMIJPb2xQdz09>

Password: CGS

Ohio Union Rm 2088A | 1739 N. High Street | Columbus, OH 43210 | (614) 292-4380 | cgs@osu.edu

CGS Delegate Packet May 14, 2021

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Delegate Meeting Agenda

Date: 05/14/2021 @ 3:30pm

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1. **CALL TO ORDER** (3:30pm)
 - 1.1. **Statement of Purpose**
 - 1.1.1. *"To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be."*
 - 1.2. **Land Acknowledgment**
2. **ROLL CALL: Attendance Code = CGS2021** (5 min.)
3. **APPROVAL OF April 2nd, 2021 MINUTES** (5 min.)
4. **OFFICER REPORTS** (20 min.)

4.1. President, Nick Messenger.37	4.4. Secretary, Alissa Geisse.1
4.2. Vice President, Abby Grieff.2	4.5. Chief of Staff, Javonte Lipsey.25
4.3. Treasurer, Michelle Scott.1445	4.6. Parliamentarian, Brandon Free.41
5. **COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES** (15 min.)

5.1. Academic Affairs, Aviva Neff.336	5.8. International Student Affairs, Melika Shahhosseini.2
5.2. Arts & Culture, Kathryn Holt.351	5.9. Strategic Communications, Carrie Anne Thomas.4051
5.3. Internal Affairs, Conner Sarich.6	5.10. Graduate Caucus, Jenna Greve.41
5.4. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Caroline Fitzpatrick.271	5.11. SERC, Wanderson NovaisPereria.1
5.5. Government Affairs, Maddy Lomax-Vogt.2	5.12. External Affairs, Katie Conner.280
5.6. Graduate Student Affairs, Michelle Scott.1445	5.13. Housing and Family Affairs, Leila Viera.31
5.7. Health, Wellness, & Safety, Abby Greiff.2	
6. **NEW BUSINESS** (40 min)
 - 6.1. Act Establishing 2021-22 Standing Committees
 - 6.2. ERJC Report
 - 6.3. CGS Culture survey
7. **SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS** (15 min.)
 - 7.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns
8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (5 min)
 - 8.1. June Delegate Meeting – June 4th @ 3:30pm
9. **Adjourn** (~5:20pm)

CGS Virtual Meeting Ground Rules

1. Be open, flexible, considerate, and kind!
2. Speak your discomfort if something is bothering you.
3. Challenge the idea, not the person.
4. You will be automatically muted when you join the meeting. Please keep your audio MUTED, unless asking a question.
5. You may ask a question by submitting it directly in the “Chat” box; or if you would like to ask via video/audio, use the “Raise Hand” feature in the “Participant” section and the chair will recognize you. Alissa will be monitoring to ensure they are brought up.
6. You may keep you video on or off, whichever is most comfortable for you, but should connectivity issues arise we may ask everyone to turn off their video.
7. Please be visually presentable, if using video, and limit background activity.
8. Be aware that the meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes.



Delegates Present: Luke Andrejek, Ada Barach, Om Prakash Bedant, Polina Berezina, Jessica Blackburn, John Bundschuh, Yu-Chun Chang, Steph Charles, Kacey Clark, Jacob Compaleo, Carrington Conerly, Katherine Conner, Paul Consiglio, Robert Cremins, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Riley DeBacker, Austin DeGroff, Todd DeRose, Kendra Dickinson, Ty Drayton, Story Edison, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Jahmour Givans, Annedra Gladney, Robin Gordon, Colby Gregg, Paul Gregor, Jenna Greve, Sarah Haines, Keira Hambrick, Morgan Heyde, Sarah Hyman, Gregory Jameson, Shontiera Johnson, Ashwin Kane, Noor Khalayleh, Ellia La, Yifan Li, Ho-Chieh Lin, Javonte Lipsey, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Xinyue Lu, Alan Lujan, Charles Mace, Zari Mahmoudi, Krutant Mehta, Doricka Menefee, Benjamin Mertus, M. Dominique Nagasawa, Laura Neese, Aviva Neff, Shane O'Neil, Brian O'rourke, Jaychandran Padayasi, Maritza Pierre, Kelsey Pinckard, Bryan Remaily, Lauren Riley, Morgan Ross, Mary Sagatellova, Erik Scaltriti, Michelle Scott, Kye Stachowski, Goran Stevanovski, Matthew Stuckey, Greyson Teague, Ekaterina Tikhonyuk, Jamie Utphall, Ana Maria Velasquez Giraldo, Ericka Velez-Bonet, Derek Walton, Yitong Xin

Delegates Absent: Ali AsghariAdib, Selasi Attipoe, Rob Barry, Anthony Bowersock, Fouad Choueiry, Adam Culiver, Archit Datar, Benjamin Duran, Meaghann Dynes, Megan Espana, Steph Fanelli, Bethany Frick, Jordan Hartman, Lindsey Hernandez, Nathaniel Heiden, Christian Hines, Pouya Kousha, Alexander Milder, Madison Mize, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Felipe Pacci Evaristo, Rosie Rabati, Swetha Rajasekaran, Marie Rineveld, Armando Roman, Akanksha Sahni, Ashweta Sahni, Melika Shahhosseini, Karla ShockleyMccarthy, Daniel Smith, Kumar Somnath, Garrett Tatum, Brett Wedding, Andrew Wilson, Megan Zib

Senators Present: Aaron Beczkiewicz, Jenna Greve, Gala Korniyenko, Laine Rumreich, Dustin Servello

Senators Absent: Shahwar Ali, Akshay Asaithambi, Tyler Beauregard, Conner Sarich, Utkarsh Shah

Executive Committee Members Present: Katherine Conner, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Brandon Free, Jenna Greve, Abigail Grieff, Kathryn Holt, Sarah Light, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Raven Lynch, Nick Messenger, Aviva Neff, Stephen Post, Conner Sarich, Michelle Scott, Carrie Anne Thomas, Leila Viera

Executive Committee Members Absent: Wanderson Novais Pereira, Melika Shahhosseini

1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:30pm

1.1. Statement of Purpose

- 1.1.1. To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.

1.2. Land Acknowledgement

- 1.2.1. CGS acknowledges central Ohio as the traditional homeland of the Shawnee, Miami, Wyandotte and other Indigenous nations who have strong ties to these lands. Today, individuals from a broad range of Indigenous backgrounds call Columbus and central Ohio home.
- 1.2.2. There have been some conversations about why we started doing a land acknowledgement and how we can ensure that it's not just performative. We are still working on conversations with the Multicultural Center and other groups on campus. If you are interested in being part of these conversations, please let Stephen know.
- 1.2.3. Some more resources and information: <https://youtu.be/9eIYCfRPIPU>; Native American Indian Center of Central Ohio (<https://www.naicco.com/>)

2. ROLL CALL

2.1. Carmen log-in

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Minutes from March 5, 2021

- 3.1.1. Minutes approved.

4. SENATOR ELECTIONS

4.1. Candidates listed in alphabetical order:

Austin Cool	Steven Mentz
Brandon Cruz	Laine Rumreich
Madison Dymment	Dustin Servello
Rachel Hutchinson	Jenna Thomas
Hannah Jones	Jordan Williams
Nicholas Klein	Yan Yuan
Sierra Mayle	

4.2. The following people are elected to ten open senator position:

Austin Cool (undesignated seat)
Madison Dymment (Education & Human Ecology seat)
Rachel Hutchinson (Arts & Humanities seat)
Hannah Jones (Social & Behavioral Sciences; Business seat)
Nicholas Klein (undesignated seat)
Sierra Mayle (undesignated seat)
Laine Rumreich (Math, Engineering, & Physical Sciences seat)
Dustin Servello (Biological Sciences; Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Studies)
Jenna Thomas (undesignated seat)
Yan Yuan (undesignated seat)

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. Resolution 2021-018: A Resolution Advocating for the Requirement of COVID-19 Vaccination for In-Person Activities for Fall 2021

- 5.1.1. Conner.280: In this resolution, we are asking the university to consider requiring the vaccine for any in-person on-campus activities beginning in Fall 2021, with the exception of those who may have religious or medical exemptions. This resolution was drafted based on the policies that have been adopted or being considered by a handful of other universities. As a reminder, this resolution is simply asking the university to adopt this mandate but does not address the logistics of how this would be accomplished or its feasibility- that would be under the purview of various offices to figure out in the future.

5.1.2. Informal Discussion:

- Dahlberg-sears.1: Is there a particular timeline we are asking for here?
 - The feeling from conversations is that there are mixed feelings across different offices but there is some support for implementation in the fall.
 - The resolution does mention the Fall 2021 semester specifically in Line 55.
- Tikjonyuk.1: Line 62 asks for the vaccine to be made available for students arriving on campus next fall but maybe the language should ask for this to start over the summer so that students can arrive fully vaccinated.
 - It could be that students would have a certain amount of time to get their vaccine after arriving on campus.
 - Suggestion to change the line to say, "before next fall semester".
- Sagatelova.1: Should we also ask that potential boosters be required?
 - Since we don't know if these will be required, it makes more sense for that to be revisited with a separate resolution in the future if needed.
- Dahlberg-sears.1: Suggestion to change the language in Lines 62-63 to say "all students" rather than listing individual student groups to make sure nobody falls through the cracks.
- Tikhonyuk.1: The resolution doesn't mention regional campuses. Should this be

expanded?

- Language in Line 63 is changed to read, "before arriving at any Ohio State campus"

5.1.3. Discussion:

- None.

5.1.4. Act is voted on via Carmen survey.

5.1.5. Act passes (54 Yeas, 1 Nays, 2 Abstentions).

5.2. Poll for Summer Quorum

5.2.1. Completed via Carmen quiz.

6. OFFICER REPORTS (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packet)

6.1. President (Post.144)

- 6.1.1.** Stephen is working on a comprehensive end-of-administration report which will be distributed to the delegate body as well as the larger graduate student body later this spring. This will include information from the end of year reports generated by all the committees.
- 6.1.2.** There is another meeting coming up this week about reclassifying GAAs so there will be a final decision on this issue announced soon.
- 6.1.3.** There is also an upcoming meeting with Government Affairs about the third round of federal funding and how that will be allocated. If you haven't done it already, fill out your FAFSA because that will hopefully put you in the poll to automatically receive funding.
- 6.1.4.** Delegate elections are coming soon!

6.2. Vice President (Messenger.37)

- 6.2.1.** We are still pushing for dedicated vaccine allotments for students.
- 6.2.2.** CGS provided final recommendations to the University Senate Structure Ad-Hoc Committee. One issue that was brought up and will hopefully get more attention moving into next year is graduate student representation on senate committees.
- 6.2.3.** Projects that are still in process: finalization and rollout of Graduate Student orientation, Provost Search, overseeing data from the policing survey and participating in future listening sessions
- 6.2.4.** Projects coming soon: expanding the embedded counselor program to more colleges, time to degree funding timelines, graduate family housing and new facilities, the search for a new HR VP, parking needs assessment, and assessing student activities and health practices on campus moving forward.
- 6.2.5.** Javonte Lipsey.25 will be Chief of Staff;
- 6.2.6.** Some of the goals for next year are to clarify and focus on specific missions of CGS: ensure that grad students are supported and protected during campus reactivation, create a visible CGS community with a culture of empowerment, collaboration, diversity, and inclusion, and improve the experience for future grad students.
- 6.2.7.** The Internal Affairs Committee is becoming the Membership Wellness Committee that will focus on creating a positive culture within CGS, celebrating our members accomplishments, and ensuring mental and emotional well-being amongst members. Additionally, External Affairs is going away and will be replaced by a Research & Data Operations committee that will centralize any survey projects and help support the benchmarking, advocacy, and policy work of other committees.
- 6.2.8.** Over the summer, the new exec team is working on fleshing out more trainings and support resources for CGS members to improve internal and external communications and help delegates find their authority. This will draw on results from the CGS climate survey to be administered by DEI.
- 6.2.9.** Committee Chair applications are now live! Please submit yourself or your peers to get more involved!

6.3. Secretary (Light.109)

- 6.3.1.** Winners of the annual CGS Awards will be announced by the end of the month!
- 6.3.2.** There is some data about the winners of the CDG included in the meeting packet. Numbers were a little odd this year because of the pandemic but we were able to support a lot of students.

7. COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packets)

7.1.1. Health, Wellness & Safety (Grieff.2)

- Wellness Week is starting Monday! There are a lot of great programs planned and these have been sent to everyone via Carmen so please distribute to your constituents.

8. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

8.1. Delegate Issues & Concerns

- 8.1.1. Dahlberg-sears.1: In the senator report, one of the stated goals for the Council on Enrollment & Student Progress is increasing graduate student enrollment specifically. Will there be any increases in funding associated with this? Some departments have experienced massive funding cuts and loss of faculty so an increase in the number of students will not be sustainable with solid internal departmental infrastructure to support these students.
- Beczkiewicz.1: The university is aiming to increase enrollment across the board at both the undergrad and grad level. This is an issue that CGS should keep an eye on in the future.
- 8.1.2. The university recently instituted a requirement for twice weekly COVID testing. IPC sent something out to their members and crafted a statement. Has CGS done anything in response to this or do we have anything planned?
- Our understanding is that this change was made to monitor any possible spikes in case numbers following the instructional breaks. We have not planned any action on this issue because we were informed that this requirement is going to be rolled back in the next week or so. There is certainly space for a resolution to be written if this is not followed through on.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 9.1. Next meeting is May 15, 2021 @ 3:30 pm. This meeting is the first that will be handled by the new administration.
- 9.2. If you are a current delegate and are graduating and will not be attending meetings over the summer, your open seat may be filled by a delegate-elect from your unit of representation. If you are in this situation and know of someone who has been elected, please reach out to Abby to coordinate that interim term.

10. Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

To: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
From: Raven Lynch, Treasurer
Date: 5/8/2021
Re: Treasurers' Report Academic Year 2020-2021

Hello everyone!

I hope you are doing well! Congratulations on making it through another year of graduate school and extra congrats to those graduating this month or over Summer! The transition to workday has been rough, but I received the first account statement of the year this month so I can give an update on our spending. Over the year we've spent \$19,516.33 on keeping CGS running – supplies, communications fees, marketing, parking, etc. We had a total income of \$113,070.13. This is on top of our carryover totals from last year, which was a little over \$111,000. Moving into next year, if we can keep all of our carry forward and still receive income from student fees and other contributions, there's going to be a lot of money to spend down before we resume the normal carry forward policy! So, think about some ideas for events once COVID restrictions are lifted, but also think about some of the virtual ideas committees came up with this year that could stick around next year.

I am now passing the reins to Michelle Scott! Thank you for this opportunity and your patience this year as budgeting, spending, and transitions to workday constantly made everything more complicated. It has been great to be involved, and I know the next exec team will be great!

I will not be in attendance at this month's delegate meeting, as I will be on a "this ridiculous year of candidacy exams, teaching hybrid, and starting dissertation is finally over" celebration trip and will be traveling during our meeting time. However, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out and I will get back to you ASAP!

My best,



Raven E. Lynch, MSW

The Ohio State University College of Social Work

PhD Student, SWK 1140 Graduate Teaching Assistant

1947 College Road Columbus, OH 43210

The Ohio State University College of Engineering

Office of Diversity Outreach & Inclusion: Graduate Administrative Assistant

2070 Neil Ave. Columbus, OH 43210

The Ohio State University Council of Graduate Students

Treasurer

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pronouns: she, her, hers

TO: The Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Alissa Geisse, Secretary
DATE: May 9, 2021
RE: Secretary's Report

The application window for funding period 1 of the Career Development Grant was extended until May 15th. Please encourage your peers to apply!

Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations for the annual CGS Awards. Winners have been chosen and will be announced this week. In this challenging academic year, it is so important for us to recognize each other's hard work and commitment and celebrate each other's achievements.

I'll be working with Sarah through the rest of the spring to get trained and ensure a smooth transition.

All the best,

Alissa

President's Report – May 2021

New Chairs! University Senate Appointments

- We have selected new CGS committee chairs for 2021-2022!
- University Senate appointments will be done over the summer – look for email communication regarding the process sometime in June.

Provost Search

- Ongoing with updates expected this summer. Provost McPherson's last day is June 30, 2021.

GAA Tax Change

- The Office of Academic Affairs is working with each unit to determine the best way to transition current GAAs to GTAs or GRAs, reflective of their job duties. Units that do not opt to reclassify will follow up individually with OAA, and we have summer meetings scheduled to keep tabs on this.

COVID-19 and Fall 2021

- Plans remain to return to ~75% in person for AU21.
- We have requests for information regarding what testing protocols will be in place for vaccinated/unvaccinated students. Policy on testing and vaccines is evolving over summer with Ohio, Columbus, and OSU health data and we expect formal policies to be communicated later in the summer.
- No updates on events/athletics
- No updates on travel spending, though we anticipate this before the end of the FY.

Safety

- Ongoing discussions about safety with President Johnson and relevant administrators.
- Focus on tangible, actionable steps to fulfil the demands of the resolution passed by CGS last summer.

Chief of Staff Report:

Associate Vice President, Office of Institutional Equity Search

- We are in process of finalizing job posting/description. Revisions have been made to ensure that we attain a diverse pool of candidates.
- Training on search committee was canceled due to technological difficulties. We are set to reschedule soon.

Buckeye Village/Housing

- First April meeting was cancelled
- The second I was not able to attend with due to teaching responsibilities. I had asked Nick to attend event for me on Monday, April 26th

Executive Student Leaders Council meeting reminder

- We were introduced to VP's and, and each of the student leaders expressed concerns that they had within each of their organizations. No Resolutions came of this, but rather it was just a time to become acquainted with each other
- The second meeting was cancelled to do the verdict of Chauvin Trial. No date was confirmed for rescheduling

TO: Council of Graduate Students
FROM: Caroline Fitzpatrick.271, Chair
DATE: 5/9/21
RE: Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Committee Report

During the May delegate meeting, the EID Committee will administer the Internal Culture Survey that committee members have been working very hard to put together. The entire delegate body will take 10-15 minutes, together, to complete this survey. Any delegates who are not able to attend the May meeting, or who do not finish the survey during the meeting, will be able to access the survey through a Carmen announcement.

The purpose of the Internal Culture Survey is to formally diagnose the flaws and strengths within CGS' current organizational culture. It explores delegates' sense of belonging, knowledge of CGS, inclusivity of the organization, and potential changes that will improve delegates' experiences within CGS. The information collected through this survey will be compiled by the Membership Wellness chair and committee (a new committee coming next academic year), relayed to delegates and to the leadership team, and explicitly utilized to update internal programming, policy changes, and standard operating procedures.

The EID committee has noticed a lot of major issues within CGS operations, and that is why we decided to create this survey. We did our absolute best to use inclusive, appropriate language; to ask the right questions; and to give space for your feedback. If we missed anything or used any language that caused harm, please let us know in any of the open responses on the survey.

Moving forward to improve CGS' culture requires collaboration and participation from all members, and so I hope that you will be willing to share all of your good ideas and important feedback on the Internal Culture Survey.

If you have any other questions or concerns, about the survey or any other EID issue, please reach out to me.

TO: The Council of Graduate Students
FROM: Abby Grieff, Chair of Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
DATE: 5/7/2021
RE: Committee Report

GOALS: The Health, Wellness, and Safety committee aims to ensure the physical and mental well-being of all graduate students. Specifically, through a combination of research, university partnerships, and outreach initiatives the committee is focused on creating and promoting an environment of health, safety, and education throughout the university and outside committee.

Wellness Week was a major success! We had a lot of participation and great feedback. Students hope to see this continued next year. I thank each of you for sharing out the information, and for a great year! Looking forward to continuing to work with each of you in the next academic year, and throughout the summer.

Housing and Family Affairs Committee Report

Leila Vieira.³¹

May 5, 2021

Here are some results of the survey from Student Life focusing on family housing:

- There were 762 responses
 - 31.8% were undergrad with children
 - 4.2% were undergrad international students
 - 25% were undergrad international students with children (8 responses)
 - 43.5% were **grad** students with children
 - 37% were **grad** international students
 - 44% were **grad** international students with children
- 42% were interested in living in on-campus family housing. Among grad students only, this was over 50%
- Most important aspects: playground, close to COTA and CABS, family-only residents, programming, furnished, internet included in rent
- Expected to pay, on average, \$970 (today survey respondents pay on average a bit over \$1,000)

Some other important updates from the Parenting and Pregnant Student Support Committee:

- There is a proposal to create a family-friendly space at Thompson Library in Fall 2021 or Spring 2022. It will be a pilot program, and then they'll re-evaluate based on how much it's used. Apparently, it will consist of children's books near an area where parents could do work in the library while their children read.
- There is also a proposal being worked on by ACCESS, EHE, and the College of Social Work to support flexible drop-in child care for parenting students on campus (in case they need to take an exam or need to make alternate childcare plans due to an emergency, for example). Liability and licensing are concerns in this proposal, so it might take a while for it to get off the ground.

Dear Delegates, Greetings from SERC.

On May 5th, SERC hosted a webinar on sustainability. The webinar was organized by Maritza Pierre, Mary Sagatellova, Sarah Haines, and Wanderson Novais. We have as panelists the OSU's professors: Dr. Chris rea, Dr. Jennifer Eaglin, Dr. Benjamin Wenner, and from the Sierra Club: Becca Pollard. Ten gift cards will be drawings as prizes for the webinar participants.

On May 18th, the committee will discuss the updates on the different projects and organize the information for the next chair.

Best Regards,

SERC

5/7/2021

Strategic Communications Committee Report

Chair: Carrie-Anne Thomas

- This semester, the strategic communications director, along with other executive committee members have been drafting a comprehensive strategic communications plan for CGS. This is a work in progress and aims to improve internal and external communications to improve the communication of accurate, timely, and useful information, to ensure all communication is accessible, and to communicate holistically and inclusively.
- The Strategic Communications Committee welcomes any and all suggestions for improving communication within CGS and between CGS and the broader graduate and campus community.
- The Strategic Communications Committee also welcomes any new committee members, particularly those interested and skilled in creating graphics and social media content.

ACT 2021-007
AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE 2021-22 CGS STANDING COMMITTEES
Author: Nicholas V. Messenger, President

Section 1. The purpose of this act is to establish the Standing Committees of the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) in accordance with Article 7, Section 2 of the CGS Bylaws.

Section 2. In addition to the Executive Board (established by Article 10 of the CGS Constitution) and Organizations & Elections Committee (established by Article 7, Section 1 of the CGS Bylaws), the 2021-2022 Standing Committees of the Council of Graduate Students shall be:

Issues Committees:

- Academic Affairs
- Arts and Culture
- Equity, Inclusion and Diversity
- Government Affairs
- Housing and Family Affairs
- Graduate Student Affairs
- Health, Wellness, and Safety
- International Student Affairs
- Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility

Operations Committees:

- Research and Data Operations
- Membership and Organizational Wellness
- Career Development Grant
- Global Gateway Grant
- Ray Travel Award
- Strategic Communications
- Hayes Graduate Research Forum

Section 3. This act will take effect immediately upon approval at a regular meeting of the Council of Graduate Students.

Approved: Yes/No

Date: _____

Nicholas V. Messenger, President

Council of Graduate Students
at The Ohio State University