



**COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

# Delegate Packet

October 3rd, 2025

Location: Ohio Union Senate Chambers & Zoom



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# Agenda

General Delegate Meeting | 3 OCTOBER 2025 | Senate Chambers, Ohio Union & Zoom

- 1. CAMPUS CONNECTIONS** [3:30]
  - 1.1 Dean Mary Stromberger, Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, and Dean Trevor Brown, Dean of the John Glenn College of Public Affairs
- 2. CALL TO ORDER** [4:00]
  - 2.1. **“To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.”**
- 3. ROLL CALL** [5 min]
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** [5 min]
- 5. OFFICER REPORTS** [25 min]
  - 5.1. President’s Report – Sabrina Durso.19
  - 5.2. Vice President’s Report – Anna Zaitseva.1
  - 5.3. Treasurer’s Report – Adam Tjoelker.4
  - 5.4. Secretary’s Report – Kaz Gary.102
  - 5.5. Parliamentarian’s Report – Andy Vance.128
  - 5.6. Chief of Staff’s Report – Blue Lerner.111
- 6. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS** [30 min]
  - 6.1. Academic Affairs – Vacant
  - 6.2. Arts and Culture – Holly Engel.210
  - 6.3. Diversity & Inclusion – Vacant
  - 6.4. Government Affairs– Charlie Mace.103
  - 6.5. Graduate Caucus – Jon Fritz.288
  - 6.6. Graduate Compensation and Benefits – Bryan Perez Soto (PerezSoto.2)
  - 6.7. Graduate Student Affairs – Tinu Oduloye.1
  - 6.8. Health, Wellness, and Safety – Deb Pathak.89 & Luke Van Niel (Vanniel.5)
  - 6.9. Housing and Family Affairs – Lauren Levesque.31
  - 6.10. International Student Affairs – Ashutosh Soni.117
  - 6.11. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283 & Katie Conner.280
  - 6.12. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945 & Shiddharta Ramprakash.4
  - 6.13. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Casey Ortbahn.1 & Katelyn Amstutz.87
- 7. OLD BUSINESS** [0 min]
- 8. NEW BUSINESS** [35 min]
  - 8.1 Senator Elections** [20 min]
  - 8.2 An Act 2526-FA-001: An Act Updating and Clarifying the Language of the Constitution of the Council of Graduate Students** [5 min]
  - 8.3 An Act 2526-FA-002: An Act Updating and Clarifying the Language of the Bylaws & Standing Rules of the Council of Graduate Students** [5 min]
  - 8.4 An Act 2526-FA-003: An Act Concerning the Amendment of the Budget for the 2025-2026 Academic Year for Council of Graduate Students** [5 min]

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9. **SPECIAL ORDER ITEM** [30 min]  
    9.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns
10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [5 min]  
    10.1 Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, November 7 at 3:30pm (Senate Chambers & Zoom)
11. **ADJOURNMENT** 6:50 PM



## 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. Sarah will be monitoring to ensure they are brought up.
6. You may keep your video on or off as to whichever is most comfortable for you, but we may ask you to turn off your video should connectivity issues arise.
7. Please be visually presentable, if using video, and limit background activity.
8. This meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes, and in hopes to share our meetings in the future.



# Meeting Minutes for Approval

General Delegate Meeting | 5 SEPTEMBER 2025 | Senate Chambers, Ohio Union & Zoom

**1. CAMPUS CONNECTIONS** **3:32 PM**

- 1.1 Dr. Melissa Shivers, Senior Vice President of Student Life

**2. CALL TO ORDER** **4:03 PM**

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

**3. ROLL CALL**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- Motion to approve by ***Oduloye.1***
- Seconded by ***Chisam.1***
- Minutes approved by CGS majority

**5. OFFICER REPORTS** **4:05 PM**

- 5.1. President’s Report – Sabrina Durso.19

**5.1.1) Over the past month:**

- Met with President Carter
  - Discussed SB1 Reporting Process, International Students, and Funding, alongside childcare concerns
- Graduate School
  - Bridge funding approved & Incoming International Student Population low due to certain circumstances
  - GradGuard Optional
- National Association of Grad/Prof Students
  - Hoping to connect in person in D.C. in October
- CGS x OIA International Block Party
  - \$2K devoured in an hour, Brutus Selfies, and Campus Resources Galore

**5.1.2) Other updates:**

- Exec Committee
  - Chair Academic Affairs or Diversity and Inclusion by contacting me!
- Email Fix
  - Newsletter Readership Up to 50%
- Digital Accessibility
  - Digital Access coming to campus—share with your colleagues
- Regalia Project
  - Hoping to begin planning soon, waiting on last review from Legal
- SB1 Updates
  - Be careful with Land Acknowledgements and working on SB1 Compliant Process

**5.1.3) Upcoming events:**

- BE KIND
  - If you plan to attend, please fill out this Microsoft form:  
[https://go.osu.edu/cgs\\_be\\_kind](https://go.osu.edu/cgs_be_kind)
- Pay it Forward
  - Fill out this form by September 12<sup>th</sup> to attend with CGS:  
[https://go.osu.edu/cgs\\_day\\_of\\_service](https://go.osu.edu/cgs_day_of_service)

- 5.2. Vice President’s Report – Anna Zaitseva.1

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#### 5.2.1) Elections:

- Delegate elections: run-offs, fall elections, and appointments
  - All spring election business is taken care of
  - 66 delegates seated and appointed to committees
  - 52% are first-year CGSers!!
- Fall delegate elections
  - Applications open Monday, September 1st – Friday, September 5th
  - Voting period: Wednesday, September 10th, 12:00 p.m. - Wednesday, September 17th, 5:00 p.m.
- Senate
  - 7 out of 10 seats filled
  - Sabrina and I are sitting in on those that haven't been filled yet
- Senate elections
  - Applications open August 26th – September 26th

#### 5.2.2) Committees:

- Committee assignments
  - Your committee chair should've contacted you by now.
  - If you haven't heard from anyone yet, **let me know ASAP**
- For chairs
  - There will be more delegates joining your committees in the next few weeks

#### 5.3. Treasurer's Report – Adam Tjoelker.4

##### 5.3.1) Student Activity Fee (SAF) Annual Report

- I compiled and submitted the CGS annual summary of our use of SAF funds to CSA (Council on Student Affairs)

##### 5.3.2) New Project Registration Form

- As soon as your committee is ready to run an event, please fill out the new project registration form. You can find more info in my report.

##### 5.3.3) Ray Travel Award Funding Period 2 Results

- Congratulations to the 22 award winners! And a special thanks to all our incredible judges!
- If you would like to volunteer as a judge, please reach send me by email.

#### 5.4. Secretary's Report – Kaz Gary.102

##### 5.4.1) As Secretary:

- Please sign in on the sign-in sheet! If you have an alternate coming in your place, please make sure to have them sign in for you.
- Please say your name.# before you speak at general body meetings! Try to speak loudly and clearly into your microphone if you'll be attending in-person. Help me to help you!

##### 5.4.2) As CDG Chair:

- Cycle 2 ended on August 2nd and results went out today! Judging was delayed due to technical issues.
- 13/21 applicants were awarded CDG! ~62% acceptance rate, historically has been 58%
- Working with the business office to implement carry-forward this year

## 6. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

4:28 PM

#### 6.1. Arts and Culture – Holly Engel.210

##### 6.1.1) First meeting of the year



- Thursday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM – 11 AM, Hagerty Hall Room 206
- Ideas? Let us know! E-mail [engel.210@osu.edu](mailto:engel.210@osu.edu) if you have ideas for A&C this year

6.2. Government Affairs– Charlie Mace.103

6.2.1) **The Government Affairs Committee:**

- Keeps graduate students aware of important activity in the local/state/federal government
- Encourages and facilitates graduate student civic engagement
- Sponsors CGS resolutions when legislation or other government activity affects graduate students
- Our first meeting was this morning! If you'd like to get involved, please e-mail [mace.103@osu.edu](mailto:mace.103@osu.edu)

6.3. Graduate Caucus – Jon Fritz.288

6.3.1) **Roles of the Graduate Caucus Committee:**

- Present a grad student perspective in University Senate when reviewing resolutions and other senate business
- Facilitate two-way information flow from the CGS general body to University Senate and vice versa

6.3.2) **Graduate Caucus AY2526:**

- All senate committees with grad student reps are listed in the Grad Caucus chair report
- 3x open senator positions
- 1 from math, engineering, & physical sciences
- 2 at-large positions

6.3.3) **Next Senate meeting:** September 25th, 3:30 - in the Senate Chambers of the Ohio Union

6.4. Graduate Compensation and Benefits – Bryan Perez Soto (PerezSoto.2)

6.4.1) **Committee description:**

- The graduate compensation and benefits committee (GCBC) is a committee of the University Senate (not the CGS body) with the goal of enhancing and protecting the compensation of graduate students at The Ohio State University.
- Meetings will occur on the second week of each month starting September 2025 and lasting until May 2025.

6.4.2) **Duties and responsibilities of the committee are as follows:**

- Study the adequacy and other attributes of the university's policies and provisions including stipends, outside professional services, and supplemental compensation.
- Conduct research and provide advice on economic support of graduate associates, professional development, quality and design of benefit programs, and appointment terms.
- Make recommendations to the university senate, the graduate council, the graduate school, and the office of academic affairs as appropriate.

6.5. Graduate Student Affairs – Tinu Oduloye.1

6.5.1) **GSA had their first meeting on Friday, August 29**

- Gave an overview of GSAW and discussed plans for GSAW (events and swag)
- Next meeting will be mid-September



- Reach out if interested in attending future meetings or have any suggestions!
- 6.6. Health, Wellness, and Safety – Deb Pathak.89 & Luke Van Niel (Vanniel.5)
- 6.6.1) **Welcome to our HWS committee members, both new and old!**
- Not much to report, besides getting ready to organize the Accessibility Stakeholders' Symposium!
  - Sign up today!
- 6.7. Housing and Family Affairs – Lauren Levesque.3
- 6.7.1) **Had our first committee meeting on September 3rd. Discussed:**
- 1. Grad Student Housing Survey
    - Used to inform CGS advocacy around housing and cost of living issues
    - Feel free to contact me with suggestions
  - 2. OCCSE Off-Campus Housing Expo
    - October 14th, 11:00am-3:00pm in Performance Hall
    - CGS will be Tabling
  - 3. Housing Education Workshop:
    - Focused on how to deal with your landlord/property owner
    - October 21st, 3:30-5:00pm in Senate Chambers
    - Contact me if interested in participating in panel
- 6.8. International Student Affairs – Ashutosh Soni.117
- 6.8.1) **Updates:**
- Do not have much to report for this meeting. However, I am planning to have an introduction session of all the committee members to set expectations for this year.
  - Planning to discuss and setup a fixed time for our monthly meetings.
  - If any delegate is interested to join us, we would be more than happy to have them onboard.
- 6.9. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945 & Shiddharta Ramprakash.4
- 6.9.1) **Spread the word about WIC:**
- Provides free food to households with a pregnant woman, infant or child under 5 and with a household income of less than 185% of the poverty line
  - Graduate and international students are eligible!
  - See flyer for more details
- 6.10. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Casey Ortbahn.1 & Katelyn Amstutz.87
- 6.10.1) **We are planning to hold our first meeting September 12 at 12 pm**
- Contact us for the Zoom link if you would like to attend!
  - We will discuss our plans for the year, including a Time for Change event and the sustainability advocacy, education, and partnerships we plan to engage with
- 6.10.2) This month's sustainability tip: **Composting** ☺♥



- "Organic waste represents approximately one third of Ohio State's total waste stream. These organic materials, like food scraps, can be converted into a soil fertilizer through composting" - OSU FOD Website <https://fod.osu.edu/compost#FAQ>
- Learn more about off-campus composting here: <https://offcampus.osu.edu/resources/off-campus-composting-program/>
- You can sign up to receive a free compost bin!
  - There are several compost drop-off locations around campus. You can see a map of drop-off locations here:  
<https://osugis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2324e09b0a1044bf8ba4f85dc9c6bf7d>

6.11. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283 & Katie Conner.280

6.11.1) **Join the CGS WhatsApp Group Chat!**

- Find CGSers with the same interests as you

6.11.2) **First Meeting Monday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM (zoom)**

- Contact Aryn and Katie if you are interested in attending

6.11.3) **Succulent Serenity**

- Tues, September 16<sup>th</sup> 6 PM – 8 PM in the Creative Arts Room (Ohio Union)
- Space is limited – RSVP now

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**9. SPECIAL ORDER ITEM**

**4:58 PM**

**9.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns**

9.1.1) Parking at RPAC

- **Oros.146:** There's no parking available for the gym that doesn't include parking passes. Any after-hours place to park for the gym?
- **Zaitseva.2:** When I go, I usually park on the west side of RPAC and pay through an app per hour. You'll just need to read the signs carefully, since some of them are for faculty.
- **Durso.19:** If you go to the CampusParc website, you can find public paid parking as well as permit parking. This is something I can take to Student Life to ask about temporary parking for students going to RPAC.
- **PerezSoto.2:** If you have CW parking, you can park there at C lots after 4 PM.
- **Levesque.31:** If you have any parking pass, any surface lot parking is available to you during off-hours. (All holidays, weekends, after 4 PM)
- **Pizzulo.2:** The limitations on parking passes are greater if you have a C pass. If you try to go on the website and ask for a B pass, it will say you only qualify for a C pass. If you're a GA, you do qualify for a B pass, which will get you west campus parking passes and after-hours passes.

9.1.2) Parking at Gateway Apartments



- **Carrera.55:** For grad students who live in the Gateway Apartments, you're required to get a parking pass and can only park on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> level. If someone could advocate for 3<sup>rd</sup> level parking, that would be great.
- **Durso.19:** I've heard similar complaints, send me an e-mail and we can follow up on this.

#### 9.1.3) Payments for Parking

- **Hill.2540:** Bulk payments are required for parking passes now instead of monthly and it's hard to find that money at the beginning of the year. Can we fix this?
- **Durso.19:** If you go to the CampusParc office, sometimes they'll let you do that. I will go and advocate for all graduate students to do that.
- **Pizzulo.2:** I just did this and you are able to do that. If you pay for a parking pass after the start of the year, then you will need to pay for the month up front but other than that, you should be ok to do that.
- **Durso.19:** I know that's not always possible for graduate students, considering different funding styles and sources.
- **Levesque.31:** When I changed funding sources, life got hard trying to figure out money stuff. That might be the issue if it's getting complicated, but your funding source can cause that.

#### 9.1.4) Budgeting Resources for Graduate Students

- **Allen.2234:** Does anyone know where help for graduate students to budget on a graduate student stipend can be found? Resources are aimed towards undergraduates.
- **Durso.19:** We can contact someone from the Student Wellness Center and see what's available.
- **Allen.2234:** Especially on-demand and consistent help would be great!

#### 9.1.5) Potable Water for English Grad Students

- **Anderson.4133:** English department building has no potable water on the floors that grad students have offices. Is there someone we can ask so us grad students have water?
- **Durso.19:** I will be talking to Facilities and Ops, perhaps Casey and Katilyn wants to sit in on that.

#### 9.1.4) Mold and Mildew Building Issues

- **Smith.15196:** We've had a major mold and mildew issues in Hagerty Hall. FOD has been fighting us on it, people have doctor's notes to work from home because of air quality. I was wondering if anyone else has had issues with humidity and mildew in their building?
- **Durso.19:** It sounds like these issues are escalating, we will schedule meetings with the assistant director of planning.
- **Smith.15196:** Orten Hall is right next to us and even to this day, they're still removing asbestos.
- **Durso.19:** That is unacceptable, and we will make sure we talk with Chris about these issues.
- Motion by **Chisam.1** to end Delegate Issues and Concerns early
- Seconded by **Allen.2234**

## 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

10.1 Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, October 3 at 3:30pm (Senate Chambers & Zoom)

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

5:16 PM



## Officer Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Sabrina Durso, President  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: President's Report

Dear autumnal CGSers,

I hope you are all doing well now that we are well underway into the academic year. September has been busy for CGS, with event planning commencing and all of you getting to know one another on your committees. Please know CGS is here for you as you continue onward this semester while you're completing coursework, candidacy, or that dissertation! And also, do please remember to get lots of rest and take care of yourself—the fall is a great time to take a walk down the Olentangy River or visit the Franklin Park Conservatory (go to the DTix booth in the Ohio Union for discounted tickets or the first Sunday of the month to visit for free!)

### Over the Past Month:

- Around the Oval: Once a semester, the student government leaders meet with President Carter and his cabinet to discuss constituent issues. CGS typically sticks to our historical concerns regarding compensation, family housing, and childcare in our five minutes allotted for discussion. At this meeting, we learned that CGS successfully advocated for better childcare! After bringing childcare issues to President Carter in 2024, he convened a Childcare Taskforce that I sat on, and it resulted in many asks, one being to make the salary more competitive. With this raise in salary, one childcare building went from 8 out of 34 operating classrooms to 33 out of 34! SO MANY KIDS GET TO BE IN CHILDCARE! YAY!
- Met with the Provost: The student government leaders had a meeting with the Provost where CGS discussed transitioning from a 9-month to a 12-month funding model for GAs and concerns regarding SB1 (the reporting process, communication issues, and the potential of low-performing programs getting combined with other programs).
- Graduate School:
  - CGS discussed concerns about the Huron IRB Transition and poor building infrastructure, as well as updated the Graduate School on our meeting with President Carter last month.
  - The Graduate School discussed concerns regarding the loss of Grad Plus Loans and found that 613 students utilized this program last year, which equates to \$12.4 million in financial aid. I asked them investigate how many graduate students access the student emergency grants to see how accessible they are for graduate students in times of need. They also discussed the Emergency Bridge Funding, of which they received only 6 to 7 applications this cycle. They are also opening first-generation graduate student programming to help that student population obtain their degrees. Total enrollment is up .5% and international students are down in enrollment by 2.3%. Lastly, the Graduate School Handbook now includes language to ensure that international students who are post-candidacy can complete their program where needed.



- University Senate: At this month's senate, all constituency leaders updated Senate on their concerns. As CGS has had ample time to address our concerns with those who can assist with them this month, I decided to stick to the Senate's agenda topic of Senate Bill 1 concerns (of which were similar to those I brought to the Provost above). Additionally, Senate has decided to sunset their diversity committee and will form an ad hoc to address what this committee once did. At the next Senate meeting, we will host OIA and vote on whether we should have Election Day held asynchronous every two years.
- Public Safety: Is introducing drones to campus, so if you see drones flying around with red and blue lights, know they are OSU's. Additionally, we discussed chalking and it seems like Public Safety would be okay if we had chalking areas, as USG is advocating for.
- Getting C.G.S. Involved with Campus Service:
  - The Be Kind Food Packing Event was amazing! Eleven CGSers showed up to help OSU pack 304,776 boxes of food!
  - The Community Commitment day was also amazing! Rohit and I teamed up with two undergraduate students to help out residents in Creative Living—a fully accessible building for adult with physical disabilities.
- Undergraduate Student Government: They elected their leaders! YAY!

#### Working on:

- Seating Academic Affairs and Diversity & Inclusion: We have interested parties. Please let Anna and I know if you're interested in joining D&I as we have no one on that committee right now.
- 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Blue and I have reserved the Performance Hall for April 1, 2026 from 5:30 to 7PM. We are now looking to purchase promotional items and are working with the University Archives to find old CGS memorabilia.

#### Updates from Past Delegate Issues and Concerns:

- I am meeting with Ryan Lovell the week of the October CGS meeting to discuss temporary parking near the RPAC
- I discussed Parking Concerns with Transportation and Traffic Management alongside other student leaders at Dr. Shivers' SVP Student Panel. Discussed having a monthly payment system for parking and other parking concerns. I will follow up by the November meeting.
- I asked the President's Cabinet about building maintenance for the Biological Sciences Building & Denney Hall, and they directed me to Dean Horn, as colleges foot that bill. I will be setting up a meeting with him before the November meeting.
- I will follow up with Grad Student Affairs to see if we can host a budgeting resource event for graduate students.

Have a Spooky Halloween Season,  
Sabrina Durso.19



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Anna Zaitseva, Vice President  
DATE: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 🍂🍁  
RE: Vice President's Report

Greetings all,

Happy spooky month!

### **Internal & Delegate Updates**

We closed the fall delegate elections and seated 14 new delegates. CGS now has 82 delegates ! The process of recruiting additional delegates from departments that still have seats is ongoing such as public affairs, social work, and business.

### **Hayes Forum**

I have confirmed all the committee members and reached out to them to set up a meeting. Call for Papers opens on October 1<sup>st</sup> and closes November 26<sup>th</sup> (and will be shared both in our newsletter and other channels), and I am now in the full swing of recruiting all the judges we possibly can.

I also sent out the "Save the date" email to the admin and the deans of all the colleges. I emphasized that it is Hayes's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so hopefully it would be more enticing for them to attend. Additionally, the Committee will select the swag for the attendees for this year, and I'm hoping to throw in something special since it is an anniversary year.

Also, happy "The Life of A Show Girl" album release month to those Swifties who celebrate!!

All my best,

Anna Zaitseva.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Adam Tjoelker, Treasurer  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: Treasurer's Report

Hello everyone,

I hope you all have been having a great start to your fall semesters! I have one major update for you this month about the changes to the budget, some general reminders about the Ray Travel Award and for committee chairs and event planners, I have created some new resources to assist with proper fiscal procedure for spending CGS money.

### **Budget Amendment**

In your delegate packet, you should see the proposed FY 2025-2026 CGS budget amendment. There are a few changes to note:

1. Carry forwards for the Coca Cola Endowment and Student Activity Fee accounts have been modified to reflect actual values at the start of this fiscal year. The original values in the budget were estimates based on spending projections assessed in May.
2. Income from the Graduate School and ERIK for Hayes have each been increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000 this fiscal year due to the delay in payments from last year, effectively doubling these amounts, just for this year. Assuming future payments are received on time, this is a one-time change to this income stream.
3. \$5,000 was added to the President's Projects budget as a new line item entitled "CGS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event" to facilitate the hosting of the upcoming anniversary event in the spring.
4. Under the Administrative budget, \$2,000 was added to two new line items for both the Treasurer Stipend and Secretary Stipend, for a total of \$4,000. Upon approval from CGS, this proposed change will still need to be approved by Student Life.

If you have any questions about the budget, please feel free to contact me by email. And as always, if you are unsure how much money your committees have left, I am more than happy to assist with that.

### **Ray Travel Award**

Funding period 3 for the Ray Travel Award opened on September 15<sup>th</sup> and will remain open until November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please remind all of your interested constituents to apply for the funding well in advance of the deadline to ensure recommendation letters can be received in time for review! We had a very competitive pool of applicants over the summer, and I anticipate the same this fall. Thank you to the people who have reached out and asked to become a judge. We are always seeking more judges, and this is an excellent and highly rewarding service opportunity! I am planning to run a training session for new judges in late October/Early November, so now is a good time to join if you would like to participate!

### **Resources on Spending CGS Money**

For committee chairs and those involved directly with spending money, I have created resources to assist with the current process for spending money and the current balance for each committee/CGS line item:



- A help document is now available that outlines the steps to follow for seeking approval and spending CGS money. It is available for committee chairs and members of the CGS Executive Committee on the Teams drive.
- A live shared Excel spreadsheet is also available in the CGS Exec Teams drive with updated information about current spending across the CGS budget.

As always, if you have any questions about CGS finances or the Ray Travel Award, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Yours in service,  
Adam Tjoelker.4



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Kaz Gary, Secretary  
DATE: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
RE: Secretary's Report

Hi all,

As Secretary: please take a look at this month's meeting notes, particularly the Delegate Issues and Concerns section! The zoom recording last month did not save, so I may have missed some notes during this section. If you see a mistake or something missing, **please bring this up at the beginning during the approval of the minutes!**

As CDG Chair: **Cycle 2 is open until November 1<sup>st</sup>!** Please remind your constituents of this opportunity and if you'd like to be a CDG judge, please e-mail me 😊

Happy fall y'all,

Kaz Gary.102



## Committee Chair Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Sabrina Durso, CGS Academic Affairs, Interim Chair  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: Academic Affairs Chair Report

Dear brilliant CGSers,

Until we have an official Academic Affairs chair, I (CGS President, Sabrina Durso) will be chairing this committee. This month, we introduced ourselves and discussed the past work of the committee. Last year, Academic Affairs wrote and implemented the [Resolution Regarding OTDI Policy on Licensing, Technology Accessibility, & Software](#), while Former Treasurer Jon Fritz worked on the Operation PhD Regalia Library. Currently the Regalia Library is waiting on Legal Affairs for a contract, reimbursement from the Office of Academic Affairs, and a quote from Barnes and Noble in order to begin.

We are planning to meet again next month to discuss the committee's ideas for the year and how we might implement them. If you're interested in joining Academic Affairs, please send me an email at [durso.19@osu.edu](mailto:durso.19@osu.edu) -- we'd love to have you!

Keep doing wonderful academic work,

Sabrina Durso.19



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Holly Engel, Arts and Culture Chair  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: Arts and Culture Chair's Report

Welcome,

Arts and Culture had a successful first meeting, with many enthusiastic ideas in the works, including:

1. Circulating an A&C survey among graduate students to discover where the A&C Committee's efforts are most needed. (At our next meeting, we will review the questions, and we hope to have the survey out by the end of October.)
2. Recirculating the A&C Pathfinder document. (We will review the document from last year, add updates, and hope to circulate the updated version by the end of October.)
3. Revamping the A&C website and/or creating an A&C Instagram
4. Organizing open mic night(s) where OSU students can showcase their talents in music, poetry, dance, and other arts.
5. Collaborating with Membership Wellness to organize a craft/game night (discussions in progress).

Of course, we are always open to new thoughts and ideas, so do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything you would like to see A&C do or if you would be interested in helping any of these ideas come to fruition. Our hybrid meetings will be held this semester at 10am on the second Thursday of every month, placing our next meeting will on Thursday, Oct. 9 in Hagerty Hall 206 or [on Zoom at this link](#).

Goodbye,

Holly Engel.210



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: VACANT, Diversity & Inclusion Chair  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: Diversity & Inclusion Chair's Report

Dear inclusive and diversified CGSers,

This committee will be chaired by the October General Body Meeting, pending executive committee approval. If you'd like to be part of the committee working to make CGS and the graduate student experience a more diverse and inclusive environment, we would love to have you—please just email Sabrina [Durso.19@osu.edu](mailto:Durso.19@osu.edu) in order to join!

Keep making OSU feel like home for everyone,

Sabrina Durso.19



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Charlie Mace, Government Affairs Chair  
DATE: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
RE: Government Affairs Chair's Report

Hi everyone,

The voter registration deadline for the 2025 general election is October 6th! I will have OSU votes pamphlets with information on registering, and here are a couple links:

- OSU Votes Website: <https://lead.osu.edu/community-engagement/osu-votes/voter-resources>
- Voter Registration Tabling Schedule: <https://lead.osu.edu/community-engagement/osu-votes/events-and-outreach>

The government affairs committee met 9/5 to plan activities for the semester. Our next meeting is 9AM October 10<sup>th</sup>, where we will choose topics for the newsletter and begin writing.

Thank you,

Charlie Mace.103



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
 FROM: Jon Fritz, CGS Graduate Caucus, Chair & Senator  
 DATE: October 3, 2025  
 RE: Graduate Caucus Chair Report

Hi all,

Below please find the University Senate committee names, grad representatives, and a summary of each committee's activities since the last CGS meeting on 9-5-2025. The intention is to proceed with this format in future reports; feedback on the structure of this information is appreciated!

<b>Senate Committee Name</b>	<b>Grad Representative.#</b>	<b>Summary of committee activities:</b>
Athletic Council	Anna Zaitseva.1	No updates at this time.
Affirmation of Accreditation Committee	Andrew Miles.375	With the new criteria established by the Higher Learning Commission, we are learning to navigate the nuances by observing the reaffirmation efforts at other universities. Andrew will focus on the criteria related to mission, values, and graduate education. The President's speech will provide the framework for the document, and it has been decided that the university's mission and values will remain unchanged. We are looking at how other universities respond to DEI activities and the 90-hour degree program to see how OSU should navigate these two issues in respect to our future.  See: <a href="#">HLC Reduced-Credit Guidelines 9-3-24.pdf</a>
Committee on Academic Technology (CAT)	Sabrina Durso.19 (temporary)	CAT discussed the Learning Management System Scanning Tool that should be implemented soon, the new AI Fluency initiative, and the aftermath of the Digital Flagship initiative that provided iPads to Buckeyes once upon a time.
Council on Academic Affairs (CAA)	Andrew Miles.375 & Andy Vance.128	CAA has been informed about numerous efforts across the university to enhance workforce development through coordinated, cross-institutional initiatives. We also anticipate reorganization proposals in the coming months for programs that do not meet the SB1 threshold of more than five graduates (only for undergrad majors). The SSLE has been approved by CAA and will now move to the Senate. In addition, CAA has been briefed on planned changes to COAM aimed at



		improving its educational value and shifting the focus away from a punitive environment.
Council on Academic Freedom & Responsibility (CAFR)	Vacant	No updates at this time
Council on Enrollment and Student Progress (CESP)	Braydon Lazzara.14 & Peter Carrera.55	CESPI held its first meeting on 9/2. During the meeting we reviewed the committee's work last year, held introductions, etc. CESPI is moving forward on making permanent the previously introduced Asynchronous Learning and Civic Engagement Day for November General Elections (Federal elections every two years).
Council on Student Affairs (CSA)	Kirsten Myers.2377 (chair), Oluwadamilola Salau.2, Gabe Myers.2039	CSA had its first meeting on 9/8. During the meeting we reviewed the council's work from last year, did introductions, and talked about the plan for this year. CSA met again on 9/22 and approved the SAF Carryforward Redistribution. The council will be starting soon on a targeted Code of Student Conduct review. Peter Carrera and Gabe Myers will be chairing the review committee. Gabe was also elected as chair of the council's Allocations Committee.
Council on the Physical Environment (COPE)	Casey Ortbahn.1	The committee met on 9/19. We talked about dining, housing, and maintenance issues. For dining, we discussed the increase in prices and how the \$8 limit per swipe is challenging for students trying to get food at "swipe and go" food locations outside of the traditional dining halls. For housing, most of the discussion was around undergrad dorms that don't have AC, and we also discussed how housing is expensive for undergrad students and graduate and professional students. Housing prices are also an issue for IPC and new faculty. The committee is interested to know how housing concerns align with Pres. Carter's Education for Citizenship 2035. For maintenance issues, we talked about water, mold and asbestos issues at the Biological Sciences building, as well as water issues at Denney Hall. The committee is concerned about these issues and discussed recommending a Water Task Force or Senate Health and Wellness Committee. The chair of COPE is going to bring issues of dining, housing, and water concerns to the Senate Cabinet to see if it is possible to collaborate with other committees to press these issues.



Library Committee	Brian Rocha.51	The committee met on 9/11. At this first meeting we went over the committee charge, introductions, and basic overview of the University Libraries system at OSU. We were given updates on the recent transition of the Library Services Platforms and the website redesign. During the meeting, I raised concerns students are having post transition/redesign with managing loans from several different sources (OSU circulation, OhioLink/ILLIAD) ... In the old system they all used to be located or linked on the same screen and now you need to find each separate database to manage loans. This issue is being corrected, and new icons will be added to the main library user login page so you can access all your library loans, regardless of format, from that page. If anyone has any other concerns or issues with the library website or systems since the change this summer, let me know and I will address it at our next meeting on 10/9.
Diversity Committee	Cyenna Ulrich-Cech.1	No updates at this time.
Evaluation of Central Administrators (EOCA)	Vacant	No updates at this time.
Fiscal Committee	Anna Zaitseva.1 (temporary)	No updates at this time.
Government Affairs	Charlie Mace.103	First meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 1 <sup>st</sup> .
Graduate Compensation & Benefits (GCBC)	Bryan Perez Soto.2 (chair), Megan Hill.2534, Sara Sequeira.23, Kirsten Myers.2377, Kaveri Sarkar.115, Zachary Miller.8871	GCBC had its first meeting on Monday, September 8 <sup>th</sup> . The committee went through introductions and getting to know one another. The committee also discussed goals for the committee, bylaws, and the open vice chair position.
Intellectual & Property, Patents, and Copyright (IPPC) Committee	Jon Fritz.288	IPPC has met twice since the start of the academic year. Currently, we are discussing the role of IPPC in reviewing faculty cases of misconduct regarding intellectual property. Additionally, we discussed for how long and which entity (faculty or the university) 'owns' syllabi and course material under SB.1.
Research Committee (URC)	Courtney Jewell.196 & Holly Engel.210	URC had its first meeting on Friday, September 5, and the committee discussed SB1 research impacts, new federal sponsor training requirements, and plans to put together a document on research guidelines involving AI (work being continued from last year).
Rules Committee	Jorge Clavo Abbass.1	No updates at this time.



Senate Steering Committee	Sabrina Durso.19	At Steering, we discussed how we might facilitate the agenda for Senate regarding SB1 and Zoom capabilities. We also began planning next month's agenda, where OIA will be discussing international student concerns and where we will vote on a few things, including synchronous Voting Day.
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**University Senate mtg:** Our first senate meeting of AY2526 was on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. Highlights include a review of President Carter's 'State of the University' address, introductions by the three student body Presidents (including the USG President-elect), and a discussion on SB.1. compliance updates and resources from over the summer. There were no items to vote on. The next mtg will take place on October 30, 2025, 3:30-5pm in-person at Sullivant Hall 0220 and via Zoom.

**Open senator positions:** We are still looking for more senators to join our ranks! If you have any interest or questions in the position, please email Durso.19 & Zaitseva.1 & CC Fritz.288. Additionally, you can review the senator application & information on our website: <https://cgs.osu.edu/get-involved/run-for-senator>.

All the best,

Jon Fritz.288



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Bryan Pérez Soto, Graduate Compensation and Benefits (University Senate  
Committee) Report  
DATE: September 26th, 2025  
RE: Graduate Compensation and Benefits Chair's Report

Bonjour, CGS,

Hope you are all doing well! The Graduate Compensation and Benefits committee met on September 8<sup>th</sup>. We are currently recruiting a vice chair within the graduate students who serve in the committee and beginning to set up the goals and recommendations to enhance GA compensation and benefits. After conversations with the Dean of the Graduate School, some targeted points we would love to hit this year include stipend raises, Buckeye Village, and monthly appointments.

Yours truly,  
Bryan PerezSoto.2



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Tinu Oduloye, Graduate Student Affairs Chair  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: Graduate Student Affairs Chair's Report

Hi everyone,

The Graduate Student Affairs Committee met twice in September to discuss next steps for planning Graduate Student Appreciation Week. One of our key goals was to gather feedback on swag preferences from graduate students. To support this, we created a swag preference survey where students can select their preferred swag items and rank them in order of preference. The survey includes variety of useful and hopefully long-lasting items across categories such as wearables, drinkable, etc. This survey will be displayed at the October CGS body meeting.

Our next meeting will be held in mid-October. If you're interested in joining or have ideas, please feel free to reach out.

Warm regards,

Tinu Oduloye.1



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Deb Pathak and Luke Van Niel, Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair  
DATE: September 26, 2025  
RE: Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair's Report

Greetings,

Health, Wellness, and Safety met September 18<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans for the Accessibility Stakeholders' Symposium occurring next Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, specifically figuring out flyer distribution. Our efforts seemed to have helped, as registrations have increased by 50% since then. If you would like to attend, follow the link to the [registration form](#) or scan the QR code. Feel free to advertise the event to those interested in access within your units, and if you're interested in volunteering, reach out to Luke (vanniel.5) or Deb (pathak.89)!

Take care,

Deb Pathak.89 & Luke Vanniel.5



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Lauren Levesque, Housing and Family Affairs Chair  
DATE: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
RE: Housing and Family Affairs Chair's Report

Hello Everybody,

Hafa is currently in the process of organizing the Off-Campus Housing Education Workshop, co-sponsored by OCCSE. It will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:00pm in the senate chambers. The event will be a hybrid event. I was thinking of recording it but I'm not sure how we could make the recording available. The workshop will consist of a presentation from OCCSE, followed by a student panel consisting of 4-5 grad students. We are currently trying to recruit for the panel, with a particular interest in international students, those who have lived both off and on campus, and those who have rented a house in Columbus. Additionally, I will be meeting with somebody from Student Legal Services to discuss them potentially presenting.

Currently, in the process of collecting committee feedback on the housing survey. One item that came up during the initial round of feedback, was creating a definition of "affordable, on-campus family housing". One option is to use the standard "no more than 30% of income" to define affordable (Herbert, Christopher E. et al. "Measuring Housing Affordability : Assessing the 30-Percent of Income Standard." 2018.) Another option is to use other universities' on-campus family housing as an example. Based on the 2024-2025 GCBC Report, University of Wisconsin-Madison is comparable to OSU both in terms of graduate stipend and cost of living. For their family housing, 1 bedrooms are \$1100-1350 per month, 2 bedrooms are \$1200-\$1600 per month, and 3 bedrooms are 1400-1700 per month.  
(<https://www.housing.wisc.edu/apartments/leasing/rates/>)

Best,

Lauren Levesque.31



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Ashutosh Soni, International Student Affairs Chair  
DATE: Sept 28th, 2025  
RE: International Student Affairs Chair's Report

Hey everyone,

Our committee has not met yet and I am trying to finalize a date for the first introductory meeting. However, I have an event idea that I wanted to share. You might be familiar with the 'Flicks for Free' weekly event by OUAB, and I was thinking to collaborate with them to have a movie screening of an international movie (not decided which yet). This would happen next semester as this semester's movies have already been finalized.

Best,  
Soni.117



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Aryn Robinson and Katie Conner, Membership Wellness Chair  
DATE: October 3, 2025  
RE: Membership Wellness Chair's Report

Hi everyone,

**Environmental Wellness Bingo:** Check out this month's wellness bingo attached to the Delegate Packet email!

**Succulent Serenity:** MW held the Succulent Serenity event in September. Attendees dazzled us with their creativity! See the slides for some cute potted succulents.

**Adopt a Cat:** Check out Saup Services, run by an OSU Alum! Find more details at [go.osu.edu/saupservices](https://go.osu.edu/saupservices)

**Next Meeting:** TBD. Please contact Aryn and Katie if you would like to attend

**CGS Group Chat:** Please join the CGS group chat on WhatsApp to connect with other CGSers. QR code is in the meeting slides.

#### **Membership Shoutouts**

Link for the Membership Shoutouts Form <https://forms.gle/Tpxf47dx9ZPm9Q7f6>  
Please use Membership Shoutouts to share good news in your life or to shine some well-deserved light on a fellow CGSer.

Thank you,

Aryn Robinson.2283 & Katie Conner.280



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Bill Wang and Shiddharta Ramprakash, Research and Data Operations Chair  
DATE: Sept 29, 2025  
RE: Research and Data Operations Chair's Report

Hi all,

We will have our first committee meeting on this coming Friday.

Best,

Bill Wang.13945 & Shiddharta Ramprakash.4



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TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Katelyn Amstutz and Casey Ortbahn, Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility  
Committee (SERC) Chair  
DATE: October 3 September 26, 2025  
RE: SERC Chair's Report

Hi everyone,

We met on September 12<sup>th</sup> and began working on our plans for the year. We will be planning a Time for Change event for graduate students, considering improvements for campus sustainability and environmental care to take to relevant departments at the university, and creating resources to share sustainability information relevant to graduate students. Additionally, we have been looking into partnerships for activities in the Spring.

Our next meeting will be on October 10 at noon at this [zoom link!](#)

Best,

Kaitlyn Amstutz.87 & Casey Ortbahn.1