



COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Delegate Packet

June 28th, 2024

Location: Zoom

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Agenda

General Delegate Meeting | 28 JUNE 2024 | Zoom

1. **CALL TO ORDER** 3:30 PM
 - 1.1. “To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.”
2. **ROLL CALL** [5 min]
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** [5 min]
4. **OFFICER REPORTS**
 - 4.1. President’s Report – Sabrina Durso.19 [10 min]
 - 4.2. Vice President’s Report – Katie Conner.280
 - 4.3. Treasurer’s Report – Jon Fritz.288 [5 min]
 - 4.4. Secretary’s Report – Kaz Gary.102
5. **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**
 - 5.1. Academic Affairs – **VACANT**
 - 5.2. Arts and Culture – Holly Engel.210 & Nicholas Booker.200
 - 5.3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – **VACANT**
 - 5.4. Government Affairs– Madeline Carrola.1
 - 5.5. Graduate Caucus – Peter Carrera.55
 - 5.6. Graduate Student Affairs – **VACANT**
 - 5.7. Health, Wellness, and Safety – Deb Pathak.89 & Luke VanNiel.5
 - 5.8. Housing and Family Affairs – Syed Murtaza Arshad.32 [5 min]
 - 5.9. International Student Affairs – Kaustubh Kumar.889
 - 5.10. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283 [5 min]
 - 5.11. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945
 - 5.12. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Brittany Multer.3
6. **OLD BUSINESS**
7. **NEW BUSINESS** [10 min]
8. **SPECIAL ORDER ITEM**
 - 8.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns [30 min]
9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [5 min]
 - 9.1 Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, SEPTEMBER 06 at 3:30pm (Ohio Union, Senate Chamber and Zoom)
 - 9.2 General Delegate Meeting Calendar for Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
10. **ADJOURNMENT** 4:50 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 | 31 MAY 2024 | Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

3:32 PM

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

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

[3 min]

- 3.1 Minutes from May 3rd, 2024, motion approved, seconded and passed by majority

4. OFFICER REPORTS

3:35 PM

4.1. President's Report – Sabrina Durso.19

4.1.1 Welcome to all returning and recently-seated chairs. We are still in search of chairs for Academic Affairs, Diversity & Inclusion, and Grad Student Affairs. Please email Durso.19 if you or anyone you know might be interested.

4.1.2 Met with ADA Office to discuss CGS Accommodations Resolution, see slides for W2M if interested in being a part of the drafting process for that. Drafting time June 11-13. ADA office will be looking at this to workshop it as well.

4.1.3 April Protests updates:

4.1.3 a) There were issues getting the statement out via maestro (delayed by 2 full weeks from approval vote date). Initial weekend delay was due to a legitimate family emergency by a staff member. Then additional delay was due to what student life considered "inaccuracies" within the CGS statement. They (Student Life) then published the CGS statement last week immediately followed by their "corrections". Sabrina & Katie knew of the "corrections" and approved them in order to ensure the sending of the CGS statement.

4.1.3 b) CGS statement can also be found on CGS website (cgs.osu.edu) and CGS's twitter (@cgsosu) and instagram (@cgsosu)

4.1.3 c) Regarding the asks/requests included in the statement, President's (Carter's) office reached out to Sabrina a week after statement was adopted and shared via direct email to administrators with a response stating, "arrests are not an action that President Carter or any member of the University Administration take lightly. The University has always and always will take the action that is in best interest of our community"

4.1.3 d) Sabrina and Katie met alongside USG and IPC leaders with Doc Shivers and OSUPD Chief Spears-Mcnatt. Main points of meeting were as follows; purpose was to discuss why charges would *not* be dropped against protestors, students were told to leave for 5+ hours or they would be trespassing, the issue was solely the encampment (not content of protest), the charges are in the state prosecutor's hands now and OSU admin will not be intervening in any capacity. Takeaway, CGS is still alarmed and continues to hold that it is unacceptable. And released their own resolution on the arrests, specifically calling into question the space use regulations.

4.1.3 e) Faculty Council (basically CGS/USG/IPC but for Faculty members) voted and released their own resolution on the arrests, specifically calling into question the space use regulations. And again ask for charges to be dropped. FC is angry with how the Maestro situation was handled by Student Life. They have elected not to pursue an emergency University Senate meeting at this time for a number of reasons. They plan to bring their resolution first thing in the fall.

4.1.3 f) Sabrina (and Katie to an extent) have been in constant communication with admin over this via text, email, and in zoom meetings. Sabrina plans to continue to keep pressure up as we move forward.

4.1.4 Moving forward in terms of communicating with admin and student leaders, the president's (Carter's) office has decided that monthly meetings will be held with student gov heads, and facilitated by Doc Shivers (head of student life). We are supposed to meet with President Carter in June. We are displeased that it's only student government heads being given this access, and that it will likely be



short (45-60 minutes) meetings to be shared across three differing constituencies (especially given prior history of individual gov meetings with Kristina Johnson and other presidents prior to Johnson). Sabrina will continue to fight for better access and communication channels.

4.1.5 We are working closely with other orgs (USG, IPC, FC) to push for cofacilitations of discussions, and also for the shared asks across the board. We are all aligned in our displeasure with OSU's choices and stances currently.

4.2. Vice President's Report – Katie Conner.280

4.2.1 CDG judging is done for Fiscal Period 1, Fiscal Year 25. We awarded 13 out of 26 eligible apps (50% award rate). Thanks to all our judges. Will likely reach back out later in the summer for help with FP2 judging given the weird timing in relation to delegate transitions and committee onboardings.

4.2.2 Elections - We're dealing with some voting portal/application issues, so runoffs were a bit delayed. We will run them ASAP.

4.2.3 Later this summer I'll share a list of vacancies and ask for help sharing far and wide to get them filled. I'll especially look to folks in departments with unfilled seats and 2+ delegate seats total to help me wrangle some people.

4.2.4 Check out my report for anything else detailed you want to know about what work I've been up to, these are the pressing matters

4.2.5 If you're a delegate for 24-25 keep an eye out for the committee interest survey in the next 1-2 weeks

4.3. Treasurer's Report – Jon Fritz.288

4.3.1 Jon not present, Sabrina shares that the Ray Travel Committee (RTC) funded 7 of 50 applications for this cycle. Ray's getting more and more competitive, which is both great, but also making the judging more competitive.

4.3.2 Planning on having a Ray Travel Award (RTA) & CDG application workshop this fall, keep an eye out!

4.3.3 Budget and associated addendums finished up, including a program for delegate parking reimbursement.

4.3.4 Major changes coming to the RTA process. Streamlining application.

4.3.5 Working with Erica (CGS advisor) to rethink how CGS chairs request funds, and determining feasibility of stipend for future Treasurers and Secretaries (25 - 26 Tres & Sec and beyond). This is in line with previous CGS advocacy on the matter.

5. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

3:44 PM

5.1. Housing and Family Affairs – Murtazaa Arshad.32

5.1.1. OCCSE position we've previously discussed has officially been posted and they've already received potential applicants

5.1.1 a) Apps opened May 14th, and closed on May 24th and they're working on arranging interviews ASAP

5.1.1 b) Sabrina and I will be a part of the interview process and we'll bring in all the context and issues we've discussed here, in exec meetings, and elsewhere.

5.1.1 c) They considered our input and included our asks/ideas in the position description that you can see in the link for the position and the application on the committee report included in the packet. There's a ton of potential with this position and we're excited to move forward.

5.1.2. Graduate/Family housing is still in the forefront of our work as well.

5.2. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283



5.2.1. Excited to be the chair for this committee this year, especially since it's been dormant for 23-24.

5.2.2. We're focused on making CGS a happy, fun, supportive environment. We'll be focusing on connecting people and getting everyone to know each other more.

5.2.3. We'll be bringing back membership shoutouts. This is where you can say something good about something that's happened in your own life or in another CGSer's life and send it through the form that'll be available and we'll share that shoutout at the next meeting.

5.2.1.a) Some examples of shoutouts: Birthdays, life steps (marriage, children, anniversaries, etc.), program steps (candidacy, defense, etc.), conference presentations, awards, grants, or anything else positive!

5.2.4. We will share a survey soon to gauge interest in different kinds of events so that we can get as much interest and attendance as possible.

5.2.5. If interested in joining, reach out to Robinson.2283

6. OLD BUSINESS

3:50 PM

6.1. **Budget Act** [See final approved text and roll call voting record at the end of the minutes]

6.1.1. Katie (speaking on behalf of Jon who couldn't join today) cedes 2 minutes of description time to discuss budget itself due to previous discussion and inclusion in the delegate packet

6.1.2. 15 minutes for Question & Answer period with the Author-Proxy

6.1.2 a) **Elton.21:** With the voting that we're going to do today, can this budget be amended any way?

Conner.280: Yes amendments are possible and CGS has done them in the past to better reflect updates or new information on encumbrances, income, or to adjust distributions as appropriate to reflect development or changes in events, committee and officer plans, etc.

6.1.2 b) **Elton.21:** Follow-up, do we know how much money we're getting or is this our proposal to our funders for what we would like to get?

Conner.280: Great Q. This is what we think we'll be getting based on historical records, funding commitments, etc. Some things are set income (e.g., Hayes Forum income from Grad School and ERIK), some numbers might be tweaked based on things like carryforward percentage of final spending from 23-24, Coke endowment, etc. Business office has been understaffed and Jon's been chasing them down, so this is his best work based on all the available content and historical data that we have.

6.1.2 c) **Booker.200:** What are the reserve funds for? (Referencing "Reserve Funds" under Administrative heading of the proposed budget)

Conner.280: I believe that is money that we can bookmark for CGS infrastructure. So this is money that we don't necessarily have a use for yet, but it's not under Sabrina's explicit discretionary or under committee use. So this is money that we're additionally bookmarking to say, hey, this might get used for delegate orientation. This might get used for delegate parking reimbursement. This might get used for organizational development. So we're basically saying this 3500 is going to be bookmarked for CGS kind of like use in some slushy administrative capacity if one of the above lines runs over or something else arises.

6.1.2 d) **Booker.200:** Follow-up, am I right in seeing there is no more delegate engagement fund? It's not represented within the proposed budget that I am seeing.

Conner.280: At this exact moment, there is not currently an explicit delegate engagement fund. We are currently working with the business office and internally to figure out what that program in the future would look like because they have changed a lot of the ways that we can pay and reimburse people, aka we really can't reimburse individuals anymore. So we're trying to figure out how funds best get used for example, like when people have asked for like event funding. So is it working with delegates for events or other things like that? So it's not explicitly there right now, but it is something that John's working on over time to hammer out. It's just not represented in the budget because there's not a clear path forward for how that money would get spent.



6.1.2 e) Booker.200: Follow-up, if I wanted to be included in those conversations, would I contact Jon?

Conner.280: Yes, yes you would!

6.1.2 f) Unknown CGSer: So do we know how much money each committee spent the last year to justify what they're asking for next year?

Conner.280: Yes, Jon has all of that exact information and uses that information in order to figure out the proposed budgets for committees. So if committees have increased, it means that they've spent their money and they have a plan to spend more. If it's decreased, it might mean they spent less, and if it stays the same, it probably meant they spent the same amount but that's something that John takes into account along with knowing what money we have to allocate in balance with all CGS's other projects and plans.

6.1.2 g) Sarkar.115: I have a question about the grad student affairs committee budget. As far as I remember it was five thousand last year [23-24]. I wonder why they've got a fifteen hundred decrease from the budget this year [24-25].

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Conner.280: Yes, so this is actually something we talked about at exec. From what Jon has seen in the records, grad student affairs for their actual committee budget, (So keep in mind that grad student appreciation week and grad affairs budget are two separate pots of money), they have underspent their budget the last year or two and so the money has been decreased. Again, there are pots of money, so President's discretionary, VP discretionary, committee discretionary, so there are ways that if the committee has a plan and needs more money, we can give them more money, but since they've underspent the last two years, that money has been allocated elsewhere so that way we can try to spend as much as possible.

6.1.2 h) Sarkar.115: From what Om told me, last year they did spend the 5000 and I was just wondering because GSAC, I mean this year they probably didn't get to spend it because I mean, Om has been working hard, but he was also graduating this fall. So I don't know if one year, this was the most representative year.

Conner.280: I know that Jon and Om have been in a lot of communication about the committee budget and about concerns back and forth, but that Jon also fairly is trying to balance between a number of other competing committees. Not to make it sound like they're all COMPETING-competing, but there are a number of other committees as well who also need funding, and so we're trying to do the best we can to balance what money we have with what's



being spent or not being spent. But again, I know that it's something that Om and Jon have actively and extensively talked about as of this moment.

6.1.2 i) Elton.21: I'm not sure if this is the right time to bring this up, but it's related to the budget, more specifically the Ray Travel Award and the Career Development Grant Awards. Is there any room or potential to amend one of those awards to include a travel for research for say if students needed to go to a like the Library of Congress or something like that could we support graduate students in like that initiative? You know, it doesn't fund it like their whole trip or anything, but if they needed to go do an in-person interview or something like that, could that be a possibility?

Conner.280: That is a good question. I do not know off the top of my head. I will refer that to Jon because I am not sure. So Ray Travel Award is endowed by the Office of Academic Affairs. We just actually like judge it for them (they give us funds, we administer the grant itself). So I don't know if that one's rules are Office of Academic Affairs or if that's a business office rule for what we are constrained on, on that, or if that's our (CGS) rule. And then for CDG that just comes out of our Coke Endowment Fund. So I know that it's not a Coke Endowment rule as far as I know. So I don't know if that's a CGS rule or business office rules. So actually, Jon and I will can go ask the business office and funders and kind of see what's up. Likely CDG would be the one to cover it if possible, but we'll figure it out and we can answer that next month, hopefully.

6.1.2 j) Motion for ending Q&A early by Elton.21

6.1.2 k) Motion seconded by Mace.103

6.1.2 l) Motion approved via majority show of hands

6.1.3. 10 minutes for Discussion period among the voting members of CGS

6.1.3 a) Motion for ending Discussion early by Mace.103

6.1.3 b) Motion seconded by Pathak.89

6.1.3 c) Motion approved via majority show of hands

6.1.4. Voting on the Proposed Budget Act

6.1.4 a) Budget passes with a vote of 21 Yay - 3 Nay - 1 Abstain [See appended budget act and voting record at the end of the notes for detail]

7. NEW BUSINESS

4:02 PM

7.1. Special Election for Secretary

7.1.1. Katie reminds everyone of procedures as outlined in the bylaws of CGS

7.1.2. Secretary Candidate Kaz Gary.102 introduces themselves and gives brief overview of why he's running for office

7.1.2 a) 2nd going into 3rd year Astronomy PhD student

7.1.2 b) Want to help in the work of advocating for students at OSU, especially after the recent protests and OSU's response to them

7.1.2 c) This office would help me achieve this by way of record keeping CGS's meetings and work, and ensuring important announcements are transparently and well communicated through the student body

7.1.2 d) I also want to help grad students offset the financial costs of grad school and professionalization, and the CDG chairship position that comes with the office would help me do that. So as someone who comes from a low income background, I do recognize the importance of rising costs in education and career development, and especially in contrast to our graduate students' stipends, and how these costs can affect who can afford higher education opportunities and who can't.

7.1.2 e) And So I believe my experience in these projects as well as the ones that I listed on my CV would make me a good fit for the role of secretary and CGS especially would help me reach a broader audience at Ohio State and within Ohio State, the Graduate Student Committee.

7.1.3. Candidate Q&A Period

7.1.3 a) Motion for ending Q&A early by Booker.200

7.1.3 b) Motion seconded by Arshad.32

7.1.3 c) Motion approved via majority show of hands



7.1.4. Voting on the Secretary Candidate

7.1.4 a) Kaz Gary is elected as CGS Secretary for 24 - 25 with a vote of 24 Yay - 0 Nay - 1 Abstain

8. SPECIAL ORDER ITEM

4:08 PM

8.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns

8.1.1. Booker.200: I'm interested in the executive sessions and your interaction with admin regarding the statement on protests. I'm just interested in some details on that. I'm just curious about what was the conversation like meeting with admin and what was kind of their initial response. I'm interested in responses to both the statement and the arrests. What have the meetings and responses been like?

Durso.19: RE the responses to the statement and arrests from admin: When we were trying to send out the statement, CGS's advisor is simply supposed to push a button and send it. They are not content checkers whatsoever (we have confirmed this with past CGS advisors directly). After the aforementioned (see president's report) emergency, we got radio silence. Then Katie and I messaged Matt Couch who's the next step up from Erica (CGS advisor). We got radio silence from him for two days. I then went to Dean Danny Glassman and asked for clarifications on the delay and silence, as another protest was planned and we were going on a week with no responses and delay in the sending. Doc Shivers then called me and was like well there's inaccuracies and we're going to have an issue and cannot send it at this time. We went back and forth for several hours over the next week and a half, explaining that to CGS this felt like silencing free speech, just as with USG's ballot initiative. We were repeatedly told effectively, "we acknowledge you, we hear you, Doc Shivers will now be your point of contact if you want to speak to the president, and the arrests are not going to be dropped". It was very simple. I could share it with everyone if you want me to. It was exactly Student Life's CGS response message, just from JR Blackburn on behalf of the president's office.

When Doc Shivers told me the message wouldn't be sent, I made it clear that was a non-starter for CGS. Katie made this awesome Excel spreadsheet showing how historically we've shared all these statements through Maestro since at least 2018 (as far back as we have data access for). After further consultation with upper admin, we were then told the statement would only be issued if "corrections" were issued in response to CGS's "misinformation". They pressed hard to try and spook Katie and I, "You really don't want us to do this Sabrina. This will look bad on CGS. You don't want this fire". And I said exactly that's my job is to handle said fire. So that's what they did. They finally released our maestro message about 24 hours later, and their response 5 minutes after our statement.

Katie and I jointly fielded the 15 - 20 people who reached out to the CGS email or ourselves directly. About a fifth of those people were upset that we spread misinformation and directly referenced Student Life's messaging. The majority expressed feeling supported, seen, heard, and represented, and their appreciation of CGS's explicitly messaging and framing. We've seen the same distribution of responses on social media (Twitter, Instagram, and Reddit) as well. Faculty also reached out and expressed support and being impressed with the caliber of statement we released.

RE our meeting with OSUPD Chief and Doc Shivers: We met this past Tuesday for 45 minutes (that's all we were given, and that was after we kept her beyond the 20 minutes they tried to limit us to jointly with USG and IPC). So their biggest notes for violations, including encampments were communicated on big PA system telling students to leave the area, the people remained resistant, they were given an opportunity to leave, no charges given for those who "harmed" police officers, like they only charged with criminal trespassing.

When it came to OSUPD training, in general, for not mocking students, as some photos were shown, that seemed like police officers were mocking students. One was a police officer putting up a piece symbol of some sort or a number two. Katie brought that and concerns surrounding it up. OSUPD had "discussions" with the officers in troubling photos and reminded them that these



actions are unacceptable, no matter the intent (we were told it was supposed to be some sort of "I'm ok" sign to fellow officers).

When it comes to post-protest adjustments to arresting students, USG asked how do we make sure that students aren't arrested more often? Can we protect students specifically? They can only discuss and determine student status once they are arrested.

When it came to violations against religion, protocols are the "same across the board", regardless of religious accommodations due to "safety reasons". Until you're processed, "you cannot receive accommodations". So OSUPD says that everything was out of their control until they're fully processed, and also that they don't handle that generally, so they pointed the finger at CPD and State Troopers on those issues that students are raising publicly surrounding religious abuses and possible gender/sexual violence.

Then from there they blamed protesters and faculty and graduate advisors/supporters for lacking any kind of preparation, or for not having full knowledge of repercussions of what an arrest and booking process entails. They said that they've done "ample training and messaging" on this, and when we asked for more explicit training and public info campaign on "safe" protesting, they stated they'd, "continue doing as they have done regarding community training".

As a closing, USG asked one more time very clearly what is going to happen with these charges. Are you going to drop them? And that's when Dr. Schiver said, no, we're taking this to the prosecutor, and shared the rest of the message I shared during my report.

RE an open forum or townhall discussion: It's not been offered or on the table in any way from admin at this time, and they feel it's "not fair" or not their job to deal with angry students. I've [Sabrina] said if I am supposed to stand in front of 250 people every month and deal with the anger and fear as part of my job, why aren't you? I'm very adamant that this is not well enough and this is not good enough. And I will state that again, when I meet with President, if I meet with President Carter next month that this is unacceptable, that we've always held these open forms for admin to come to our meetings. So again, I've just expressed a disappointment. I continue continuously push for us to have this open form, open discussion as we have had in the past as CGS is allowed to do.

8.1.2. Guzmancamacho.1: I'm just thinking on the way of us not losing this momentum regarding the statement? Because I feel the statement did generate at least the sort of alliances with some faculty. So at least it causes some noise between, or at least we could understand that there was what type of resistance we're receiving from the university regarding the position we're having. So I feel that we, that the university is really good at kind of showing, kind of like turn our attention to other things, right? So I think we should just like return to why we were doing the statement and in the sense of like okay this is how it went, this is the feedbacks we're having. So what is the next step? I feel that it's a good idea to have a meeting to invite those faculty professors who were part like who gave you the who gave you the emails or talk to you whoever they were. I think we should meet them and say okay we want to work with what's going on what are you doing right. I don't know if that is possible and also slash another question I had regarding the monthly meeting with Dr. Shivers. Did they say anything about what's the goal of those monthly meetings and can we arrange those meetings or is she going to tell us, oh, see you Friday? Or can we reject those meetings? Can we say like, oh, we don't want to meet with you today?

Durso.19: RE Faculty Council - I have a meeting with them scheduled after June 10th to talk more about how we can bring this up at the Senate, how we can keep the momentum going. That's their big thing too, is how do we keep all of these statements alive going into the fall so we can have a University Senate meeting in the fall. If anybody's interested in joining those meetings, please email me, private message me here, and I will definitely ask them.

RE Meetings with various admin - Doc Shivers was told by the president's office to schedule them with USG, IPC, and CGS once a month. It's very much so like my [Sabrina's] meetings with Dean Stromberger. It's scheduled for me. I can attend. I'm allowed to ask if others can attend with me. So Katie attends with me because she's the vice president (USG and IPC VPs also attend with their pres). We're allowed to ask if our constituents can come, but that's up to Doc Shivers to relay that message, and the president's or other admin's offices to allow it. Again, I've said that these meetings are unacceptable. It's not even what we asked for.



8.1.3. Guzmancamacho.1: Follow-up, how can we make this public? How can we make all grad students aware that this is the type of communication that the CGS is receiving from the university? I'm thinking strategically, usually admins are putting us in our place, right? This is how like their strategic they are doing. So I feel this is a good, a good, a good idea to kind of like react towards that type of placement that they're putting us. In a sense, we don't feel comfortable there. So I'm thinking how do we make this public?

Durso.19: I mean yeah I've been very honest with faculty counselors and advisors. Our meeting after June 10th is to discuss exactly that. How do we make this more public right? The faculty council met with the lantern and they just had an article be published. That lantern writer then reached out to me and wants to ask CGS like how mainly just how it came about that we wrote this entire statement.

How do we get this out to the lantern? Because how we're being treated, especially with our emailing system, we will no longer be allowed to send (nor any other student governments will be allowed to send) mass statements by maestro over again, even with corrections or not. That's what IPC and USG were told when they asked if they could publish a statement on this exact thing.

8.1.4. Brzenski: I wanted to ask if it has been tried before to see if it is possible to request summer employment so that our OPERS option registers as a full year with GTA positions for departments like mine that have guaranteed funding this way in the fall and spring. I don't know if there's a way to be "employed without pay," but it would make a big difference for the 5 years of GTA to hit that 100% return rather than registering as 4 years with the 80% bonus. Depending on how much the GTA is, it's a difference of at least \$2500. Has this been asked about before?

Durso.19: Peter Carrera.55 had this exact conversation brought up, Emma. I think that it would be beneficial if you emailed him and I, we could ask OPERs again. We've had the conversation with them recently about how, like, we can enroll in general, how we can get this information out as soon as someone touches OSU instead of like for fellowships and things like that as well I think it's a good question. You would just have to go to OPER's I don't have an answer for you at this particular moment.

8.1.5. Mace.103: You said IPC was told they weren't going to be permitted to make statements on Maestro. Has the university said if that's like a general policy going forward, is it specific to this issue, or are they more broadly sort of revoking Maestro privileges as a whole?

Durso.19: They are revoking communications like that. We're no longer allowed to send statements to the graduate student body. I will say that obviously that's unacceptable. Someone was possibly going to bring up having some sort of ad hoc to figure out how we could best submit mass messaging. We can do a FOIA request, which is what Katie's messaging in the chat, which allows us to pull all graduate students' emails and send them separately. For now, if CGS makes a statement, we're also allowed to put it on our website, and we're allowed to have our delegates then send it to their department. We're allowed to send that statement and bring it to faculty members to share as well. It's just no longer can we do the mass issuing to all 11,000 students via that system, which is problematic from legal, free speech and academic freedom, and other standpoints.

Conner.280: I did also want to say the other thing we're talking about is occasionally in the past we have not buried, but slid in references to statements we have made in our newsletters without including the text. And so another strategy we're discussing is if a form of compliance would be sending it in newsletters to announce to people that it's on our website and things like that without sending the text itself.

Mace.103: I was wondering like how much is restricted. I guess we can't make statements on behalf of the grad student body, but we can still reference them in our normal communication, which is still allowed to send out, we're still allowed to send emails [e.g., elections, newsletters, hayes, etc.]. Yeah, I don't think that we should have to resort to email parties where we just send them all out, but if we have to, we can.

Durso.19: Yeah, and again, like Katie said, we are allowed to make statements on behalf of all grads it's just purely that we cannot send it via the maestro system (despite 5+ years of precedent).



8.1.6. Leao.1: I reached out to Sabrina last week about the Adobe access that all of us have right now as students. I got like a little error message when I went to log in and it led me down a rabbit hole of OSUs essentially pulling our Adobe access as students unless your department pays for it as an employee. They're giving us access to like an online version of it that has its own name. Essentially we would all have to re-learn how to use that software unless you're already using it. Sabrina said that [her] department had mentioned it to [her] directly. I had heard nothing from my department. But I wasn't sure if other folks were concerned about this, aware about this. Apparently our full access is going away in June. So if you're like signed into Adobe products and stuff like that, you may want to think about moving any of the stuff you're saving to an Adobe cloud or anything like that. But yeah, I wasn't sure if this was just an isolated issue for me and my department or if this was something that was actually going to impact people across the university.

Durso.19: So from my department they are still unaware of how this will end. So the access will end on June 28th. Again, like Michelle said, it's going to the colleges and so some colleges like the ASC could determine that they want to buy access for all their students and they're allowed to do so. It does seem that we're just really going to need to keep track of this. Let your grad students know that this access is being revoked June 28th. And that CGS is trying, and there are many entities on this campus that are trying. It sounds like just an official license kind of ended. And OSU is trying to figure out how to move forward with this. So please just let your colleagues know. June 28th is a cut off date.

8.1.7. Booker.200: My question has to do with the council on student affairs [CSA] and particularly for student organizations, how the funding turnaround times have just been outrageous. And I wonder if there's like any like pushing we can do. I know they're very short staffed, but if there's any pushing we can do to try to like get them to hire somebody else to work in finance and like make that work, It's been really unworkable.

Conner.280: First Peter Carrera is on our side, so yay us for having the head of CSA from CGS. I will say that he's been aware, but also CGS is very aware of this because we've been waiting on student life to hire the head of student governments, who's our advisor's supervisor, and we've also just been notified that our fiscal associate is leaving us in a week and so it took us several months to hire her and we're kind of panicking already because we don't know what we're going to do without her now, and how long that search will take, and what that means for a business office that's already slow and understaffed as is.

Durso.19: Yeah, it's a nightmare over here. We're trying our best to get these spots filled. And again, all that can ever do is be as loud as possible to Dean Danny that it needs to happen. But again, we've been screaming that these positions need to be filled and that this is unacceptable. There's a lot of things that are being held up and causing harm because we have a lack of employees on this campus and can't seem to hire anyone.

Conner.280: Would I be okay in suggesting that maybe Nick, email Peter, you [Sabrina] and me, those specific concerns from his constituents so we could literally take that email and be like, this is not the only time we've heard this and we need something to get fixed and maybe that this concrete thing and somebody new yelling as well will help unstuck something perhaps?

Durso.19: Yeah, I mean, the more emails we give people, the more angry they get. So I think it's a good idea, Nick, if you have the time to send out an email to us.

8.1.8. Motion for ending Delegate Issues & Concerns early by Mace.103

8.1.9. Motion seconded by Booker.200

8.1.10. Motion approved via majority show of hands

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

9.1. Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, June 28th at 3:30 (Zoom) [\[LINK HERE\]](#)

10. ADJOURNMENT

4:37 PM



Name Name.#	Position	Vote
Murtaza Arshad.32	Chair - Housing & Family Affairs Delegate - Electrical & Computer Engineering	YAY
Alan Nair.155	Delegate - Biomedical Sciences Grad Program	YAY
Gillian Kim.3215	Delegate - Arts Administration, Education, & Policy	YAY
Gianni Giaranno.1	Delegate - Ohio State Biochemistry Program	YAY
Mia Kordowski.1	Delegate - Biosphysics	YAY
Hans Herath.6	Delegate - Mechanical, Nuclear, & Aerospace Engineering	YAY
Brittany Multer.3	Chair - SERC Delegate - Environment & Natural Resources	YAY
Deb Pathak.89	Chair - Health, Wellness, & Safety Delegate - Astronomy	YAY
Charles Mace.103	Delegate - Physics & Chemical Physics	YAY
Sarah Ganbat.3	Delegate - Agricultural, Environmental, & Developmental Economics	YAY
Nicholas Booker.200	Delegate - Music	YAY
Thomas Elton.21	Delegate - Public Health	YAY
Blue Lerner.111	Delegate - Communication	YAY
Trevor Lee.9595	Delegate - Classics	YAY
Michelle Leao.1	Delegate Alternate - Educational Studies & Technologies	YAY
Tony Annerino.2	Delegate - Materials Science & Welding Engineering	YAY
Zeynep ArslanOzkaynak.1	Delegate - Teaching & Learning	YAY
Gabriel GuzmanCamacho.1	Delegate - Spanish & Portuguese	ABSTAIN



Haley Grubb.358	Delegate - Germanic Languages, Literatures, & Studies	YAY
Rui Qiang.39	Delegate - Statistics & Biostatistics	NAY
Wei-En Lu.2614	Delegate - Statistics & Biostatistics	NAY
Aryn Robinson.2283	Chair - Membership Wellness Delegate - Speech & Hearing Sciences	YAY
Rob Claassen.10	Delegate - Physics & Chemical Physics	YAY
Kaveri Sarkar.115	Delegate - Political Science	NAY
Stephanie Almquist.14	Delegate - Food Science & Technology	YAY



Officer Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

FROM: Sabrina Durso, President

DATE: June 28, 2024

RE: President's Report

Dear fellow advocacy-lovers,

June has been a hectic month full of many smaller, but important tasks. The executive committee sat **Nicholas Booker.200 as co-chair to Arts and Culture** at our last meeting. I continue to work with Housing and Family Affairs to fill the Off-Campus Commuter Student Engagement (**OCCSE**) **Senior Relationship Manager position**. Additionally, Ben McKinley.255 (a past CGSer) and I continue to work with a **childcare committee** convened by President Carter. This group is recommending pay increases to current childcare staff and is now looking for other recommendations to bring to President Carter regarding affordability, accessibility, and quality of facilities and staff. Lastly, I've begun planning **Executive Orientation**, which will occur on August 30th.

Throughout the rest of the summer, I will continue to advocate for CGS on all fronts. I have a **meeting with Dean Stromberger** this July to address larger graduate student concerns (of which pertain to CGSer concerns toward compensation and GTA summer employment). I also plan to continue pushing for the **CGS statement on the April arrests** to be acted upon. Additionally, I intend to finalize a draft of the **Accommodations Resolution** so that it can be brought before CGS in September. These fronts and more, alongside ensuring that the Involvement Fairs run smoothly and next year's meetings are planned well, will continue to be worked on throughout the rest of the summer.

Updates from Past Delegate Issues and Concerns:

- **OPERS**: You must be actively working for the State to contribute to OPERS. There is no way to contribute to OPERS without working, including the 3 months many grad students do not work. If CGS wanted to advocate for all grads to be given 12-month appointments, it'd depend largely on individual departments doing so.
- **Adobe Access**: The site license for **Adobe Creative Cloud** has ended as of June 28, but students can still access this software in university computer labs. Additionally, **Adobe Creative Cloud** will be available for any student to purchase at ~\$25 per academic year (NOTE: some programs with tech fees are planning on purchasing the software for students in their programs). **Adobe Express** will continue to be available for all students. This has PDF editing, graphic generation, photo editing, etc. **Adobe Acrobat Pro** will be available for all employees including RAs and TAs.

Happy Summer! Keep on keeping on!

Sabrina Durso.19



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

FROM: Katie Conner, Vice President

DATE: June 28, 2024

RE: Vice President's Report

Hey y'all,

I have no substantial updates at this time. We've been battling website issues due to a bunch of Student Life-IT updates and work, so if you find or hear of broken links, please email Sabrina and I so that we can triage and fix them. I've also been working with Sabrina, Jon, and Erica to get people paid ASAP for Ray, CDG, and Hayes, as the chronic understaffing of the business office is really hurting our ability to get responses out and paperwork processed in a timely manner.

24-25 Delegate digital onboarding will begin in earnest next week since the election portal appears to finally be fixed. I'm so excited to begin the buildup to orientation and welcome week because it's one of my favorite times of the year. 😊

As always, reach out with any questions, concerns, etc. Email me or text me, whichever you prefer.

Cheers,

Katie "Achievement unlocked: Made it to July without being sunburned or poison-iveyd"
Conner.280



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

FROM: Jon Fritz, Treasurer

DATE: June 28, 2024

RE: Treasurer's Report

Hello beautiful people,

Treasurer Updates:

1. Absences in May & FY25 budget: I wanted to give a special shoutout to Sabrina and especially Katie for performing one of my most important roles as Treasurer during my absence. Though the FY25 budget was passed, if there are any lingering questions/concerns they were unable to field, please reach out to me and I'd be happy to discuss.
2. Expenses for FY24 (on next page): Please reach out if you have any questions/concerns/thoughts about our spending for FY24 post-delegate meeting today!

Ray Travel Award (RTA) Updates:

1. RTA-CDG application workshop: A room has been booked, things are being discussed, plans are forming! Katie/Kaz/new CDG chair & I are planning to have a ~2 hour joint Ray-CDG application workshop on Wednesday, October 2nd, from 2-4pm in Great Hall Meeting Room 3. More details to come soon!

Summer Goals:

By the end of the summer, I want to:

- ~~Have finished FY25 budget~~ and related addendums
- Have a program, website, or mechanism ready for delegate parking reimbursement at general body meetings
 - o Awaiting a response on what is or is not feasible per University fiscal policy with SAF or Coke from our business office contact
- Meet with and make major changes to the RTA app process to streamline the application (as suggested by the RTA committee)
 - o Finally have IT editing request privileges, make changes between 9/1-9/15
- Rethink how committee chairs request to use their funds in coordination with committee chairs and our advisor, Erica Brown
- Determine feasibility of a stipend for the new 25-26 Treasurer; not me, will not run for 25-26 Treasurer
- ~~Reserve a room for the first RTA app workshop~~

Let me know if you wanna get your hands dirty on any of these tasks!

- Jon Fritz.288



FY 2024 Expenses (as of 5/31/2024)		
July 2023 - June 2024		
	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expenses
EXPENSE		
President's Projects		
Discretionary	\$5,000.00	\$1,556.90
Inauguration	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PRESIDENT'S PROJECTS	\$5,000.00	\$1,556.90
Vice President's Projects		
Hayes	\$30,000.00	\$29,578.53
Discretionary	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grad Student Appreciation Week	\$15,000.00	\$14,744.10
TOTAL VICE PRESIDENT'S PROJECTS	\$45,000.00	\$44,322.63
Executive Committee		
Retreat	\$2,500.00	\$1,522.26
Awards & Recognition	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Marketing	\$10,000.00	\$11,910.00
Executive Discretionary	\$9,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	\$22,500.00	\$13,432.26
Internal Committees		
Academic Affairs	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Arts & Culture	\$7,500.00	\$2,751.80
Delegate Engagement Fund	\$3,000.00	\$424.10
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	\$13,000.00	\$0.00
International Student Affairs	\$2,500.00	\$2,762.53
Ray Travel Grant Admin	\$750.00	\$0.00
Health, Wellness, and Safety	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
SERC	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Org. & Election	\$750.00	\$0.00



Government Affairs	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Graduate Student Affairs	\$5,000.00	\$3,176.68
Housing and Family Affairs	\$1,000.00	\$392.44
Committees - Other	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Research and Data Operations	\$750.00	\$0.00
Membership Wellness	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INTERNAL COMMITTEES	\$52,250.00	\$9,507.55
Cross Governmental Projects		
Intergovernmental Affairs Projects	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL CROSS GOVERNMENTAL PROJECTS	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Academic Regalia Startup Funds		
30 regalia outfits	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grant Funding		
Career Development	\$17,000.00	\$9,327.00
Global Gateway	\$0.00	\$0.00
Engaged Scholar	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ray Travel Award	\$50,000.00	\$37,942.12
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	\$67,000.00	\$47,269.12
Office Equipment & Technology		
Copier	\$500.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$540.55
Telephone	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Technology	\$10,000.00	\$37,423.00
TOTAL OFFICE EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY	\$13,500.00	\$37,963.55
Administrative		
Meeting Refreshments	\$17,500.00	\$19,909.17
Organizational Development	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Parking Passes	\$4,000.00	\$5,372.16



Reserves	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$35,500.00	\$25,281.33
Encum		
Career Development	\$9,000.00	\$0.00
Ray Travel Award	\$22,000.00	\$0.00
Global Gateway	\$7,500.00	\$0.00
Engaged Scholar	\$22,000.00	\$0.00
Buck-I-Experience	\$8,500.00	\$0.00
GSAW 2023 swag	-	\$22,158.75
TOTAL Encum	\$69,000.00	\$22,158.75
OVERALL		
	\$311,750.00	\$201,492.09
		\$110,257.91
Total SAF Spending	\$175,750.00	\$132,064.22
Graduate School/OA contributions-Hayes/GSAW	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Total SAF Spending less contributions	\$155,750.00	\$132,064.22



Committee Chair Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

FROM: Syed Murtaza Arshad, Housing and Family Affairs Chair

DATE: June 28, 2024

RE: Housing and Family Affairs Chair's Report

Hey all,

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



Housing Stuff: Interviews were conducted for the "Off-Campus Community Partner Senior Representative" position—new housing role introduced to assist grad students with their housing needs—expected to start before Fall 2024. President Sabrina and I participated in all interviews, and we are very positive about the potential benefits of this role. If you have any suggestions or questions about what this role could look like, feel free to reach out to me at arshad.32@osu.edu.

Family Affairs Stuff: In terms of family affairs, the limited child-care options on campus are a significant issue. The executive team and HFA are exploring the feasibility of a self-sustained child-care initiative run by families and volunteers—similar programs exist at other colleges. We are looking for people interested in being part of a focus group working on the feasibility and initiation of this program. The group would aim to share a survey to gauge the interest of graduate students with or without families in participating, explore resources within and outside the campus that could assist us, and study other similar programs. If you are interested, reach out to President Sabrina or me at arshad.32@osu.edu.

Community related: The City of Columbus is modernizing its zoning code for the first time in more than 70 years. If you want to learn more about the potential benefits or expected timelines, please visit <https://zone-in-columbus.hub.arcgis.com>.

Be wise and kind,

Arshad.32

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

FROM: Aryn Robinson, Membership Wellness Chair

DATE: June 28, 2024

RE: Membership Wellness Chair's Report

Hi all,



This is the link for the Membership Shoutouts Form → <https://forms.gle/Tpxf47dx9ZPm9Q7f6>. I will put the link in all my reports so this is where you should look when you want to complete a shoutout. Please use Membership Shoutouts as a way to share good news in your life or to shine some well-deserved light on a fellow CGSer. The shoutout form will be monitored up until 10 pm the night before General Delegate Meetings. If you submit a shoutout after this time, it will be included in the next month's group of shoutouts.

Membership Wellness will be placing a few questions in VP Katie's "Get to Know You" survey. Please complete that survey when it is released because it is important to VP Katie but also to help this committee better curate your CGS experience.

Bye all,

Robinson.2283

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

FROM: Brittany Multer, Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility Committee (SERC) Chair

DATE: June 28, 2024

RE: SERC Chair's Report



Hello all,

My name is Brittany Multer, and I am the new SERC Chair for 2024-2025. I am very excited to get things going and would love to have anyone interested join in! Below is a starter list of priorities for the upcoming year that I hope will grow once the committee gets together.

- Form a relationship with the OSU Sustainability Institute
- Participate in Time for Change week
- Strengthen recycling and compost programs around campus

Please reach out if you are interested in working with SERC.

Looking forward to a great year!

Multer.3