



COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Delegate Packet

March 7th, 2025

Location: Ohio Union Senate Chambers and Zoom



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Agenda

General Delegate Meeting | 7 March 2025 | Senate Chambers, Ohio Union and via Zoom

- 1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS** **3:30 PM**
 - 1.1. **Campus Connections:** City of Columbus Attorney Zach Klein's Property Action Team with Christopher C. Clark, Assistant City Attorney
- 2. CALL TO ORDER** **4:00 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** **[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 – Katie Conner.280
 - 5.3. Treasurer's Report – Jon Fritz.288
 - 5.4. Secretary's Report – Kaz Gary.102
 - 5.5. Parliamentarian Report – Andy Vance.128
 - 5.6. Chief of Staff Report – Zaira Giralda Munoz (GiraldaMunoz.1)
- 6. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS** **[25 min]**
 - 6.1. Academic Affairs – Sohan Daniel.508
 - 6.2. Arts and Culture – Holly Engel.210 & Nick Booker.200
 - 6.3. Diversity & Inclusion – Priya Jana.20
 - 6.4. Government Affairs– Madeline Carrola.1 & Charles Mace.103
 - 6.5. Graduate Caucus – Peter Carrera.55
 - 6.6. Graduate Student Affairs – Chiranth Koratagere Nagaraj (KoratagereNagaraj.1)
 - 6.7. Health, Wellness, and Safety – Deb Pathak.89 & Luke Van Niel (Vanniel.5)
 - 6.8. Housing and Family Affairs – Syed Murtaza Arshad.32 & Lauren Levesque.31
 - 6.9. International Student Affairs – Kaustubh Kumar.889
 - 6.10. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283
 - 6.11. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945 & Shiddhartha Ramprakash.4
 - 6.12. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Brittany Multer Hopkins (MulterHopkins.1)
- 7. OLD BUSINESS** **[0 min]**
- 8. NEW BUSINESS** **[10 min]**
 - 8.1 Officer Elections **[1 hour]**
 - 8.2 Senator Nominations **[5 min]**
 - 8.3 Grad Caucus Further Updates & Discussion **[5 min]**
- 9. SPECIAL ORDER ITEM** **[30 min]**
 - 9.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns
- 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS** **[5 min]**
 - 10.1 **Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, April 4 at 3:30pm (Senate Chambers & Zoom)**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT** **6:50 PM**

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



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 | 14 February 2025 | Senate Chambers, Ohio Union and via Zoom

1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

3:33 PM

1.1. **Campus Connections:** Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement with Jennifer Kephas.1

1.1.1) Talk Overview

- CGS identified areas that OCCSE could work on:
 - Clear Value Proposition
 - Facilitation
 - Engage with Other Units Across Campus
 - Develop Requirements for Graduate OCHN
- Clear Value Propositions
 - Focus on awareness, engagement with the broader graduate community
 - Collaboration to submitting events and information to newsletters, event partnerships, information sharing
 - Marketing and data tracking with grad/prof students: comprise 19% of fall OCLE attendees and tracking student engagement
- Housing Facilitation
 - Disseminating information about virtual tours
 - Information sharing with Property Companies, required for in-network property owner
 - Information Sharing with Students
- Engagement with Stakeholders
 - Student organizations: CGS, HAFA, IPC
 - University departments
 - Other stakeholders in the community
- OCCSE Resources
 - Housing Consultations: 1:1 housing consultations (what are you looking for)
 - Off-Campus Living Guides: updating resources in this guide
 - Off-Campus Housing Network: Property owners have to pay and meet requirements to be in the OCCSE network
 - Roommate fairs: Let your college know if you want this!
 - Roommate and Sublet Ads: Have to log in with your name.#
 - Safety resources: free safety resources are available to students
 -

1.1.2) Q+A:

- **Unnava.4:** It would be helpful for international students to know what fees to expect and what amounts should be normal or not.
- A: We've collaborated with Murtaza to update our resource guide with predatory fees and what fees should look like. Please send me any other feedback!
- **Lebeck.31:** What are they including under the term 'living expenses'?
- A: Rent, food, utilities, but it depends on department what they include
- **Booker.200:** Who is gathering data for that number?
- A: That's what we've been trying to determine. We don't know where the numbers are coming from.
- **Online CGSer:** Would it be possible to make a list of off-campus resources for the Wooster campus?
- A: Shoot me an e-mail and we can work on that together!

2. CALL TO ORDER

3:57 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

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- Motion to approve by **Chisam.1**
- Seconded by **Annerino.2**

5. OFFICER REPORTS

5.1. President's Report – Sabrina Durso.19

5.1.1) **Compensation:**

- As Grad Comp and Benefits Committee makes recommendation in March, I spoke on...
 - Grad School's 8% increase wish, min from \$2,483 to \$2,681
 - Would make OSU leader in non-coastal, public Big10s outside of U of M (over \$1,000 more)
 - Overall semester cost of \$2.9 mil, \$1.5 mil from CAS
 - 3,200 of 9,000 students impacted, 1,600 in CAS
 - *Due to departmental/program funding concerns*, asked President and Provost to commit to centralized funding

5.1.2) **Housing:**

- Asked for help negotiating lower rent (30-35% of total taxable income, making rent for 1B/1B \$800 a month)
- Reminded that we will continue to advocate for grad student family/international housing community

5.1.3) **Over the past month:**

- PARKING METERS DOWN AT THOMPSON'S ADA SPOTS
- **Exec:** Reach out to Chairs if interested for next year and welcome (back) Charlie Mace.103 as Co-Chair for Gov. Affairs!
- **Senate:** Resolution Regarding OTDI Policy Supported and Acted Upon Immediately / Chase Center voted against
- **Events I attended on CGS's Behalf:** Welcome Reception for Provost, Dean Glassman Student Leader Dinner, Around the Oval, Dr. Shivers Student Gov't Leader Dinner, SEI Committee, Digital Accessibility Committees, Undergrad Board of Trustees Selection Committee

5.1.4) **Working on:**

- CAMPUS Act Taskforce: Interviewing Stakeholders! If you or constituents would like to be in the focus groups, do let me know!
- **Resolution on Beyond Compliance:** Provost implemented HUGE working group & will be brought to Senate (pending approval); currently largest concerns come from faculty

5.1.5) **Past Delegate Issues & Concerns:**

- **Dennis Learning Center:** Working with Dean Stromberger
- **Tech Loan Program:** Moving to Virtual Environments

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

5.2.1) **Election Timeline for CGS 25-26**

- February 25
 - 2.14.25 - Officer noms/apps open at CGS General Body Meeting
 - 2.28.25 - Officer noms/apps close at 11:59pm
- March 25
 - 3.7.25 - Officer elections at/during CGS General Body Meeting
 - 3.7.25 - Senator noms/apps open at CGS General Body Meeting
 - 3.24.25 - Delegate noms/apps open ONLINE (CGS website)
 - 3.28.25 - Senator noms/apps close at 11:59pm
- April 25
 - 4.4.25 - Senator elections at/during CGS General Body Meeting
 - 4.17.25 - Delegate voting period opens at Noon ONLINE (Email with link will be sent)
 - 4.24.25 - Delegate voting period closes at 5pm

5.2.2) **HAYES #14DaysTilHayes**

- Thank you cards – please write two or three!



5.3. Secretary's Report – Kaz Gary.102

5.3.1) **CDG Chair:**

- CDG funding period 4 closed February 1st!
- Judges: You should have already gotten an e-mail from me.
- If you want to be a CDG judge, please e-mail me ASAP at gary.102@osu.edu

6. **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

4:22 PM

6.1. Arts and Culture – Holly Engel.210 & Nick Booker.200

6.1.1) More buttons!

6.1.2) **Shared Traditions Conference:** Feb. 28–March 1

- Register at cfs.osu.edu/events

6.1.3) Bonsai event: Monday, March 24, 5 – 7 PM in Hagerty Hall, room 198

6.1.4) Next meeting: Monday, Feb. 24 from 12:30-1:30 (EST). In Hagerty 206 and on Zoom

6.2. Government Affairs– Madeline Carrola.1 & Charles Mace.103

6.2.1) Welcome Charlie Mace as Government Affairs Co-Chair!

6.2.2) Committee met on January 30th to discuss SB1, HB83, and the newsletter (expected in March)

6.2.3) Our next meeting will be on February 25, 2025. Please reach out to Madeline and Charlie if you are interested in joining

6.3. Graduate Caucus – Peter Carrera.55

6.3.1) Please look at the full report from each senate committee. Some highlights:

- URC reports that ERIK (Enterprise for Research, Innovation and Knowledge) is aware of researchers having issues accessing CITI RCR training as a result of federal executive orders; if you experience an issue contact: rcinfo@osu.edu for assistance.
- CAT is working with the Office of Technology and Digital Innovation to set up an Overleaf agreement for OSU to allow users to purchase licenses (no university funding decisions have been made).
- The Council on Academic Affairs and Committee on Academic Misconduct are working with the Office of Academic Affairs to host a summit on AI in the classroom and in search settings.

6.4. Graduate Student Affairs – Chiranth Koratagere Nagaraj (KoratagereNagaraj.1)

6.4.1) Remind your departments that National GSAW is on April 7th – April 11th. Remind them to show their appreciation in some way!

6.4.2) So far, GSAW's Events are as follows:

- ALL WEEK: CGS Giveaways 9AM-1PM, Grad School Lobby (2nd floor of University Hall)
- Monday, April 7: Donuts with the Deans, 9AM-11AM, Grad School Lobby (2nd floor of University Hall)
- Wednesday: Game Night, 6PM-9PM, KBK Suite (Ohio Union)
- Friday: Instructional Kitchen, 5PM-7:30PM, Ohio Union

6.5. International Student Affairs – Kaustubh Kumar.889

6.5.1) Aim to hold two online tax info sessions – one at the end of March and another at beginning of April 2025

- Some tax experts being approached for addressing the sessions. Final schedule to be shared in next meeting and through other channels

6.5.2) 'Share your story' event to take place on 24th March 2025 from 6 – 8 PM at Ohio Union (Great Hall Meeting Room 2)

- One of the guest speakers has agreed for the event. Work-in-progress to search and finalize another guest speaker

6.5.3) Working in coordinate with HAFA committee regarding student housing sessions for incoming international students



- 6.6. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945
6.6.1) RDO shared the Overleaf demand survey result with OTDI.
- 6.7. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Brittany Multer Hopkins (MulterHopkins.1)
6.7.1) Sustainability Tips for February – Food systems are responsible for a third of global greenhouse gas emissions. Here's a few individual actions you can take to reduce your personal impact:
- **Eat more fruits & vegetables.** Plant-based foods tend to have a lower footprint than animal-based foods
 - **Eat less red meat.** Cattle farming produces methane gas and requires a lot of water and land (which is often created by chopping down forests...)
 - **Cut down on food waste.** Plan meals, get creative with leftovers, and compost :)
- 6.8. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283
6.8.1) CGS WhatsApp Group Chat: connect with other CGSers! (QR code shown in slides)
6.8.2) February Digital Wellness Bingo Challenge:
- Find attached to the Delegate Packet email
 - Jumpstart your wellness or continue your momentum!
- 6.8.3) Financial Wellness Event – Thursday March 20th from 4 – 5 PM in the Senate Chamber of the Ohio Union or virtually
- Please contact me if you can help with setup and check-in for this event
 - Please RSVP using the link on the flyer
- 6.8.4) **Still room!!** CGS Only Planetarium Trip - Thursday, March 27th at 5p
- RSVP if you would like a spot
 - Show by our own Kaz Gary

7. OLD BUSINESS

[0 min]

8. NEW BUSINESS

4:37 PM

8.1 Grad Caucus Further Updates & Discussion

8.1.1) Lyft program updates:

- **Guzmancamacho.1:** I currently am in 2 committees in the Senate, the Fiscal Committee and the Support Office Committee. Support Office Committee receives applications for funding for certain units of the university and one of the last applications was for the Lyft Program. The program basically is a discount on rides given to university students from a certain time to certain time in certain areas of Columbus near the University. Last year, the program cost 1.5 million dollars and this year they're asking for 3 million dollars. The University is signing contracts this year for increase in some budgets, but it's unclear if it will be honored, saying that if they have the money they will give it. The Lyft program isn't a program itself, but rather part of a security for students program. There's a group of people that get together and decide what safety and security means for students on campus. One of the big questions that came up was why are we spending 1.5 million dollars on this type of safety and are there other areas we could be spending that money in. They discussed moving the map of the Lyft program because about 30 to 40 percent of the map doesn't have anyone using the program, but we're paying for that area. I suggested changing the area, but that would mean there would be more users and thus we would need more money. What are your thoughts regarding safety and security on campus and is this program useful?
- **Tjoelker.4:** Was there any data that was presented on students using this service or how much money was being spent to cover these rides?
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** There was data presented but it was presented on users and not why we're using the program. How many students were using the program and how many rides were present in each area itself.



- **Tjoelker.4:** Basically, we don't know how many rides are taken?
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** We know how many rides were taken with the program.

8.1.2) Overleaf software and ERIK office update:

- **Annerino.2:** The University's lead contract guy says he anticipates a contract being signed by the end of the month for Overleaf. About the Buck-IRB to Huron-IRB system transition: ERIK office is forecasting it to go live on March 20th.

8.1.3) Lyft program updates [cont.]:

- **Durso.19:** Does anyone else have any ways to update Gabriel on the Lyft share program?
- **Unnava.4:** Do you have data on the median number of rides that each user is taking?
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** No, I can ask them if they have that data. They were more focused on how many students used the program from 7-7. So there is a need and we've been asked to make a change to the program but what change we don't know yet
- **Unnava.4:** I use it a lot because I'm on the edge of the zone. Do a lot of people use it sparingly or are there a group of users who use it all the time?
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** There's a huge portion of the northwest where there's no users and there's areas in the South Campus where there's a lot of users. They were talking about moving the borders but if they do that to areas with more users, then there will be more usage and would therefore need more money. The Lyft program is a way to make campus more safe, but the conversation has been focused on what safety means.
- **Elton.21:** Motion to extend by 5 minutes
- Seconded by **Unnava.4**
- **Elton.21:** Regards to safety, have they ever brought up weather concerns? Because I used it just this morning and I often use it after 7 when the weather is coldest. Maybe they could put inclement weather into the algorithm so that students can come and go to campus safely.
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** The conversation of safety has been focused on crime. They're trying to understand safety and how it affects us. The conversation has been driven by places with more crime than other safety concerns such as weather. Let's keep the conversation going about what safety means.
- **Durso.19:** By a show of hands, how many people would or have used this service in this room as a graduate student?
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** So it's about 50/50 and we need to have this conversation
- **Soni.117:** So if the question is, how efficiently can we use the 1.5 million in terms of improving safety, then one way is a shared cab right? If you want to use that money to improve the services, you could have multiple locations to pick people up near campus. That would be a better way to use it in terms of like ensuring safety. There could be two options: one is you have the luxury to take one cab for yourself and the other is you go home while you're sharing with a couple of students. So, in terms of safety, that might be one way to bring costs down.

8.2 Officer Nominations

- President Nominations:
 - **Carrola.1:** Sabrina Durso.19, accept or not: yes
 - **Guzmancamacho.1:** Adam Tjoelker.4, accept or not: need some time to consider
- Vice President Nominations:
 - **PerezSoto.2:** Adam Tjoelker.4, accept or not: need some time to consider



- **Carrera.55:** Katie Connor.280, accept or not: no
- **Guzmancamacho.1:** Unnava.4, accept or not: need some time to consider
- **Chisam.1:** Nick Booker.200, accept or not: no
- Treasurer Nominations:
 - **Daniel.408:** Adam Tjoelker.4, accept or not: yes
- Secretary Nominations:
 - **Booker.200:** Holly Engel.210, accept or not: need some time to consider
 - **Gary.102:** self-nominate, accept or not: yes

8.3 Executive Session

- Motion to move into an executive session by **Chisam.1**
- **Booker.200** seconds

9. SPECIAL ORDER ITEM

5:30 PM

9.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns

9.1.1) Pay disparities:

- **Ramprakash.4:** Regarding one of my constituents, last year we got a raise for the graduate student stipend, but he didn't get a raise despite being a student of the College of Engineering. There is a disparity in the minimum stipend between the departments in Engineering.
- **Durso.19:** There are pay inequities throughout the University across different colleges. The raise only affected those on the minimum stipend. Please have them email me and we can discuss that more. Across the colleges, unless you want to talk to the Dean, it would be a very complex issue to talk about.
- **Arshad.32:** In addition, if you're on a grant on NIHNSF, advisors don't have to increase their stipends if it comes from different sources of funding. Colleges can set their minimums.
- **Durso.19:** If your department can fund you if the NIH goes away, then it's not an issue.
- **Annerino.2:** I have a bit more context that we can speak about over the e-mail. There is precedence that students are paid by the advisor's primary department. A Physics student who had a primary advisor in MSE and he did not receive his raise after his candidacy. So maybe this is what happened.
- **Karuppuchamy.1:** How many departments give a raise after their candidacy exams?
- **Durso.19:** Let me ask the the Committee of Graduate Student Benefits and we can get an exact number.
- **Annerino.2:** Tangential to that, what happened to this situation with the physics student, he got a new primary advisor in physics. We, are not in any way, permanently bound to OSU. If things are really bad, every single one of us can find a higher-paying job than a GA. Don't forget this option.

9.1.2) Paid leave for International Students:

- **Ramprakash.4:** Regarding follow-up to the issue about international students paid vacation. GRA is 10 days and this is not feasible for international students.
- **Durso.19:** I continue to work with the graduate school about the leave policy. Faculty continue to be the loudest jerks in the room. I've advocated for 5 months. I've talked to Dean Stromberger, I'm advocating as hard as I can. I do believe the leave policy will be updated in the upcoming academic year. Ridiculous for international students but also for pregnant graduate students, sick graduate students. I promise there will be an update on that issue.
- **Ramprakash.4:** Is there a way we can instead ask for a working from home policy?



- **Durso.19:** Per the state of Ohio, if you work for Ohio State, the majority of work during the semester has to be done in the state of Ohio. It's something else I'm advocating for in these leave policies.
- **Arshad.32:** In terms of working outside of the US, I think there would be an issue for tax purposes.
- **Durso.19:** It's handled privately behind closed doors usually, but you're right Muraza there are road blocks at the state and federal level.
- **Mace.103** moves to end early
- **Booker.200** seconded

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

10.1 Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, March 7 at 3:30pm (Senate Chambers & Zoom)

11. ADJOURNMENT

5:43 PM



Officer Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Sabrina Durso, President
DATE: March 3, 2025
RE: President's Report

Colleagues,

I have stared blankly at this page for days not knowing how to address you of all current policy decisions occurring at The Ohio State and the state of Ohio. I am always available to discuss and share any of your concerns pertaining to how the ever-changing political climate inside and outside of OSU affects our lives as Buckeyes. I promise I have worked diligently this month alongside many CGSers to support the concerns of our constituents and I will continue to hold OSU administrators accountable for their actions. This month has been hard and my report reflects that. However, I have been flooded with messages of gratitude for the work CGS has done this year and especially this month—and these messages come from grads, undergrads, prof students, faculty, and staff. We are making a difference, friends. Now is the time to be as active as you can while also finding support through community. Most importantly, please prioritize taking care of yourself. CGS is here for you, and we will not be going anywhere.

Over the Past Month:

- **University Senate and Anti-DEI initiatives:** As I hope many of you have heard, [President Carter announced The University will be proactively working toward implementing all anti-DEI legislation](#) regarding SB1, the Department of Education's Dear Colleague Letter, and more. In this remarks, Carter noted The University's initial steps are to "sunset" the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and discontinue all programming and services offered by Student Life's Center for Belonging and Social Change on February 28, 2025, and that the Office of Institutional Equity will be renamed the Office of Civil Rights Compliance. Attached to the delegate packet is the statement I gave regarding these actions. I intend to reword this language to use in my speech at the Statehouse. If you have thoughts, please let me know.
- **Changing the name of the Center for Belonging and Social Change:** It is important to note that CGS is being actively consulted regarding changing the name of this facility. We have advocated that other student organizations have a say in the re-branding/shaping of this space.
- **Graduate School:** The Bursar's Office is attempting to end the Graduate Student Payroll Deduction service. This is unacceptable, as if this service is terminated, students would need to pay these fees monthly, and they may even have to enroll in a payment plan that costs \$30 a semester. I am doing my best alongside GCBC to argue against this move. Additionally, a pay increase may be coming—no official word yet but I have heard the rumors.
- **Board of Trustees:** Katie and I are serving on the Board of Trustee's Search for a new Undergraduate Trustee. We should have one appointed soon. Additionally, we were able



to have dinner with two of the BoT members, where I spoke on the importance of accessibility on campus and online.

- **Preparing for Possible ICE Agents:** Katie and I met with the immigration legal services folks and are trying our best to advocate for a wallet-sized notecard to be made that would offer a speech for GAs to use if confronted by an ICE agent. More info to come.
- **Funding Concerns:** If you have a funding concern, ERIK would like you to reach out to them, as per CGS's special bulletins. Additionally, we are working with Grad School for a Town Hall where grads will be able to voice their funding concerns to Dean Stromberger. More info to come.
- **Exec:** Welcome Lauren Levesque as co-chair to HAFA and Shiddhartha Ramprakash as co-chair to R&DO. We also had our executive retreat where we focused on team-building, the realities of failure, and had a behind-the-scenes tour of the Union!
- **Events I attended on CGS's Behalf:** Dr. Shivers Student Gov't Leader Dinners, SEI Committee, Digital Accessibility Committee, Undergraduate Board of Trustee Selection Committee

Working On:

- **CAMPUS Act TaskForce: *WE NEED GRAD VOICES!*** The taskforce would like us to complete graduate student focus groups about how best to combat antisemitism, Islamophobia, and anti-Christian discrimination and hatred, harassment, bullying or violence towards others on the basis of religious identity on OSU's campus. ***If you or your constituents would like to provide insight, please contact me!***
- **Resolution on Beyond Compliance:** Upon sharing this resolution with all relevant offices, Provost Bellamkonda has convened a working group of many higher administrators to ensure it is acted upon. This month, I met with Director of SLDS Cheryl Lyons to solidify CGS's support of their office. Additionally, the resolution was officially supported by Senate via majority vote. This ensures faculty buy-in and support.

In solidarity always,

Sabrina Durso.19



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Katie Conner, Vice President
DATE: March 2025
RE: Vice President's Report

Hey y'all,

Well. It's been a week. It's been several weeks. But y'all know it because you've been going through it too. As I'm beginning the final 8 weeks of my time as a CGS officer things have been hard. I'd encourage us all (just as Sabrina has been, and Membership Wellness is tasked with) to be sure we are taking care of ourselves in the most basic ways (food, water, sleep, therapy, rest, etc.) while we continue to try and take care of ourselves and graduate students in the larger context of higher education.

On that note, we're entering the first of our elections (officer) this month, and initiating the cycles for senator and delegate as well in the near future. Hayes has wrapped for this year. Details follow. This is normally a time for renewal, planning, and looking forward. And that has not changed. Now, more than ever, these processes are vital as we work to recruit the widest range of representation possible for CGS so that we can share the collective work of advocacy for graduate students. As I said during the Hayes Forum luncheon, no one does the work alone, it is simply not possible. We need to have a team and community as we navigate the coming weeks and months.

Internal Operations & Elections Updates

Here's your next reminder of the election timeline over the final 6-8 weeks of CGS elections season.

- **March**
 - 3.7.25 - Officer elections at/during CGS General Body Meeting
 - 3.7.25 - Senator noms/apps open at CGS General Body Meeting
 - 3.24.25 - Delegate noms/apps open ONLINE (CGS website)
 - 3.28.25 - Senator noms/apps close at 11:59pm
- **April**
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 - 4.17.25 - Delegate voting period opens at Noon ONLINE (Email with link will be sent)
 - 4.24.25 - Delegate voting period closes at 5pm

For Senator questions or concerns, reach out to me (conner.280). For delegate questions or concerns, reach out to me (conner.280).

Additionally, please keep your eyes peeled for the full-graduate-body emails that will be going out to announce and advertise delegate and senator elections. Heavily encourage your colleagues to apply to run and additionally be sure to get your applications in on time if you yourself are also applying. As we continue building a more active social media presence we're



continuing to push the application periods with announcements and reminders on Instagram, Twitter/X, and Bluesky in addition to our “normal” newsletter and digest pushes.

Hayes39 - #DontCryThatItsOverSmileThatItHappened

TLDR version; it was an emotional but great day! Detailed version; Due to the chaos of the University’s sudden announcement of closures, downsizing, restructuring, etc., in anticipatory compliance of SB1 and the Dea Colleague letter, we had a rush of emails and communication Thursday (2/27) evening concerned with whether Hayes would move forward, if some areas would be cancelled, or if we would be pulling individual papers. I shot an email out stating we absolutely move forward with everything as planned, and that Hayes would always be a home for all graduate and postdoc research. We had some late shows and some no shows for both session chairs and judges (norovirus is real, wash your hands). We were able to shuffle things around and keep us running with minimal delay and chaos, and no session cancellations. I have sent follow-up nastygrams tattling on judges who failed us to relevant administrators so that hopefully they’re reminded what an unfair burden that puts on grad students.

We made additional updates from feedback received during the 2024 Hayes. They were received incredibly positively. Here are the highlights.....

Food:

- The upgraded breakfast offered better variety for folks, and the greek yogurt and boiled eggs meant more protein to fuel people (additionally much praise for the cinnamon rolls).
- We had all day coffee and tea for better caffeination for all of our participants and guests, and light snacks between sessions and luncheon to help stave off “hanger”.
- We had water stations all over for more accessible hydration.

Sustainability:

- Vegetarian luncheon was well-received, as were the composting bags and the move from plastic ware to “real” plates where possible and compostable options for grab and go disposables.
- We collected 1/3 of our lanyards and badges back from folks who didn’t want to keep them, so we can reuse in future years to reduce our carbon/waste footprint, and also decrease spending.

Day-Of Details:

- Signage and navigation were better this year.
- Eagle Exhibits continues to be some of the best money we spend for their speed and professionalism in setting up and tearing down the poster materials.
- The quiet/decompression room/space, while not used, was well-received as a concept.
- We had 13 talk sessions and 5 poster sessions, with a final total of 204 participants on the day of the actual forum (111 talk presenters, and 93 posters)
- We had 76 judges total show up on the day of the forum itself.
- Again maxed out luncheon attendance.
- We’ve already received 7 post-Hayes emails and numerous conversations after sessions and awards giving CGS positive and thankful feedback for the quality and planning of the forum in the face of higher education’s funding/DEI/political/etc. struggles, and our unyielding support and commitment to graduate and postdoc opportunities in the face of all that.



I'm tweaking the feedback form from last year, and it'll be sent out between the authoring of this report and the CGS meeting Friday 3/7. I'm looking forward to compiling those results to hand them to my successor, in addition to my own extensive Hayes manual, and additional notes and personal feedback on the planning of the forum, some further judging application updates, and notes on things to continue to hopefully keep us financially responsible, while maximizing the experience for participants.

I look forward to extra embarrassing some of the committee, volunteers, and participants at the meeting for their hard work and brilliance in making this Hayes a success. You know who you are. Brace yourselves. I'm proud of us ALL for showing up and showing off our skills and dedication.

As always, folks should never hesitate to reach out to me via email (conner.280) if they need. I'll likely be mostly out of touch over Spring Break (like we all should be) so I can take a deep breath and make up for the writing I didn't do in the final 2-week lead up to Hayes.

Take care and keep fighting the good fight,
Katie Conner.280



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Jon Fritz, Treasurer & Ray Travel Award Committee Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: Treasurer's Report

Hey all,

I just wanted to take a moment and say thanks for your work and all that you do as graduate students for yourself, your peers, your family, and your community. CGS and OSU are better places because of you, and I appreciate you.

Treasurer Updates:

Treasurer 2025-2026: I look forward to supporting the next Treasurer as they transition into the role over the next couple months. Happy election season! _

Ray Travel Award (RTA) Updates:

We concluded judging for the final RTA funding period of FY25 with 20 funded applications. Thus, for FY25, we funded a total of 47 out of 151 applications for an RTA (acceptance rate of 31%). My intention is to use the next couple months to gather feedback I've received from judges and applicants, possible edits for the portal, and future directions to present to the next RTA chair.

Sincerely thank you to the following individuals for judging over 150 applications (in triplicate!!) this FY for the RTA. YOU are the reason this award can function and making a difference in the professional and academic development of your grad student peers.

- Alyssa Allen
- Katelyn Amstutz
- Michelle Beverly
- Katie Conner
- Vishal Dey
- Sabrina Durso
- Kaz Gary
- Ryan Huston
- Krutant Mehta
- Brittany Multer-Hopkins
- Alan Nair
- Shiddhartha Ramprakash
- Aryn Robinson
- Michaela Rogers
- Kaveri Sarkar
- Prabhjot Singh
- Gabriela Trigo-McIntyre



Academic regalia:

Recently, CGS has been getting many questions related to academic regalia. To be transparent about our advocacy and purchasing of regalia for the lending library program, I have included a summary of our work on the academic regalia project since 2023 that I wrote for our annual student activity fee (SAF) funding review:

As part of a carry forward allocations request from CGS to CSA last year, CGS requested \$35,000 to start up a doctoral regalia lending library program. The original intention of this request was to purchase ~30 complete (hood, tam, robe) regalia outfits and offer these outfits to graduating PhD students for commencement in spring 2024. In the fall of 2023, the CGS Academic Affairs committee, led by former CGSer Garrett Tatum, set out to:

- 1) generate operational documents including a contract and description of the program as well as the mechanism of applying for regalia
- 2) communicate with the University Bookstore and receive a quote for mixed sizes/ of regalia
- 3) determine the logistics of storage and return of regalia at the Ohio Union

Given concerns by the Office of Student Life and the Office of Business and Finance regarding the relatively high cost of the purchase request, concerns with the fiscal stipulations of using SAF funding for the project, and concerns of determining how applicants are chosen for a rental (e.g. financial need vs. a lottery system vs. an essay), progress on project realization was delayed. In spring 2024, rather than purchase regalia, committee work shifted to more of an advocacy role to motivate university administration the need for a regalia lending library program. Members of the Academic Affairs committee, CGS leadership, and other CGS delegates researched and created a report on the state of doctoral regalia purchasing and rental at OSU, schools in the Big 10 conference, and the five largest institutions in Ohio by student enrollment. This report was given to staff in the Office of Student Life as well as the Office of Business and Finance to demonstrate the need for such a program at OSU and the significant financial burden of regalia rental and cost to OSU PhD students compared to peer institutions. During summer 2024, this report was utilized to revive a dialogue with Senior Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Experiences Matt Page and Director of Graduate Services Tim Watson concerning the costs of regalia rental at OSU. Page and Watson are currently in communication with regalia distributor Barnes & Noble and regalia manufacturer Oak Hall to determine the breakdown of price in regalia rentals. Furthermore, this report has been utilized to support the purchase of doctoral regalia, and we submitted documentation for a formal purchase request to the Office of Business and Finance in January 2025. Currently, we are awaiting OSU legal and the head of finance in Student Life to review our request. Thus, since our original request in fall 2023, CGS has:

- 1) generated documentation outlining the operation of the program,
- 2) researched and determined OSU charges more for doctoral regalia rentals than any other school in the Big 10 conference or the top five largest institutions in the state of Ohio,
- 3) formally submitted our request for purchasing regalia, and
- 4) continued to communicate with administration in the Office of Student Life, Office of Business and Finance, Graduation Services, and the Graduate School regarding execution of the program.



Thank you for your patience with us, understanding our motivation to establish an academic regalia lending library, and for supporting our initiative to defray the cost of attendance at commencement for graduate students.

Given my position as Treasurer and relationship with the Student Life business office through my role, I have been spearheading this initiative since summer 2024. When further updates are requested or a major change/update happens, I will let you know. In the meantime, I would be happy to answer individual questions as they arise, recognizing that this work is still actively happening.

Yours,
Fritz.288



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Kaz Gary, Secretary
DATE: March 7th, 2025
RE: Secretary's Report

Hi all,

With recent updates at OSU, please take the time you need for yourself. We're all in this together and CGS is here to support you and grad students' efforts in any way possible. No matter what, make sure your voice is heard!

Judging for CDG FP 4 is under way! Thank you to the following people for serving as judges this FP: **Purva Damale, Santosh Acharya, Aryn Robinson, Brittany Multer-Hopkins, and Andy Vance**. CDG would not be possible without your service! I will have more concrete results at this week's delegate meeting.

Applications for FP 1 open March 15, so please remind your constituents.

Best,
Kaz Gary.102



Committee Chair Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Sohan Daniel, CGS Academic Affairs, Chair
DATE: March 1st, 2025
RE: Academic Affairs Chair Report

Howdy,

Over the past month, the Academic Affairs Committee in partnership with the Government Relations committee partnered on Resolution 2425-SP-003. The resolution is written to address the potential cuts to federal research funding and how it impacts the graduate student body. The goal of this resolution is to ask the university for transparency throughout the planning process on how the university will address these cuts, to formally create and release a plan regarding these cuts, and for continued support of graduate students. In addition to this, I have begun transition preparation to start off next year's committee on a good footing.

That is all,

Sohan Daniel.508



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Holly Engel and Nick Booker, Arts and Culture Co-chairs
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: Arts and Culture Chair's Report

Good day,

The Arts & Culture Committee is up and running as always. This past Saturday, March 1, we tabled successfully at the IU/OSU Folklore and Ethnomusicology Conference, at which we shared a version of our A&C Pathfinder Document, a list of cultural and artistic opportunities available around Columbus. We're hoping to circulate a version of this document in an upcoming Delegate Digest so that this information may be shared with our constituents as well. Otherwise, we are very much looking forward to our bonsai event on March 24, held in collaboration with the Columbus Bonsai Society. We're pleased to report that this event gained the attention of twice as many people as we expected, so we have expanded our cap to 27 and are offering an online option for people who are not able to come in person due to the cap.

May you rest in peace,

Holly Engel.210

Nick Booker.200



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Priya Jana, Diversity & Inclusion Chair
DATE: March 3, 2025
RE: Diversity & Inclusion Chair's Report

Working alongside CGS President to move forward after recent policy changes.

Jana.20



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Madeline Carrola, Government Affairs Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: Government Affairs Chair's Report

Hello,

The Government Affairs Committee met on February 25, 2025. The Committee partnered with the Academic Affairs Committee to draft a resolution regarding graduate funding and research funding concerns.

Sincerely,
Carrola.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Peter Carrera, Graduate Caucus Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: Graduate Caucus Chair's Report

The Graduate Caucus will be giving monthly updates to CGS members on the work university senate committees are conducting month to month. Please share and discuss any relevant information with your constituents. If you have any questions or want to share thoughts about what is going on in a senate committee please contact the respective CGS senator.

Fiscal Committee – Gabriel Guzman Camacho (guzmancamacho.1)

No update.

Graduate Comp & Benefits – Brian Rocha.51 (rocha.51)

The committee discussed the independent petition and are going to include it as a datapoint in our report, among several other additional pieces of information. Subcommittee met to discuss what data we are going to request from the Graduate School, HR and other entities ... set deadlines to compile, sort, and present data analysis to the full committee.

Diversity Committee – Deb Pathak.89 (pathak.89)

Ohio State evaluating DEI: <https://omc.osu.edu/key-issues>

Immigration and ICE guidance added to the previous website

Meeting with the steering committee — still need evidence that the committee will be supported

Sending newsletter to chairs of all DEI committees across campus to get feedback on current status

Inviting Government Affairs in April meeting to talk about SB1/HB6

Council on Student Affairs – Peter Carrera (carrera.55)

The Council on Student Affairs is continuing work on the Student Activity Fee Review (reviewing beneficiary submitted information). A CSA ad hoc small group is working on additional options for the update to the Code of Student Conduct after receiving feedback from Faculty Council & different university senate leaders. These options will be submitted to CSA for review and finalization. We heard a presentation from Ryan Lovell (Health and Wellness) and Dr. Micky Sharma (Counseling and Consultation Services).

Intellectual & Property, Patents, and Copyright Committee– Brian Rocha (rocha.51)

Had an Q&A with CIO and head of ERIK – questions we asked about how we can better improve our guidelines to prevent issues where faculty producing research might conflict with outside business interests and the requirements of where/when/how OSU makes itself part of the equation when IP, Patents and copyright issues arise.

Council on Academic Affairs – Andrew Miles (miles.375)

Resulting from the senate vote on the Chase Center, the senate moved to reject the proposal and subsequently remove itself from future oversight, generally speaking, of the center. The main implication is that CAA will not have direct oversight to review the center and make substantive changes on an as-needed-basis; oversight of the Chase Center will be only within the hands of the provost-a singular person rather than a deliberative body. However, all



programs (certificate, undergrad, graduate, professional) will go through CAA in their creation/revising/sundowning. Similarly, course creation will go through normative OAA processes. CAA is also looking at the evolving landscape of federal/state policy changes as it relates to DEI, international programs, and education. If any student has a story or insights on how policy changes are directly impacting academic affairs, please email (miles.375) me to share with the committee. Our committee can bring in university leaders to address specific or broad concerns.

Normative center review:

First:

- Initial reviews assess the center's budget and performance against pre-set quantifiable targets based on the original proposal and other relevant information.
- The center must respond to the review, detailing achievements or failures in meeting targets and setting new quantifiable targets for the next review period.

Subsequent Actions

Post-review, the reviewing body (such as the CAA) meets to assess the response and recommends one of three options: continue operation, revise direction and support, or close the center.

Recommendations are forwarded to the Provost and, if applicable, the Vice President for Research.

Start-Up Centers:

Proponents must demonstrate potential for significant external or central funding to the department chairs and college deans before approaching the Provost.

The Provost's approval is contingent upon notification to the CAA, Senate, and Board of Trustees and specifying the criteria for the center to continue.

Income Streams for Centers:

Centers can generate income through external grants that cover appointments and earn full overhead, and from university annual rate funds for partially or fully paid staff or faculty appointments.

Returns from indirect costs, tuition, and other income based on faculty or staff performance related to the center are proportional to the contribution and involvement of the center's staff in generating these funds.

Committee Membership: Lists the members involved in the CAA and other related subcommittees, indicating a diverse representation from various academic and administrative sectors of the university.

Council on Academic Freedom & Responsibility – Jorge E. Clavo Abbass (clavoabbass.1)

No meeting.

Rules Committee – Jorge E. Clavo Abbass (clavoabbass.1)

No relevant update to share.

Library Committee – Gabriel Guzman Camacho (guzmancamacho.1)

No update.

University Research Committee – Tony Annerino (annerino.2) / Andrew Miles (miles.375)

URC received updates about the ERIK website built to track the many ongoing changes impacting availability of federal research funds. This website is continuously being updated as



the situation evolves, and it can be accessed at: <https://research.osu.edu/proposal-development-and-submission/sponsors/working-federal-agencies/2025-federal-administration>. ERIK also described that all other Big Ten schools charge for IRB review of industry sponsored research work and said that this practice will likely come to OSU sooner than later. Finally, ERIK also said to expect the new Huron IRB online platform to go live on March 20. URC will meet next on March 7.

Committee on Academic Technology – Tony Annerino (annerino.2)

CAT spent about half the February meeting talking about the ongoing work toward establishing committee bylaws again. The second half of the meeting was taken by the same presentation by interim chief information officer Giner Breon about the ongoing action of the software purchasing working group that I previously reported URC receiving earlier this academic year. A finer detail that became clear in the longer discussion that was available after seeing this same presentation a second time was that the working group recommended to university administration that a new staff position be created explicitly for the long term maintenance and supervision of the software acquisition tools and processes implemented from the working group's procedural suggestions. This request for a new staff position was put on hold until the efficacy of the other suggestions has been determined. Another finer detail that was not made clear upon my first viewing of this presentation is that technology accessibility and going beyond minimum requirements is getting attention that the broader community is probably not aware of as a major recommendation of this working group was related to this matter. CAT will meet next on March 3.

Council on Enrollment and Student Progress – Thomas Elton (elton.21)

Discussion COAM cases & AI language in syllabi; potential adding Associate Vice President, Institutional Research and Planning, as a non-voting CESP member; discussion participation rosters, transfer articulation, retroactive withdraws, excused absence policy (excused absences & religious holidays some students may get more days)- Better notes will be updated once meeting minutes are sent out.

Government Affairs – Bryan Perez Soto (perezsoto.2)

The meeting discussed updates from the local state government, including budgets and bills submitted by the senate (SB1 in particular). In terms of budget, the local government has increased certain funds towards scholarships for undergraduates and kept most of the regular funds on a regular basis. The conversation of SB1 discussed how the university is trying to provide feedback and recommendations to the bill and how it is important to receive feedback from the university body. Reach out to the Government Affairs Committee (senate-gac@osu.edu)

Council on the Physical Environment – Brittany Multer Hopkins (multerhopkins.1)

The committee met in December to discuss the priorities for the year. Most revolve around transportation, framework 3.0, and ecosystem services/university outdoor spaces.

Athletic Council – Katie Conner (connor.280)

No update relevant to graduate students.

Steering – Sabrina Durso (Durso.19)

It was a mess. Will update in General Delegate Body Meeting.



If you have ideas for what you'd like Senate to discuss at their monthly meeting, please email me.

In service,
Peter Carrera (Carrera.55)



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Chiranth Koratagere Nagaraj, Graduate Student Affairs Chair
DATE: March 3, 2025
RE: Graduate Student Affairs Chair's Report

The committee is hard at work planning and scheduling Graduate Student Appreciation Week on April 7th to April 11th. Please remind your departments/programs that this is a national effort to celebrate graduate students, and as such, they should participate in some way!

So far, GSAW's Events are as follows:

- ALL WEEK: CGS Giveaways 9AM-1PM, Grad School Lobby (2nd floor of University Hall)
 - The giveaways are starting to be delivered! More details to come!
- Monday, April 7: Donuts with the Deans, 9AM-11AM, Grad School Lobby (2nd floor of University Hall)
 - Come meet the Deans across OSU! There will be plenty of Buckeye donuts and coffee to consume while asking those Deans questions regarding advocacy, career paths, and more.
- Wednesday: Game Night, 6PM-9PM, KBK Suite (Ohio Union)
 - Housing within the Keith B. Key Center for Student Leadership and Service, we welcome grads to come have some Woody's Tavern Pizza and play boardgames offered by the KBK Resource Room. The CGS Office is also housed in this space, so please come by and see where CGS is housed!
- Friday: Instructional Kitchen, 5PM-7:30PM, Ohio Union
 - As we've done in years prior, we have booked an Instructional Kitchen for GSAW! More details to come!

Chiranth KoratagereNagaraj.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Deb Pathak & Luke Van Niel, Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair
DATE: March 1, 2024
RE: Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair's Report

Greetings,

Great news! The Access Resolution was endorsed by the University Senate at their meeting on February 27th. The provost has convened a working group on the Resolution which will continue working on the feasibility of Resolution implementation.

At our February meeting, HWS brainstormed new initiatives on campus aimed at increasing awareness, advocacy, and access for disabled students, staff, and faculty. Our initial plans include launching a webpage of testimonies of disabled members of the OSU community, tied to a sign/flyer campaign on campus drawing attention to the oft invisibilized yet significant disabled population at Ohio State. The webpage would serve as a resource for people to learn more about disability as a lived experience impacted by the in/accessibility of built environments, as well as a general advertisement for the Accessibility Stakeholders' Symposium in October 2025.

We also discussed the potential of further linking these efforts to a social media campaign, either on CGS socials or larger OSU social media accounts.

Lastly, we are evaluating findings from last year's inaugural Accessibility Stakeholders' Symposium to chart the most effective paths forward towards this fall's Symposium.

Best,

Pathak.89 & Vanniel.5



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Lauren Levesque & Syed Murtaza Arshad, Housing and Family Affairs Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: Housing and Family Affairs Chair's Report

Hello Everyone,

This report summarizes the discussions and action items from the Housing and Family Affairs (HAFA) Committee meeting held on February 21, 2025.

OCCSE Focus Group Discussion:

We were joined by OCCSE members who conducted a survey on housing OCCSE activities and resources. We had a representative group of students, international students, graduate students with families and students from Wooster campus.

Housing Resources for Students at Wooster Campus:

OCCSE doesn't have a physical presence, or resources dedicated to Wooster Campus. Main reason is that they don't have a housing network there. However, OCCSE is available to assist/guide students from Wooster campus if they need any guidance.

Moreover, there is a living guide available for Wooster campus developed 2/3 years ago. We are planning to update it with the help of HAFA and OCCSE.

OCCSE upcoming events:

Off-Campus Living Session 2.0 (virtual) - focuses on steps to take after finding off-campus housing and signing a lease. - March 4, 2025

- 3 p.m.
- Register using this [virtual registration link!](#)

Off-Campus Living 2.0 Session (in-person) – focuses on steps to take after finding off-campus housing and signing a lease. - March 18, 2025

- 6 p.m.
- Denny Hall, Room 214 (164 Annie and John Glenn Ave.)
- Register using this [registration link!](#)

Commuter Meet-Up - March 20, 2025

- 12 - 1 p.m. in the Commuter Lounge (Room 3000 on the third floor of the Ohio Union).

Off-Campus Living Expo - March 25, 2025

- 11 am to 3 pm
- Performance Hall, Ohio Union (1st Floor)
- Talk with more than 40 vendors (property companies, city partners, university departments and area businesses)
- Enjoy a cooking demonstration with free samples, free food truck, prizes and vendor giveaways

Roommate Fair - March 27, 2025

- 4-5:30 p.m.
- Alonso Family Room in the Center for Belonging and Social Change, Ohio Union
- Registration is appreciated but not required. You can register by using the [roommate fair registration form.](#)

Housing Consultations (in-person and virtual)

- Schedule using [this link](#)

Be kind and caring,
Levesque.31 & Arshad.32

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



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Kaustubh Kumar, International Student Affairs Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: International Student Affairs Chair's Report

Hi Everyone,

We had committee's monthly meeting on 26th Feb. A new member joined the committee. ISAC is working on following items:

- Planning and efforts for our two events- 'tax information' and 'share your story'- are ongoing.
- We aim to hold one online tax info session at beginning of April 2025. Some tax experts are being approached for addressing the sessions. Final schedule will be shared this month through various channels.
- 'Share your story' event will take place on 24th March 2025 from 6-8 pm at Ohio Union (Great Hall Meeting Room 2). Two guest speakers have agreed for the event. We are in process to search and finalize another guest speaker to represent gender and regional diversity on the panel.

We are always looking for new committee members who will help us grow and contribute positively to international graduate students experience at the OSU. So, please tell your friends and reach out (kumar.889@osu.edu) if you have any ideas and/or are interested in serving on the committee.

Wishing all a fruitful month ahead,
Kumar.889



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Aryn Robinson, Membership Wellness Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: Membership Wellness Chair's Report

Hi everyone,

Current Announcements

March Financial Wellness Bingo Challenge is attached to the Delegate Packet email.
The Financial Wellness event on Thursday, March 20th from 4p-5p has been moved to **virtual only**. Please [RSVP here](https://forms.office.com/r/z5jHpRhxBc) (<https://forms.office.com/r/z5jHpRhxBc>)
The CGS Planetarium Trip has been **cancelled** because the planetarium's projector is broken.

Future Directions

MW has not scheduled any meetings for the remainder of the CGS year. We will meet as need arises. Contact me if you have any ideas for MW.

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!

Robinson.2283



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Bill Wang, Research and Data Operations Chair
DATE: March 01, 2025
RE: Research and Data Operations Chair's Report

Hi all,

Shiddhartha Ramprakash has been voted by the executive committee as the co-chair for the RDO committee.

Best,

Wang.13945



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Brittany Multer Hopkins, Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility Committee (SERC) Chair
DATE: March 7, 2025
RE: SERC Chair's Report

Hello CGSers!

We are only 1 month away from SERC's Presentation and Panelist Event on April 8th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM in the Ohio Union Great Hall Meeting Room 2 as part of Time for Change Week! Come listen to presentations by graduate students focused on sustainability research for the first hour, followed by a panel of faculty and staff answering questions about sustainability measures being taken by OSU. We will have reusable silverware giveaways!

Link to submit questions to the sustainability panel:

<https://forms.office.com/r/MkuFA2yuHz>

Sustainability Tips for March: Be Water Smart

Adopting water-saving practices on campus or at home can help reduce your utility bills while conserving a precious resource. Here are some tips to integrate into your daily routine:

- Turn Off Taps. While brushing your teeth or washing your hands, turning off the tap can save up to 8 gallons of water daily¹
- Take Shorter Showers. Limiting your showers to 5 minutes can conserve up to 12.5 gallons per shower¹
- Run Full Loads Only. Operating dishwashers and washing machines only when full maximizes efficiency, saving up to 1,000 gallons of water per month¹

Source: <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/start-saving?>

Best,

Brittany
Multer Hopkins.1