



**COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

# Delegate Packet

May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Location: Zoom



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# Meeting Agenda

General Delegate Meeting | 31 May 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 [3 min]
  - 4.3. Treasurer’s Report – Jon Fritz.288 [3 min]
  - 4.4. Secretary’s Report – Vacant
5. **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**
  - 5.1. Academic Affairs – Vacant
  - 5.2. Arts and Culture – Holly Engel.210
  - 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 Van Niel (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** [15 min]
  - 6.1 CGS Budget Approval Voting Session
7. **NEW BUSINESS** [10 min]
  - 7.1 CGS Secretary Election
8. **SPECIAL ORDER ITEM** [30 min]
  - 8.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns
9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [5 min]
  - 9.1 **Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, June 28th at 3:30pm (Zoom)**
10. **ADJOURNMENT** 5:06 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.



# May 2024 Delegate Meeting Minutes for Approval

General Delegate Meeting | 3 May 2024 | Cartoon Room, Ohio Union and via Zoom

1. **WORLD CAFÉ** 3:30 PM
  - 1.1 **Sabrina Durso.19 (President) and Katie Conner.280 (Vice President) Introduce** [10 min]
  - 1.2 **Breakout Groups** [20 min]
2. **CALL TO ORDER** 4:07PM
  - 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]
  - 4.1 **Motion to Approve, Seconded, Approved**
5. **OFFICER REPORTS**
  - 5.1. **President’s Report – Sabrina Durso.19** [10 min]
    - OAA increased the minimum stipend for GAs by 5%, bringing the minimum stipend for a 9-month .5FTE GA appointment from \$21,280 to \$22,347. This is the first increase in GA compensation since 2021 and Dean Stromberger is open to discussion about continued increases over the upcoming years
    - All CGS members should fill out a swipe access form before leaving today
    - Grad Council is working to make the GradSERU report accessible
    - President Carter has convened a childcare working group to evaluate the current state of childcare across OSU and how to improve it. Currently, the team is looking at how to improve compensation for their workers
    - We continue to help OCCSE determine what the grad housing position should look like and we are allowing their input for this upcoming year's housing survey
    - GrubHub Robots have been updated to leave one entrance on campus alone
    - Accommodations Resolution Writing Group will take place over the summer and take about 2 hours. Please see/email me if you'd like to participate in this historic resolution writing
  - 5.2. **Vice President’s Report – Katie Conner.280** [5 min]
    - ELECTIONS
      - 68 delegates won election, and 58 have accepted seats as of today
      - 4 runoff races currently pending (several more waiting for response on)
      - 52 departments represented (37 with full representation)
    - CDG
      - 26 eligible applications needing judging
      - Only 4 judges at the moment.... need at least 3-4 more if at all possible
      - PLEASE HELP JUDGE APPS
    - Deliverables
      - CGS resolution calling for further concrete plans for increases to pay + adoption of a COLA model for stipends (ideally voted upon at September meeting)
      - Short briefing document to accompany the resolution to help present data & support our presented solutions
      - Meeting Frequency & Work Dates: Monday June 3rd – Friday August 16th, 2024 / Meeting every other week via zoom for 1-1.5 hours
      - Reasons to Join: 1) Yell at admin about pay directly, 2) Get experience writing CGS resolutions, 3) Help us hit the ground running in the Fall
  - 5.3. **Treasurer’s Report – Jon Fritz.288** [5 min]
    - As of 4/26/2024 5/3/2024, we have ~25 50! applications for RTA this funding period
    - Most applications for this funding period in three years



- Thus, I'm looking for 3-4 more judges who would be willing to help to judge from May 6-17th (can be flexible for a couple days past the 17th)
- In discussions with our CGS advisor, Erica Brown, to streamline or alter the process for submitting payment requests, stay tuned...
- Not much else at the moment, will try to update with FY25 spending at either the May 31 or June 28th delegate mtg

## **6. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

[5 min]

### **6.1. International Student Affairs – Herath.6**

- Share your story was a success
- Thank you to all those who helped and those who attended!

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

[0 min]

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

[0 min]

## **9. SPECIAL ORDER ITEM**

### **9.1. Budget Listening Session**

[10 min]

Led by Rocha.51 in lieu of Fritz.288

#### ***Fritz.288 from Zoom***

Delegate body to advocate for or against spending money for your cause  
Will be addtl session May 22nd, link in delegate packet  
Will vote on next budget at next meeting  
Any questions feel free to email Jon

#### ***Quiang.39***

41k for IT, what does it cover Purchases, repair, or rent?  
5,500 parking passes?  
Rocha.51  
Parking passes currently for officers

#### ***Conner.280***

Covers 5 passes for officers for meetings  
Trial passes for delegates this year

#### ***Quiang.39***

Garage parking passes?

#### ***Rocha.51***

Yes, A passes

#### ***Booker.200***

Organizational development

#### ***Rocha.51***

No note, will reach out to Jon

#### ***Conner.280***

Might be holdover from precovid

#### ***Sarkar.115***

Exec committee budget?

#### ***Rocha.51***

Includes exec retreat, catering, team building, discretionary, marking, etc.

#### ***Soni.117***

Amount that delegate can use for each dept?

#### ***Conner.280***

In past, delegate engagement fund  
Do not have currently, trying to recreate

#### ***Booker.200***

Clarification, repped in discretionary?

#### ***Conner.280***

Not own line item, covered in officer discretionary

#### ***Rocha.51***

Motion to end early, Approved



- 9.2. **Executive Session** [60 min]
- 9.3. **Delegate Issues and Concerns** [15 min]
- Elton.21**  
Concern about building access for grad students, limited access to labs, libraries, etc., not communicated
- Durso.19**  
Will reiterate
- GuzmanCamacho.1**  
1. Constituents add in handbook explicit language about feedback advisor has to give about draft  
Email me if problem of late or no feedback on final papers  
2. Rationale behind salary increase? Why that amount and why today?
- Clavoabbass.1**  
They decide stipends on 3 year time horizon, discussions in feb  
No sitting pres in feb, so university did not follow processes  
When ted got here, I made a point of saying this is the reality, this is what we need, asked for 35% not 5%  
Rumors that ac affairs looking at 6% each ac year, problem is that now we have interim provost  
Carter directed interim provost to rearrange base ga salary
- Bertossa.1**  
Ask about issue about summer gta appointments 25% but teaching language class 20 hours a week  
Constituents can't pay rent for the summer  
International students got 50%, american students got 25%  
French and italian dept
- Durso.19**  
Please email me so I can forward to Dean asap
- Booker.200**  
Curious about orientation engagement
- Durso.19**  
Can send them my way  
Welcome week events, can send info about  
Involvement maestro in August
10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [5 min]
- 10.1. **Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 3:30 (Zoom)**
11. **ADJOURNMENT** ~7:00 PM



## Officer Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Sabrina Durso, President  
DATE: May 21, 2024  
RE: President's Report

Salutations homies,

I hope the summer semester is treating you all well thus far. Below are updates by topic:

### Executive Committee:

- We have officially re-sat some past committee chairs and welcomed quite a few new chairs! Welcome back Maddie (Gov Affairs), Peter (Grad Caucus), Murtaza (Housing and Family Affairs), and Bill (Research and Ops)! And a warm welcome to Holly (Arts and Culture), Deb and Luke (Health, Wellness, and Safety), Kaustubh (International Student Affairs), Aryn (Membership Wellness), and Brittany (SERC)!
- **We still need to sit Academic Affairs, Diversity & Inclusion, and Graduate Student Affairs.** If you are interested in chairing one of these committees or co-chairing any committee, please contact me and/or fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/8uRnhYqtJ2TxyYRJ6>

### Statement on April Protests:

- The statement had some issues getting sent out via the Maestro due to “inaccuracies” within the statement, according to The University. They published the statement last week alongside their corrections. Katie and I approved their sending corrections in order to publish the statement via Maestro, as CGS voted to send the statement regardless of repercussions (let alone “corrections”). The statement also resides on CGS’s website and our social media pages (Instagram and Twitter/X).
- Regarding our requests, The President’s Office stated that “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 the best interest of our community.” Additionally, The President’s Office has decided to meet with elected student officials via monthly meetings led by Doc Shivers. The first meeting took place Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> with OSUPD Chief of Police, Kimberly Spears-McNatt. Next month, we will meet with President Carter. I continue to ask for a town hall with President Carter and graduate students, but thus far, these meetings are all they have provided. Please know I have worked and continue to work tirelessly to ensure CGS's statement is read and acted upon.

### Accommodations Resolution:

- I have spoken with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Office, and they have given me fantastic advice for writing a resolution that goes beyond the bare minimum accommodations offered to students (and have offered to help). This resolution will address





religious observations, leaves of absence, disability/accessibility, mental health, and more as reasonable absences from coursework. Additionally, it will address and provide solutions to the far too frequent instances of advisor/program abuse toward graduate students.

- I plan on drafting this resolution between June 11-13. If you would like to help, please fill out this When2Meet: <https://www.when2meet.com/?25095340-s9Jre>

In solidarity always,

Sabrina Durso.19



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Katie Conner, Vice President  
DATE: May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
RE: Vice President's Report

Hey y'all,

I hope everyone's summers are going relatively smoothly and restfully. Thanks for your grace as I spent/will spend the week of May 27 – 31 with family and was a little more offline than normal (my 3 niblets also thank you as they enjoyed puzzle and sandcastle time). I've included my updated task and progress list below. Feel free to reach out to me via email as you need to.

### **Not Yet Begun ✕ -**

- **Hayes39 (2025)**
  - Application updates submitted to IT for judges (both OSU and nonOSU)
  - Work w/ consultants about equity concerns
    - Microaggressions and poor judging practices, how to improve judging onboarding
    - Formalizing accessibility requirements and process for day-of content and for judges/participants/guests
- **Delegates/Elections**
  - Work on committee assignments for 24-25 for all CGSers
  - Delegate/CGS orientation
    - Bookings
    - Content
- **Misc.**
  - Meet w/ Erica, Sabrina, Jon, new CoS (Jess), and new Secretary (TBD) about 24-25 CGS goals, team dynamics, & workflow

### **In Progress 🔄 -**

- **Hayes39 (2025)**
  - Close out Hayes '24 payments, prize payments, and getting reimbursement from ERIK and Graduate School for Hayes money CGS fronted
  - Hayes 2024 debrief w/ Erica Brown & go through Hayes feedback surveys from all participant groups (applicants, presenters, judges, committee members)
  - Confirm Hayes '25 room reservations
  - Application updates submitted to IT for participants
  - Get in touch with Wellness Center about potential collaboration for a "wellness" decompression room for in between presentations and awards luncheon
- **Delegates/Elections**
- Tweak & distribute delegate committee & "get to know you" survey for 24-25 delegates
- Completing runoffs from Spring 2



- Elected delegates' applications approved, assigned to seats, academic verification from dept and graduate school secured, added to mailing list, etc.
  - o Academic verifications in progress..... just taking time to find faculty as usual
- **Misc.**
  - o Take a week off from May 26<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup> to go to the beach and simply exist w/ my fam
  - o CGS Pay working group
  - o Welcome week planning
    - Getting quotes for swag and promos for tabling at events (OUAB picnic, involvement, GTA and Faculty fair)
  - o Bylaws Updates w/ Sabrina, Brian, Peter
    - We've met once to discuss feedback and tweaks, now are in drafting phase w/ the goal of adoption in Sept. 24 when the full General Body is present
  - o Further website updates & Fixes
    - Officer pages, contact sheet, etc. updated
    - Getting IT to fix various forms and portals (Hayes, Ray, CDG, elections)

**Completed ☒ -**

- **Hayes39 (2025)**
  - o Catalogue all current materials and swag remaining after '24 Hayes Forum
- **Delegates/Elections**
  - o Tweak & distribute senator committee & "get to know you" survey for 24-25 senators
- **Misc.**
  - o CDG FP1 Applications & Judging completed, applicants notified of status
  - o Help draft, edit, & gather feedback on CGS statement
    - Post on socials & website

Cheers,

Katie "Remember to wear sunscreen y'all..... seriously" Conner.280



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Jon Fritz, Treasurer  
DATE: May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
RE: Treasurer's Report

Hi howdy folks,

**Treasurer Updates:**

1. Budget for FY25: Whenever the FY25 budget is passed, please note that corrections/addendums will be made after the start of FY25 to accurately reflect the end-of-fiscal-year calculations for carry forward and encumbrance items from FY24.

**Ray Travel Award (RTA) Updates:**

1. FP1, FY25: The RTA committee funded 7 out of 50 applications for the first funding period of FY25. Please share with your constituents that given we have spent quite a bit of RTA monies on funding grad students AND that more and more folks are applying to the RTA each funding period (good problem to have!), this award is becoming more and more competitive.
2. RTA application workshop: I would like to plan, in tandem with the future CDG chair, two RTA judging workshops this year to help applicants write better apps, teach folks how we judge these apps, and some overall info. about the RTA. More details forthcoming, but I want the first workshop to be sometime at the end of September/early October; folks who want to assist with this are encouraged to reach out!
3. As always thanks to you beautiful, thoughtful humans for judging these apps and the committee for staying active throughout the year.

**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
- Meet with and make major changes to the RTA app process to streamline the application (as suggested by the RTA committee)
- 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!

June is here and I am scared,

Fritz.288



## Committee Chair Reports

**Committees that Opted Out of Reports:** Academic Affairs (*vacant*); Arts and Culture; Diversity & Inclusion (*vacant*); Graduate Caucus; Graduate Student Affairs (*vacant*); Health, Wellness, and Safety; International Student Affairs; Research and Data Operations; SERC

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Madeline Carrola, Government Affairs Chair  
DATE: May 31, 2024  
RE: Government Affairs Chair's Report

Hello,

The Government Affairs Committee is working on a voting sticker contest, to launch later this summer. All graduate students are eligible to submit a voting sticker design, after which graduate students will vote on their favorite. The winner will have their sticker printed and distributed to graduate students. First, second, and third place winners will also receive prizes for their sticker designs.

The Government Affairs Committee is currently working with Erica Brown on project logistics.

Sincerely,

Carrola.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Syed Murtaza Arshad, Housing and Family Affairs Chair  
DATE: May 24, 2024  
RE: Housing and Family Affairs Chair's Report

Hello all,

The Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement (OCCSE) office has officially posted the position we asked for: Senior Relationship Manager. The application opened May 14 and closed May 24. HFA and CGS President, Sabrina Durso.19 had input on the position description below and will be included in the final interview process. OCCSE plans to have this position filled and working before the Fall Semester.

Position Description: "The Senior Relationship Manager serves as a primary point of contact and oversees accounts for a portfolio of vendors including those that have graduate and family friendly housing to strategically engage as a key influencer in the off-campus residential experience; acquires annual revenue, generates new revenue opportunities, and forecasts revenue, and engages and works collaboratively with a variety of constituent groups including the Council for Graduate Students, the Graduate School, Graduate and Professional Admissions and property owners; identifies and tracks key performance indicators to direct the business plan; maintains and tracks vendor criteria to determine eligibility as an in-network member with the organization; maintains relevant aspects of the website including the housing search and graduate student components; formulates and implements assessment and manages data collection to inform strategic planning in collaboration with relevant partners to assess and report growth and effectiveness of programs to inform our work, report out to leadership, and to keep our stakeholders informed; compiles data on university district and Columbus market to inform decisions related to graduate students; communicates and collaborates cross departmentally to support departmental objectives and to ensure comprehensive knowledge of what is going on in the community; supervises and mentors staff in areas of personnel functions including hiring, supervision and performance management for full-time regular employees."

Thank you,

Arshad.32



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Aryn Robinson, Membership Wellness Chair  
DATE: May 24, 2024  
RE: Membership Wellness Chair's Report

Hello everyone!

My name is Aryn Robinson, and I am the new Membership Wellness Chair.

I am excited to help shake the dust off this committee after it has been inactive for a year.

My goal is to shape Membership Wellness around the wellness needs of all of you. I am going to create a survey to gather information that will help me steer Membership Wellness in the best direction for CGSers. That survey will be distributed near the beginning of Autumn semester.

Our lovely former chair will be aiding the committee in bringing some of the old magic back. A big shout out and thank you to Alissa Geisse!

Happy Summer! (Don't forget to wear sunscreen!),

Robinson.2283