



**COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

# Delegate Packet

October 4th, 2024

Location: Ohio Union Senate Chambers and Zoom



# Table of Contents

<b>1. MEETING AGENDA</b>	<b>PAGE 3</b>
<b>2. CGS VIRTUAL MEETING GROUND RULES</b>	<b>PAGE 4</b>
<b>3. SEPTEMBER 2024 DELEGATE MEETING MINUTES</b>	<b>PAGE 5</b>
<b>4. OFFICER REPORTS</b>	<b>PAGE 14</b>
<b>5. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS</b>	<b>PAGE 19</b>



# Agenda

General Delegate Meeting | 04 October 2024 | Senate Chambers, Ohio Union and via Zoom

- 1. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS** **3:30 PM**
  - 1.1. CGS's Membership Wellness Committee – Meet & Greet with CGS Event
- 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** **[20 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's Report – **VACANT**
- 6. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS** **[20 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
  - 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. International Student Affairs – Kaustubh Kumar.889
  - 6.9. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945
  - 6.10. Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283
- 7. OLD BUSINESS** **[15 min]**
  - 7.1 Executive Session (if voted upon by majority)
- 8. NEW BUSINESS** **[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, November 1 at 3:30pm (Ohio Staters Inc. Traditions Room & Zoom)**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT** **5:45 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 | 06 SEPTEMBER 2024 | Room, Ohio Union and via Zoom

## 1. GUEST PRESENTATIONS

3:31 PM

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

1.1.1) Importance of graduate student delegates to graduate student life

1.1.2) There's been a 300% increase of students for disability services over the last decade.

- Needs increase in staff and support for disability services, wants a stand-alone student life disability services building

1.1.4) New student resource center coming to campus: Monda Student Resource Center

- It will be a one-stop shop for campus resources: food pantry and clothing closet will be housed there.
- Student emergency funds will be housed there.
- Someone from Franklin County social services will have office hours in the building to assist students and families with community resources.

1.1.5) Political activity increase on campus until November elections

- Student Life has been looking over University Space standards during the summertime to make sure there are opportunities for students' voices to be heard.

1.1.6) Q + A:

- Q: **Unknown CGSer:** Hi, for this one-stop student resource center can you talk about where on campus it will be and what hours will be available for services?

A: **Dr. Shivers:** The Younkin Student Success Center is where the new student resources center will be available. There will be alternating hours, including days where it's open later in the afternoon to accommodate students.

- Q: **Booker.200:** So last academic year, CGS had released a statement that said we stand in solidarity with many other faculty, staff and students and urge all relevant units of OSU to immediately work for the dismissal, expungement, and reversal of all charges and disciplinary actions brought against all students, staff and community members arrested between April 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 regarding the protests on campus. I'm wondering if there's been any change in how the University has dealt with the situation or any expungement of the charges brought against students.

A: **Dr. Shivers:** I can't tell you about any individual student case, but I can tell you we haven't moved towards any expungement. Once students are arrested, we don't get any opportunity to say that the student shouldn't be arrested. And we're still in the same space

- Q: **Arshad.32:** So the new initiative, will it be able to help any students? I've heard a couple scenarios of international graduate students who were on fellowship and their fellowships weren't getting renewed. There are a couple departments who don't have the funds to get these fellowships renewed. I'm from the engineering department, so I have privilege, but in other departments they don't care anymore, right? Will this initiative help them or is there something we can do?

A: **Dr. Shivers:** Office of Student Advocacy will be located in that space, so they will be able to provide support and point students in the right direction. We have 60 graduate students who work in the Office of Student Life and I imagine we'll employ many graduate students to work in the Monda Student Life Center. I don't know if the jobs would be as lucrative as the fellowships, but certainly we hope this addresses some of the financial challenges and pitfalls we're facing.

- Q: **Unknown CGSer:** I'm from the political science department and I know a lot of my colleagues, especially international students, have trouble getting housing and finding affordable housing in particular. Is this center going to help with that at all?

A: **Dr. Shivers:** I've got 2 answers to that question. There is the Office of Campus and Commuter Engagement and then we could introduce her now?

**Durso.19:** Yeah, sure.

**Dr. Shivers:** We do have a brand new position in the office of campus and commuter and students engagement. Her name is Jennifer Davis. She's sitting in the back row, and she



is designated to help graduate students find housing within all of Columbus and help their needs, whether they're incoming or not. This position came because of advocacy that started in this room. I would also say in the student resource center. Again, if we're having conversations with students about food insecurity, about housing and security, we'll be able to create and connect those dots to make sure that if students find their way to us that we also find a way to get them connected off campus and community engagement.

- Q: **Unknown CGSer:** I have 2 kids and I know others who have kids and grandkids as well. My question is there any support for health? Like funding for support to help my kids because I have a balance I'm not able to afford. Is there any form of support we can get?  
A: **Dr. Shivers:** How about you and I connect offline and we can talk more?
- Q: **Unknown CGSer:** We need a place in our building to just relax and sometimes a room for nursing. Would that center be able to help us with that?  
A: **Dr. Shivers:** I know that in different buildings there are spaces that have been designated, and I imagine that within the Monda Student Resource Center, the staff there will have a better idea of where those locations are, and that we will have one of those within the Monda resource center within the Younkin Success Center. But I think it will also be important to have awareness of where they are located across campus. Did that answer your question?  
**Unknown CGSer:** Yeah, just like a space to relax, not even just for modest purposes. Maybe a nursing room for mothers or just a quiet space to go and relax.  
**Unknown CGSer:** If you google 'lactation rooms OSU' it should pop up with a map.  
**Dr. Shivers:** Yes and I think she's talking about other just quiet rooms on campus. I don't have a full list but that's definitely something we need to bring awareness of.
- Q: **Unknown CGSer:** Super happy to have Jennifer on board. Could you discuss more exactly what is being done to help graduate students and their search for affordable housing. Is there anything by University being done, or Is Jennifer just stepping in and taking over everything completely herself?
- A: **Dr. Shivers:** A big part of Jennifer's role will be to find affordable housing for graduate students because she works in the office of student life and that's a great first step for us. If you're asking a different layered question?  
**Unknown CGSer:** Yeah so is anything else happening besides just Jennifer?  
**Dr. Shivers:** She just started so yes, but she's not the only person on campus that can help with identifying affordable housing. If we're getting to the next layered questions about increases in stipends and those kinds of things, those conversations continue with our new president, Ted Carter.  
**Unknown CGSer:** As well as options for childcare and those kinds of things?  
**Dr. Shivers:** I think at the last University Senate meeting, the conversations of childcare were robust and Ted Carter said he wanted to commission a group to look at what are the childcare needs and what are the things we can do to address this.  
**Durso.19:** And that group just convened over the summer so I can update you on those things as soon as Dr. Shivers leaves.
- Q: **Pathak.89:** With this new position and wanting to increase support for graduate students in general. Are there any concrete plans to put out a regular annual survey of graduate students to regularly assess their needs. For example, an online survey where all grad students can share what works, any major obstacles they're having towards completing their degree? (from Zoom)  
**Connor.280:** I'm guessing this is more geared towards grad students and their needs and less academics.  
A: **Dr. Shivers:** I know that there's the student life survey that goes out, for both undergrad and grad students. That data is used and leveraged to help assess grad students needs each year.



- Q: **Connor.280**: Another zoom question – one topic that has come up in many departments is ensuring positive student advisor relationships in terms of grad student well-being and mental health. What types of programs or activities does the office of student life have to ensure that faculty are part of the conversation, making it a 2 way conversation across the university?  
A: **Dr. Shivers**: I know Counseling and Consultation Services works a lot with faculty but I'm not sure how or if they facilitate conversations between students and faculty. I'll need to get back to you on that.
- Q: **Unknown CGSer**: I may have missed this but when does the center open?  
A: **Dr. Shivers**: It will open in the Spring.
- Q: **Unknown CGSer**: About the results of the survey, I'm assuming they're public and free for anyone to look at them?  
A: **Dr. Shivers**: Yeah actually, we can send you a link to the results of the last 10 years of the survey.
- Q: **Connor.280**: I've got a zoom question. I've seen firsthand how graduate students with medical needs need to go on leave and then lose all forms of financial support. Are there any forms of support for students that need to go on medical leave, especially because most PhD students live paycheck to paycheck.  
A: **Dr. Shivers**: I don't think there is. I think that's a topic that we need to explore more. Dean Stromberger is looking into it.

## 2. CALL TO ORDER

4:01 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

4:03 PM

- Motion to approve the minutes: **Annerino.2**
- Seconded by **Arshad.32**

## 5. OFFICER REPORTS

[21 min]

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

### 5.1.1) COMPLETED OVER SUMMER:

- Childcare: Official recommendations regarding the facilitation of the development of childcare co-ops, drop-in facilities (like Thompson library), child friendly spaces (like Thompson library), educational resources, improved facilities, and more are being brought to President Carter
- Welcomed First-Years at Convocation and hosted THREE Welcome Week Events Orientated Executive Committee for a great year!

### 5.1.2) WORKING ON:

- Seating ACADEMIC AFFAIRS and DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
- Getting President Carter to a Meeting and Continuing to Meet with Doc Shivers often
- CGS Newsletters becoming more independent
- No longer using the Student Life Maestro
- Advisor Abuse Issues are being taken to University Senate and Grad School, and being addressed in Accommodations Resolution (now in review)

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

- International Student Orientation Materials: <https://oia.osu.edu/units/international-students/new-student-check-in-and-orientation/pre-arrival-messages/> - Link to Pre-Arrival/Orientation Messages
- Discrepancies in Student Fee: Working with University Registrar, some months have more student fees than others



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

5.2.1) HAYES: Nothing at this time.... info coming forth next month!

5.2.2) CDG

- Funded 12 CDG applications for funding period (FP) 2
- We had so few apps we just funded them all, weeeee!!!!
- FP3 apps open on 9/15 for CDG as always, and will close 11/1.
- For new committee members: Kaz & I will reach out to you soon for training, a first meeting, future events/activities, etc. Thanks for your patience! We're working on onboarding and offboarding in a way to keep confusion to a minimum. See Delegate Packet about upcoming vote about merging the two sub-committees into one committee
- See delegate packet on note about coming vote to reorganize RTA & CDG committees under one mega committee again...the Grants Administration Committee!

5.2.3) CGS 24 – 25 “Class Picture”

- Delegates – 69 elected out of 150 apportioned, potentially 87 after Fall Elections
- Senators – 9 elected out of 10 apportioned, potentially 10 after today!
- Executive Board - 16 members (4/4 Officers, 10/12 Issues Committees Chaired)
- We have 2 committees with CoChairs this year! Talk about LEADERSHIP!!!
- Arts & Sciences Delegates – 30 elected out of 53 apportioned
- Business Delegates – 5 elected out of 7 apportioned
- Education & Human Ecology Delegates – 7 elected out of 12 apportioned
- Engineering Delegates – 10 elected out of 24 apportioned
- FAES Delegates – 6 elected out of 10 apportioned
- Env & Natural Res Delegates – 2 elected out of 2 apportioned
- Medicine Delegates – 4 elected out of 7 apportioned
- Public Affairs Delegates – 1 elected out of 3 apportioned
- Public Health Delegates– 1 elected out of 4 apportioned
- Social Work Delegates – 1 elected out of 4 apportioned
- Delegates – 32 First Time Delegates! (With some being first year grad students!)
- Senators – 5 First Time Senators, possibly 6 after today

5.3. Treasurer's Report – Jon Fritz.288

5.3.1) Ray Travel Award updates:

- Funded 8 applications for funding period (FP) 2 for Ray Travel Awards
- Another year of large Ray Travel Award carryover (\$7000), so please encourage your constituents to apply
- FP3 apps open on 10/1, not 9/15, to allow much needed quality of life updates to the app process and website
- For new committee members: I will reach out to you soon for training, a first meeting, future events/activities, etc. Thanks for your patience!
- See delegate packet on note about coming vote to reorganize RTA & CDG committees under one mega committee...the Grants Administration Committee!

5.4. Secretary's Report – Kaz Gary.102

5.4.1) Career Development Award updates:

- I'm the new head of the CDG committee (soon-to-be a possible sub-committee)! Graduate students can apply for a CDG award of up to \$350 to put towards their professional career development. If you want more information on this award and who's eligible to apply, please see: <https://cgs.osu.edu/funding-awards-resources/career-development-grant>
- Other responsibilities: Delegate Packet & meeting slides, attendance, meeting minutes. If you have any questions or ideas for these meeting resources, please let me know!

6. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

4:24 PM





6.1 Academic Affairs – **Vacant**

6.1.1) Largely an advocacy group, main goal: affordable graduation regalia headed by Jon Fritz.288

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

6.2.1 Looking for: New members—tell your friends and reach out if interested! Collaborations welcome.

6.3 Diversity & Inclusion – **Vacant**

6.4 Government Affairs– Madeline Carrola.1

6.4.1 The Government Affairs Voting Sticker Design Contest opened on August 26, 2024

- Got 22 sticker designs
- Voting will start in a couple weeks
- Voting Sticker Design Contest submission window EXTENDED to Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM
- Voting period opens on September 23, 2024. Please remind your constituents to vote for their favorite design

6.5 Graduate Caucus – Peter Carrera.55

6.5.1 Senate Makeup:

- 71 faculty ~50%
- 41 students 29%
- 17 administrators 17%
- 5 staff ~4%

6.5.2 CGS's Senate body, the Graduate Caucus, has 10 senators and 2 primary goals:

- Present a unified, graduate student-focused presence in The University Senate when conducting Senate business
- Having a transparent, two-way information flow with CGS members and constituents; sharing what occurs in the Senate and in turn receiving perspective & information

6.5.3 Senate election today!

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

6.6.1 Committee responsible for a positive graduate experience by supporting other CGS committees and creating projects of their own

6.6.2 Committee plans OSU's annual Graduate Student Appreciation Week

6.7 Health, Wellness, and Safety – Deb Pathak.89 & Luke Van Niel (Vanniel.5)

6.7.1 Committee aims to ensure the physical and mental well-being of all graduate students as well as improve access on campus

6.7.2 2024 Accessibility Stakeholder's Symposium will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> in the Cartoon Room in the Ohio Union, 8 am – 1 pm

- Closer to October, will be looking for a few volunteers to help hand out swag, pass around microphones. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.



6.8 Housing and Family Affairs – Syed Murtaza Arshad.32

- 6.8.1 New resource for grad students to help them with off-campus housing
  - Jennifer Kephas, Sr. Relationship Manager with the Willie J. Young, Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement office (OCCSE), started in August
  - Works with property owners in the off-campus housing network with a specific focus on the housing needs of graduate and professional students
  - Works with OCCSE to support educational programming and safety resources for all students
  - Will liaise with CGS and HAFA committee regularly to understand housing needs and problems of grad students
- 6.8.2 Committee is dedicated to enhancing the housing experience for all grad students and improving the overall quality of life for those families
  - Collaborate closely with the Office of Student Life and OCCSE
  - Efforts include advocating for better graduate housing policies, connection students with vital support and organizing family-oriented events and childcare programs

6.9 International Student Affairs – Kaustubh Kumar.889

- 6.9.1 ISAC intends to facilitate useful information and resources (like news digests, tax information sessions, etc.) for international students
  - Advocate for a vibrant and interconnected international grad student community
  - Improve communications and partnerships with the Office of International Affairs
- 6.9.2 Aim to hold first meeting in the second half of this month
- 6.9.3 Looking for new members! Reach out if you're interested to [kumar.889@osu.edu](mailto:kumar.889@osu.edu)
- 6.9.4 Thursdays and CGS meetings can be held in-person to bring issues and concerns

6.10 Membership Wellness – Aryn Robinson.2283

- 6.10.1 Sensory toys, colored pencils and sheets now available at CGS meetings!
- 6.10.2 Membership shoutouts: share a happy moment from your life, academic wins, professional news or personal triumphs
- 6.10.3 Please complete the Letter to Future Self Activity
  - Instructions in the Delegate Teams
- 6.10.4 Committed to developing fun activities: buddy program, writing groups, social activities and special interest groups
- 6.10.5 Contact Aryn if you're interested in joining

6.11 Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945

- 6.11.1 Committee assists other committees analyze and visualize data
- 6.11.2 Hoping to hold a data camp to introduce easy-to-learn data analysis skills to CGS members

6.12 Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Brittan MulterHopkins.1

- 6.12.1 Please check out the programs listed below and share them with your constituents! If you have ideas for sustainability efforts on campus, please let me know!
  - FREE Reusable container program: <https://dining.osu.edu/sustainability/reusable-container-program/>
  - FREE Mini compost bins for at home composting (drop off locations around campus) (over 4000 old ones): <https://fod.osu.edu/compost#student-composting>
  - FREE Zero waste dining kits (check out reusable plates/silverware): <https://dining.osu.edu/sustainability/zero-waste-toolkit1/>
  - Composting for meetings: <https://fod.osu.edu/zero-waste>, Green Buckeye Certification
  - Recognition for implementing sustainability practices in your campus office or lab: <https://fod.osu.edu/greenbuckeye>



## 7. OLD BUSINESS

4:43 PM

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

4:44 PM

### 8.1 Special Election: Vacant Senate Seat

- 8.1.1) Candidate Introductory Speeches: Bryan PerezSoto.2
- 4<sup>th</sup> year in the Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology
  - Passionate about helping graduate students and one-to-one interactions
- 8.1.2) Q + A:
- Q: **Carerra.55**: Which Senate committees do you want to contribute to?  
A: **PerezSoto.2**: Student Affairs is my first choice: I want to bring awareness to student issues. CODA + transportation is also one of my favorite ones: I want to bring more options to students who live farther from campus
  - Q: **Booker.200**: What ideas do you have to facilitate better communication between students and leadership?  
A: **PerezSoto.2**: There's not enough communication between departments and CGS. I want to bring more communication between CGS and departments.
  - Q: **Fritz.288**: What made you decide to run as a senator, not delegate?  
A: **PerezSoto.2**: I've done a lot of work for my program with CGS in the past. There's already a delegate from my department. I think I could do more from the Senator position. My experience and interests align more with a senator position and felt confident enough to give it a try
  - Q: **Combs.467**: Previous experience and qualifications?  
A: **PerezSoto.2**: In undergrad, I served as president Tri-Beta, the national Biology association. I've done a lot of work with my department to help mentor or orient new and incoming students.
- 8.1.3) Motion to end Q+A: by **Arshad.32**, seconded by **Booker.200**

### 8.2 Introducing New OCCSE Position – Jennifer Kephas.1

- 8.2.1) About Jennifer: master's degree in education, real estate agent previously, worked with graduate students and professional students
- 8.2.2) How to diagnose housing as dedicated graduate student housing
- 8.2.3) This office is for graduate students, and make sure others know as well!

## 9. SPECIAL ORDER ITEM

4:58 PM

### 9.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns

- 9.1.1) **Elton.21**: Ran out of food for the first time at the Graduate Welcome Banquet
- **Durso.19**: They underestimated the number of graduate students. Numbers for food were based off of Faculty Welcome Banquet and will do better next year.
- 9.1.2) Tech Loan Program
- **Booker.200**: With regard to the OTDI Tech Loan program now excludes international students from the tech loan. We haven't had any communication about this. How do we find a temporary solution and how do we get the University to respond?
  - **Durso.19**: This issue was brought up to me a couple times. I did not realize that you needed to fill out a FAFSA to get a tech loan (which international students can not file). I reached out to the Chief Information Officer of Research. CGS will try to work to fill that gap if no response by Tuesday.
  - **Annerino.200**: Let me know about this because I'm on the Senate committee for academic technology
  - **Carrera.55**: Committee for Academic Technology doesn't have a chair for that yet.
  - **Annerino.200**: We're working on it.
  - **Carrera.55**: During that meeting today, this issue was brought up and the faculty have been made aware.

9.1.3) Accidental academic suspension on Buckeyelink

- **Elton.21:** I was placed on satisfactory academic progress suspension this past summer. I added another degree and it crashed my app. Adding the degree placed me on financial aid suspension. I fixed it, but it took a lot of effort. I had to talk to people multiple times and they said it was a sequencing issue so I just wanted to bring that to people's attention.
- **Durso.19:** And when you say they?
- **Elton.21:** Buckeye link
- **Durso.19:** Send me an e-mail with more details so I can make sure this isn't happening anywhere else.

9.1.4) Limits on Overleaf program

- **Pathak.89:** I'm a delegate from the astronomy department. Overleaf has been increasing prices and limiting the number of collaborators on each document. Huge issue because most of STEM students use this for writing papers. Free version is not good, putting limits on pages, figures and tables and collaborators. One that allows for increase on collaborators costs \$400 a year and is outrageous.
- **Arshad.32:** Seconding everything Deb mentioned. Heading towards a solution, if advisor has premium, then advisor can create a document and add you as a collaborator. Hack: have advisor get a premium membership and share the document with you
- **Durso.19:** I will try and look into how we can get the university to look into this. There's already licensing changes. They're already moving away from Zoom and want to go to Teams next year. Only Microsoft Teams next year.
- **Lebek.31:** Next academic year or calendar year?
- **Durso.19:** Calendar

9.1.5) Summer funding for International Students on Fellowships

- **Shahzad.17:** For summer, you have to find a job to supplement money. If you're on fellowship, you can't apply for a job.
- **Durso.19:** Dean Stromberger is working on this. Specifically for international students, we're trying to find a way to get people paid for the summer.
- **Shahzad.17:** Is there a way for us to have on-campus jobs in the summer? I tried to get a nice job, but I had to decline because of our fellowship. What can we do to remedy this?
- **Durso.19:** We can continue to advocate to GCBC. They want us to save from the past 9 months to be okay for the summer. E-mail me and we can set up a meeting with Dean Stromberger.
- **Ledger.21:** I became a delegate to advocate for perennial international students. In the interim for Dean Stromberger, can we pass any resources to international students now?
- **Durso.19:** I don't have anything to send out right now. I'm still going to meet Dean Stromberger, but the issues are very complex. Please e-mail me about this so I can forward it to Dean Stromberger

9.1.6) Website error about dependents on the student health insurance

- **Houston.225:** Somebody got married this summer, is there a cost to add a dependent to the student health insurance plan. On the website, it says it costs money but in actuality it was free.
- **Durso.19:** Sorry, what was wrong?
- **Houston.225:** Just correcting the website
- **Durso.19:** Ah okay, that is something I can look into and let them know it's wrong on their website.

9.1.7) Individual Delegate funding for events



- **Soni.117:** Last year, A/C had an event that I wanted to get funded again this year. How does funding work for each individual delegate for events?
- **Fritz.288:** Formerly the delegate engagement grant, but we don't have it anymore because no one used it. If that's something you're interested in, we can find a committee or a grad student org to help with this event you want funded.
- **Durso.19:** Yes, please e-mail me and we can try and figure it out.

9.1.8) Quarterzips saga

- **Soni.117:** There were sizes listed on the CGS delegate meeting?
  - **Connor.280:** Y'all let me tell you. We're going to order the quarterzips for y'all if it's the last thing we do. We're not doing anything weird by asking what your size is, there is a point to it! We're working on getting more stuff for you guys. If you're a new delegate, grab your welcome bag today!
- Motion to end Delegate concerns by **Arshad.32**
  - **Booker.200** seconded

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

10.1 **Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, October 4 at 3:30pm (Senate Chambers & Zoom)**

- Bryan PerezSoto.2 was elected senator

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

5:23 PM



## Officer Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Sabrina Durso, President  
DATE: September 26, 2024  
RE: President's Report

Dear wonderful CGSers,

I hope you all had a wonderful first month of school! I wish you all luck as you apply for positions, fellowships, conferences, and grants throughout the next month!

### Over the Past Month:

- **Executive Committee:** We have officially sat the entire executive committee! Welcome Sohan Daniel.508 as Academic Affairs chair and Priya Jana.20 as Diversity & Inclusion chair!
- **Parliamentarian:** WE NEED ONE BADLY! It's a low time commitment, as you largely ensure CGS is following their bylaws and lead voting sessions. Send me an email if interested! You'd be well supported!
- **Grad Council:** We will be working on Graduate Student Leave Policies this year, amongst other things. If you have any ideas/concerns about leave, let me know!
- **Events I attended on CGS's Behalf:** Institutional Strategic Planning Workshop, Freedom of Expression Training, Around the Oval, and Interviews for Student Life Senior Assistant Director, Chief of Police, and the Provost.

### Working On:

- **CGS Newsletters:** Still waiting on approval from OTDI that our new software will be accessible for emailing. Hoping to get this up and running by our next meeting.
- **Advisor Abuse:** Working with University Senate and Grad Council on figuring out a more concrete form of repercussions for advisors who abuse their students. Additionally continuing to workshop the Accommodations Resolution with stakeholders. Also introduced these concerns while serving on the Provost Search.
- **Individual Student Concerns:** As some of you were made aware via your emails, sometimes students will come to CGSers for help. When that happens, please direct them to me and I will direct them to the relevant office/admin. These cases are protected by FERPA, so I do not update CGS every time I help individuals. Please know I do my best to support one to two students a week with issues such as these.

### Updates from Past Delegate Issues and Concerns:

- **Technology Loan Program:** OTDI and OIA are working together to flag international students as eligible for a loaner device from the program, bypassing FASFA. Regarding domestic grads, if you cannot fill out FASFA, OTDI asks that you go to your department for help, as the tech would be used for your employment and your studies. Though the Technology Loan Program is very limited in their tech pool this year, they are trying to help as many students as possible. I see potential for advocating for a graduate student technology loan program.

In solidarity always,  
Sabrina Durso.19



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Katie Conner, Vice President  
DATE: October 2024  
RE: Vice President's Report

### **Intro & Misc.**

*Amuck Amuck Amuck....* It's already October, midterms, and fall break. See below for what I've been up to the past month!

### **Internal Operations Updates**

Autumn elections have concluded. 17 new delegates were successfully elected and onboarded across 13 units of representation. We now have 86 delegates, and our first ever Wooster & Extension seat delegates! I'm working with the Graduate School and OAA on emailing DGSs/GSCs in departments with openings, and will be reaching out to delegates from departments with openings to also work on further recruiting to continue to fill seats and make sure grads are being represented as best as they possibly can be.

If you know anyone possibly interested in serving in certain seats that are vacant, or who has questions, please send them my way!

### **Hayes Advanced Research Forum 39 - #152DaysTilHayes**

Committee has been appointed and we are working on scheduling our first meeting. The 29<sup>th</sup> Hayes Forum Call for Papers opened up this week on October 1<sup>st</sup> (and was shared both in our newsletter and will be shared soon via a specific notice to graduate students as well as on our socials), and we are now in the full swing of accepting applications and recruiting all the judges we possibly can. This officially starts the period where I will be harassing you all to email your constituents to encourage them to apply for Hayes, and to email your Faculty, Research Staff, Postdocs, and more to apply to judge abstracts, presentations, or both.

*Friendly reminder that all CGS members (with only a few specific exceptions like myself) are eligible to apply for the Hayes Forum!* Please make sure that you pursue this opportunity early and aggressively if you have research to share with the world.

### **Student Life Leadership Exchange 2024 (MSU)**

I was happy to receive the opportunity from Sabrina and Student Life to attend this year's Leadership Exchange in Sabrina's stead on behalf of CGS. I spent Friday 9/27 and Saturday 9/28 in East Lansing at Michigan State University talking with some of our counterparts from the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) at MSU, as well as some of MSU's students and administrators from their versions of Student Life, OSU Votes, Dining, Sustainability, and more. I learned a ton about the unique ways they work on behalf of their constituents, how their funding structure functions, how they're approaching issues on their campus (some similar, some unique to MSU), and made some connections that Sabrina and I hope are productive moving into the future as CGS tries to re-establish connections with grads beyond OSU. Sabrina and I look forward to sharing further takeaways from the trip with relevant CGSers and administrators in the coming weeks.



I also want to take a moment to publicly acknowledge and thank Dean Danny Glassmann, Dr. Matt Couch, and Student Life GA Akua Nelson for their incredible time, labor, and effort in putting this all together for all of us who attended the trip. It was clearly a labor of passion, care, and commitment toward making sure all the student attendees were able to build connections and learn something new to bring home to our organizations.

**As always, folks should never hesitate to reach out to me via email or text as needed!**

Stay Spooky!  
Katie Conner, MA  
VP of the Council of Graduate Students  
PhD Student, Linguistics





**TO:** Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
**FROM:** Jon Fritz, Grants Admin Co-chair and Treasurer  
**DATE:** October 4<sup>th</sup> 2024  
**RE:** Ray Travel Award Chair and Treasurer's Report

Happy fall, y'all!

**Treasurer updates:**

I just finished writing up our FY24 end-of-year report for our spending with student activity fee (SAF) funds for the Council of Student Affairs in University Senate. This report contained information about successful programming/events of SAF distribution (such as organizational development, connection, & maintenance; flagship CGS events; internal committee programming), areas for growth, and then any additional requests for funding.

An additional report will be due in mid-October for a review by CSA of our spending with SAF funds over the past three years. I'll be reaching out to officers and potentially exec. as necessary, but mostly wanted to update you all on work in this space!

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

RTA-CDG workshop was cancelled/moved (TBD) on October 2<sup>nd</sup>; Katie/Kaz & I are looking to host this later either this semester or in the spring when things are a little less crazy work-wise.

Updates have been made to the RTA application and is live as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. These apps are due by November 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59pm for travel dates between January 1<sup>st</sup> - March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025. The RTA committee had its first meeting on Tuesday and we're looking forward to a year of judging and making the RTA as best as it can be!

Thank you,  
Jon Fritz.288



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Kaz Gary, Grants Admin Co-Chair and Secretary  
DATE: October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
RE: Secretary's Report

Hi all!

Tis the season for pumpkin flavored food/drinks and I hope you all have been able to consume some even if you've been busy this first part of the semester

As Secretary for CGS, I've got nothing to report! Just remember to say your name.# before you speak at any CGS meeting and we'll be golden. Help me to help you!

As the Grants Admin Co-Chair and Chair of the CDG Sub-Committee: CDG applications for funding period 3 have just opened up on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications for this period will be due November 1<sup>st</sup>, so remind your constituents! Also, I'm always looking for volunteers to help judge which will be in November, so if you're interested, please contact me ([gary.102@osu.edu](mailto:gary.102@osu.edu))! This is a great way to get involved with something that benefits graduate students (and looks good on any resume/CV).

Best,  
Kaz Gary.102



## Committee Chair Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Sohan Daniel, CGS Academic Affairs, Chair  
DATE: October 04, 2024  
RE: Academic Affairs Chair Report

Hello,

My name is Sohan Daniel. I am a second year master's student in the College of Education and Human Ecology. Last week I was officially appointed to serve as the Chair for the Academic Affairs committee. I unfortunately am unable to make this week's meeting due to a work commitment but if you are looking to collaborate on anything please reach out!!

Best,

Daniel.508



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Holly Engel and Nick Booker, Arts and Culture Chairs  
DATE: October 4, 2024  
RE: Arts and Culture Chair's Report

Hello,

The Arts and Culture Committee had a very productive first meeting in September. We discussed a desire to build relationships between departments by finding and filling the gaps that the departments themselves may not be filling, and we established a few goals which are as follows:

- Making buttons for CGS
- Creating a survey to send out to graduate students asking them where they believe A&C may best serve their interests.
- Creating an online calendar that would consolidate, promote, and make known information about on-campus and off-campus events and programs related to arts and culture
- Collaborating with OSU's Bonsai Club, most likely in the fall
- Working with EMIC again to host a writing workshop in the spring

As per usual, we welcome any ideas and suggestions related to these goals or otherwise. We are planning to continue having meetings every fourth Monday of the month from 12:30-1:30. Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 28.

So it is written, so it shall be,

Engel.210  
Booker.200



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Priya Jana, Diversity & Inclusion Chair  
DATE: October 4, 2024  
RE: Diversity & Inclusion Chair's Report

Hello everyone,

It was really exciting to meet my Diversity and Inclusion team and lead the meeting. Everyone was cooperative and Sabrina helped us to understand the budget we have and all the resources we can access. We planned to have a seminar series next Spring and the first meeting was understanding whom we can invite and how to lead from there on.

Let us know if you have any suggestions!

Sincerely,  
Priya



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Madeline Carrola, Government Affairs Chair  
DATE: October 4, 2024  
RE: Government Affairs Chair's Report

Hello,

Voting for the voting sticker design contest was delayed, but it is open now. Please remind constituents to vote.

During our first committee meeting, we discussed priorities and focus areas for this year: tracking legislation, revamping the issues newsletter.  
Our next meeting is TBD.

Sincerely,

Carrola.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Peter Carrera, Graduate Caucus Chair  
DATE: October 4, 2024  
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 GuzmanCamacho.1**

No update

**Graduate Comp & Benefits – Brian Rocha.51**

GCBC convened on 9/26 and elected a new chair (Brian Rocha.51). They agreed on initial starting goals of: creating GCBC procedures, reviewing ohio administrative code related to GCBC, determining the structure of committee, and organization of the committee.

**Diversity Committee – Deb Pathak.89**

- Discussed bylaws
- DEIJ Efforts Survey Summary as presented to the President and steering committee last year. Survey completed by >30 DEI committee chairs from across university, highlighting where support is needed. Will discuss how to work on issues highlighted by DEIJ survey and advocate for repeating this survey every year.
- Plans to collaborate with Govt. Affairs Committee on SB83, etc.

**Council on Student Affairs – Krutant Mehta.337**

The Council on Student Affairs held introductory / orientation meetings. Work on the 2024 Student Activity Fee Redistribution has begun. The Allocations subcommittee elected a new chair and began work on Fall period 2 programming requests by student organizations.

**Intellectual & Property Committee – Brian Rocha.51**

Elected new chair and set priorities for the year – main goals will be to update internal bylaws and standing rules, correct and clarify some university wide IPPC language.

**Council of Academic Affairs – Andrew Miles.375**

The role of certificate and micro-credential (stackable) programs was a point of discussion, particularly for professional post-baccalaureate students. This would be a topic of conversation for CGS on the utility of these programs for our graduate and professional students at OSU; I would suggest CGS formalize their support or lack thereof for these programs and how they fit into grad education (traditional, professional, online). We made changes/revisions to the following graduate programs: MS Kinesiology, MS Public Health (biostats), and the Master of Public Health (biostats) program. We also approved a graduate minor in engineering education as well as a dual PhD program with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.

**Council of Academic Freedom & Responsibility – Jorge ClavoAbbas.1**

No update

**Council on the Physical Environment –**

No update



### **Rules Committee – Jorge ClavoAbbas.1**

No update

### **Library Committee – Gabriel GuzmanCamacho.1**

No update

### **University Research Committee – Tony Annerino.2**

URC received presentations from Enterprise for Research, Innovation, and Knowledge, the Public Access to Research Data Working Group, and the Center for Human Resource Research about resources hosted by ERIK, the summer meetings of the ARD working group, and CHRR-hosted data repository development progress, respectively.

Committee member questions and concerns that will be the focus of further discussion included the issues caused by the recent changes to the technology loan program that broadly exclude large student populations from eligibility and the possible risks and liability stemming from the widespread use of students' personally owned devices for research purposes.

### **Committee on Academic Technology – Tony Annerino.2**

At the first CAT meeting of the year, the committee elected Lauren Gannon Evans (gannonevans.1@osu.edu) as the chair for this year and Mark Ruegsegger (ruegsegger.1@osu.edu) as the chair-elect who will take over chair duties for CAT next academic year.

The committee also discussed plans for establishing bylaws since CAT has no bylaws. The issue of changes to the technology loan program that broadly exclude large student populations from eligibility was discussed and will be the topic of further discussion.

### **Council on Enrollment and Student Progress – Thomas Elton.21**

No update

In service,  
Peter Carrera (Carrera.55)





TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Chiranth Koratagere Nagaraj, Graduate Student Affairs Chair  
DATE: Sep 29, 2024  
RE: Graduate Student Affairs Chair's Report

Dear Committee Members,

### **1. Collaborative Event for the End of the Fall Semester**

The committee is looking to collaborate with the Wellness Committee to organize a fun and engaging event during the last week of the fall semester. The goal of this event is to provide an opportunity for students to come together, unwind, and we aim to offer a stress-free environment before the final exams, helping participants relax and recharge celebrate the accomplishments of the semester. We are currently working on the planning logistics and specific activities for the event, and more details will be communicated in the upcoming weeks.

### **2. Discussion on Pay and Workload Differences for GAs/TAs**

The committee has expressed interest in addressing the issue of pay and workload differences among Graduate Assistants (GAs) and Teaching Assistants (TAs) across various departments. We believe that disparities in compensation and workload may impact the academic and personal well-being of GAs and TAs. Therefore, we are planning to initiate conversations with relevant stakeholders to understand these differences and explore possible solutions. The committee will be engaging in research and discussions to better understand the scope of the issue and formulate recommendations.

We welcome input from members of the community and will update on progress in the next meeting.

Best,  
Koratagerenagaraj.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Deb Pathak & Luke Van Niel, Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair  
DATE: September 29, 2024  
RE: Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair Report

Greetings,

Our committee met for the first time this month, with some old and new faces. We were mainly focused on getting new members up to speed with the progress of the Accessibility Stakeholders' Symposium on October 29th, which is now—finally—finalized! We're looking for a few volunteers from CGS to help pass out swag and coordinate various aspects of the day's panels. The work should be very minimal, and Luke will be there in person the whole time and is happy to answer any questions. The Symposium runs 8am-1pm, but volunteers do not necessarily need to be there the whole time—whatever works, but please contact Luke (vanniel.5@osu.edu) or Deb (Pathak.89@osu.edu) if you are interested in helping out.

Also, a huge thanks to HWS' Yoon-Jae for designing the ultimate flyer for the event, which is currently being distributed. Interested OSU students/staff can register here:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/ZfLUr130fq>

Take care,

Pathak.89 & Vanniel.5



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Syed Murtaza Arshad, Housing and Family Affairs Chair  
DATE: October 4, 2024  
RE: Housing and Family Affairs Chair's Report

Hey all,

HAFA committee is planning to meet next week. If anyone has any pitches or wants to brainstorm on ideas with us, feel free to join. To know the meeting details, you can reach out to me at [Arshad.32@osu.edu](mailto:Arshad.32@osu.edu). If you know someone outside CGS, who wants to join, especially grad students with families, please direct them to our committee.

In case you don't have time to join the meeting but have some recommendations for the potential steps we can take in terms of housing for grads, and families of grad students, feel free to share them with me in-person or through email.

Be wise and kind,

Arshad.32



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Kaustubh Kumar, International Student Affairs Chair  
DATE: September 30, 2024  
RE: International Student Affairs Chair's Report

Hi Everyone,

ISAC held its first committee meeting on September 25, 2024. This year the committee has members from seven different countries across the globe. We expect few more non-delegate members would join in the coming months. We aim to continue with our two signature events- tax workshops and 'Share Your Story' in Spring 2025. We also discussed few ideas on expanding reach of ISAC to the wider international graduate students' community, and on improving communications and coordination with the OIA and other relevant offices/resource persons for supporting incoming international grad students next year.

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](mailto:kumar.889@osu.edu)) if you 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: October 4, 2024  
RE: Membership Wellness Chair's Report

Hi everyone,

### **Relevant History**

MW met September 22<sup>nd</sup> to plan our event taking place at the beginning of the October General Delegate Meeting. We are excited to host an event to help CGSers get to know one another better. Show up and have a good time!

MW also had two volunteers to be our DEI and Virtual advocates. These two individuals have taken on the responsibility of ensuring that MW does its best to be mindful of the diverse group of CGSers and their needs.

### **Future Directions**

We have set our Fall Semester meetings for the third Sunday of each month from **2p-4p**. These meetings will occur virtually **October 20<sup>th</sup>** and **November 17<sup>th</sup>**. Anyone is welcome to attend! Please email me for the link. We will revisit the schedule when Spring semester schedules are known.

Our next meeting will center around the logistics of CGS Interest Groups and the End-of-Semester Winter Party (set to take place at the December General Delegate Meeting). The interest groups are going to be things like writing groups, exercise groups, etc. These are being guided by your responses on the Get to Know You Survey.

### **Membership Shoutouts**

Link for the Membership Shoutouts Form <https://forms.gle/Tpxf47dx9ZPm9Q7f6>

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. Shoutouts submitted after the Friday a week before General Delegate meetings will not be included in the Meeting Packet.

Thanks,

Robinson.2283



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Bill Wang, Research and Data Operations Chair  
DATE: Oct 2024  
RE: Research and Data Operations Chair's Report

Hi all,

There is nothing to be reported by the RDO committee.

Best,

Wang.13945



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Brittany Multer Hopkins, Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility Committee (SERC) Chair  
DATE: October 4, 2024  
RE: SERC Chair's Report

Happy ~spooky season~

The SERC team met last month to start goal setting for the year. We have established monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month from 3-4 pm. Anyone is welcome to join, so please let me know if you are interested!

We are very excited to have collaborated with OSU Catering to now have reusable plateware at our CGS meetings! This will reduce our footprint by eliminating many of the single-use items from our meetings.

**Upcoming campus sustainability events to share:**

- Sustainability Institute's Fall Sustainability Social. The social will occur Friday, October 4th, from 4-6 pm in the Blackburn Victory Room. Snacks and beverages will be provided. We ask that attendees register at [go.osu.edu/fallsussocial](https://go.osu.edu/fallsussocial).

P.S. I am dealing with changing my last name from 'Multer' to 'Multer Hopkins' so if you see something from Multer Hopkins that is me now. Consequently, my email will be changing; if you do send something to my old email though it should still get to me.

Brittany Multer.3 (transitioning to Multerhopkins.1)