



# **COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

## **Delegate Meeting Minutes**

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Location: 1000 Fontana Laboratory



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



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# Attendance

## **Executive Committee Members Present:**

Jorge E. Clavo Abbass, Katie Conner, Michelle Scott, Nathan Grizenko, Gordon Goodwin, Mary Griffith, Om Prakash Bedant, Charlie Mace, Karla ShockleyMccarthy, Izzy Bowles, Yang Du, Alissa Geisse, Bill Wang, Amrita Sen

## **Delegates Present:**

Datu Adiatma, Syed Murtaza Arshad, Paige Barton, Emma Brzezinski, Madeline Carrola, Michaela Dengg, Kevin Donnelly, Maryan Dualle, Sabrina Durso, Thomas Elton, Yelena Erez, Chrissy Friend, Lydia Fyie, Patel Gbedjemaiho, Rinky Ghosh, Ciara Hampton, Kenneth Harvey, James Holley, Deanna Holroyd, Ryan Huston, Michael Insko, Debbie Jones, Elizabeth Kazemi, Connor Kelly, Gilhyun Kim, Jaclyn Kirsch, Josh Kramer, Joe Laborie, Jack Lanza, Michelle Leao, Zachary Lookenbill, Kevin Lu, Zari Mahmoudi, Diane Mashburn, Emma McNamara, Tyson Montgomery, Joey Oteng, Sophie Richard, Ayesha Seth, Karla Shockley McCarthy, Aleksandra Shubina, Shyam Singh, Prabhjo Singh, Juan Torres Brenes LaRoche, Paul Toth, Yonaida Valentine, Salmika Wairegi, Charlize Wang, Megg Ward, Rob Williams, Hyeryeong Yun, Christina Zachariadou, Simin Zhang

## **Delegates Absent:**

Shreeya Behera, Marie Bissell, Clyde Compton, Jon Fritz, Kaytie Jones, Kaustubh Kumar, Madeleine Mcclung, Molly Mccullough, Critstian Morton, Matthew Nazzarro, Dylan Page, Dhara Patel, Patrick Rowan, Christa Ruark/McKee, Kat Sikiric

## **Senators Present**

Sagarika Taneja  
Iresha Jayasinghe  
Sarah Sturgill  
Benjamin McKinley  
Garrett Tatum  
Lane Rumreich

## **Senators Absent:**

Peter Carrera  
Carrie Anne Thomas



## 01. GUEST PRESENTATION

- a. Presenter: Student Life Administration at Ohio State
  - i. Danny Glassman: Dean of Students
    1. Student Life is a really large area of campus: 40+ departments
      - a. Student Engagement and Support
      - b. Health and wellbeing
      - c. Residential Experience (Housing, off-campus sites)
      - d. Belonging and Inclusion:
        - i. Multicultural Center rebranding: Center for bElonging and Social Change (CBSC)
        - ii. Intention to bring all belonging and social change under one area
      - e. Academic Partners and Career Services
      - f. Senior VP: Dr. melissa shivers oversees student life and serves on the president's cabinet
    2. Follow Glassman on Twitter [insert]
    3. Student experience and advocates for students and student governments.
    4. Student Advocacy Center in particular helps students directly get the assistance they may need
    5. The Ohio Union is the "living room" of campus and offers a variety of services
    6. We also work with students on sustainability initiatives
      - a. Green Buckeyes program to help students think about sustainability options and projects
    7. We work with Greek Life
    8. Leadership and Community engagement:
      - a. This is a new area, but we pulled together units that fall under this umbrella
      - b. Buckeye service area
      - c. Entrepreneurship
      - d. Leadership development
      - e. Emphasis on being involved and a part of the OSU community helps make you a better leader
    9. Buckeyethon is one of the many opportunities for student philanthropy
    10. Senior Gift is another opportunity
    11. Buckeye Talks and Walks:
      - a. How are you doing? And Do you need anything?
      - b. We hand out buckeyes
      - c. Helps to get an idea of how students utilize services, whether or not they find them helpful
      - d. Quick polling done in various areas around campus
    12. Students also provide feedback on ideas and different areas around programs
    13. I wanted to share a couple examples about how we get out and about to hear about students' experiences
    14. Monthly Dining with the Dean
      - a. Free Lunch
      - b. PhDs, graduate students, anyone!
      - c. There is no agenda, but we are open to hearing questions or feedback from students



- ii. Dr. Matt Couch, Associate Dean of Students and Senior Director of Student Activities and Organizations: Address the question, “How do we specifically support graduate students?”
1. Acknowledges the impact of CGS
  2. Former graduate assistant at OSU
  3. Masters and doctorate degrees
  4. Previous USG advisor
  5. We do not want you to just isolate yourself and just focusing on getting that degree
  6. And there’s a whole lot to interact with on
  7. GAPP/Ohio Union Activities Board
    - a. OUA(or E)D is a very well sourced programming board that does about 300 evens per year such as wellness wednesdays, quiz notes, family programs
  8. Grad/Prof events have catering: another nice perk
  9. We do support all 1,450 registered groups and several hundred of those are grad-student led
  10. Dtix (Discounted Tickets program): DTIX.OSU.EDU
    - a. A great discount site for various events, businesses, places in Columbus
    - b. Activity fee: part of cost is subsidized, making the price of the ticket less for students on an individual basis
    - c. Lotteries are also set up for popular tickets/events
    - d. General discounts: COSI, Columbus Zoo, Gateway Film Center, Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame (not in columbus but an example of how not everything is in Columbus)
    - e. 20+ years program: Graduate students typically use this program more than undergraduate students
  11. Leadership and Service
    - a. Buck-I-Serve: Week long service based trips across the US and international locations (resuming after COVID pandemic)
      - i. If you have an interest in volunteerism, we have a lot of opportunities for hunger, homelessness, animal welfare, sustainability, etc.
      - ii. Partially funded by student activity fee
      - iii. It’s still a cost, but we do need advisors, which graduate students can be! Your role would be to assist with purchasing and be a source of guidance (about 40 hours of hands on direct volunteer service time)
      - iv. We have great community partners who help with these!
      - v. This is an opportunity to engage in service without having to pay - Jorge. You might not have another way to really engage undergraduate students like BuckIServe
      - vi. Question: Do grad students typically serve as advisors or go on the trip as a participant?
        1. Student advisors are usually sent on each trip along with faculty advisors
        2. However, if you just want to be a regular student, grad students will pay the participation fee and go



- vii. Question: What does the advisor application entail?
  - 1. There is an application deadline date for each trip
    - a. Right now they're probably looking for spring break advisors
  - 2. You don't have to have an extensive resume of service experiences.
  - 3. It will ask why you want to participate as an advisor
  - 4. You may not get your dream trip as there is a lot of interest in international trips (Guatemala, Ecuador, Ghana, South Africa, Nicaragua, etc.)
  - 5. Mentioning that you're flexible is also going to increase likelihood
  
- b. Questions
  - i. What has happened in the last year with movement on Buckeye Village and the effort to be proactive with graduate and family student housing? What do the next 18 months look like? Inflation, housing market issues are also making this a pressing issue?
    - 1. Danny: We've done a few different things. The idea of tearing down buckeye village was in the works before the pandemic. Framework 3.0 is looking at University infrastructure. Student life is also creating a master plan, partnering with an outside organization, to look at the market and take inventory of current resources. We're looking at the research on the housing market, and we hope to have that data in January to then make plans for future family and graduate housing. The previous CGS leadership had been working on our off campus commuter services. Our off campus network has 60+ properties that agree to a level of standards of the provisions provided to the residents (physical space, leasing, etc.). If you're looking for a place, then you can visit our website to filter for specific factors and standards. Community roundtables are held to discuss various issues such as enrollment. The office campus network is a resource for all of you.
    - 2. Student Life's last 2019 survey data was recently released and made available to the current CGS leadership. We intend to review that data and make our own
  - ii. Question from delegate
    - 1. Encouraged to take the upcoming HFA Survey to aid student life
  - iii. What programs are available for virtual graduate students?
    - 1. Prior to the pandemic, we didn't have any virtual opportunities or to engage in real time.
    - 2. There are some engagement opportunities through OUAB and gRadProf (check out the calendar)
  - iv. The question discusses the nature of the subsidies of the football tickets. Can the experience of attending a game with friends or other family members be subsidized?
    - 1. Athletic council will discuss this



- v. Child Care/Babysitting on campus: What is SL doing or able to do to help improve the long waitlist to access childcare services. At the RPAC, the childcare service was discontinued this fall.
  - 1. This will be addressed following the study SL is conducting.
  - 2. Faculty and staff are also challenged by this issue.
  - 3. We have a group that meets to discuss this
  - 4. The RPAC child care service was discontinued in COVID. There was low usage of it to justify keeping it open following the pandemic. Rec sports should be notified that this service is wanted and needed.
  - 5. Babysitting is more short-term than childcare agreement.
  - 6. Student Orgs/Governments are able to really help mobilize these kinds of issues and initiatives.
- vi. Academic Misconduct seems to increase and students are feeling ill-equipped to address these situations
  - 1. CoAM only provides training for those who sit on it; otherwise, GAs are simply expected to reference the University Language
  - 2. Drake Institute should take point on this
  - 3. Opportunity to have Dr. Runstone join to discuss this
- vii. Students with families (including international)
  - 1. The goal is to remove the barriers to access resources.
- viii. There is a perception of differences in the resources offered for undergraduates vs. graduates, specifically during onboarding and orientation events.
  - 1. There is more efforts to be more inclusive at the Convocation programming, particularly for graduate students
  - 2. When it comes to orientation programming, it is very centralized. The graduate student orientation programming is very individualized to your specific program/division.
  - 3. When it comes to community building, there does need to be more of an effort to extend the warm embrace.
  - 4. When you see an event like a concert, pep rally, etc., you don't normally think as a graduate student that those events are for you, too. But they are!
- c. Students who are more involved tend to perform better academically and have more connections with other students.
- d. The culture of involvement should be that it isn't difficult to find ways to get involved
- e. Gradprof.osu.edu - Spring 2023
  - i. One-stop shop for student life resources.
  - ii. Collects information about resources for student health, rec sports, counseling services/consultations and creates a single hub.
  - iii. Intentional display of resources tailored to international students
  - iv. We are open to feedback on the usability and helpfulness of the site.



## 02. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 4:43pm
- b. Statement of Purpose
  - i. To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.

## 03. ROLL CALL

- a. Completion of attendances survey via Google Forms.

## 04. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Minutes from October 7, 2022
  - i. Minutes Approved

## 05. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. President's Report
  - i. Meeting with President Johnson
  - ii. Compensation and bEnefits, housing and mental health resources discussed
  - iii. Doctoral Funding Task Force Debrief
  - iv. Goal/recommendation made: to Increase health insurance subsidy from 85% to 100%
  - v. We're hoping to see some movement on this by the end of the year.
  - vi. Proactive approach to adjust compensation in response to cost of living, inflation, current economic climate
  - vii. We're planning more meetings with student life and housing/family affairs-related organizations.
  - viii. We're also going to continue collaborating with Isobel (HFA chair) and the President
  - ix. Discussed the long waitlist time of accessing mental health resources (specifically counseling)
  - x. There are 8 groups that are specific to graduate/professional students. We made the recommendation to highlight the need to support minority populations (LGBTQ, first-gen, people of color, etc.)
  - xi. Discussed implementation in response to the Doctoral Funding Task Force Debrief
  - xii. Graduate School Town Hall and Listening Session
    1. Glad to see people there and hear from even non-CGS people
    2. It was productive and the feedback was good
    3. We're hoping to have another one at the close of the academic year
  - xiii. Exec Chair Check-in
    1. Welcome to Elena, new Arts and Culture Chair
    2. Recognition of Chairs' and Committees' work! Yay!
  - xiv. GCBC in Senate will convene for the first time this month
    1. This is a space for grad students to share their experiences and feedback
  - xv. There's a student emergency fund in the student advocacy center.
    1. Not eligible for Rank 3 and 4 undergraduate students
    2. Grad students are eligible for the Bush fund and the mental health fund
    3. The application is the same, but we are not eligible for the emergency fund



- b. Vice President's Report
  - i. Please reach out to Katie if you haven't heard from her in a hot second.
  - ii. New delegates will get an email
  - iii. 119 Days from Hayes Forum
    - 1. Email if you want to get involved with the committee to plan this
    - 2. Email will go out to general graduate student body next week
    - 3. Abstract review to take place later this month
  - iv. Ethics and Values Ad Hoc Committee
    - 1. Email if you're interested
  - v. Committee Spots are Open! Just ask Katie!
- c. Treasurer's Report
  - i. Email Michelle and Katie about delegate engagement fund
- d. Secretary's Report
  - i. Refer to powerpoint slide for full report
- e. Parliamentarian's Report
  - i. Potential change for PhD students
  - ii. November: SEnate Rule committee - what degree of influence should the senate steering committee have.
    - 1. Contact Gordon if you have thoughts on this
- f. Strategic Communications Director's Report
  - i. Refer to powerpoint slide for full report.

#### **06. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

- a. Membership
  - i. Check out the calendar!
  - ii. Birthdays!!
  - iii. Isobel Bowles
  - iv. Holiday Block O event next month
  - v. WhatsApp Chat for Only Delegates
- b. Academic Affairs
  - i. Refer to powerpoint slide report for more details
- c. Arts and Culture
  - i. Refer to the powerpoint slide report for more details.
- d. Government Affairs
  - i. Last meeting was 10/27 and next meeting will be 11/17
  - ii. "Divisive Teaching" bill in the Ohio school board (mentioned last month) has moved to executive session, likely will not survive
  - iii. During last meeting: S.B. 23, which bans abortions after roughly 6 weeks in Ohio, has been temporarily blocked by the courts. This means the abortion ban is not in effect yet, but S.B. may still be approved in the future
  - iv. ACLU up to date info
  - v. The election is November 8th! Make sure you have valid proof of address in Ohio (out of state ID does NOT count), info on using buckeyelink for this is in the full report
  - vi. 2 constitutional amendments on the ballot – read about them in the full report!
- e. Graduate Caucus
  - i. Garret Tatum reporting on behalf of Peter
  - ii. Voted on a lot of proposals from Academic Affairs
  - iii. One rule change loosened the Intellectual property standards for companies
  - iv. Ben, University Research committee, there is a new data management and sharing plan coming out. There are links in the chair report with more information





- f. Graduate Student Affairs
  - i. Two meetings in october: 10/12 and 10/25
  - ii. The advocacy items that are of interest to us are:
  - iii. Inadequate orientation process
  - iv. Concerns about women’s health-related services
  - v. Graduate student compensation/stipends
  - vi. We also discussed several concerns related to GTA responsibilities, the impact of COVID on research, and mental health.
  - vii. Will be reaching out to other committee members regarding issues we can collaborate on.
  - viii. The next meeting will be scheduled soon.
- g. Health, Wellness, and Safety
  - i. Current AREas of Focus
    - 1. Medication barriers and need to address turnaround to access new medication
    - 2. Lack of knowledge/concern about use of ER services and financial implications
    - 3. RU Okay Survey
  - ii. Student Life Pregnant and Parenting Group Update
    - 1. Graduate students can utilize
  - iii. Refer to the powerpoint slide for more information.
- h. Housing and Family Affairs
  - i. The housing and parenting survey is almost complete!!!
  - ii. Keep an eye on your inboxes in the coming weeks as the first 100 students who take the survey will receive a \$5 amazon gift card !!!
  - iii. Last meeting: October 17
  - iv. Next meeting: tbd
  - v. Chairs: Emma Brzezinski, Garrett Tatum, Kaitlyn Jones
- i. International Student Affairs
  - i. We met on 10/31
  - ii. No meeting with OIA this month
  - iii. Advocacy: REviewing a policy for language requirements that impact your ability to teach
- j. Membership Wellness
- k. Research and Data Operations
  - i. Working with Housing and Family Affairs Committee on the questionnaires of the Housing and Parenting Student Survey
  - ii. Reported that some students faced issue with Form I9 to International Student Affairs Committee
  - iii. Proposed a student stipend survey in face of high inflation rate
- l. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibilities
  - i. Meeting Date: Week of Oct 30
  - ii. Aparna Dial, Senior Director, Sustainability and Strategic Services at The Ohio State University, has reached out to SERC and will address delegates in January's meeting
  - iii. Tour of Materials Recovery facility planned to find out more about campus recycling infrastructure
  - iv. Actively looking for new members- Please reach out to Amrita Sen.94 if you want to serve on SERC



## 07. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

## 08. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Senator Voting
  - i. Candidates: Debbie Jones and Gordon Goodwin
  - ii. 60 second introduction for each candidate to the general delegate body
  - iii. The delegate body chose to forgo the majority of the discussion period.
  - iv. Remainder of the time yielded after 1 min and 35 seconds as proposed by CGS President Clavo Abbass.1
  - v. Both candidates agreed to yield their remaining time
  - vi. Voting Results:
    1. Goodwin: 56/60 (93.3%) Yays
    2. Jones: 59/60 (98.3%) Yays
- b. Act 2223-001:
  - i. Current Code of Ethics and Values:  
<https://cgs.osu.edu/about-us/delegates/code-of-ethics-and-values>
  - ii. Katie Conner.280 presented Act 2223-001 to introduce the creation of the Ethics Ad Hoc Committee.
    1. View the proposed legislation here: [Ethics Ad Hoc Act.pdf](#)
  - iii. Discussion
    1. Griffith.1035: What is happening in April?
      - a. The proposed deadline for the completion of this update document is April (i.e. the end of the academic year is the deadline). If we can present it earlier, then we will.
    2. Elton Thomas.21: Inquired about consequences for unethical, unprofessional behavior that does not align with the values of CGS?
      - a. There is already an officer and delegate removal/unseating process
      - b. We will discuss what is censorship and where the line should be drawn.
    3. Arshad.32: Inquired about the intended pathway/protocol regarding how to share or provide a report of misconduct.
      - a. This is a good question because if you, for example, need to come to me for mediation and I'm the problem, what do you do? Who do you talk to? And that's something we're going to discuss.
    4. Michael Insko.2: Will we have the option to vote on specific language in the updated code or is it an all or nothing?
      - a. There will be a couple times to vote and discuss the draft.
      - b. Per the bylaws, we'll plan to introduce the legislation in March and then vote on the proposal in April. This allows for two opportunities for individuals to bring up recommendations for changes.
    5. Mashburn.10: Inquired about where to view the current Ethics document.
      - a. This is located on the website:  
<https://cgs.osu.edu/about-us/delegates/code-of-ethics-and-values>
  - iv. Voting Results: 57 Yays, 1 Nay, 1 Abstain



## 09. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

- a. Delegate Issues and Concerns
  - i. Huston.185: Is there a policy to be reimbursed after a conference.
    1. There is no policy. You can be reimbursed through your department in some cases (varies depending on the department)
    2. We have the grant programs through CGS, too (Ray and CDG)
    3. Another important point is that some students have to wait 6-8 months to be reimbursed, which is also unforgivable.
  - ii. Isobel Bowles.124: Inquired about the lack of safety around bike lanes, paths, and roadways.
    1. Jorge to bring it up with the University VP/cabinet and at future meetings.
  - iii. Christina Zachariadou.1: Inquired about imaging services
    1. Only 1 lawyer was tasked with covering students who had questions about immigration rights and law
    2. This lawyer has since left; Jorge to inquire about a replacement.
  - iv. Lydia Fyie.1: Parking Issues; Road/building access inhibited by tailgates which impacts students' ability to do work
    1. Delegate is on parking committee and we'll bring this up to them
  - v. Arshad. 32: Asked about internal and external committee assignments
    1. Katie will work on those this weekend.
    2. External committee assignments will be completed with the exception of the conduct board and COAM
    3. Internal committees will continue to population; emails will be sent out with Chairs cc'd.
      - a. Should receive them in the next 72 hours to 4 days time
  - vi. Josh Kramer.559: Inquired about next meeting details (specifically the location)
    1. Location for next meeting will be Union again (same as the first meeting)
    2. See meeting information in Section 10 of these minutes.
  - vii. Oteng.12: Inquired about the University's relationship with Columbus PD and the increasing tension around hate crimes, racism and discrimination, social injustice.
    1. CGS President serves on the public safety advisory committee. We are aware that the University does not make a statement when there is the death of a person of color. There hasn't been an update or change in the relationship between University and Columbus Division of Police. OSUPD leadership did offer to attend a meeting, but they did not respond to follow-up email regarding the terms of agreement to attend and be open to questions in this space. Jorge stated he could reach out again to invite them/allow delegates to interact and hold them accountable for their actions.
  - viii. Om Bedant.1: Discussion of bias training. What are other departments/colleges' racial bias and sensitivity training requirements?
    1. There's neither a policy from the office of academic affairs, nor from the graduate school that requires graduate students to undergo a racial bias and sensitivity training.
    2. This can be brought up to the Graduate School Dean as this is something that can be instituted as a policy across the board.
    3. RAISE initiative goal to recruit 350 tenure track faculty from underrepresented minorities was met as of last week. The goal of this initiative is to continue improving the diversity of faculty as well as graduate students on campus—so this is an incredible milestone.



- ix. The delegate onedrive link isn't working. Katie will look into this!
- x. Emma McNamara.379: Inquired about information dissemination and training to share information and contribute to graduate students' professional development while addressing topics that are not discussed in academic programs.
  - 1. Buckeyelink certifications/training are offered but these are not engaging enough to truly make students think about what they're being taught. You can basically click through them and get the certification.
  - 2. It's not clear who is responsible for ensuring the training is completed.
- xi. Josh Krammer.559: As a follow-up to the previous point made by McNamara.379: It would be nice to have new/updated information [in the buckeyelink trainings] as it starts to become predictable and even less effective [when the same videos, modules are used year after year].
  - 1. Vector Solutions is the service OSU uses to deliver risk management training.
  - 2. Jorge would have to look into this more to determine who is responsible for these trainings on BuckeyeLink.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, 2 December 2022 at 3:30pm (Cartoon Room, Ohio Union)

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 5:52pm

Submitted By,

*Nathan L. Grizenko*

Nathan L. Grizenko, Secretary  
[grizenko.1@osu.edu](mailto:grizenko.1@osu.edu)  
(740) 274-2996