



COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Delegate Packet

September 8th, 2023

Location: Great Hall Meeting Rooms 1+2

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



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Agenda

1. **GUEST PRESENTATIONS**
 - 1.1. Office of Diversity and Inclusion (Colby Taylor) – Welcome and Introduction to Resources and Events [10 min]
 - 1.2. Committee on Academic Misconduct (Dr. Jennifer Whetstone) – Navigating Simultaneous Identities as a GA and a Graduate Student [20 min]
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 – Jorge E. Clavo Abbass (clavoabbass.1)
 - 5.2. Vice President’s Report – Katie Conner.280
 - 5.3. Treasurer’s Report – Jon Fritz.288
 - 5.4. Secretary’s Report – Lauren Chivington.17
6. **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS** [10 min]
 - 6.1. Academic Affairs – Garrett Tatum.71
 - 6.2. Arts and Culture – Michela Bertossa.1
 - 6.3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Debbie Jones.7661
 - 6.4. Government Affairs – Madeline Carrola.1
 - 6.5. Graduate Caucus – Peter Carrera.55
 - 6.6. Graduate Student Affairs – Om Prakash Bedant.1
 - 6.7. Housing and Family Affairs – Isobel Bowles.124
 - 6.8. International Student Affairs – Yang Du.601
 - 6.9. Membership Wellness – *vacant*
 - 6.10. Research and Data Operations – Bill Wang.13945
 - 6.11. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility – Kevin Donnelly.235
 - 6.12. Health, Wellness, and Safety – Sabrina Durso.19
7. **OLD BUSINESS** [0 min]
8. **NEW BUSINESS** [10 min]
 - 8.1. New Business Modeling Exercise
9. **SPECIAL ORDER ITEM** [30 min]
 - 9.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns
10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [5 min]
 - 10.1. Next General Delegate Meeting: Friday, October 6th at 3:30pm (Ohio Staters Inc. Traditions Room, Ohio Union)
13. **ADJOURNMENT** 5:15 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.



COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Delegate Meeting Minutes

July 7th, 2023

Location: Zoom



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



01. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:31 pm by Conner.280
- 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”

02. ROLL CALL

- a. 3:32 - Completion of attendance survey via Google Forms.

03. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. 3:35 - Minutes from June 2nd, 2023 presented for approval
(Amendments will be made to attendance)
 - i. Minutes Approved.

04. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. President’s Report (*ClavoAbbass.1*)
 - No report from Jorge this month, Jorge is out of the country
 - Katie Conner.280 president Pro Tempore
- b. Vice President’s Report (*Conner.280*)
 1. AVP Health and Wellness search moved into finalist interviews
 - Jorge, Katie, and Karla will be there for CGS, feeling hopeful
 2. Committee Service appointments 23-24
 - We have lots of committee slots, you can reach out and ask to remain on/begin serving on a committee even if not a delegate
 - No longer publishing internal attendance data to protect member privacy
 3. Open Executive Committee Positions:
 - Deputy Treasurer
 - Deputy Secretary
 - Parliamentarian
 - Director, Strategic Communications
 - Chair, Academic Affairs
 - Chair, Arts and Culture
 - Chair, Government Affairs
 - CoChair, Membership Wellness
 - Chair, SERC

Email Jorge and CC Katie if you are interested or know someone who would be great

- c. Treasurer’s Report (*Fritz.288*)
 - No report, working on getting things organized from FY 22-23
- d. Secretary’s Report (*Chivington.17*)
 1. Updates to uploading OCRs on Teams
 - Please upload to both shared report document as well as individual file to the monthly OCR folder
 2. 23-24 Meeting Calendar (subject to change, double check CGS website)
 - Mark your calendars!



- locations announced as room reservations confirmed
- All meetings will have a Zoom option

TYPE	DATE	TIME
EXECUTIVE	SEPTEMBER 1ST	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	SEPTEMBER 8TH	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	SEPTEMBER 29TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	OCTOBER 6TH	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	OCTOBER 27TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	NOVEMBER 3RD	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	NOVEMBER 17TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	DECEMBER 1ST	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	JANUARY 5TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	JANUARY 12TH	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	JANUARY 26TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	FEBRUARY 2ND	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	FEBRUARY 23RD	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	MARCH 1ST	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	MARCH 29TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	APRIL 5TH	3:30 PM
EXECUTIVE	APRIL 26TH	4:00 PM
DELEGATE	MAY 3RD	3:30 PM

05. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

- Membership Wellness (*Geisse.1*)**
 - No report
- Academic Affairs (*Thomas.4051*)**
 - No report
- Arts and Culture (*Cruz-Lopez.1*)**
 - No report
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (*Jones.7661*)**
 - No report
- Government Affairs (*Mace.103*)**
 - No report
- Graduate Caucus (*Carrera.55*)**
 - Currently in process of determining senators' committees, will share that information in a future meeting
 - CSA is completing Code of Student Conduct review over summer
- Graduate Student Affairs (*Bedant.1*)**
 - No meetings in June



1. Gathering members' availability and interest in advocacy work
 2. No Strategic Graduate Enrollment Management meeting in June
 3. Participating in interviews for Associate Dean for Excellence in Graduate and Postdoctoral Training and Vice Provost for Global Strategies and International Affairs
- If you would like to work with us, please contact Om Prakash Bedant.1
- h. Health, Wellness, and Safety (*ShockleyMcCarthy.1*)**
- Please fill out the health services utilization survey



Health Services Utilization Survey

- i. International Student Affairs (*Du.601*)**
- No ISA meeting
 - 6/5 International Recruitment Enrollment Working Group
1. Working on International Student Orientation - in contact with OIA
 2. Resolution update: English Language Requirement (more in report)
 3. Working on next year's events
 - We take non-delegate members! Please share with people you know
- j. Research and Data Operations (*Wang.13945*)**
- No report
- k. Sustainability and Environmental Responsibilities [SERC] (*vacant*)**
- No report

06. OLD BUSINESS

- No old business

07. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Ad Hoc on Ethics and Values**
 - a. Molly, Debbie, and Katie collaborated
 - b. Members take until 3:55 to fill out survey
 - c. Concerns of anonymity addressed



SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

1. Delegate Issues and Concerns

- a. **McKinley.255** - Still using Whatsapp in fall?
 - i. **Conner.280** - teams more “official”, Whatsapp more “unofficial”
- b. **McKinley.255** - Please remember to register to vote in the Aug special election by July 10th!
- c. **Holroyd.12** - Delegate swag updates?
 - i. **Conner.280** - still being produced, in process, lots of it!
- d. **Arshad.32** - New GRA contracts health coverage listed as 85% not 100% - coverage should still be 100% but contract not updated
 - i. **Conner.280** - outdated contracts not acceptable, Jorge planning to meet with HR folks, following up with OSU grad pay, encouraging to not sign incorrect contracts
- e. **Arshad.32** - on OSU Grad school website, English proficiency requirement set to 7.0, but on individual grad schools requirement normally written as 7.5.
- f. **Mashburn.10** - Seconds issue of health insurance contracts, seconds encouragement to vote, raises concern over tone as election approaches
 - i. **Conner.280** - heard, will coordinate with Jorge, part of initiating ad hoc is to encourage all voices to be heard
- g. **Du.601** - International student status: since OSU lifted Covid guidelines virtual options are being taken away. Many international students are not aware of this change, colleges could offer courses to allow international students to keep their intl. status
 - i. **Conner.280** - Jorge and I have a meeting with Dean Stromberger soon, will email Jorge to get this on agenda
- h. Motion to end delegate issues and concerns
- i. Motion seconded
- j. 4:07 - **Move to end delegate issues and concerns**

08. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No August delegate meeting

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- CGS Delegate Orientation - Monday, August 21st 10-4 in Great Hall Room/Zoom
- September Delegate Meeting - Friday, September 8th at 3:30 Ohio Union/Zoom
- THANK YOU to our departing 22-23 delegates, senators, chairs, and officers
 - This work, this advocacy, this community, and this space would not exist without you, your labor, and your energy.
 - We wish you the best of luck moving forward in your endeavors
 - CGS will continue to support and serve you, please reach out if you ever need anything

09. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm

Submitted By,

Lauren E. Chivington

Lauren E. Chivington, Secretary

chivington.17@buckeyemail.osu.edu

(614) 357-0036

Officer Reports

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

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



FROM: Jorge E. Clavo Abbass, President

DATE: September 1, 2023

RE: President's Report

Dear CGSers,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 academic year! I hope you all had a restorative summer, as well as a good start to the semester. I write with a couple of brief updates for your reference.

New President of the University

As we all know by now, Walter “Ted” Carter, Jr., has been named the 17th President of the Ohio State University, taking office on January 1, 2024. I had the pleasure of serving on the search committee as well as meeting with President Carter, both shortly before the announcement was made public, as well as in the days ensuing. I am very pleased with the outcome of the search; in our conversations, I was heartened by President Carter’s sincerity and forthrightness. His remarks made it clear to me that honoring diversity of thought and identity are of high importance to him, as is improving the state of graduate compensation and benefits. It is my hope that he will render impactful decisions to improve the graduate student experience at Ohio State over the course of 2024, and I look forward to collaborating with him on that front.

I have also spent time with Acting President Dr. Peter Mohler, and together we will ensure alignment and progress on the issues and priorities affecting graduate students over the course of the autumn in preparation for President Carter’s arrival. I have shared the Graduate Compensation and Benefits Committee’s report with both President Carter and Acting President Mohler at President Carter’s request.

Graduate Compensation and Benefits Committee Report

As you may know, I also serve as the Chair of the Graduate Compensation and Benefits Committee (GCBC) in the University Senate. I am happy to share that the report has been made public and is accessible at [this link](#). The report is being actively circulated amongst University leadership, and I am in the process of establishing next steps based on the report’s recommendations to determine the priorities for GCBC this year. I hope you share the report widely with colleagues, as there is much information of value for us all.

New Chairs of CGS Internal Committees, Chief of Staff, and Vacancies



Per our governing documents, it is my competency to nominate chairs for our internal committees for simple majority vote confirmation by the Executive Committee. It is also my obligation to communicate the new chairships in writing to you all. I am excited to share that Garrett Tatum is our new Academic Affairs Chair, Michela Bertossa is our new Arts and Culture Chair, Madeline Carrola is our new Government Affairs Chair, Kevin Donnelly is our new Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility Chair, Debbie Jones is our new DEI Chair, and Sabrina Jones is our new Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair.

I have also appointed and confirmed Michelle Leao as my Chief of Staff. The Strategic Communications Director's role has been folded into Michelle's. Beyond social media and our graduate-student-body-wide newsletters, Michelle will also act in a supporting role for other officers and for the logistics behind our meetings. Please join me in welcoming them to their new roles and wishing them much success over the course of the year.

This being said, we still have a couple of important vacancies which need filled: Parliamentarian and Membership Wellness Chair. If you or a fellow graduate student are interested in the roles, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at clavoabbass.1.

Housing Resolution Update

Our housing resolution passed last spring resulted in an in-depth meeting on graduate housing involving myself, our Housing and Family Affairs Chair Isobel Bowles, Dr. Melissa Shivers, and other Student Life leadership responsible for housing and residential life. Preliminary conclusions are that the future of graduate housing by the University would likely take the form of a public-private partnership. I expect to have more details to share with you at our delegate meeting, as our next meeting with Dr. Shivers on the subject will take place the morning of Friday, the 8th.

Please don't hesitate to contact me regarding any issues or questions you may have.

All my best,
Jorge E. Clavo Abbass, President
clavoabbass.1

TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

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



FROM: KATIE CONNER, VICE PRESIDENT

DATE: SEPTEMBER, 2023 🍁

RE: VICE PRESIDENT Report

Hey y'all!

Intro & Misc.

Welcome to our first meeting packet of the 23-24 school year! My report will usually take the same format each month for ease to find relevant information. It'll start with Intro/Misc., then move to internal updates, followed by Hayes updates, and finally reminders/action items/conclusions. As with all officers and chairs, my written report will contain far more detail and minutiae, while my verbal meeting report will focus more on specific action items, or really important things I need to draw folks' attention to!

As a (re)introduction to myself.... I'm starting my 6th year (geez I'm old) as a PhD student in the linguistics department at OSU! I'm a sociolinguist who is driven by interest in the production and perception of women's speech. I do both quantitative and qualitative research. I've done work on vocal creak (also known as creaky voice and vocal fry), discourses surrounding college sexual assault, how people perceive LGBTQ voices, and I'm currently piloting and working on laying the ground for my dissertation on slurs for women. I love all things ling and love talking about it, so hit me up if you ever want to hear my hot takes! Also hit me up and tell me about what YOU do. I love to hear it! I've learned about the chemistry of ant and mushroom communication, research on mouths and e cigarettes, activism and art, public affairs, economics, and more through conversations with CGSers, and it's SO cool hearing what other fields do and study!

This semester I'm finishing my 5th full year in CGS (I joined as a delegate in January 2019). I served as ling's delegate for a few years, served as a committee chair twice, and this is my second year as VP. I love the community and friendships I've been lucky enough to have throughout my time. And I do love holding administrators and OSU accountable when they fail to serve graduate students as promised or as expected. I'm excited to back again and looking forward to the year ahead.

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With all that having been said, here's the report for this month....

Summer Sum-Up

What exactly did I get up to this summer? Here's the final cumulative report on everything (still) in progress, and everything that got completed. If you have questions or want further details, I'm happy to chat individually or address questions.

In Progress 🕒 -

- Work on internal committee assignments for 23-24
- Work on Uni committee assignments for 23-24
- Getting IT to fix various forms and portals (Hayes, Ray, CDG, elections)
- Carryover work on Mental & Physical Health resolution writing (from Karla)
- Ad Hoc Values & Ethics Work
- Bylaws Updates
 - Get bylaws and constitution inconsistencies ironed out
 - Updating some definitions for clarity (i.e., 'what's a majority')
 - Re-assigning grant operations to a standalone committee from sec and treas duties
- Special elections for Wooster + Extension
- Fall delegate elections

Completed ✅ -

- Confirm Hayes '23 room reservations
- Tweak & distribute senator committee & "get to know you" survey for 23-24 delegates
- Close out Hayes '23 payments, prize payments, and getting reimbursement from ERIK and Graduate School for Hayes money CGS fronted
- Serve as president pro-tempore from June 28 – July 9
- 2 weeks off to go home, go to the beach, and take a breather!
- Tweak & distribute delegate committee & "get to know you" survey for 23-24 delegates
- Completing runoffs from Spring 23



- Meet with Kerry Hodak, Jen Pelletier, & Erica Brown to have a big debrief of Hayes '23, and to finish making sure Erica & I are in possession of all knowledge and materials related to Hayes
- Meet w/ Erica and Jorge about 23-24 CGS goals, workflow 22-23, and peaches and pits
- Initial officer meetings (one in July, one in August) to goal set, discuss tweaks and fixes to issues found or mistakes made last year, plan for regular officer check-ins throughout fall semester
- Met w/ Erica to debrief Hayes Forum 2023, goal set for 2024, and set initial expectations and timelines for 2024 planning, additionally scheduling meetings every two weeks throughout fall semester for check ins and troubleshooting problems that may arise
- Delegate/CGS orientation – bookings
- Delegate/CGS orientation – content
- Delegate Orientation – DO THE THING! 😊
- Spring 23 Elected delegates' applications approved, assigned to seats, academic verification from dept and graduate school secured, added to mailing list, delegate teams
- Fix/Organize website and archives organization and links
- Welcome Week planning & execution
- Senate committee assignments for 23-24
- Other various things I'm sure I forgot to mention or write down..... it was a long and busy summer

Internal Operations Updates



Fall elections are in full swing. Applications were accepted 8/28 through 9/1. Voting started 9/6 at noon, and will end on 9/13 at 5pm. There will be a reminder email sent on 9/11 about voting. I'll take a few days to confirm votes were valid, and to tally. Then I'll reach out to new delegates on 9/20 at latest for confirmation / acceptance of seats, and get them onboarded so they can start ASAP and join us starting at the October full-body meeting. We have 21 people running for the 27 open seats across 18 units of representation, so I'm pretty thrilled with the turnout at this moment. We have the potential to come out of elections with almost 90 delegates.... by far the largest body since at least 2017 according to our own records.

We also republished our fixed committee-only application on the website! We've had a decent number of applications come in so far, and about twice as many emails with questions or clarifications. I'm so excited for the level of interest and involvement from non-elected folks this year.

Once elections close, I'll get on the hustle of contacting units specifically that still have open seats to try and get petitions or appointments going. We are so close to triple digits that I am downright GIDDY.

Hayes Advanced Research Forum 38 - #175DaysTilHayes



Most of the substantive stuff is in my summer section above, but I'm excited for what's to come this year! Some tweaks and updates to the application process, hopefully a more robust set of alumni and industry judges to help supplement really mercurial faculty involvement/investment, and we'll have our first ever hybrid session (as an exhibition) to see if we can scale up and if we can sustainably incorporate students who can't actually physically be present for any number of reasons. In August I got the marketing request in, confirmed (again) dates and times for the forum itself as well as AV and food requests, touched base with Erica about general planning (Erica got the request in for a brand new Hayes specific email to help with some of the fielding of requests and having it be clearer year to year where Hayes stuff should be going to/coming from), met with the grad school and OPA about postdoc involvement and some possible other Hayes changes (more to come in the general future and more specifically future reports on that!).

Reminders, Action Items, and Conclusions

I've got some minor action items in my verbal report, mostly surrounding helping me get better contact info for each department/unit of representation. But nothing huge besides work hard, listen to your committee chairs and show up to things, and reach out if questions or concerns arise.

As always, folks should never hesitate to reach out to me via email (conner.280) or text (sorry not putting this on the public record) if they have questions or concerns. Feel free to pop into the CGS offices in 2088A Ohio Union to see if I'm around as well! My fall '23 hours will be a mixture of in person and hybrid working, so email if you'd like to meet physically and we'll set something up! Generally I'll be on campus Mondays and Fridays all day (9ish – 5ish) when I'm working from OH. I'm going to try and set some zoom/in person hours for drop in questions or concerns from y'all as well. I'll confirm and share those as soon as my schedule settles out from meetings and advisor and research stuff.



I am so looking forward to advocating and enjoying the work with all of y'all this coming year. ❤️

Cheers y'all!

Katie Conner, MA

VP of the Council of Graduate Students

Hayes Forum Chair

PhD Student, Linguistics



Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer declined to submit a report for the September meeting packet



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Lauren Chivington.17, Secretary
DATE: September, 2023
RE: Secretary Report

Hi all!

Welcome to what will surely be a great year! A special welcome to new folks, it is a pleasure to be spending my first year as a CGSer with y'all. One general reminder as we kick off a year of delegate meetings:

During meetings, ***please always state your last name and dot number before speaking***. This can feel a bit clunky, but it makes it much easier for me as I am taking the minutes!

Thanks and best wishes to all,

Lauren Chivington.17
CGS Secretary



Committee Chair Reports

Academic Affairs declined to submit a report for the September meeting packet

Arts and Culture declined to submit a report for the September meeting packet

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion declined to submit a report for the September meeting packet

SERC declined to submit a report for the September meeting packet



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Madeline Carrola, Government Affairs Chair
DATE: September 8, 2023
RE: Government Affairs Chair's Report

Hello,

I'm excited to work with you all and continue working with the Government Affairs Committee in this new role as Chair.

A little about me:

I am a second year PhD student in the Department of Sociology interested in studying housing inequalities. I'm from San Antonio, TX, and prior to OSU, I worked in federal grants/project management. Part of my work included project managing one of the largest federal youth homelessness grants in the nation and allocating over \$3.8 million for homeless services as part of the CARES Act. In 2019, I graduated with a B.A. in Sociology and Feminist Studies from Southwestern University. I love word games, writing [bad] poetry, rock climbing, and spending time with my cat, Beanie.

Government Affairs Committee:

Given our current political climate, I anticipate that this year will bring many opportunities for engagement and ensuring that the graduate community is well-informed about the decisions that affect our work as graduate students.

In our early Committee meetings, I would love to brainstorm and learn more about your ideas and hopes as we strategize and plan for this year together. Please reach out if you're interested in joining or learning more about the Government Affairs Committee.

I look forward to the work ahead.

Sincerely,
Madeline Carrola.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Peter Carrera, Graduate Caucus Chair
DATE: September 8, 2023
RE: Graduate Caucus Chair's Report

What is the OSU University Senate?

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate is the shared governing body of The Ohio State University. Comprised of 141 faculty, students, staff, and administrators, the Senate's primary responsibility is to advise campus leaders on the key educational and academic policy concerns.

Purpose:

The University Senate benefits the university community by serving as a channel for communication between representatives of the faculty, students, staff and administrators concerning key issues facing the instruction.

Senate Makeup:

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

CGS's senate body, the Graduate Caucus, is excited to serve OSU's interests in the shared governance space of the university. CGS has 10 senators total. The Graduate Caucus has two primary objectives:

1. Present a unified, graduate student focused presence in the University Senate when reviewing resolutions, and other senate business
2. Having a transparent, two-way information flow with CGS members (and through them their constituents); sharing what occurs in senate meetings to members and in turn receiving valuable grad student perspective & information

There are 20 University Senate committees all listed here: senate.osu.edu CGS has senators on all committees that deal with students. Our current senators are listed below:

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Senator	Committee
rocha.51	GCBC + IPPC
carrera.55	CSA
jones.7661	Diversity + GCBC
derezendegrisi.1	Library + URC
mckinley.255	EOCA + Rules
scott.1445	CSA + Fiscal
mehta.337	GCBC + CSA
mashburn.10	GCBC + CESP
durso.19	CAFR + Cope
Laborie.7	COAM + CACDEMIC Tech

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 occurring, please contact the appropriate CGS senator.

In service,
Peter Carrera (Carrera.55)



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Om Prakash Bedant, Graduate Student Affairs Chair
DATE: 09/03/2023
RE: Graduate Student Affairs Chair's Report

Hello Delegates,

Welcome to CGS! I hope you are having a great start to the semester so far.

My name is Om Prakash Bedant. I am a sixth-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. I am excited to be chairing the Graduate Student Affairs Committee (GSAC) this year.

GSAC has a specific focus on enhancing the overall graduate student experience at The Ohio State University.

1. **Broad Focus:** GSAC has a broad and comprehensive focus on improving the overall graduate student experience. While other committees may have specific mandates or areas of focus, GSAC aims to make positive changes across all areas that affect graduate students.
2. **Reinforcing Support:** GSAC also serves as a reinforcing back-end support for other CGS committees.
3. **Ambitious and Responsive:** GSAC intentionally leans into its broadly given name to be as ambitious and responsive to students' needs as possible. This means that GSAC can adapt and address emerging issues or concerns that may not fall under the purview of other committees.

Advocacy:

Our major goal is to advocate for all the issues and concerns graduate students face during their student life. In general, our mission is to support graduate students' health, well-being, and academic and personal success in an environment that fosters inclusion and equity and celebrates success and partnership.

To be successful in our mission, we will:

- Gather suggestions from committee members and other delegates about any specific areas we can focus on this school year.
- Ensure graduate student resources are more accessible.
- Collaborate with other committees and share ideas and resources with them.

Future Events:

1. Plan and host events during Graduate Student Appreciation Week to be held on the first week of April.
 - Discuss with the committee members to devise the type of events for the appreciation week.
 - Order the non-perishable items as soon as possible.
2. Plan and host or co-host other events.

Last school year's events:

We collaborated with the Graduate School to organize and celebrate five days of events during the Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week. We had daily giveaways for five days and a Coffee and Donuts with the Deans event where deans from several programs came and interacted with the graduate students. Some highlights from the events are shown below:





*

*



*

We will be scheduling our first meeting soon.

If you would like to join GSAC, then please get in touch with me and Katie Conner.280.

Thank you,
Om Prakash Bedant.1

*Photo credit to Matthew Swift.



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Isobel Bowles, Housing and Family Affairs Chair
DATE: 09/03/23
RE: Housing and Family Affairs Chair's Report

Greetings CGS,

I am excited to continue my second year serving as your Housing and Family Affairs Committee Chair. I am a sixth year PhD candidate in Biochemistry with a passion for social justice. In the last year my committee, with the support of CGS drafted and published a graduate school wide survey concerning the state of graduate housing and affordability (hopefully you had a chance to take it). From the drastic findings of this survey, we drafted a resolution to University leadership demanding action due to the sluggish replacement of options since the closure of Buckeye Village. This summer University leadership has agreed to start meeting with us regularly to discuss solutions to this problem.

Some resources that you should be aware of. The off-campus commuter student engagement office has numerous resources for housing related needs. They offer security-related devices for your home, and steering wheel locks for cars to prevent thefts. If you are interested in living in the University District, they also have an online database of University-approved rentals in the area, which can be a great resource for finding housing. In my experience, sharing a house if you find a good group of people can be a great way to save on rent, if that option works for your situation.

Jorge and I also attended the Framework 3.0 meetings last academic year where they drafted the design plans for the University for the next decade. Those plans have been published and I urge you to look through them as some design/building choices may directly affect areas where you work. <https://pare.osu.edu/framework> ; <https://columbusunderground.com/new-osu-master-plan-calls-for-street-changes-new-w-ave-of-development-bw1/>

Highlights include:

- New dorm buildings on both the south and north sides of campus. We are hoping to hear more about this and push for more graduate/family housing
- Another round of construction on the Wexner Medical Center Campus.
- New buildings where St. John Arena now stands.
- A large new parking garage on Lane Avenue near SR-315 that will better connect campus with the future new bus line down Olentangy.
- The continued development of Carmenton



- Plans for the renovation of existing buildings and new construction on just about every segment of campus, including the athletic campus, Waterman Farm, and land owned by OSU on the north side of Ackerman Road

I am excited to continue working towards advocating for affordable graduate and family housing this year and I also hope to work more specifically this year on advocating for resources for parenting graduate students. Please always reach out with questions, concerns, and ideas that you'd like to see! Here's to a great year.

Cheers,
Isobel Bowles.124



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Yang Du, International Student Affairs Chair
DATE: 9/3/2023
RE: International Student Affairs Chair's Report

Hello,

My name is Yang, and this is my second year in CGS as well as chairing International Student Affairs Committee. I am a third-year Doctor of Nursing Practice student, and this is my 7th year at Ohio State (4 years in undergraduate school and 2 years in graduate school). I am an international student from Nanjing, China, and I have a huge passion for my international student community.

Last year, we had two major projects:

1. **English language requirement resolution.** We compared Ohio State's English language policy with more than 20 other universities and offered suggestions. This resolution was widespread among university leadership and was referred to by the International Student Strategic Enrollment Working Group when making new admission rules and language requirements. Now the enrollment working group will meet periodically to reevaluate language policies.
2. **Tax workshop.** We worked with a tax professional to host an online tax workshop for international students. Topics covered include federal tax, state tax, and Columbus city tax. Students who attended had opportunities to ask personalized questions at the end of the workshop, and received email replies if their questions were not answered during the workshop.

This year, we will continue to advocate for international students (first paycheck, orientation, resource presentation, immigration resources, health and wellness resources, etc.) and are looking forward to organizing the following tentative events:

1. **Career workshop.** We are contacting international alumni who are now pursuing a career in academia and industry to share their experience in job hunting, interviewing, visas, etc. Please let us know if you know someone who may be a cool guest speaker for this event.
2. **Share your story** (conversation-based community event; name TBD). We are hoping to host at least one event featuring individual stories/cultures. This is designed to be a series of events. There are many cool buckeyes coming from different parts of the world with different backgrounds, and their stories are worth telling. We can learn so much from each other and



should be proud to share our stories. This event is a platform for buckeyes to share their paths and opinions. Please reach out if you know Buckeyes with stories to share or if you would like to participate. All are welcome: This is not just targeting international students.

3. **Tax workshop.** We are hoping to change the format this year by offering a main recorded workshop on basic tax information and then hosting several workshops for international students to stop by and ask individualized questions if we can find more tax professionals to work with us.

What is happening next:

- Once I receive the final list of committee members, we will have our first committee meeting before the October delegate meeting.

If you have questions or would like to know more about the above content, please do not hesitate to reach out. If your constituents are interested in joining this committee, please contact Katie Conner.280.

Be well and Go Bucks,

Yang Du.601



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Alissa Geisse.1, Membership Wellness Chair
DATE: September 1, 2023
RE: Membership Wellness Chair's Report

Greetings!

There are no updates from the Membership Wellness committee at this time.

I will announce my deepest sorrow as I step down as chair this semester. I absolutely love CGS and all the friends I have made here among the executive team. I am happy to announce that I will continue to serve on the membership wellness committee as a member, and will be around to support the new chair.

If you are interested in chairing this amazing and purposeful committee, please reach out to Jorge ClavoAbbass.1. <3

Peace and Love,
Alissa Geisse.1



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Bill Wang, Research and Data Operations Chair
DATE: Sept 2023
RE: Research and Data Operations Chair's Report

Hi all,

This is Bill. I am from the Economics Department, currently a fourth-year PhD student specializing in econometrics. Let me know if you are interested in the work that my committee has done in the past year.

Best,

Bill Wang.13945



TO: Council of Graduate Students, Delegates
FROM: Sabrina Durso, Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair
DATE: September 01, 2023
RE: Health, Wellness, and Safety Chair's Report

Hello peers,

I am a second-year PhD student in English who specializes in Disability Studies and Medical Humanities. My student role at The Ohio State allows me to understand the complexities of health, wellness, and safety that are often overlooked by major universities.

This year, the Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee plans to write legislation that provides access beyond ADA compliance. Additionally, we will investigate what the committee has focused on in the past such as providing health services for the Wooster Campus, graduate family housing, access to counseling services and off-campus health providers, and a Title IX education campaign (many of these tasks are aided by other committees). Every member of the committee graduated last year, so we may take on whatever we choose as a group.

Though we have many goals, this Fall 2023 semester, we are undertaking only one major task: creating an educational webinar through [The PreMed Scene](#). Over the summer I was asked if the committee would be interested in publishing a two-episode webinar that would be about anything accessibility we'd like. The webinar is published through The PreMed Scene, so it's largely meant for Pre-Med students to learn from. If you click on the link, you may find the webinar I worked on this summer. Basically, we'd make two 5-10 minute long videos about anything we'd like PreMed students to know before they enter the field. We will decide on a topic in our September meeting and the webinar would be published throughout the month of October.

Our next meeting is **September 12 from 6-7PM via Zoom**. Please contact me if you'd like to join.

Thank you for your time,
Sabrina Durso.19