

Graduate Student Association

General Assembly Meeting

October | 2021 | 6:00PM — 7:30PM

Via Zoom

Meeting called by the GSA Co-Presidents Pedro Craveiro and Felicity Stone-Richards

Notes recorded by Maya Zaynetdinova, VP of Communication and Events

- Introduction and sign in
- Community Agreement and Zoom Specific Agreements
- Roll Call//Academic Departments Present: [23 Graduate Representatives]
 - History of Art and Architecture [1]
 - Asian Studies [1]
 - Religious Studies [1]
 - Spanish & Portuguese [1]
 - Theater & Dance [1]
 - Biomolecular Science & Engineering [1]
 - Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology [2]
 - Marine Science [1]
 - Physics [1]
 - Anthropology [1]
 - Communication [1]
 - Feminist Studies [1]
 - Geography [2]
 - Global Studies [1]
 - Political Science [1]
 - Sociology [1]
 - Chemical Engineering [2]
 - Electrical and Computer Engineering [1]
 - Bren [2]
- Approval of last meeting minutes // MOTION CONSENTED
- Approval of current agenda // MOTION CONSENTED
- Co-sponsorship
 - WAIL – Linguistic Conference
- Administration Reports

- *Graduate Division Report // Dr. Carlos M. Nash and Robert Hamm*
- *Graduate Council // Giuliana Perrone*
- *Academic Senate*
- **Executive Board Reports**
 - **Co-Presidents // Pedro Craveiro & Felicity Stone-Richards**
 - Housing Crisis - GSA worked closely with Grad Div and Housing to contact all grad students who did not have confirmed housing, and provided hotel rooms. A few of these students have now been moved into San Clemente.
 - Right-Sizing Committee - Grad Div committee compiling a report that aims to ensure 5 years of full funding across all departments at UCSB. Discussing what is the 'right size' for departments, based on how many graduate students they can hire and provide 5 years of funding for
 - Meeting with the Deans of school to discuss progress on DEI efforts
 - GSA Lounge is reopening once fully staffed.
 - We are looking for staff: see yesterday's email on how to apply
 - Spread the word
 - We accept reservations for the lounge for graduate student groups
 - **Vice President of Communication and Events // Maya Zaynetdinova**
 - We have switched our communications to Shoreline!
 - Register with Shoreline to get updates
 - All events and forms are posted there as well
 - The first event of the quarter is Graduate Brunch on October 20th 10 am - 12 pm in the MCC Courtyard
 - An official announcement is coming out tomorrow!
 - We have to keep events as grab and go
 - We're working on more events with Kenzie Wade. Stay tuned!
 - In the process of recruiting Departmental Graduate reps
 - 33 so far
 - Please fill out the form
 - Check with your department's Graduate Program Advisor regarding the rules of electing a rep
 - **Vice President of Graduate Student Affairs // Jordan J. Tudisco**
 - Housing: Updates were covered by Felicity; we are now focusing on Winter and making sure people are not houseless when hotel housing expires on Dec 15; but please contact Housing or Grad Div if you still don't have stable housing
 - Health Insurance: Not many meetings over summer; mostly, the UC system has been recruiting a new vendor for their waiving process and a search is underway (2 companies interviewed)

- For reference, I sit on the following committees:
 - With Academic Senate: Committee on Diversity and Equity, Undergraduate Council, Committee on Faculty Welfare, Academic Freedom and Awards
 - Elsewhere at UCSB: Police Advisory Board, Dean of HFA Search Committee, UCSB Student Health Advisory Committee, Trans Task Force
 - UC-wide: Title IX Student Advisory Board, UC SHIP, UC SHIP Reserve Funds Subcommittee, Virtual Care Collective Governance Committee

- **Vice President of External Affairs // Heather Prentice-Waltz**
 - Cities-County Joint Affordable Housing Task Group
 - UCGPC
 - Possibility of membership in/attendance at other organizations/working groups as well
 - Always looking for graduate student input, suggestions, collaboration, direct participation, etc. (let us know what is most important to you)! gsavpexternal@gmail.com
 - Heads up: upcoming job search for legislative liaison!
 - Intercampus organization (<https://www.ucgpc.org>) that advocates for graduate and professional students to the UC Regents and in state and federal legislatures
 - Upcoming meeting with UC President Drake on Friday 10/15/21 (Agenda Items: housing; carbon neutrality; policing; return to campus-health and safety)
 - Currently working to establish advocacy agenda for the year (potential topics include: housing affordability/security; policing; childcare; civic engagement; return to campus safety; basic needs.
 - Advocacy agenda will be set at upcoming virtual Grad Summit (Sat. 10/16)

- **Vice President of Financial Affairs // Melanie Adams**
 - GSA funding available this year:
 - GSA Emergency Relief Grant
 - For FAFSA eligible students, you have completed the FAFSA for the current academic year (if eligible) and have accepted any loans offered through the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship (OFAS)
 - COVID-19 Grants
 - Travel grants
 - Childcare grants - first come, first served
 - Committee payment forms located on GSA website

- Referrals to additional campus resources - SMERF, Financial Crisis Response Team, Tech Grants
- **Discussion Items**
 - GSA Lounge reopening
 - GSA General Assembly format
- **Action Items**
 - Vote to reopen GSA Lounge once it is staffed // **PASSED** [78% yes, 0% no, 22% abstain]
 - Vote to move GA to in person // **FAILED** [30% yes, 44% no, 26% abstain]
- **Announcements**
 - Vox Populi
- **Adjournment**