

UC SANTA BARBARA

Graduate Student Association

General Assembly Minutes

April 11th | 2023 | 6-8 PM

Hybrid Format

Meeting called by the GSA Co-Presidents Becky Martin and Eugene Riodan Jr
Minutes recorded by Annjulie Vester, VP of Communication & Events

Introduction and sign-in

Community Agreements

Roll Call (24 representatives present)

Approval of last meeting minutes -- MOTION APPROVED

Approval of current agenda -- MOTION APPROVED

Co-Sponsorship Presentations

- Environmental Justice Symposium (Logan Ruggles)
 - \$300
 - MOTION APPROVED
- Grad Guide (Polina Zhilkina)
 - \$200
 - MOTION APPROVED

Administrative Report: Graduate Division

- Carlos Nash (GSA Advisor)
 - April 14th 2023: Grad Slam Final at Campbell Hall
- Robert Hamm (Graduate Division)
 - Graduation: Registration for Commencement is open

Administrative Report: Giuliana Perrone (Graduate Council - Academic Senate)

- Graduate Student Housing continues to be a problem

Executive Board Reports

- Internal Co-President (Becky Martin)
 - Summer San Clemente Renovations are canceled for this summer
 - All current residents' will receive a continuation of their contract through the summer
 - Campus Housing will try to accommodate Teaching Assistants and Associates who are committed to teaching in Summer B
 - San Clemente 2023-2024

- 375 San Clemente housing rooms are set aside for continuing students
- All students who want campus housing should add themselves to the waitlist
- Students of 2nd or higher years should not expect a contract for the upcoming year and should try to secure housing in the community as soon as possible
- Decarbonization Study Project Committee

- VP Communications & Events (Annjulie Vester)
 - Grad Drag Night is coming up on April 20th!
 - Sign up [here!](#)
 - New Systemwide Task Force on Doctoral and Postdoctoral students
 - Internship Fellowship Application is now open until April 30th!
 - Application [here!](#)

- VP Graduate Student Affairs (Sara Tyberg)
 - Rumors about Student Health Services
 - Student Health will NOT be demolished until Phase II of the Ocean Road Faculty project which has no specific start date yet
 - pending the beginning of the construction, SHS will be *relocated temporarily*
 - Phase I is scheduled to begin in late 2023
 - UC SHIP Insurance renewal process is ongoing - list of resolutions that have passed with a majority affirmative votes from participating campuses
 - 1) coverage of fertility testing for members with conditions such as PCOS and endometriosis;
 - 2) coverage of nutrition/dietician services for members with ulcerative colitis, Crohn's, celiac disease, and diverticulitis;
 - 3) coverage of contact lens fittings for in-network providers;
 - 4) coverage of condoms as prescribable birth control; and
 - 5) adoption of updated language around gender-affirming care
 - Anticipated ~12% increase in premiums for '23-'24 plan year - should be receiving the exact rates soon
 - New TA and GSR contracts now cover dependents
 - unclear which dependents will qualify

- VP Budget, Finance, & Committees (Adrienne Tsikewa)
 - co-sponsorships
 - Two routes to receive co-sponsorship money
 - Departmental route: department incurs the expense and is reimbursed through transfer of expense
 - Concur reimbursement: individuals make purchases which are reimbursed through Concur
 - Childcare Grant Deadline is Week 8
 - GA representative stipends will be submitted immediately after the quarter ends
 - Travel Grant
 - estimated to have \$100,000 left - enough to cover travel grants until the end of the year

- Child Care Grant
 - \$25,000 left to disburse for Spring
- VP External Affairs (Anne Berry) - absent; sent notes
 - Upcoming meeting with President Drake with UCGPC officers, Council members and community members on April 17-19 023
 - Council of Graduate Deans are dealing with the fallout of new TA and GSR contracts

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1) General Assembly Representative Stipends - Constitution/Bylaws Change
 - Move to change language to reflect current CA state minimum wage: "The amount of the stipend shall correspond to the current CA state minimum wage times the length of the General Assembly (2 hours)"
 - No discussion
 - MOTION APPROVED - item will move to 'action item' phase in May General Assembly
- 2) Committee Representative Stipends
 - Move to change language to reflect CA state minimum wage and eliminate pay schedule: "The quarterly stipend for serving as a GSA Committee Representative shall be set according to CA state minimum wage. Representatives shall report their committee hours through the Committee Representative Form to the VPFA at the end of each academic quarter."
 - MOTION APPROVED - item will move to 'action item' phase in May General Assembly
- 3) VPFA Position
 - Addition 1: the Co-President as secondary financial officer:
 - Bylaws: "The Internal Co-President shall be the secondary financial officer of the organization."
 - Bylaws: "The Internal Co-President shall have access to the VPFA records, including Gmail and Google Drive at all times. "
 - Bylaws: "The Co-President shall attend the VPFA transitional meetings during the Summer before the start of the academic year"
 - Constitution: "If the Vice President of Budget, Finance, and Committees position becomes vacant, the Internal Co-President shall act as interim Finance officer until a special election is held at the next scheduled General Assembly meeting."
 - MOTION APPROVED - item will move to 'action item' phase in May General
 - Addition 2: VPFA Liaison
 - "The GSA shall hire a VPFA Liaison on an hourly basis to serve as assistant to the VPFA in the beginning of Fall Quarter. The GSA shall publish the announcement of this position widely. The VPFA may delegate responsibilities to the Liaison. The VPFA is responsible for training the Liaison and ensuring that the Liaison complies with any relevant university rules and regulations to protect privacy of students and data."
 - MOTION APPROVED - item will move to 'action item' phase in May General
 - Addition 3: VPFA stipend increase

- Amendment to Bylaws, Bylaw V, H (b): "Vice President of Financial Affairs: \$2250 during Fall, Winter, and \$1000 during the Summer Quarter preceding and the Summer Quarter following their elected term."
 - MOTION APPROVED - item will move to 'action item' phase in May General
- 4) VPFA Committee Duties
- Making the VPCE chief "committee" officer - currently, committee related duties are under the position of the VPFA. To streamline responsibilities, committee duties will be moved to the VPCE position and stricken from the VPFA duties
 - "the VPCE shall maintain a list of all GSA Committee Representatives and their contact information"
 - "The VPCE shall publicize vacant committee positions and recruit a diverse group of graduate students to serve on campus committees"
 - "The VPFA shall handle correspondence regarding the application process for GSA Committee Representative positions"
 - MOTION APPROVED - item will move to 'action item' phase in May General
- 5) Amazon
- presentative proposal to ban the use of GSA co-sponsorship monies for use with Amazon Inc
 - GSA Executive Board amended proposal: "No monies of the GSA shall be used to make purchases at 'Amazon Inc'. This includes purchases made by the Executive Committee for general upkeep and event preparation, purchases made with monies associated with GSA co-sponsorships, gift cards, etc.)"
 - MOTION TABLED

Adjournment – – MOTION APPROVED

- Next General Assembly Meeting May 2nd, 2023

Questions or comments concerning the meeting minutes should be directed to the GSA Co-Presidents, Becky Martin, at int-co-president@gsa.ucsb.edu and Eugene Riordan Jr, at ext-co-president@gsa.ucsb.edu or the VP of Communications & Events, AnnjuMolie Vester, at vpce@gsa.ucsb.edu.

General Assembly

April 11th, 2023



Community Agreements

Community Agreements

- No recording
- Respect the speaker
- One mic one diva
- Step up step back
- Decorum

Zoom Specific Agreements

- Please keep your mic muted when you're not speaking
- If you have any questions/doubts, please raise your *Zoom hand* and you will talk shortly.

Robert's Rules of Order: A Brief Overview

Robert's Rules of Order Motion Steps

1. **Motion:** A member rises or raises a hand to signal the chairperson. *"I move to..."* for approving, adjourning
2. **Second:** Another member seconds the motion. *"Second!"* or *"I second the motion"*
3. **Restate motion:** The chairperson restates the motion.
4. **Debate:** The members debate the motion.
5. **Vote:** The chairperson restates the motion, and then first asks for affirmative votes, and then negative votes. *"All in favor? Opposed? Abstaining?"*
6. **Announce the vote:** The chairperson announces the result of the vote and any instructions.

Meeting Agenda & Last Meeting's Minutes

Assembly Vote Required

Meeting Agenda

- Greetings
- Last Meeting Minutes/Current Agenda Approval
- Roll Call/Community Agreements
- Events Announcements
- Co-sponsorship Presentations (2)
- Administration Reports
- Executive Board Report
- Action Items
- Discussion Items (5)
- Announcements
- Adjournment

UC SANTA BARBARA
Graduate Student Association

Events Announcement!

GSA & QTGSU Present: April 20th, 2023
6-9pm



FEATURING
ARIA & LINDA
AND THEIR NEW
MERRY BAND OF
DRAG PARASITES

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
THE QTGSU GENDER-
AFFIRMING CARE
FUND**

TICKET RESERVATIONS:
FREE ADMISSION
(\$5 DONATION RECOMMENDED)
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/CISCYX3XKMGE1MGV8](https://forms.gle/CISCYX3XKMGE1MGV8)



UC SANTA BARBARA
Department of Recreation



UCSB RECREATION CENTER
PRESENTS
GRAD CLIMBING NIGHT

Saturday, April 22nd
5:30-8:30p
Sign up on Shoreline ->



Co-sponsorship Requests

- Environmental Justice Symposium
 - Logan Ruggles
- Grad Guide
 - Polina Zhilkina



Environmental Justice Symposium

Bren's Environmental Justice Club

Bren's EJ Club

- Student-run grassroots club promoting EJ within Bren, Santa Barbara, and the greater environmental movement
- Education, institutional change, and mutually beneficial engagement with community environmental initiatives
- Main Event: annual EJ symposium





5th Annual Environmental Justice Symposium

- Large 2-day event that brings together interdisciplinary scholars, thought-leaders, & activists to tackle decolonizing the EJ movement and envision the future of EJ
- Thursday May 18th 4-6pm (Virtual)
 - Community and Student Flash Talks
- Friday May 19th 2-5pm (in-person)
 - Keynote Speaker
 - Panelists
 - Networking Reception
- Open and advertised UCSB/SB wide

Bren's Environmental Justice Club Presents:

4TH ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

MAY 19-20, 2022

The Environmental Justice Symposium is a hybrid event that will explore topics ranging from the roots of environmental harm to advice for environmental justice careers. This event brings together interdisciplinary scholars, activists, and thought-leaders to envision the future of environmental justice.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SARAH BISCARRA DILLEY
Friday, May 20th | 2pm at Bren Hall & on Zoom

Traditional Ecological Knowledge(s) not Extracted Knowledge: California Indigenous Perspectives on Ethics, Occupation, Place and Relation

Sarah Biscarra Dilley (yak titru tibru yak tithini [Northern Chumash]) is an artist and educator residing in the Maku'u Ahupua'a (Moku o Hawai'i), nitspu tititru ts7itini 'Olelo, in the unceded homeland of the 'Olelo-speaking people. Their written, visual, and material practice is grounded in collaboration across experiences, communities, and place, connecting extractive industries, absent treaties, and enclosure to emphasize movement, embodied protocol, cultural continuity and possibility. While knowledge foundations are shaped by body, land and the worlds in and around us, they are currently a PhD Candidate in Native American Studies at University of California, Davis, nitspu tititru ts7itini patwin, in the unceded homeland of the Patwin-speaking people (unratified Treaty "J" region).



Day 1 - Virtual
FLASH TALKS
Thursday, May 19th | 4pm on Zoom

Day 2 - Hybrid
FOOD JUSTICE PANEL
Friday, May 20th | 3pm at Bren Hall & Zoom

EJ CAREER PANEL
Thursday, May 19th | 5pm on Zoom

RECEPTION
Friday, May 20th | 4pm at Bren Hall

*Masks are required indoors

UC SANTA BARBARA
Bren School of Environmental
Science & Management

For more info and Zoom links, visit: [BIT.LY/brenEJ22](https://bit.ly/brenEJ22)

Funding Request

- Flash talks: UCSB community members present on their choice of EJ topic and share their research, attendees vote for best speaker, prizes promote community involvement and diverse perspectives
- Requesting \$300 to cover half of flash talk prizes
- Two \$150 gift cards for two first place winners



Budget & Funding

- **Other funding sources:**
 - \$5,000 from Bren
 - \$600 from Graduate Students for Diversity in Science
 - \$300 from GSA
- **Also requesting:**
 - Ecological Society of America
 - Env. Affairs Board
 - Coastal Fund

Item	Cost	Notes
Keynote honorarium	\$1000	Funding for keynote honorarium
Panelist honorarium	\$2,250	Online EJ Career panel: 4 panelists & 1 moderator (\$250 pp) In-person panel: 3 panelists from local area & 1 moderator (\$250 pp)
Flash talk prizes	\$600	2x 1st place (\$150), 2x 2nd place (\$100), 2x 3rd place (\$50)
Reception	\$1,500	Networking reception <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1,025: Food and non-alcoholic drink - \$300: Alcoholic beverages - \$175: Student labor
Travel costs	\$2,200	Keynote speaker could be from anywhere in nation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1,000 (similar to seminar speaker travel budget) - Would cover airfare, one night hotel, and travel In-person panelists would be from local area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$300 per panelist and moderator for travel costs (\$1200 total)
Total:	\$7,550	

Welcome to...

GRAD GUIDE



Deciding whether graduate education is the right step for you and how to succeed in the application process can be difficult. We plan to help!

How can GradGuide help undergrads?

GradGuide will offer a variety of events and opportunities:

- ★ Overview and tips for graduate school applications in STEM
- ★ Targeted support for low-income, first-gen and international students
- ★ Statement of Purpose workshops
- ★ Graduate student mentorship
- ★ Tips for gaining undergraduate research experience and leveraging your past experiences
- ★ Advice for school and advisor selection and comparing offers



Upcoming GradGuide event

1. **“Funding graduate school - complete overview”, April 17th, 5-6pm**
 - *Participating undergrads learn more about how funding in graduate school works, how to apply for external funding, how to evaluate offers, and more!*
 - *2-3 graduate student speakers present the material through their experiences and answer questions from the audience*
 - *Expected number of attendees ~70 people based on previous event attendance*
 - *\$200 is requested to provide coffee and snacks for attendees*
 - *We are a very new club, so this is our first time applying for funding!*



Budget Breakdown

- (5) Starbucks Coffee Traveler Packs: ~\$20 each - \$100
- (4) Dozen Donuts (Spudnuts and Bagels): \$20 each - \$80
- (2) Bags of mandarin oranges: \$5 each - \$10
- (2) Compostable disposable cups: \$5 each - \$0

Administration Reports

GSA Advisor

Graduate Division

Graduate Council

Executive Board Report

Summary of all Executive Officers

Co-Presidents' Report: Eugene Riordan Jr. and Becky Martin

Housing!

- San Clemente Renovations this Summer
 - They aren't happening!!
 - Everyone who is a current resident will be getting a contract extension until Aug 15; they haven't been issued yet because of legal things that need to be hammered out
 - If you are TAing for Summer Session B, housing will (try to) extend your contract further
- San Clemente 2023-34
 - 375 spots set aside for continuing students, 350 contracts were settled in the first round of offerings (this covers almost all 1st year grads)
 - If you haven't received a contract, please start looking for housing

Decarbonization Study Project Committee

- Lmk if you are interested (email Becky or Eugene!)

Elections Update

VP Communication & Events: Annjulie Vester

- Grad Drag Dinner
 - QTGSU and GSA co-sponsored
 - April 20th from 6PM to 9PM
- Systemwide Taskforce on Doctoral and Post-doctoral students
- Internship Fellowship Application is open until April 30th!



VP Graduate Student Affairs: Sara Tyberg

- UC SHIP Insurance renewal process ongoing
 - All of the following UC SHIP proposals passed with a majority affirmative votes from participating campuses:
 - 1) coverage of fertility testing for members with conditions such as PCOS and endometriosis;
 - 2) coverage of nutrition/dietician services for members with ulcerative colitis, Crohn's, celiac disease, and diverticulitis;
 - 3) coverage of contact lens fittings for in-network providers;
 - 4) coverage of condoms as prescribable birth control; and
 - 5) adoption of updated language around gender-affirming care
 - Anticipated ~12% increase in premiums for '23-'24 plan year - should be receiving the exact rates soon

VP Graduate Student Affairs: Sara Tyberg

- Rumors of SHS closure
 - If you see rumors of SHS closing or being demolished, they **aren't true**.
 - Eventually, when the Ocean Road faculty housing is constructed, SHS will need to be *temporarily relocated*. Student health services will not be eliminated from campus.
 - SHS relocation doesn't occur until Phase 2 of the project, and the Ocean Road project is currently "in development" with Phase 1 anticipated to begin in late 2023. You can view the timeline and plans for the Ocean Road project here:
<https://evc.ucsb.edu/faculty-housing/options/ocean-road>.

VP Budget, Finance, & Committees: Adrienne Tsikewa

- Co-sponsorships
 - Two routes to receive funds
 - Department incurs expense
 - GSA reimburses department via transfer of expense (TOE)
 - This is the preferred route going forward
 - Individual reimbursement via Concur
 - Receipts are needed
 - no off-campus catering
 - no alcohol purchases
 - Info on how event was announced
 - Shoreline and/or email announcement
 - Info on how many people attended
 - sign in sheet/list of attendees needed
 - should only be name & relation to university (redact perm/phone number or other personal info)
 - VPFA becomes a delegate on Concur
 - this allows me to submit an expense report on your behalf to appropriate person

VP Budget, Finance, & Committees: Adrienne Tsikewa

- Child care grant deadline is now by the end of Week 8 of every quarter
- GSA reps and committee hours deadline is immediately after final quarter GA meeting
 - This is to ensure that all receive funds in the appropriate quarter due to enrollment status and students can only receive funds from one fund per quarter (e.g. only one child care grant can be issued per quarter)
 - Fall and Winter quarters combined and should be processed soon
- Budget update
 - budget needs to be reconciled with AS fall GSA expenditures
 - Co-sponsorships
 - 19 approved = \$6,300
 - estimated 12 more approvals = \$3,600
 - Emergency grants
 - \$18,573.18 approved in 2023
 - \$4,575 processed by AS in Fall 2022
 - estimated \$5,000 remaining

VP Budget, Finance, & Committees: Adrienne Tsikewa

- Budget update (cont.)
 - Child care grants
 - \$11,600 in 2023
 - \$2,100 in Fall (estimated)
 - estimated \$25,000 remaining
 - Travel grants
 - \$26,902.18 in 2023
 - \$9,000 estimated to be processed
 - \$5,800 in Fall (estimated)
 - estimated \$100,000 remaining = very healthy = \$75,000
 - estimated 50 upcoming completed applications = \$25,000
 - Using Becky's words "we expect to be able to pay out travel grants for the rest of the year"
 - Summer conference disbursements requires enrollment; if not, can be processed in Fall 2023

VP External Affairs: Anne Berry

UCGPC officers, council members and community members

- Meeting with President Drake only EVPs can attend this meeting - Sacramento Advocacy Day on April 17 -19, 2023

Council of Graduate

- The Council of Graduate Deans spent a good amount of time dealing with follow-up on the details of the contract and how to support graduate students is handled in different ways on the various campuses. The council of graduate dean met with Newman which went well. They discussed how the university got where it is now and what could have been done differently to engage with the graduate deans more regularly. He remarked that feeling was that UC lost the PR battle as an institution and that the graduate deans might have been able to help frame issues in a different manner with the state. No additional funds will be available from the state to cover the costs of the collective bargaining agreement. The graduate deans are intent on restoring their relationship with SGR. Prior to COVID they used to hold a campus advocacy day at the capitol. It was a great opportunity for students to the system. There may be some renewal of that effort.

Discussion Items

General Assembly Representative Stipends

- increase to reflect minimum wage and 2 hour GA

Committee Representative Stipends

- increase from \$15 to \$15.50

Moving “Committees” from VPFA to VPCE

- language in the Bylaws

VPFA position to ensure robustness of finances

Amazon

Discussion Item 1: GA representative stipend

Current language in the Constitution:

- “The amount of the stipend shall be \$22.50 per meeting”

Proposed language

- “The amount of the stipend shall correspond to the current CA state minimum wage times the length of the General Assembly (2 hours)”
 - Example 2023: minimum wage = \$15.50, GA length = 2 hours, Amount per attended GA: \$31)

MOTION to introduce as Action Item?

Note: any bylaw changes we vote on today (this and others) need to be approved in our next meeting

Discussion Item 2: Committee stipends

Current language in the Constitution (p. 42-43)

- “The quarterly stipend for serving as a GSA Committee Representative shall be determined by the following guidelines”

UC SANTA BARBARA Graduate Student Association	
i.	1 to 2 hours: \$30
ii.	3 to 4 hours: \$60
iii.	5 to 6 hours: \$90
iv.	7 to 8 hours: \$120
v.	9 to 10 hours: \$150
vi.	11 to 12 hours: \$180
vii.	13 to 14 hours: \$210
viii.	15 to 16 hours: \$240
ix.	17 to 18 hours: \$270
x.	19 to 20 hours: \$300
xi.	21 to 22 hours: \$330
xii.	23-24 hours: \$360
xiii.	25-26 hours: \$390



- 1) eliminate these guidelines?
- 2) pay on hourly basis according to minimum wage
- 3) must start at \$50 to accommodate the GradPoint restriction

Proposed language:

- “The quarterly stipend for serving as a GSA Committee Representative shall be set according to CA state minimum wage. Representatives shall report their committee hours through the Committee Representative Form to the VPFA at the end of each academic quarter.”

MOTION to introduce as Action Item?

Discussion Item 3: VPFA position

- 1st Addition:
 - Language in the Bylaws:
 - “The Internal Co-President shall be the secondary financial officer of the organization.”
 - “The Internal Co-President shall have access to the VPFA records, including Gmail and Google Drive at all times. “
 - “The Co-President shall attend the VPFA transitional meetings during the Summer before the start of the academic year”
 - Language in the Constitution
 - 2) Addition on page 11: “If the Vice President of Budget, Finance, and Committees position becomes vacant, the Internal Co-President shall act as interim Finance officer until a special election is held at the next scheduled General Assembly meeting.”
- 2nd Addition:
 - creating a VPFA Liaison
 - co-sponsorships, Concur reimbursements for officers, documentation
 - hourly basis
 - hired as part of Lounge Staff
 - contingent: must have been Lounge staff for one year
- 3rd Addition
 - VPFA stipend increase for both 1st and 2nd summer (\$1000 each)
 - has to train the new Liaison

Discussion Item 4: Committee Duties

Making the VPCE the chief “committee” officer

- Language in the Bylaws currently under VPFA position will be stricken from that position and moved to under the VPCE position

- s. The VPFA shall maintain a list of all GSA Committee Representatives and their contact information.
- t. The VPFA shall publicize vacant committee positions and recruit a diverse group of graduate students to serve on-campus committees.
- u. The VPFA shall handle correspondence regarding the application process for GSA Committee Representative positions.

Discussion Item 4 continued:

- Language in the Bylaws
 - 1) Strike from the VPFA and move to the VPCE: “Serve as the primary liaison to campus committees and GSA Committee Representatives”
- VPFA will continue to record hours and process committee stipends

MOTION to introduce as Action Item?

Discussion Item 5: Amazon

- Excluding Amazon from any purchases associated with the organization (gift cards, purchases for Lounge and Events, co-sponsorships, etc.)
- Proposed language
 - “No monies of the GSA shall be used to make purchases at ‘Amazon Inc’. This includes purchases made by the Executive Committee for general upkeep and event preparation, purchases made with monies associated with GSA co-sponsorships, gift cards, etc.)”

MOTION to introduce as Action Item?

Action Items

Assembly Vote Required

Announcements

Adjournment

Next General Assembly in April