

# Graduate Student Association

General Assembly

March 3 | 2026 | 6-8 PM

GSA Lounge

6:10 PM	Introduction
6:15 PM	<p>Community Agreement</p> <p>Roberts rules explanation</p> <p>Meeting agenda approved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Henry motions</li><li>● Mazie seconds</li><li>● Meeting agenda APPROVED</li></ul> <p>Last meeting minutes and current agenda approved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Henry motions</li><li>● Mazie seconds</li><li>● February Minutes APPROVED</li></ul>
6:20 PM	<p>Administrative reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Grad slam - Grace Kimball</li></ul>
6:25 PM	<p>Co-sponsorships</p> <p>Chem and Bio Chem - An</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Chemistry professional development event<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mid-September</li></ul></li><li>● Career symposium annually<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Departments include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Chem</li><li>■ Materials</li><li>■ Bio Eng</li><li>■ Physics</li><li>■ Other stems</li><li>■ Everyone's invited - free</li></ul></li><li>○ Great for networking</li></ul></li><li>● Funding request - \$300<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Food, service, parking (2 days)</li></ul></li><li>● Gustavo brought up a \$600 request max in case they'd like to ask for more</li></ul>

- Laura states bylaws have been changed and GA can grant \$600 max twice a year or \$1200 per conference
- An asks what constitutes a conference
  - She can ask for a conference
- If we approve funding now, can they use it in September?
  - Taylor says it should be fine
- Henry motions to approve \$1200 for a Chemistry professional development event
- Vade seconds
- **MOTION PASSED**

Orfalea Center - Mary Michael

- Writing retreat for grad students at West Conference Center by Coal Oil Point
  - Open to all grad students
- Asking for \$1200
  - Food for the whole day
  - Spent too much in winter so need more funding
- Questions
  - Is this separate from professional development?
    - Yes
  - Diego went and liked it - it was full though
    - If it grows, how will Orfalea fit all the people?
  - Gary asked what's max capacity - 20-30
- Henry motions to approve \$1200 for a writing retreat organized by Orfalea Center
- Vade seconds - approved
- **MOTION PASSED**

MCC - stem series about POC talking about navigating stem - Mary Michael

Two speakers

- Asking for \$500 for food
- Questions - how are you going to advertise?
  - GSA and Grace
  - Lots of places
  - If you make a sign in sheet/shoreline - work on it with GSA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Henry motions to approve \$500 for a STEM Series organized by the MCC</li> <li>● Vade seconds</li> <li>● <b>MOTION PASSED</b></li> </ul> <p>Interdisciplinary Conference of South Asian Studies - Deannishdesh &amp; Akhil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Asking for \$1200 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ food</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Laura said to hit up religious studies</li> <li>● It's open to all grad students</li> <li>● Attendance = 40</li> <li>● 16 presenters</li> <li>● Maizy Stern Motions to approve \$1200 for the Interdisciplinary Conference of South Asian Studies</li> <li>● Vade and Diego second</li> <li>● <b>MOTION PASSED</b></li> </ul> <p>Anna Aldrez - Mechanical Engineering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trivia Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 70-80 participants</li> <li>○ Asking for \$600</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Stating a complaint - these fees come from all grad students so the event needs to be open to all grad students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It will be open to all graduate students</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Will trivia be stem related?</li> <li>● Henry motions to approve \$600 for a Trivia Night organized by Mechanical engineering students</li> <li>● Mazie seconds</li> <li>● <b>MOTION PASSED</b></li> </ul>
6:55PM	<p>Save Student Services Vote to Intigrate to our Ballot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Voted to allow student affairs to bypass gathering individual signatures and allow representatives to vote for adding to our ballot 33 to 1</li> <li>● <b>MOTION PASSED</b></li> </ul>
7:00PM	<p>Laura - chancellor meeting with e-board</p> <p>Talked about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Summer sessions - chancellor wants more, will open more TAships</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chancellor asking to see if he can convert another building into grad housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Assanis pursuing endowments and philanthropy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Department level endowments - different from Yang</li> <li>○ Benefits humanities and religious studies</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chancellor clarified that not all industry partners will be military industrial complex</li> <li>○ Assanis wants to make us the school for quantum computing</li> <li>○ They want to work on designing the hardware for AI and quantum</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Get rich SB people to donate to UCSB</li> <li>● What should the staples in downtown become?</li> <li>● Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mazie saying she didn't have enough help to TA so she had to drop a class - left with only one class this quarter</li> <li>○ Check out 410 state street (old staples) on thursday</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:10PM	<p>Diego</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● GSA Awards</li> <li>● Need to create committee to focus on teaching award</li> <li>● Elections are coming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We need an election committee</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:15PM	<p>Laura</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Summer session questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Laura met with summer sessions director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A lot of people only have summer to be given the opportunity to be TAs</li> <li>■ Going to start off small and add more classes with demand</li> <li>■ This will probably start next year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This is because Academic Senate is dragging their feet</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ What about hybrid classes?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ What about the final being in person or not?</li> <li>■ Why are we dragging our feet with online courses when we did it during COVID?</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Might be cheaper to take certain classes online</li> <li>● EVC Marshall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Deans might be cutting 10% of graduate student TAs in budgets - request to not do that</li> <li>○ Library closing early - journal subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Dedicate more money to housing outreach for students who may be using library as a home</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Childcare center expansion</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Student regents meeting</li> <li>● March 16 - meeting with grad division and deans</li> <li>● Laura leaving us in April - asking for whole month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3.5 week leave of absence request</li> <li>○ Henry motions and Mazie seconds - approved</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:25PM	<p>VP of External Affairs - Sarah Bacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New legislative director - Alexis Busso <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ First time legislative director</li> </ul> </li> <li>● UCGPC had meeting with Milliken (president) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Talked about graduate and professional students experience</li> <li>○ Hostility on campus such as turning point usa at Berkeley</li> <li>○ Campus climate survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Privacy concerns</li> <li>■ Who was executing survey</li> <li>■ These points were elevated to Milliken</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Meeting with UC SOCR (Systemwide Office of Civil Rights) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ They did the survey as part of settling campus lawsuits from end of 2024</li> <li>○ Sarah said it should've been named something else</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If a survey is a polarizing issue, somebody else should send it out who isn't seen as biased</li> <li>○ SB895 - 23 billion bond put in front of state senate - UC is sponsor</li> <li>● Student advocate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Campaign webinar 3-5 at 3pm</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Help student advocate</li> </ul>
7:35PM	<p>Taylor - VP of Financial Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Winter travel grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Start a committee to talk about issues</li> <li>○ Increase in applicants</li> <li>○ Departments not funding travel unless they ask travel grant first</li> <li>○ Got rid of emergency grant requirement that requires person to exhaust all other options (federal)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Thinking of ways to invest in grad students with carryforward (\$160K?)</li> <li>● Voting item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Revise the language of the fall travel grant</li> <li>○ We have about \$100,000 in the travel grant</li> <li>○ Carlos - don't make explicit fall, winter, spring in travel grant guidelines</li> </ul> </li> <li>● People applying for travel grant in summer and fall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Two separate academic years but people basically getting awarded twice next to each other</li> <li>○ Naja proposes motion to make an amendment to voting item from November 2025 assembly regarding carryforward for the travel grant changing fall 2025 to the academic year</li> <li>○ Seconded by Henry</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:45PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Patrick - VP of Campus Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ UCOP shot down UCSB leaving UCSHIP</li> <li>○ Reason UCOP did it is because UCSB is a lot of UCSHIP's business</li> <li>○ Prices may increase</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Question from Naja - Can Patrick give us more financial info at the next meeting? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Patrick doesn't know enough yet</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Assanis proposed next two housing projects have grad school funding</li> <li>○ Occupancy Extension Committee - most people are getting extended</li> <li>○ Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Housing - how many beds per room?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:55PM	<p>Public Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Laura <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ UAW bargaining</li> <li>○ UAW in mediation with UC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Out of normal bargaining and in new one <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I'll give you this if you give me this</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ UC asking to get to nullify student union status at will</li> <li>■ Effects GSR's a lot</li> <li>■ New clause on PhD funding contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Funding offer is subject to the budget of the UC</li> <li>● Mandated by UCOP</li> <li>● UC is enabling itself to axe grad school funding and only educate wealthy people</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Questions- does it effect only GSR's? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ No it effects everyone</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ UC has cleverly positioned themselves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ UC wants us to go on strike for this management clause instead of going on strike for wage increases</li> <li>■ Practice picket is at the Arbor from 12-2 Thursday March 12th.</li> <li>■ They want to get rid of GSR step increases</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Patrick and BLUM trying to have a yearly meeting with chancellor every April</li> </ul>

8:00PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Motion to adjourn by Diego</li><li>● Seconded by Laura</li><li>● Meeting adjourned at 8pm</li></ul>
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Questions or comments concerning this Agenda should be directed to the GSA Co-President Internal at [int-co-president@gsa.ucsb.edu](mailto:int-co-president@gsa.ucsb.edu).

Questions on how to attend the General Assembly should be directed to the GSA Vice President of Communications and Events, Alexander Luckmann.

**General Assembly**  
**Graduate Student Association**  
March 3rd, 2026

**Sign in  
using this  
form!**



# Meeting Agenda

6:00 PM	Introduction
6:05 PM	Community Agreements
6:10PM	Robert's Rules of Order
6:15PM	Campus/Admin Reports
6:30PM	Co-Sponsorships
7:00PM	Vote Results
7:05 PM	Update: Meeting with Chancellor Assanis
7:15PM	Executive Board Updates
7:45PM	Public Forum
8:00PM	Adjournment

# Community Agreements

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

# 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. **Discussion:** The members may discuss 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.

# **Last Meeting Minutes and Current Agenda Approval**

Assembly Vote Required

## **Administration Reports**

Associated Students

Student Affairs: Dean of Students

GSA Advisor

Graduate Division & GSRC

Graduate Council

## Grad Slam 2026 Continues

### Congratulations to our winners and runners up for Rounds 1-4

#### Round 1:

Sonal Barve (2nd Chance)  
Kaylee Laub (Finalist)



#### Round 2:

Celine Tsoi (Finalist)  
Ashley Diedenhofen  
(2nd Chance)



#### Round 3

Samuel Kim (2nd Chance)  
Jakob Romine (Finalist)



#### Round 4

Cristhian Salas  
(2nd Chance)  
Michaela Sten (Finalist)



## Grad Slam 2026 Continues

- **Round 5: Engineering**  
March 6 from 10:30am - 12pm  
Student Resource Building MPR
- **Round 6: Chemistry and Physics**  
March 6 from 3pm - 4:30pm  
Student Resource Building MPR
- **Second Chance Round**  
March 13 from 1pm - 2pm  
Student Resource Building MPR
- **UCSB Final Round**  
April 9 from 4:30pm - 6pm  
Campbell Hall

*Come vote for your favorite speaker to receive The People's Choice Award!*

# SAVE THE DATE



# GRAD SLAM

UC SANTA BARBARA

# 2026

UC **SANTA BARBARA**

Graduate Student Association

## **Other Admin Reports**

# Co-Sponsorships

# ChemPD Annual Career Symposium



## Events Highlights:

- Keynote seminar
- Oral and poster presentations
- Dedicated company booths
- Interview sessions
- Networking over food and drinks

## Symposium Expenses:

- Food (~\$1000)
- Furniture services (~\$200)
- Parking for guests (~100)

**Expected expense:** \$1300

**Funding Request:** \$300

**Promotion:** Flyers, Department TVs, LinkedIn, ChemPD liaisons, newsletters, and emails.

## Outcomes:

- Expanding networking opportunities for graduate students.
- Onsite interviews for graduating students.
- Repeat speakers and additional sponsorship from these companies.



## Target Audience:

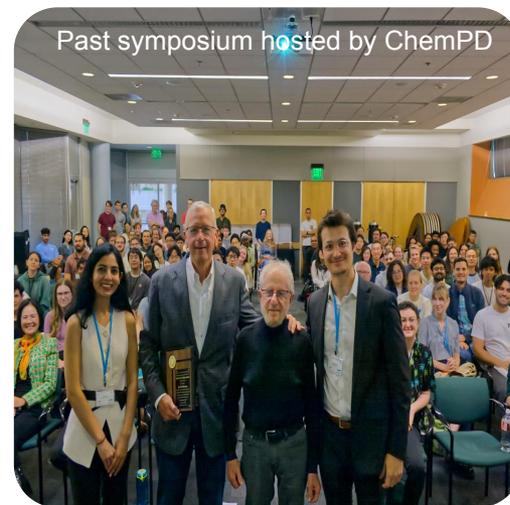
Graduate students from

Chemistry    Physics

BMSE        Engineering

MCDB                      Materials

Past symposium hosted by ChemPD



Orfalea Center for Global and International  
Studies

Migration Initiative

**SPRING GRADUATE**

**WRITING RETREAT**

Tentatively Scheduled for May 22nd, 2026

8:30am-4:00pm

West Conference Center

Open to All Graduate Students

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>COST</b>
Breakfast (provided by campus catering)	\$455.75
Lunch (provided by campus catering)	\$735.25
Coffee and Snacks (provided by campus catering)	\$139.25
Venue Rental (\$100/day)	\$100.00
Running Total	\$1430.25
<b>Requested Funding from GSA (one-time event for the year)</b>	<b>(-\$1200.00)</b>
Remaining Cost to be Covered by Orfalea	\$230.25

# Promotion Outlets



- **GSA and GSRC Newsletters**
- **Orfalea Newsletter/Email Listserv**
- **Outreach to Grad Affinity Groups**
- **Outreach to Grad Research Clusters**
- **Outreach to Research Centers on Campus**

Multicultural Center - Race Matters and STEM Series  
Events

# COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: NAVIGATING STEM AS POC

w/alums Dr. Melanie Adams and Dr.  
Timnit Kefela

Scheduled for April 22nd, 2026

3:30pm-7:30pm

MCC Lounge and Theater

Open to All Graduate Students

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>COST</b>
Honorarium for Dr. Timnit Kefela	\$1000
Honorarium for Dr. Melanie Adams	\$1000
Honoraria Covered by MCC	(-\$2000)
Dinner (picked up from Naan Stop, based on previous catering pickup order from an earlier MCC Event)	\$500
Running Total	\$500
<b>Requested Funding from GSA</b>	<b>(-\$500)</b>

# Promotion Outlets



- **GSA and GSRC Newsletters**
- **MCC Newsletter/Email Listserv**
- **Outreach to Grad Affinity Groups (esp. BGSA and WiSE)**
- **Outreach to Grad Research Clusters**
- **Outreach to Research Centers on Campus**



05  
29

FOR UCSB GRADUATE STUDENTS

# INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

INAUGURAL EDITION      MAY 29, 2026  
WALLIS ANNENBERG CONFERENCE ROOM

## Total Budget for the Conference = \$2300

Item	Unit Cost and Qty	Subtotal
Light morning snack ("The Traditional", Breakfast, Campus Catering)	\$7 X 40	280
Campus Catering Morning Coffee and Tea Service	\$79 X 1	79
Lunch ("The Trigo", Hot Buffet and Sandwich Box, Campus Catering)	\$24 X 30 + \$21.5 X 10	935
Campus Catering Afternoon Coffee and Tea Service	\$79 X 1	79
Evening Reception (Costco + Campus Catering)	40 attendees	827
Gloss single sided posters 12.75 X 17"	\$10 X 10	100

## FUNDING RECEIVED SO FAR = \$1100

Campus Entity	Amt	Status
Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, Graduate Collaborative Awards	\$750	Received
Kundan Kapany Kaur Endowed Chair of Sikh Studies, Global Studies	\$250	Received
Feminist Futures Center	\$100	Received

## FUNDING NEEDED FROM GSA = \$1200

# COE Trivia Night

**Who:** A cross-department collaboration between CHE, MSA, ECE, BioE, and MechE

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**When:** April 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30 pm, ESB 1001

**For an estimated 70-80 participants:**

Dinner: \$300

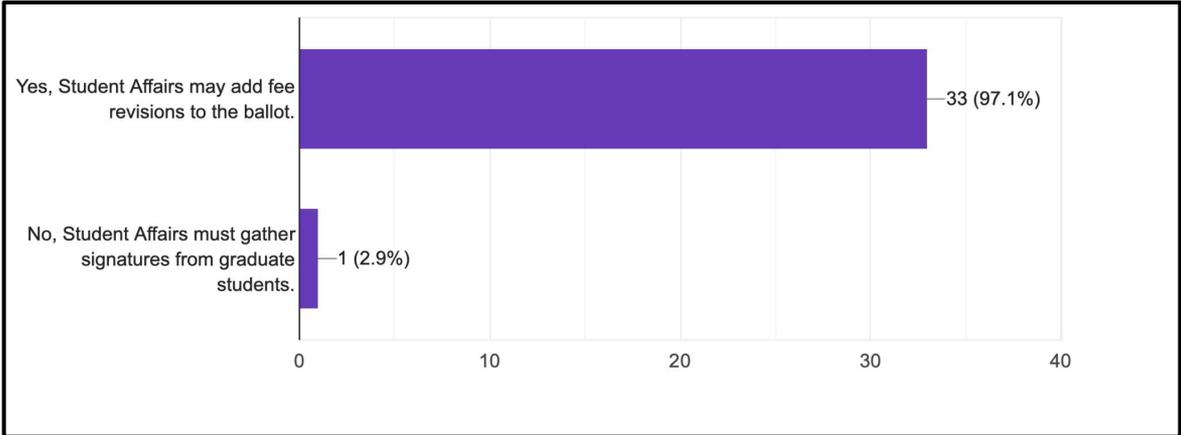
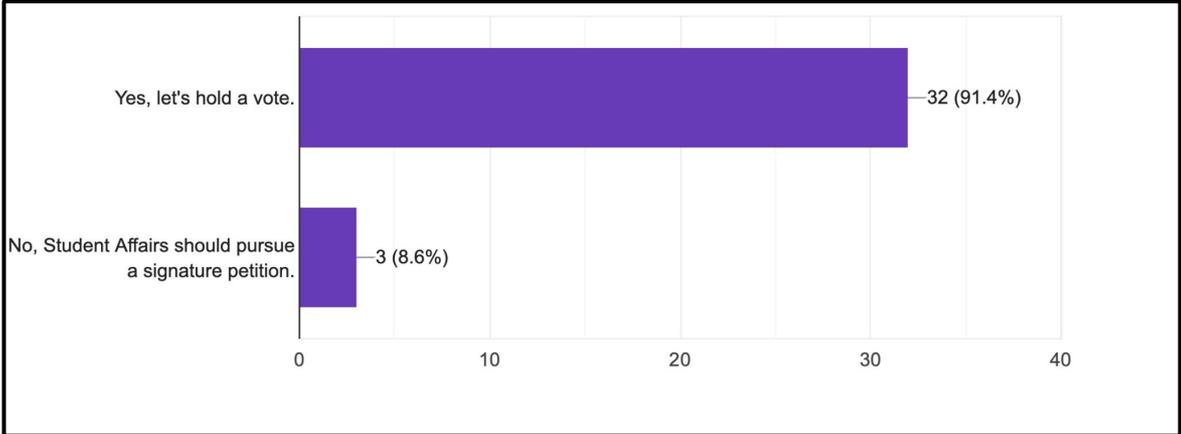
Prizes: \$100

Beverages: \$150

Additional snacks: \$50



# Vote Results



# **Update Meeting with Chancellor Assanis**

## Meeting with Chancellor Assanis

- Summer sessions
  - Online options
- Housing
- TAs in FTE planning
- Research funds - university and department wide
  - Endowments
  - Industry
- AI discussion
- Immigration

# Executive Board Updates

## Co-President (Internal)

- GSA Awards
  - Excellence in Teaching Award
  - Dixon-Levy Award
- GSA Elections coming soon!
- Election committee

## **Co-President (External)**

- Summer Sessions Meeting
- EVC Marshall
- Campus Planning Committee
  - Childcare Center Expansion
- Student Regents
- Mon. March 16th with Graduate Division and Deans
- Research Leave: April

UC **SANTA BARBARA**

Graduate Student Association

# **VP of Communications**

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UC **SANTA BARBARA**

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# **VP of Events**

## VP of External Affairs

- Introducing our new Legislative Director, Alexis Busso
- Meeting with Pres. Milliken on 2/19
- Meeting with UC SOCR (Systemwide Office of Civil Rights) on 2/27
- UC Student Advocate campaign webinar
  - March 5 at 3pm
  - Registration link in slack + weekly GSA email
- Help our Student Advocate!
  - Are you (or someone you know):
    - negatively impacted by federal policies (funding cuts,...)? or
    - have research that federally-funded (to celebrate what federal funding can do)?
  - ...and willing to give an interview? Let's talk!

## VP of Financial Affairs



- Winter Travel Grant - Expected to fund all applicants and will be meeting with the folks who oversee our finances to discuss the current budget.
  - **Need to develop a committee** to determine how to best award students for Spring and/or future academic year
- Change to the emergency fund - No longer requiring students to exhaust all loans in order to receive funds
- Will be investing some of the gen fund carry forward into the GSA lounge. Urgent needed repairs!

### Voting Item

- Based on the language from fall, we need to revise the vote to release funds to allow them to be dispersed across the remainder of the academic year. Before we vote - let's review the numbers.



## VP of Financial Affairs

- Travel Grant
  - Approx. \$99,547 into the travel grant for the AY.
    - Travel Grant Carry Forward - \$22,000 (\$20,460 w/tax)
    - General Fund Carry Forward - \$26,000 (\$24,960 w/ tax)
- Expenses
  - Summer 25 Expenses - \$12,425.92 \$144,967
  - Fall 25 Expenses - \$49,775.94 \$95,191.06 (Fall)
  - Winter 26 Expenses - \$30,000 + \$24,700 \$65,191.06 (Winter)
  - Spring 26 - Allocated \$?
  - Summer 26 - \$8,000 \$40,491.06 (Winter Second Half)
  - \$32,491.06 (Summer 2026)
  - \$20,065.14 (Summer 2025)

# VP of Campus Affairs

- Student Healthcare Updates, UCSHIP – what's the future?
- Will we ever get graduate student beds in these new UCSB housing projects or nah? (2,200 undergrad beds in San Benito alone)



Photo Credit: Kristen Brinlee  
Work on the San Benito Student Housing Project began in spring 2025 and is on schedule for anticipated occupancy in the fall of 2027.

CAMPUS + COMMUNITY  
November 21, 2025

New student housing projects at UCSB  
progressing on schedule



Photo Credit: Courtesy SOM | Mithun  
An artist's rendering of the East Campus Student Housing Project.

## Scaling up student housing

The new San Benito Student Housing development will introduce apartment-style residences and an inclusive new hub for student life at the northwest corner of campus, all connected to the surrounding natural landscape. The first in a two-phase effort to substantially increase the number of student residences on campus by 2029, San Benito will provide housing and amenities for approximately 2,200 students over seven buildings by fall 2027. When complete, San Benito will be the first new student housing project delivered at UCSB in a decade.



**Public Forum**

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form!**



**Adjournment**

Next General Assembly: April 7th, 2026