

GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

11th April, 2023, 8:15 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the *General Studies Student Council of Columbia University* will hold a *REGULAR* meeting on **April 11, 8:15 PM**. The meeting information is noted below. The General Studies Student Council reserves the right to suspend the orders of the day if necessary to conduct business. All General Studies Student Council meetings are held in locations that are wheelchair accessible. Other disability-related accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities upon request. Persons requesting such accommodations should notify the General Studies Student Council President no less than three (3) working days prior to the meeting. The General Studies Student Council will make efforts to meet requests made after such date, if possible. Please also contact the General Studies Student Council Executive Board for any agenda-related questions.

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Call To Order

B. Roll Call (* → indicates a non-voting member; P → Present, T → Tardy, E → Excused Absence, U → Unexcused Absence)

OFFICERS	STATUS	OFFICERS	STATUS
*President Maya Platek	P	Senior Class President Garrett Gregor-Splaver	P
VP of Policy DeAngelo Hunter	P	Senior Class VP William Grugam	P
VP of Finance Jennifer Odum	P	First Year Class President Jule Boudreaux	E
VP of Communications Faith Grady	P	First Year Class VP Jemima Kingdon-Jones	P
VP of Campus Life Katherine Zimmermann	P	JTS Rep Joshua Brunnlehrman	E
Chief of Policy Kyle Gordon	T	International Students Rep Altynbek Tilebergnov	E
Chief of Finance Su Lee	E	Dual BA & Joint Program Rep Jack Gonzalez	P
Chief of Communications Oliver Neale	P	Alumni Affairs Rep Aliya Steele	E
Chief of Campus Life Robert Mueller	P	Community Service & Sustainability Rep Ally Woodard	P
University Senator Bruce Goumain	E	External Events Ashley Tan	E
Diversity and Equity Rep Marie Febrillet	P	*Outreach Associate Haya Fine	P
Health and Wellness Rep Allison Darne	P	*Communications Coordinator Kevin Gunaratna	U
Student Services & Academic Affairs Rubaab Poonawla	P	*Legislative Assistant Savanah Shulkin	U
Students with Disabilities Rep Rachel Papirmeister	T	*Legislative Assistant Zarrisa Simmons	P
Veteran Students Rep Gaetan Evina Biloa	E	*Policy Coordinator Daniel LaFata	P
Family & Working Students Rep Freida Candido	E	*Commuter Students Representative Sean Reilly	E
Treasurer Kris Packauskas	P	*Campus Life Coordinator Lily Penn	P
Senior Class Treasurer Rebekah Cornish	P	*Finance Coordinator Sylvester Benson	P
Chief Negotiator Eric Yu	P		
Social Media Representative Melanie Wells	P	*Advisor Jawad Cipriani	
Technology Chair Serena Kwan	P	*Advisor Sean Trulby	
		Voting Members: 25 / Quorum: → 21 / Total: 22	

C. Adoption of the Current Agenda for April 11th, 2023

1. Motion Passes/Fails- **PASSES**

D. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from April 4th, 2023

1. Motion Passes/Fails- **PASSES**

II. REPORTS

A. President

1. General Remarks
 - a) Maya was unable to attend last week and thanks rest of E-board for stepping in
 - b) Will be discussing CC's Mental Health Proposal later in new business
 - c) CCSC Presenting to the Committee on Instruction
 - (1) No details yet, will be meeting with them tomorrow with our VP of Policy, DeAngelo
2. Potluck
 - a) This Thursday from 8-9:30
 - b) Will be sending out a link for sign up of what to bring
 - c) Will be in same room as GSSC meetings

B. Policy Committee

1. Amendment Review in New Business
 - a) Got an email last Friday to review the amendments about the impeachment process
 - (1) Trying to fill up some holes and make the process more transparent
2. Excellence Awards Nominations in Exec
 - a) Will be discussed in exec due to privacy reasons

C. Communications Committee

1. Gala Comms Updates
 - a) Many of you are getting questions about gala so here's a little FAQ guide
 - (1) If you aren't sure an answer, tell people to email GSSCTickets@columbia.edu for questions
 - (2) Something was sent out earlier today to everyone who has a ticket to remind to remind them if they're unable to go to put in a refund request or fill out a ticket transfer request form
 - (a) Ticket transfer request form is open until friday at 8 PM
 - (b) Closing at 8 PM due to tasks needed to be fulfilled before the event
 - (3) The waitlist is completely chronological and goes in the order of people who joined it
 - (a) About 60 people have gotten off the waitlist so far
 - (i) We were able to add on 50 more tickets
 - b) Any other questions about GALA ask Kat or Faith
2. Agenda Phrasing Update in New Business
 - a) Some updates are needed on the agenda/meeting minutes template
 - b) Will be discussing this in New Business

D. Finance Committee

1. No Updates

E. Campus Life Committee

1. General Updates
 - a) The Gala is Saturday!!
 - (1) 8-11pm @ Cippriani's
 - (2) If you have any questions feel free to reach out to Kat
 - b) Some upcoming events:
 - (1) First Year Bingo (20th of April)

- (2) International Dance Event (24th of April)
- (3) Alumni Panel (27th of April)
- (4) Event with Chabad for Shabbat
- (5) Picnic (28th of April)
- (6) Soccer event with Dual BA on April 30th

F. University Senator

- 1. No Updates

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. CC's Mental Health Proposal

- 1. Charlie Wallace emailed us and ESC to collaborate on a Mental Health Support initiative
 - a) Wanted to see if we could all together sign this proposal and push it forward with the admin
- 2. ESC wants to support the proposal with some amendments
- 3. Highlight concerns with students who are in need of mental health services
- 4. Maya suggests to vote to cooperate and allow the Policy Committee to work with them and put out a statement
- 5. This means we might not be able to vote on the Specific proposal but we would have to trust the policy team that they and CCSC are working on it properly and representing us well
- 6. Encourages us to support this proposal because it's important that the 3 undergrad schools show a unified ground
- 7. ESC
- 8. Adding all perspectives of the undergrad schools will help with proposal
- 9. **Motion to support this proposal and allow the Policy Committee to approve edits on our behalf**
 - a) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**

B. Agenda Phrasing – Executive Session

- 1. The current description of executive session doesn't accurately exactly describe what we do;
- 2. This doesn't cover things like co-sponsorships or other non-publicized events (such as Gala, before we have announced the theme)
- 3. Change the executive session phrasing → "more sensitive matters" (including things that aren't publicized)
- 4. **Motion to change Agenda Phrasing for Executive Session**
 - a) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**

C. Dual BA Soccer (presentation)

- 1. GS kick off (dual BA and first year soccer tournament)
- 2. To relieve stress during this time of the semester !
- 3. Riverside Park
- 4. 29th of april → BUT NEED TO MOVE TO 30TH
- 5. 6-8 PM
- 6. 10 min walk from campus
- 7. Jack and Jem would ref
- 8. Prizes:
 - a) Winner gets a visa gift card
 - b) Participation Awards – Little Trophies (already owned)
- 9. 5 minute halves (four xis temsa should take 1 hour roughly 20/30 participants)
- 10. Budget – \$425
 - a) Equipments

- b) 25 dollars for the permit
 - c) Juice and water bottles
 - 11. Requesting \$250 for Visa gift card and \$150 for juice and water
 - 12. People should RSVP (sign up as part of a team, or have people sign up and then create a team of 5 for players)
 - 13. **Motion to allocate \$425 for Dual BA event**
 - a) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**
- D. First Year Sip & Paint Reallocation
 - 1. Unfortunately it has had to be banned
 - 2. So now it's bingo
 - 3. Relocate the funds of \$600 to Bingo
 - 4. With an additional \$200 for snacks drinks and prizes
 - 5. Making it \$800
 - 6. Date TBD
 - 7. **Motion to reallocate \$800 for Bingo Event**
 - a) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**
- E. Alumni Panel Event
 - 1. Kat presenting
 - 2. Looking to run alumni panel event with recent alumni associations
 - 3. 27th of April?
 - 4. Allocating 120 dollars for gift cards for alumni to show up, thank you gift
 - 5. Over zoom
 - 6. General come ask questions/chit chat
 - 7. **Motion to allocate \$150 for alumni event**
 - a) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**
- F. By-Laws Amendments
 - 1. Article IX: Impeachment
 - 2. Any questions/concerns about the amendments?
 - 3. Purpose
 - a) After last semester's impeachment process we've realized that there's a lot of room for improvement especially regarding transparency and advanced notice
 - 4. Two different impeachment procedures for appointed vs elected members
 - 5. Council will vote whether or not to make the impeachment materials public for elected impeachment proceedings
 - a) Kat:
 - 6. **Motion I**
 - a) **Simply adding "appointed" – so "impeachment procedure for an appointed voting member"**
 - b) **Motion Passes/Fails: PASSES**
 - c) Motion 1: Rewrite Section 2 to say "Section 2. Impeachment Procedure for an
 - 7. Appointed Voting Member."
 - a) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**
 - 8. Motion 2: Skipping
 - 9. Motion 3: Art. IX, Sect. 2, Step 4: The VPC must distribute impeachment materials to GSSC members and alert the student body 72 hours in advance of the next scheduled GSSC General Body Meeting.
 - a) Discussion:
 - (1) So we're just voting on the 72 hour timeline?
 - (a) Yes
 - b) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**

10. Motion 4: Art. IX, Sect. 2, Step 5, Clause (B): Public comments aren't allowed during the impeachment procedure. Instead, student concerns can be sent to the GS alias. Additionally, any emails sent to the EBoard alias/EBoard members regarding the impeachment must be forwarded to the general council.

a) Discussion:

- (1) Faith: Is there a thought to adding a punishment if members do not forward emails?
 - (a) Kyle: Yes, but didn't want to single out any member of council.
- (2) Rachel: Is there a time cutoff for questions?
 - (a) Kyle: Yes, when the meeting begins at 8:15 PM.
- (3) Rachel: What about when students don't have access to the impeachment documents? If students learn new information during the hearing, how will they be able to ask questions?
 - (a) Kyle: We could discuss allowing students to view the documents, or releasing information prior.
- (4) Faith: Public comment isn't allowed right now, so it isn't a matter of taking that away from the students. From a Comms perspective, I think the VP Comms, or whoever is sending out the email could give a summary of the documents for the students to view.
- (5) Kat: these documents have somewhat sensitive information so providing some sort of one-pager for students so that they don't feel in the dark could be beneficial (with a short spiel about what's going on)
 - (a) Kyle:
- (6) Maya: Is there a possibility to consider very limited public comment near the end?
 - (a) That is what happened last time and that's when some of those concerning comments came about; I don't have a solution at my immediate disposal but that's what this discussion is about
 - (b)
 - (c)
- (7) Allison: Something does need to be done about public comment – one thing to note is that a lot of public comments weren't from current students so this is something we should also address.
 - (a) I don't think we should vote on this, we can do better on the public comment section
- (8) Rachel: A lot of the public comments came later on, reading the impeachment; also we can't really ban alumni from public comment...

b) **Motion Withdrawn**

11. Motion 5: Adding Art. IX, Sect. 3: "Section 3. Impeachment Proceeding for an Elected Voting Member."

a) Discussion:

- (1) Maya: Can you clarify if this includes public comment?
 - (a) Kyle: All votes currently do not include public comments, but includes other previous motions

b) **Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**

12. Motion 6: Art. IX, Sect. 3, Step 4: Stipulates the VPC will distribute all impeachment materials to GSSC members and alert the student body 4 days in advance of the next scheduled meeting.

- a) Kyle: Voting on advanced notice of 4 days for student body vs 3 days for election procedure
 - i) Maya: 4 days would mean the Friday before?

- 1) Kyle: Yes
- b) Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**
13. Motion 7: Adding Art. IX, Sect. 3, Step 7: Stipulates that the council will vote on whether to publicly release the impeachment materials to the student body
 - a) Kyle: there is a logical error here, follow along so I can make it clear
 - (1) This makes it so at the end of the impeachment procedure (either after step 5 or step 6, depending on the results of the impeachment proceedings), there is a new step, step 7
 - b) Discussion:
 - (1) Rachel: Would there be a detriment to voting to release the documents regardless of if the impeachment passes/fails?
 - (a) Kyle: That's what's happening here
 - (b) Faith: The clarification of this is that at the end of the procedure (step 5 or 6) you skip to step 7, which is regardless of if the person was impeached or not, where the council can vote on whether the impeachment documents will be made public or not
 - c) Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**
14. Motion 8: Adding Art. IX, Sect. 3, Step 5, Clause (D): Stipulates that the council will vote on whether to publicly release all impeachment materials, regardless of whether the impeachment proceedings fail or pass.
 - a) Tacking on clause D
 - b) Motion Passes/Fails – PASSES**

IV. STANDING BUSINESS

- A. None

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

This time is reserved for any General Studies Student Council Members to make announcements on items not on the agenda. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker and (25) twenty-five minutes total shall be observed. NO action will be taken and the total time limit for this item shall not be extended.

- I. Allison: I need someone who is good with technology; in the Fall, Cat helped me make this website, but it's paid. I'd love someone who could help me make it again – GSSC or anyone in the Student Body!
 - A. Maya: What is your email?
 1. Allison: akd2150@columbia.edu

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

This segment of the meeting is reserved for all non-Council members desiring to address the General Studies Student Council on any matter of concern, A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker and ten (10) minutes per topic shall be observed. The law does not permit any action to be taken, nor extended discussion of any items not on the agenda. The General Studies Student Council may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. (Brown Act §54954.3)

- I. Dylan: Do unexcused absences result in impeachments?
 - A. Kyle: There's a discrepancy between the constitution and the By-Laws – it will be addressed next week!

- B. Maya: It will be for removal instead of an impeachment
- II. Dylan: I was on GSSC before, thank you guys!
 - A. Two things –
 - 1. For Kyle – motion 7, step 7: I feel like it implied the punishment had been issued; was hoping to get a better grasp on this
 - a) Kyle: I see what you're saying. We worded it like this because something has to come about from the impeachment – either an apology, slap on the wrist, etc
 - b) Dylan: Step 6 is the issuance of punishment?
 - (1) Kyle: Yes
 - c) Dylan: If you don't mind, what was the exact wording of Step 7?
 - (1) Kyle: "After the impeachment process is complete and a punishment has been issued, the GSSC will vote on whether to publicly release the Impeachment Report and the written rebuttal to the student body."
 - (a) We could take this out – additionally, we could add a comma for clarity
 - 2. I worked on the GSSC Website two years ago, and would be happy to help Allison with the website!

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

This closed session is reserved for any General Studies Student Council Members to discuss and possibly take action on voting in the nominees for various, posted, council vacancies. The public, and the nominees, will be asked to step out of the room while the council conducts this business.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT