



Associated Students of Columbia University

G.S. STUDENT COUNCIL

Website: <https://gssc.gs.columbia.edu/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/yourgssc/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/yourgssc>

Contact Email: GSSC@columbia.edu

Meeting Location: Zoom, <https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/8473653328>

GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

October 26th 8:15PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **General Studies Student Council of Columbia University** will hold a **REGULAR** meeting on **October 26th** at **8:15PM**. 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 Chair at sat2198@columbia.edu 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 Chair for any agenda related questions.

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Call To Order

B. Roll Call (* → indicates non-voting | ~ → indicates Interim Position)

OFFICERS	STATUS	OFFICERS	STATUS
*President Serengeti Timungwa	P	VP of Finance Simas Chacar-Palubinskas	P
Chief of Finance Alan Han	E	VP of Policy Kambi Gathesha	P
Chief of Policy Stephanie Pierre	P	VP of Campus Life Cole Wagner	P
Chief of Campus Life Emily Robinson	P	VP of Communications Brian Laurito	P
Chief of Communications Siena Iwasaki Milbauer	P	Veteran Students Rep Alejandro Rojas	P
Int'l Students Rep Carol Chen	P	University Senator Jeremy Wahl	P
Senior Class President Rachel Harris	P	Senior Class VP Nick Li	P
Senior Class Treasurer Garrett Gregor-Splaver	P	1st Year Class President Nasser Odetallah	P
1st Year Class VP Han Qing	P	Health & Wellness Representative	
External Events Chair Alex Starzyk	P	Family and Working Students Rep Shatize Pope	P
Alumni Affairs Rep Mike Kim	P	Dual B.A./Joint Program Rep Evan Rork	P
Community Services & Sustainability Rep Faith Grady	P	Treasurer June Lim	P
JTS Rep Josh Brunnlehrmann	P	Student Services/Academic Affairs Rep Andre Moutafov	P

Diversity & Equity Rep Rubaab Poonawala	P	Students w/Disabilities Rep Erin O'Bannon	P
Tech Chair Catherine Sun	P	Social Media Rep Lisa Cardoso	P
*Legislative Assistant Ferdinando Castro Gonzalez	P	*Legislative Assistant Kyle Gordon	P
*Advisor Sean Trulby		Chief Negotiator Katie Peters	P
*Advisor Ashley Johnson		Voting Members: 30 / Quorum: → 20 / Total: 29	

C. Adoption of the Current Agenda for October 26th, 2021 -> Pass/Rejected

1. Pass

D. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from October 19th, 2021

1. Pass

II. REPORTS

A. President

1. Meeting with the Deans

- a)** Cole, Brian & Serengeti met with Dean Rosen-Metsch and Dean Rogers about GSSC goals and status yesterday
- b)** Campus life updates (successful events), Policy updates (trying to help folks with COVID accessibility issues)
 - (1)** Feedback on accomodations is often to raise issues with professor and advising dean
 - (2)** But we need a more systemic approach so that all the burden isn't on the student
 - (3)** Similar for PDF grading, GSers tend to transfer more credits so we want to keep in mind how "Passing" classes may affect GPA
 - (4)** New Dining Plan: rollout happened without much communication to college heads; the Deans will be having conversations with Dining admin to get more answers; Policy may put out a letter
 - (5)** Event Planning: Discussed lack of GSSC welcome back event, dining restrictions/indoor mask mandates may not be lifted soon (keep in mind when event planning) but they'll see month by month
 - (a)** Can have staple welcome events during Spring orientation
 - (6)** Graduation events: Previous classes didn't get grad events during pandemic, commencement planning usually starts in January (should encourage earlier planning because we'll need events for previous classes + current classes) → May draft letter alongside other schools

2. SGA Chest-Binder Giveaway

- a)** Barnard putting out survey to assess need for binders; GS could help to be more inclusive
 - (1)** <https://www.healthline.com/health/breast-binding>
- b)** Cost about \$35 each, would like to subsidize 10 (so \$350)
- c)** Would be good to provide help where we can

3. Future GSSC Meeting Formatting

- a) The capacity thresholds for indoor events have been lifted
 - b) This is a good opportunity for GSSC to start meeting in-person again
 - c) Inclusive for folks who are living far away, have family obligations
 - d) But hoping to return to in-person meetings On Tuesday, November 9th
 - (1) Need to work out how to run live on Zoom, sound, etc.
 - e) No meeting next Tuesday during the University Holiday
- 4. Appointing A Health and Wellness Representative
 - a) Will be appointed next Tuesday (11/9)
 - b) Six candidates we'll be reaching out to (previously candidates from first round)
 - (1) GSSC will receive their applications for reference
- 5. IGB Delegate Application
 - a) IGB is Interschool Governing Board
 - (1) Oversee new groups
 - (2) Under view of University Senate, oversee groups that have diverse membership from multiple schools
 - b) Need delegates from student councils
 - (1) Application closes on Thursday
- 6. Meeting with CCE
 - a) Meet on Friday (11/05) to go over programming and how to collaborate with GSSC in the future
 - (1) Want to build an agenda
 - (2) Overlaps with opportunities with alumni relations

B. Policy Committee

- 1. Updates
 - a) Follow up meeting with Dean Rosner
 - b) Reaching out to student leaders for forthcoming strike to understand demands of Grad students and how we can help
 - (1) Hoping to draft letter of support

C. Communications Committee

- 1. GSSC Survey Reminder
- 2. GSSC Virtual Halloween Costume Contest
 - a) Tell your friends to participate; use hashtag #gsscmilvetmixer2021 to enter; could win \$30 gift card to bookstore

D. Finance Committee

- 1. No Updates

E. Campus Life Committee

- 1. Snack Attacks Volunteers for Wednesday (10/27)
 - a) Going off well, we're getting through thanks to volunteers
- 2. Report Regarding Gustavino's for Gala
 - a) Selected as venue for Gala in Spring
 - (1) They won't be refunding money for 2020 Gala but will be using as credit for this gala (\$40,000 off)
- 3. Snack Attacks Budget Update

- a) Doubled snack attacks on advice of Ashley; good call because we're moving through things very quickly; will need to allocate more funds to that in the future, especially for Spring semester

F. University Senator

- 1. No Updates

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. GSSC Swag Proposal/Budget Allocation

- 1. Please complete the swag survey! Only 18 GSSC members so far have completed it.
 - a) Sweatshirt options (Applique or Embroidered)
 - b) T-shirts with GSSC logo (Year)
 - c) Backpack
 - d) Travel mug
- 2. Merch is essentially our payment for doing GSSC/we are volunteering our time!
- 3. Allocate \$2000 for merch for all of us (inclusive of shipping)
 - a) Works out to around \$70 each for entire time on council
- 4. Serengeti: Can individual members opt out of backpack/travel mug to save GSSC money?
 - a) Yes. We need to hit certain minimums for orders but we can see if we can get less if certain people are adamant that they don't want them
- 5. Nick: Will this be happening yearly?
 - a) Potentially "New Member" Bundle and Yearly item
 - (1) New members will get all items, returning members will just get t-shirt
 - b) If it happens each year, could we order super in advance to keep costs down?
 - (1) Let's see how our first order goes; then see how things work in the future for ordering extras
 - c) Serengeti: Only precedent is 2019-2020 council which allocated \$30,000 to travel fund for bringing people back for graduation; probably best to leave things up to future councils but we could leave it as a line item in our budget
 - d) Styles will have changed in future, don't want to give everyone outdated clothing
- 6. Current budget is under \$2000 but should we give ourselves some leeway (allocate a bit over \$2000 in case there's an issue)
- 7. Motion to allocate \$2300 for merch

B. Motion to modify GSSC budget

- 1. Drawing \$2300 from the discretionary reserves for the merch budget
- 2. **Motion passes**

C. Chest-Binder Budget Allocation

- 1. Asking students to show college (so we can allocate specifically for GSers)
- 2. Motion to allocate \$350 from President's Line Item to SGA's Chest Binders
 - a) Will all of this go to GS students?
 - (1) Our money can only go specifically to GSers

- b) If all 10 binders aren't purchased for GSers, will money come back to GSSC?
 - (1) Currently, yes the money will come back. Demand that isn't covered → councils could potentially form a general pot? We'll look into it in the future
- c) If greater GS demand according to survey, we'll know and can potentially allocate more money but we don't anticipate there being greater demand due to low level of responses so far
- d) **Motion passes**

D. Eat Around the World Proposal

1. Proposal for an event; connecting around different cuisines (Italian, Indian, Chinese, Hawaiian)
 - a) Envisioned as an international students event (don't know if policy is allowed to limit to GS International students, or if it will all be GS students)
 - b) Late November (Sunday before Thanksgiving, 11/21)
 - c) \$1700 budget (\$1400 is for food, rest of budget is for extra costs e.g. catering, delivery fees)
 - (1) More detailed budget exists (broken down per caterer)
 - d) Nick: How to promote/decide who gets to go
 - (1) Through eventbrite (first come, first serve, around 80 student)
 - (2) Can use this event as a test to see how enthusiastic students are about this type of event
 - (a) Suggestion: attach food to tickets to make sure everyone gets enough food
 - (b) Carol: We plan to have mostly main dishes (because of individual food packaging rules), so may give rules in terms of how much food they can get as folks enter the event
 - e) Serengeti: Is this indoors or outdoors?
 - (1) Depends on weather but hopefully outdoors to allow mingling as people eat. How many can eat outdoors is in flux, by November could be more than 50
 - f) Katie: Can we have contingency for extra food so as to not waste it? Give back for staff? Donate to homeless shelter? Suggests a waitlist in case people can't come
 - (1) Traditionally, GS events that happen outside the lounge will bring leftover food to the lounge
 - (2) Eventbrite would allow for waitlist creation
2. Motion to allocate \$1700 for Eat Around the World Event
 - a) How did you get the \$1700 number?
 - (1) Reached out to individual caterers from approved vendors; did calculations for what food we'll be getting for what price
 - (2) Total for 110 dishes is \$1464; additional \$236 to cover cutlery, tips, etc.
 - (3) Different from Snack Attacks because Snack Attacks is flagship event (very well known and thus will attract large crowd)
 - b) **Motion passes**

IV. STANDING BUSINESS

A. No Updates

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.

- Katie: Sponsorships for student clubs?
 - We'll put the cosponsorship form in our newsletter
 - \$30,000 budget for cosponsorship (but exhaust other funding options before coming to GSSC)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

This segment of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the General Studies Student Council on any matter of concern that is not stated on the agenda. 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, however, for further information, please contact the General Studies Student Council President at sat2198@columbia.edu for the item of discussion to be placed on a future agenda. (Brown Act §54954.3)

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