

## **GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

*March 7, 8:15 PM*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the *General Studies Student Council of Columbia University* will hold a **REGULAR** meeting on **March 7, 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 <b>Maya Platek</b>                              | <b>P</b> | Senior Class President <b>Garrett Gregor-Splaver</b>       | <b>E</b> |
| VP of Policy <b>DeAngelo Hunter</b>                        | <b>P</b> | Senior Class VP <b>William Grugam</b>                      | <b>P</b> |
| VP of Finance <b>Jennifer Odum</b>                         | <b>E</b> | First Year Class President <b>Jule Boudreaux</b>           | <b>P</b> |
| VP of Communications <b>Faith Grady</b>                    | <b>P</b> | First Year Class VP                                        |          |
| VP of Campus Life <b>Katherine Zimmermann</b>              | <b>P</b> | JTS Rep <b>Joshua Brunnlehrman</b>                         | <b>P</b> |
| Chief of Policy <b>Kyle Gordon</b>                         | <b>P</b> | International Students Rep <b>Altynbek Tilepbergnov</b>    | <b>E</b> |
| Chief of Finance <b>Su Lee</b>                             | <b>P</b> | Dual BA & Joint Program Rep                                |          |
| Chief of Communications <b>Oliver Neale</b>                | <b>P</b> | Alumni Affairs Rep                                         |          |
| Chief of Campus Life <b>Robert Mueller</b>                 | <b>E</b> | Community Service & Sustainability Rep <b>Ally Woodard</b> | <b>E</b> |
| University Senator <b>Bruce Goumain</b>                    | <b>P</b> | External Events <b>Ashley Tan</b>                          | <b>P</b> |
| Diversity and Equity Rep <b>Marie Febrillet</b>            | <b>E</b> | *Outreach Associate <b>Haya Fine</b>                       | <b>E</b> |
| Health and Wellness Rep <b>Allison Darne</b>               | <b>P</b> | *Communications Coordinator <b>Kevin Gunaratna</b>         | <b>P</b> |
| Student Services & Academic Affairs <b>Rubaab Poonawla</b> | <b>E</b> | *Legislative Assistant <b>Savanah Shulkin</b>              | <b>P</b> |
| Students with Disabilities Rep <b>Rachel Papirmeister</b>  | <b>P</b> | *Legislative Assistant <b>Zarria Simmons</b>               | <b>P</b> |
| Veteran Students Rep                                       |          | *Policy Coordinator <b>Daniel LaFata</b>                   | <b>P</b> |
| Family & Working Students Rep <b>Gaetan Evina Biloa</b>    | <b>P</b> | *Commuter Students Representative <b>Sean Reilly</b>       | <b>P</b> |
| Treasurer <b>Kris Packauskas</b>                           | <b>P</b> | *Campus Life Coordinator <b>Lily Penn</b>                  | <b>P</b> |
| Senior Class Treasurer <b>Rebekah Cornish</b>              | <b>P</b> | *Finance Coordinator <b>Sylvester Benson</b>               | <b>P</b> |
| Chief Negotiator <b>Eric Yu</b>                            | <b>P</b> |                                                            |          |
| Social Media Representative <b>Melanie Wells</b>           | <b>P</b> | *Advisor <b>Jawad Cipriani</b>                             |          |
| Technology Chair <b>Serena Kwan</b>                        | <b>P</b> | *Advisor <b>Sean Trulby</b>                                |          |
|                                                            |          | Voting Members: 25 / Quorum: → 18 / Total:                 |          |

C. Adoption of the Current Agenda for March 7, 2023

1. Faith: We are missing a nomination for tonight, so I'd like to request we vote no on the agenda we sent yesterday, and we send an updated agenda to vote on.

a) Motion Passes/Fails – **FAILS**

- D. Adoption of the Updated Agenda for March 7, 2023
  - 1. Motion Passes/Fails – **PASSES**
- E. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from February 28, 2023
  - 1. Motion Passes/Fails – **PASSES**

## **II. REPORTS**

### **A. President**

- 1. General Remarks
  - a) Snack attacks upcoming wednesday
  - b) Sign up for 1:1s if you have not already!
- 2. Tonight's Nominations
  - a) 5 GSSC Positions and the ETF Chair
- 3. Have a great week :)
- 4. New Business

### **B. Policy Committee**

- 1. No Updates
  - a) True

### **C. Communications Committee**

- 1. Agenda Updates
  - a) Agenda updates – send to Oliver, posting on slack
  - b) Agenda items due by 5 PM
- 2. Advertising Timeline Reminder
  - a) Need events ASAP
  - b) Anything the week we get back from break must be requested before spring break please)

### **D. Finance Committee**

- 1. No Updates

### **E. Campus Life Committee**

- 1. Yoga
  - a) Amazing Yoga Event Monday
- 2. Gala Updates + Voting in Exec
  - Snack Attacks
  - a) Volunteers needed for Thursday (and wednesday)
- 3. Trivia Night
  - a) looking for volunteers
  - b) In black box theater
  - c) starts at 6:30 ! Robert is the host !

### **F. University Senator**

- 1. No Updates

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. ETF Chair (will not be eligible to join GSSC next year)
  - 1. Nominee 1: Steven Zhang
    - a) 2nd semester as international student

- b) Major pol-sci
- c) Loves animals and Broadway and horses
- d) Grew up in Hong Kong and China
- e) Engage in activities off campus
- f) Organized chart on ETF duties
- g) Professional history: campaign coordinator, district intern, team member, communications/brotherhood development director
- h) Communications Development director for frat
- i) Skills and Expertise
  - Project management
  - Team building
  - Like working with people and exciting things
  - GSSC → choose next generational leaders, critical time, confident because of his deep love for the student body

#### Questions for Steven Zhang

Q: When were you in Singapore

A: Away from family, only there for a while

Q: Leadership, experience with it

A: Moral relationships, reputation, charisma to influence and motivate people, experiences bring perspective, looking for innovative and creative people

Q: Leadership type - would you bring to GSSC

A: Orientation leader reference, kind and assertive, GS has great diversity, importance of having inclusive mindset → kindness. Assertive → GSSC enriches student life here, media exposure to motivate other students and have the passion and love for the student body

**Clarify:** ETF is to serve that the election is fair, overseeing the process and making sure everything is done fairly

A: a fair election more than anything

*\*\*please keep questions relevant to role in ETF*

#### 2. Nominee 2: Bekim Bruka

- a) Hello: Community college transfer student, studying polysci
- b) Engagement: currently president of CU albanian society, partnerships chair for CU European society, GBM of PSSA, Board Member of “Brain Game”
- c) Achievements → under committee, first time ever student had student wide election for the body president
- d) Election commissioner in the parliamentary elections , oversaw the election for town election
- e) Clerical work → election regulations
- f) Proposals:
  - (1) Issue calls to GS students to participate in video-making or other forms of multimedia initiatives urging their peers to vote
  - (2) Medium to submit complaints (candidates not ETF members)
    - About candidates only
    - Focus will be on the turnout, make it easier for ETF to oversee and respond in time for the election process
- g) Oath:
  - (1) Fulfill all my constitutional duties and responsibilities as the ETF Chair
    - (a) Interviewing and proposing to the GSSC the names of ETF commissioners...

- (b) Election Event Coordination
- (c) Timely communications
- (d) Timely responses to any issue raised during the process
- (e) Election report after the process

B. First Year Vice President

Nominee: Jemima Kingdon-Jones

- a) Trinity Dual BA → studying English literature
- b) From England
- c) she./her pronouns
- d) Loves sports, animals, books
- e) Done:
  - i) Summers: event manager (helps organize and facilitate events and competitions)
  - ii) Worked for a young entrepreneurs group
  - iii) 2nd year Netball Trinity chair (a big deal) → organized group trip to nationals in Belfast, and w/ the Irish and Australian teams
- f) Goals:
  - i) Inclusivity among all first years regardless of age
  - ii) Fun events (game nights, dinner, explore the city, etc)
  - iii) Mentorship program
  - iv) Provide study group for first year students (reach out to classmates)
  - v) Add to the positive environment
  - vi) Provide them with the resources they need (academically and socially)

C. Alumni Affairs Representative

Nominee: Aliya

- a) From PA
- b) Intend to be a Sociology
- c) Worked in marketing, modeling and as a development coordinator for a non-profit
- d) Like to hike, read and travel
- e) New to new york
- f) Consider myself as a connector of people, bridge the gap between people and build a sense of community → we are all the same in a sense
- g) Experience
  - Worked as a development coordinator, logistics + business negotiations
  - People person
  - Events → worked for a small business, fashions show in philly new york and sales events
  - Worked for a tech start up, bring in local businesses + talk about things they were working on
  - Currently working for a marketing company, bring in film critics and worked with college students + music events
  - Development coordinator → American lung association, awareness for lung cancer, 3 months raised 100k → bring in local resources and businesses
  - Alumni team → 60 million in 4 years for 4 years, find fun and creative ways to accomplish that
- h) Picture of her work experience
  - Project → bridge gap between community in opera house
- i) Plans

- Build familiarity between alumni and gs students, real friendship not one off, through mentorship, panels, dinners, first name bases, there to support one another
- Bring in financial support

#### D. Dual BA Representative

Nominee: Jack Gonzalez

- a) Junior in Trinity Dual BA
- b) From Maryland
- c) Good addition to the GSSC → his passion for the GS community
- d) Passion in leadership positions and school bureaucracy
- e) Currently president of Columbia Rugby → significant GS population there already (and Dual BA)
  - i) Knows many GS students through that and other things
- f) Likes how GSSC builds community
- g) Dual BA: shared comradery of experience
  - i) Gets things about the transitions the Dual BA Students go through (and sees ways we could bring the kids of the Dual BA together from this shared experience they have)
- h) Ideas:
  - i) Welcome videos, more updates from GSSC for incoming Dual BA Students (maybe people who are our age)
  - ii) Establishing methods of communication with Dual BA kids in the years above
- i) Experience:
  - i) Model UN president
  - ii) President of his Student Newspaper
  - iii) Trinity: student Union committee for freshmen (1,000 freshman in an off-campus housing) → international students officer
    - 1) Scheduled a trip for them to Barcelona
- j) Bureaucracy at Columbia can be slow ... (experienced this thru Rugby)... but he thinks he could be a good addition to GSSC to make this better

#### E. Veteran Students Representative

Nominee: Gaetan Biloa

- a) Currently family and working family representative
- b) From France, moved to US 6 years ago, was in military for 3 years
- c) Experience:
  - i) Was in military: understands challenges
  - ii) Currently training to become a commissioned officer post graduation
  - iii) Veteran ambassador
  - iv) Ambassador at non profit → for help in college applications
- d) First priority:
  - i) Help VP of Policy

#### F. Family and Working Students Representative

- a) Nominee stuck at the Scholarship Dinner
- b) We will hear from her at our next meeting!

### IV. STANDING BUSINESS

#### A. Quiz Me Baby One More Time

1. We need volunteers! Ideally 3-4 people to help

2. Gonna be fun and entertaining
3. Form will be put out by Robert to volunteer ! (Kat will put in the slack!)

#### **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.

- None

#### **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)

- None

#### **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**