



Associated Students of Columbia University

G.S. STUDENT COUNCIL

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

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Contact Email: GSSC@columbia.edu

Meeting Location:

<https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/91508578336>

GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

April 5th 8:15PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **General Studies Student Council of Columbia University** will hold a **REGULAR** meeting on **April 5th** 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	U	VP of Policy Nasser Odetallah	P
Chief of Policy Kyle Gordon	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	U
Senior Class President Rachel Harris	P	Senior Class VP Nick Li	P
Senior Class Treasurer Garrett Gregor-Splaver	P	1st Year Class President Faith Grady	P
1st Year Class VP Han Qing	P	Health & Wellness Representative Bruce Goumain	P
External Events Chair		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 Nour Elgoweili	P	Treasurer	
JTS Rep Josh Brunnlehrmann	P	Student Services/Academic Affairs Rep Andre	P

		Moutafov	
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	
*Advisor Sean Trulby		Chief Negotiator Katie Peters	P
*Advisor Ashley Johnson		Voting Members: 29 / Quorum: → 20 / Total: 28 (27 voting)	

C. Adoption of the Current Agenda for April 5, 2022 -> Pass/Rejected

1. Motion Passes

D. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from March 29, 2022

1. Motion Passes

II. REPORTS

A. President

1. President's Remarks

- a. Elections: Serengeti on ECAC, supporting the ETF with running elections;
 - i. Extended deadline to submit candidacy to tomorrow 4/6 at 5pm
 - ii. Low submissions in about 7 roles (4 of which are VP roles)
 1. In the case of Veterans Rep, there are no candidates
 - iii. If you know folks who might be interested in running, please do encourage folks to submit; we don't want to end up having to hold several special elections
 - iv. Many candidates for President; looking at candidate pool that is not well spread out; people are encouraged to submit
- b. Gala Acknowledgements
 - i. Tickets for current students sold out extremely quickly
 - ii. Thank Emily and Cole for work ensuring ticket sales went smoothly
 - iii. Thank Brian for responding to Facebook comments/messages
 - iv. Thank Cole for keeping things moving along slowly and surely
- c. Alumni Relations hiring for Reunion weekend (Th Jun 9-Sat Jun 11)
 - i. 10-15 GSers, \$18 per hour

B. Policy Committee

1. Teaching Excellence Award Nominations
 - a) Please fill out the teacher award nomination form
 - b) Currently have 18 responses
 - c) Will be nominating next week; please complete the form and spread the word so folks can submit nominations!
2. Update from meeting with Dean Griffiths
 - a) Rubaab, Nasser, and Bruce met with Dean Griffiths this morning
 - (1) Follow up on meeting about CPS

(2) Discussed her role in GS Community, mental health, long term goals

(a) Clarify when it's appropriate to go to her

(b) She will help Rubaab reach out to Dean Ede to reinstate a mandatory meeting where CPS is introduced to Dual BA/JTS students (potentially at Compass)

(c) Have her work be more public facing, potentially

C. **Communications Committee**

1. No Updates

D. **Finance Committee**

1. No Updates

E. **Campus Life Committee**

1. Senior Events Updates

a) Senior cruise/senior brunch tickets; seniors should have gotten an email with eventbrite link

(1) Next week tickets for senior cruise and senior gala will go on sale (multiple drops)

(a) Links only going to emails

(2) Serengeti: Big thanks to Rae for all her work on senior events

2. Mario Kart Tournament Update

a) April 28th, Lerner 569

b) 5pm - 12am

3. First Year Movie Night Update

a) On Friday, Spring First Year Movie Night

b) Will be held in Lerner B60

(1) Snacks, popcorn, 3D glasses

c) Tickets up for all first years now, on Thur they will be open to all GSers

F. **University Senator**

1. No Updates

III. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Election Commissioners Nominations

1. J.P. Kanaeaupuni Ferreira

a) Senior ish GS

b) Graduates next May, hoping to go into teaching

c) Has time to give back to the GS community;

d) Was close friends with Washington State Secretary of State

(1) Volunteered with her campaign in 2008

(2) Passionate about elections, felt aiding Savannah and GSSC in this election would be good use of his time

e) **Emily:** Every year, we face low voter turnout. What plan do you have to increase voter turnout?

(1) Went to Davidson College with small student body; people didn't turn out; to increase turnout, wants to man

a table to get people involved (remind them it won't take a long time and helps shape GS for the year)

(2) Will be the public face to draw attention and get more people to vote

f) **Serengeti:** Are you aware that if you participate on EC, you won't be able to run for GSSC next year?

(1) Yes. Does not think he has time for that but wants to be able to give back for student body through this role

2. Lucy Caroline Miller

a) Currently a Junior in GS; Trinity Dual BA student

b) Was in student council in high school; ran in student election at Trinity

c) Likes being involved with elections, feels this will be a good way to give back

d) **Emily:** How would you increase engagement?

(1) Hoping to get Dual BA engagement/turnout up through working with Evan; also getting broader turnout in general

B. Finals Metrocards Proposal

1. Emily: Same metrocard program we ran last finals; wants to get this order out in advance so people who receive metrocards have time to pick them up

2. Fifteen 16 trip metrocards; allows flexibility for what days they choose to come to campus

a) \$44 a piece, for 50 would be \$2200 total + \$10 processing fee=\$2210 total

(1) Caveat, last time we ordered weeklies, the price had increased without MTA updating website so possible she'll need to return to ask for more funds

3. **Motion** Allocate \$2210 for fifteen 16 trip metro cards for students to use during finals

a) Faith: Would it be helpful for us to increase the ask in case they did raise the price?

(1) Emily: If it was raised same as last time, would be \$2760

4. **Motion updated:** Allocate \$2760 for fifteen 16 trip metro cards for students to use during finals

a) Motion passes

C. Food Pantry Co-Sponsorship Presentation

1. Simas: Historically, GSSC has been a significant contributor the food pantry

a) Founded in part by GSers; GS students receive large support from it

b) As semester comes to close, we want to help with security

c) In the past, we've supported them through cosponsorship funds

2. Michael: Has worked closely with GSSC in the past; the Food Pantry was founded by GS students

a) Give funding because of survey years ago that found food insecurity within GS (around 30-40% of students experienced food insecurity)

- b)** Found that non-GSers also needed support; worked to create the official Food Pantry at Columbia
 - c)** 3 locations on Columbia's campus; numbers have increased every year
 - (1)** Currently have about 30-40% higher usage than we did pre-pandemic
 - d)** Pandemic is lessening but numbers are not going down
 - (1)** We want to be able to support students who need to use the resource
 - e)** Wants to thank GSSC for continuous support
 - f)** As far as numbers, just under 9000 disbursements since 2016; on pace to go over 10,000 by end of June
 - (1)** GS specific numbers: As of today, 78 disbursements to GS students since the start of the calendar year (2000 since inception)
 - (2)** At onset, this was all GS; now, the GS student population uses it at about 10-15% each month; many non-GS students now use the pantry as well
 - g)** Unsure if meal plans are covered over the summer but under the assumption that they are not; funds that go to the Food Pantry from GSSC would be greatly appreciated
 - h)** Has reached out to a number of student councils, received support and feedback
 - (1)** CCSC gave \$4000 a few months ago
 - (2)** Other groups supported with advertising, cosponsoring events
3. Serengeti: Simas could you confirm how
- a)** Simas: In 2020, gave \$10,000; looking at CCSC giving \$4,000; fact that GS student pop uses 10-15%, recommends \$10,000 as continuation of previous co-sponsorships
4. Erin: Are there plans to increase GS participation in use of the food pantry?
- a)** Michael: Glad that numbers are trending down as it suggests institutional changes are working and fewer students are needing to rely on the food pantry
 - b)** They provide aggregate data to University so they can make substantive changes within institutions to help trend numbers downward
 - c)** We want to continue publicizing the food pantry at Columbia (in newsletters), etc.
 - d)** Can guarantee that large numbers of the student population have need, even if they don't know about the food pantry
5. Erin: Do you promote the numbers of students who use the food pantry?
- a)** Michael: it is publicly available on the website; use an ecommerce site (thefoodpantry.us) which details the numbers in real time and links to the full data
6. Nick: Three part question:
- a)** To Simas: What is left in the co-sponsorship line item
 - (1)** Simas: Approximately \$24,000 left

- b)** What constitutes a disbursement?
 - (1)** A disbursement is a person's order
 - (a)** Have it set up on our e-commerce site so that folks can go in, pick a pantry location, select items that are available at that location, get "paid out" via credit (no payment)
 - (b)** At Barnard location, freezer and refrigerated items are not pre-packaged, but are disbursed as folks come to pick items up
 - c)** At beginning of academic year, there were conversations that Food Pantry was having staffing problems? How does that work in the summer?
 - (1)** It is fully student run; every board and committee member (as well as volunteers) are students; even when people go home, current board has to fill in gaps during the Summer
 - (2)** Michael is on campus even during the summer; if it needs to be open, he will run it
 - (3)** With regard to staffing concerns, issue is volunteering
 - (a)** Right now we have lots; at the beginning of the academic year there were fewer because people were hesitant due to COVID; that is no longer an issue
 - d)** Nick: What is the co-sponsorship going to?
 - (1)** Food.
 - (2)** Do not spend money on non-food items (have funding agreements with admin), but for working with student organizations, that money comes from student fees and so we don't want to buy things with that money that aren't essential items
7. Serengeti: In terms of support from admin, do you receive any financial support from the University?
- a)** Michael: We receive \$5000 a year through partnership with Swipe.Hunger from Columbia Dining
 - (1)** Swipe.Hunger is nation-wide initiative where people trade swipes for donations to people on campus
 - (2)** University approximates how much we would receive and provides it to us
 - b)** Somewhere around \$30,000-\$40,000 from other schools within the University
 - (1)** \$10,000 a year from GS (was allocated \$50,000 over 5 years)
 - (2)** Usually \$10,000 a year from Graduate School of Engineering and Applied sciences
8. Serengeti: In terms of staffing, have there been conversations to open up these opportunities for work-study jobs?
- a)** Michael: As a student group, can't have work-study/casual employees
 - b)** There are discussions about the future but can't go into detail at this time (not out of the realm of possibility but not currently)

9. Kyle: For demand, has the need for food gone up during the pandemic? Have you received/asked for more funding from the University due to that? Could councils have done anything to help?
 - a) Michael: There was a spike in need. Volunteering individually is the easiest way to help (streamlined for volunteers to help so volunteers are ready for people who have placed their orders). No high stress volunteering
 - b) Collectively, how to help is more up to the organization (a group volunteering project, monetary contributions, etc.)
 - (1) Tries not to force volunteering initiatives
 - (2) For now, if you have time, feel free to help out
 - (a) Can go to thefoodpantry.us to register to volunteer (least involvement), become a committee member (more involvement), or a board member (most involvement)
10. Serengeti: Want to thank Michael for dedication to helping GSers

D. Motion for \$10,000 cosponsorship passes in executive session

E. Latin Diplomas Referendum Proposal

1. Evan, Ferdinando, Alejandro and Serengeti worked on this
2. Want to formalize convo that's been happening in GS, get official student input
 - a) Referendum clause was added to constitution last year just for topics like this
 - b) Would allow us to gather input from the student body
3. The team drafted this packet so student body could vote on this in an informed way
 - a) Outlines historical background, what peer institutions do, what the subcommittee recommends
 - b) In terms of current status, CC issues diplomas in Latin from beginning; GS and SEAS issue in English
 - (1) Although CC and GS share requirements to graduate and Col, we are given documents in different languages
 - c) Barnard degrees are also in Latin
 - d) We still have Latin honors; consider it inconsistent to have degrees in English with Latin interspersed
 - e) Historical context: Efforts go back to early 2000s, it has been discussed/advocated for a long time
 - (1) In 2008, there was petition with over 500 signatures delivered to Dean Awn; concerns over validity of signatures because anyone could have signed the petition
 - (a) This is why we want referendum; everyone who votes would have to be a GSer
 - (2) Dean Awn announced decision on this; said GS is a new school within Columbia and thus having the diploma in Latin doesn't reflect status as cutting edge/modern school
 - (3) Also, a standardization of Columbia diplomas in terms of formatting, sizing, etc.
 - (a) It is not impossible to change diplomas

- f) Recent student feedback: Has come from current GSers who are interested
 - (1) Since it's been at least 12 years since this was seriously considered, would like to have an official referendum to discuss this
- g) Peer institutions: There are eight ivy leagues
 - (1) Excluding Columbia, 5 other ivies issue their diplomas in Latin
 - (2) Ivies tend to follow each other in terms of policy so it's not unusual to see influence from other Ivies
 - (3) Similarly competitive institutions (ex. Georgetown) also issue diplomas in Latin
- h) Given this, feel we should have a referendum; personally recommend we issue diplomas in Latin but the question asked is only meant to gauge student interest
- 4. Can go into further details in how it will be carried out
- 5. **Motion A:** To approve this referendum question to be sent out to student body
 - a) Siena: Fully supports the referendum, thinks it makes sense to ask student body; clarifying question: will the subcommittee's recommendation be made public in the packet? Don't want it to appear the subcommittee is influencing the public
 - (1) Serengeti: No specific language that says a referendum has to be neutral; we've had the convo with the administration and they were supportive of asking the question; we want to see what the student body has to say but also feel we should make a recommendation as a subcommittee
 - (2) You can make a motion to strike the last paragraph (which is the subcommittee's recommendation)
 - b) Rae: Two part question
 - (1) First, why is this a referendum vs. petitioning the administration?
 - (a) Not sure that everyone will agree upon it; we still want to hear from students as much as possible before advocating on a particular side
 - (b) When speaking with admin previously, been told they want to know what GSers think; having this referendum would allow us to provide those numbers in support
 - (2) Second, what is the projected timeline for this diploma referendum?
 - (a) Subcommittee still needs to have a conversation about this, but would hope to get referendum out before end of April
 - c) Cole: Minor quibbling language point: Latin Honors are a system of identifying who has achieved what in US universities regardless of whether the US universities use English or not in issuing their diplomas so I do not believe this has relevance to our diploma's language. Secondly, there are right now only

those 5 Ivy League institutions that still use Latin diplomas. All UK institutions have switched to English. I am a proud GS'er at heart and don't believe that we need this/need to follow just what CC does. However, if a referendum is held, the will of students will be heard and followed. Started as Seth Lowe Memorial College, then President Eisenhower started GS as we know it today; that history is a history of English diplomas.

(1) Serengeti: Latin Honors was mentioned because major past argument was that it didn't make sense for students to have diplomas in language they didn't understand. If using that logic, why have honors in a language we don't understand? Seems inconsistent

(2) Serengeti: Doesn't think this takes away our history, instead includes us in broader Columbia community

d) Simas: Wants to point out that not just Ivy Leagues have diplomas in Latin; so do many Catholic universities, private liberal arts schools, believes it is fairly widespread in the US; holds different understanding of our history – one of ardent student advocacy for greater inclusion; when Eisenhower started GS, we received BSes instead of BAs, why did that happen if we're a liberal arts school? The point was to indicate that our degrees were different; in 1990, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences was created and that's part of why we share requirements, Col, etc.; not having the option to decide if we want diplomas in Latin is one of the vestiges of the system that was meant to exclude GS'ers; it's not inconsistent to celebrate pride in GS, history of advocacy, and to continue that tradition in providing students the option to discuss this/make their voice heard

(1) Barnard and CC also grant degrees in Latin; we're the only undergrad liberal arts school at Columbia that receives BAs in English

e) Emily:

(1) Question: Where is the subcommittee saying they have seen this interest expressed?

(a) Serengeti: Having been on GSSC for three years, it comes up every single year (on council and in inbox). One of first issues that someone brought up to GSSC during very first week serving on GSSC. We've received about 3 emails this year, 1 personal email, talking to folks in GS lounge. Having conversations with GS'ers. Another thing that comes up is GS access to dorms, this is an issue that doesn't necessarily come up in emails but comes up a ton. Was told by advisors to not even try to address that, it's too big an issue. These two issues come up frequently. But felt like at least we can go forward with this referendum on diplomas since diplomas are such a personal thing.

- (2) Comments: Believes that being able to understand the language is important because of the amount of time you've worked to get here
 - (3) Would like the recommendation to be stricken as it currently seems like it is leading
 - (a) Serengeti: The subcommittee is not trying to say whether they should be in Latin but ask what GSers think; will be a survey of current GSers, present results to admin; those on GSSC will not be making the decision
 - (4) Alejandro: this would come up every 10 days on the GS subreddit; also came up in UW last semester
 - (5) Faith: this is something first years are very passionate about; had created their own petition
 - (a) Nasser: To pushback a little, there have been people advocating for the Latin diploma have also seemed to insinuate that there is something shameful about being in GS as opposed to CC; ultimately it comes down to pride for GS, feels changing to Latin diplomas won't ultimately fix the underlying issue; would also probably be costly/time consuming - most likely would not go into effect this year; Deans seem to suggest that this is not the issue that some think it is, however, ultimately the referendum is the best way to see what the student body thinks if we want to pursue this
 - (i) Serengeti: In 2010, would have cost GS \$2000 to translate diplomas into Latin; can't imagine it being astronomical fee
 - (ii) Ferdinando: Doesn't believe that the whole notion of making it Latin is to separate from GS but to help us recognize the pride we should have in our degree
 - f) Kyle: Thinks we should pose referendum to hear student opinions; also supports idea that we should strike the recommendation; believes language determines who is audience, who is included; historically, Latin has been used to exclude general public so GS as non-traditional school
 - g) Nick: In regards of language, foreign words do get adopted, so it doesn't have to be reclusive
 - (1) I also don't see why we are trying to be like CC and Barnard, SEAS and GS diplomas are in English,
 - (2) From a Dual BA student, it is normal for the issued diploma to be in the language that was taught.
 - h) Serengeti: everyone that is part of GS is proud to be a GS and the language that is going into the diploma should not be a reflection of the pride of being in a GS
6. **Motion B:** To approve the referendum but strike the subcommittee's recommendation and any prescriptive language

- a) Nick: Are we stuck with the question as is? Or could we motion to change the structure of the question (as in make it three parts?)
- 7. **Motion C:** To issue a referendum that issues as follows: "Currently, GS issues diplomas in English" with options below "I prefer my degree in Latin", "I prefer my degree in English," The proposal includes striking the recommendation and any additional language that leads to language that takes one side of the other.
 - a) Evan: Don't we need 72 hours in advance to vote for referendum questions?
 - (1) Serengeti: If Nick's motion passes, the subcommittee has to re-propose next week
 - b) Simas: Unsure if Nick's motion is on offer; if we don't want students to have the option to have an up or down vote, it has not been discussed with Deans to have the option to choose what language you want the diploma in; believes that students just need to decide one way or the other
 - (1) Serengeti: There is the potential we could bring this before the admin and they would just say "No. You can't pick your language on a case by case basis. It has to be standardized"
 - c) Siena: Would you withdraw motion if Siena amends her motion to say we'll strike any prescriptive language from the subcommittee packet?
 - (1) Nick: I'll just stick with my motion
 - d) Serengeti: This is part of why we send the statements out ahead of time so that we can make informed decisions when we come to council and have discussed concerns ahead of time
 - (1) Joshua: Can we discuss these proposals at council meetings?
 - (a) Serengeti: It's to facilitate discussion so we can hear concerns ahead of time
 - (i) Joshua: If they make edits like that, wouldn't that require a new email to be sent out with the updated referendum (which still has to go out 72 hours in advance)?
 - (a) Serengeti: We'd circulate a version with comments from councils as soon as possible so we can still talk about it in person at meetings
- 8. **Motion A**
 - a) **8 in favor, 19 opposed, 0 abstention**
 - b) **Motion fails**
- 9. **Motion B**
 - a) **17 in favor, 5 Opposed, 1 Abstention**
 - b) **Motion passes**
- 10. **Motion C**
 - a) **4 in favor, 17 opposed, 2 abstention**
 - b) **Motion fails**

F. GSSC Spring 2022 Survey

1. Nasser: Sent this survey to you this morning; this survey is a comprehensive survey asking about a range of topics from housing to dining to financial aid. Mirrors CCSC survey they sent out. Huge shout out to Andre and Kyle for working on this survey.
2. Edits: (From Deans and GSSC members)
 - a) Added question about housing lottery
 - b) Added question about housing portal
 - c) Financial Aid section is now optional
 - (1) So as not to make anyone uncomfortable (though no identified data will be shared)
 - d) Re-worded community impact question so it is not leading
 - e) Re-worded question about dining hall space so it is not leading
 - f) Changed meal voucher question to non-rating
 - g) CCE grad school advising question was split into two questions for two different offices that run this service
 - h) Added info to syllabi question (informs grading policies)
 - i) Changed format of registration system question
3. Some sections are conditional (only if you indicate that this is relevant to you as the student survey taker); not all questions are required
4. Intent of this survey is to mirror CCSC survey; ensure that we have analogous data, add relevant questions specific to GS students
5. **Motion to pass this survey and distribute to student community**
 - a) Serengeti: Thank you for writing Pell grant question, editing question about Harlem. Did you add question about diversity on campus
 - (1) Nasser: Added your questions before the version sent to council got sent out so everyone has seen that
 - b) Nick: Thanks for your work. Is it possible to add something to dining for folks who are accessing dining halls without a dining plan
 - (1) Nasser: There are sections for folks who have a dining plan and folks who don't (and different sections for folks who have dining plans v. GS dining plan)
6. Nour: How will survey data be used? Will all concerns be raised based on survey results?
 - a) Nasser: Some of these things are things we already advocate for and just want descriptive feedback from students. Some data will raise new advocacy points. Some data is an update on current student norms (e.g. how many semesters do you expect to have left?) Some questions are focused on specific issues v. more general admin style questions
 - b) Deadline for raffle submission will be 5/1
 - c) Deans will also blast survey from their end
 - d) Hope to be able to write up a report by the end of the year; if not I will continue writing it up over the summer and pass it on to next year's council
7. Evan: Financial aid section, did a sentence get deleted in the explanation section?
 - a) Nasser: Small typo, it is being fixed

- 8. **Motion passes**
 - a) **27 in favor**
- G. **Revote on referendum, Motions B & C**
 - a) Note: Please vote every time there is a vote
 - b) Motion B
 - (1) **18 in favor, 8 opposed, 1 abstention**
 - (2) Motion Passes
 - c) Motion C
 - (1) **5 in favor, 20 opposed, 2 abstention**
 - (2) Motion fails
- H. **Proposed By-Laws Amendments**
 - 1. In Section 3, Subsection c, Section ii, eliminate listing of open spots for General Appointments and replace with "positions on GSSC that are not Special Appointments."
 - a) Did list out typically fall-appointed positions but not everything is listed and at least one of the things listed here is an elected position so proposing to strike the list and replace it with "positions on GSSC that are not Special Appointments."
 - (1) Special appointments are for elected positions that are not filled in the spring
 - (2) General appointments are for generally appointment-based positions (e.g. chiefs)
 - (3) **27 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention**
 - (4) **Motion Passes**
 - 2. In Section 6, eliminate all information about the Student Body President and University Senator and replace with concise information stating that they may not be appointed and that the rules in Article III: Elections apply on selecting those two positions.
 - a) Clarify
 - b) **27 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention**
 - c) Motion passes

IV. **STANDING BUSINESS**

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.

Nick: Senior class is moving forward with MilVets regarding the headshot event; we've gotten 20 spots (contingent on how they fill up). Eventbrite, will go out through senior newsletter

Rae: Wanted to gather opinions on getting two separate gifts before Class Day. This would allow for 2022 Class to feel special/independent from general gift (as alum will also be going and getting a gift on Class Day). Would have a separate gift before Class Day for 2022 Seniors

- **Alejandro:** Sounds great!

- **Nour:** Why should Class of 2022 have more than 2020/2021? Shouldn't that ift go to everyone?
 - **Nick:** to give context, usually branded with year but because going to multiple years, wouldn't be a year on these. Want there to be stuff for 2022 that isn't just regular columbia merch; 2020 and 2021 already were compensated by alumni relations team

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)

- **Javon Ross**
 - For diplomas, thinks having the option to choose if you want both as opposed to either/or would be a good idea
 - For Gala tickets, could ticket batch drops have been spread out over more time?
 - Emily: Appreciate the feedback, understand that folks get paid on certain schedules. We wanted to get tickets out very quickly cause the date is so soon. Releases were spaced out over the course of quite a few days.
 - Confusion with Bacchanal tickets which GSSC is not involved in (and which are free)
 - How much space is set aside, how can we accommodate everyone who wants to go?:
 - Emily: We have the most people ever (we are allowing alum plus current students), space issue is limited by the venue we can get each year
 - Serengeti: Very rare to have a venue that is able to cater to 2600 (current GS student population) people
 - For surveys/voting, could there be incentive based to increase participation?
 - In terms of Policy's survey on the expansion, that does have an incentive (\$500 split among 10 winners, highest prize being \$100, with winners being selected by raffle) – this vote happened last week
 - For referendum, we've never had one before so it wasn't considered but is something to think about
 - In terms of voting, ECAC has discussed it but were not in agreement (concerns about incentivizing voting through monetary funds)
 - Just because something hasn't happened in the past, doesn't mean we can't do it
 - What does it take to get an audience with people who shape policy?

- Serengeti: Javon The GSSC e-board and President has monthly meetings with the Deans and sometimes Bi-monthly ones depending on the committee, and in the case of emergencies there could be additional meetings
- Have you ever been able to meet with President Bollinger?
 - There have been attempts in the past but he has not responded
 - Part of why we're exploring the idea of advocacy for a student representative on the Board of Trustees
 - Even when Jeremy is supposed to meet with President Bollinger as part of the Senate, he is not always present. Also, students are only part of those represented (also includes faculty)
 - Sometimes lack of communication between Senate and Councils/students
- **Davey Liu:**
 - Second year pre-med student, currently working on creating student organization to help advocate for pre-med students at GS who aren't postbac premeds
 - Premed students have opportunities that aren't always available postbac premeds that GSers don't always know about
 - Looking to reach out to premed advisors over the summer, and looking for GSSC recognition for the student group; collaboration with GSSC in terms of being included in newsletter and
 - Nick: What is the ask?
 - Davey: Once we've finalized board members, would like to reach out to GSSC to be put in the Newsletter; would want to be mentioned during NSOP; once they have events going, would like to ask for co-sponsorship
 - Kyle: Do you want a representative on GSSC?
 - Davey: Maybe at some point in the future, it might be good to have a general "pre-professional rep" but right now doesn't see a need

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.

- Motion to allocate \$60 for next President's gavel
 - Motion passes in executive session

VIII. ADJOURNMENT