



Associated Students of Columbia University

G.S. STUDENT COUNCIL

Website: <https://gs.columbia.edu/student-life-student-council>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/generalstudiesstudentcouncil/>
 Contact Email: GSSC@columbia.edu

Meeting Location:

Lerner Hall

2920 Broadway, Satow Room, New York, NY 10027

GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

August 18 8:00PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **General Studies Student Council of Columbia University** will hold a **REGULAR** meeting on **August 18** at **8:00PM**. 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 jane.jeong@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 Jane Jeong	P	VP of Finance Josh Brown	P
Chief of Finance		VP of Policy Serengeti Timungwa	P
Chief of Policy		VP of Campus Life Ohad Klopman	P
Chief of Campus Life Liam McGrane	P	VP of Communications Pao Durán	P
Chief of Communications Noéllly Flôr	P	Veteran Student Rep Tony Costanzo	P
Int'l Student Rep Rhe-Anne Tan	P	Senator Jeremy Wahl	U
Senior Class President Safia Southey	U	Senior Class VP Roberto Uribe	P
Senior Class Treasurer		1st Year Class President	
1st Year Class VP		Health & Wellness Representative	
Special Events Chair		Family and Working Students Rep	
Alumni Affairs Rep		Dual B.A./Joint Program Rep	
Community Service/Sustainability Rep		Treasurer	

JTS Rep		Student Services/Academic Affairs Rep	
Equity & Inclusion Chair		Students w/Disabilities Rep	
*Tech Chair		Social Media Rep	
*Advisor Sean Trulby			
*Advisor Ashley Johnson		Voting Members: 11 / Quorum: → 3 / Total: 10	

C. Adoption of the Current Agenda for August 18, 2020

D. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from July 28, 2020

II. REPORTS

A. President

1. Tuition Freeze
 - a) Our school, and our Deans, have finally reached Tuition Freeze!
2. Fall 2020 Budget Decision
 - a) We called an emergency meeting 2 weeks ago to discuss this. This is a major thing that is going to be impacting the council. We voted to reduce this budget. We don't have the substantial budget we once talked about, we're working with a minimal budget this year.
3. Orientation on 9/13, 1pm to 3pm
 - a) This is a really cool opportunity to set a different tone this year. We have the opportunity to represent our council during orientation and I would like for everyone on council to be a part of this.
4. Transition from summer to fall
 - a) Last council meeting 8/25
 - (1) This will give us as students on council the chance to prepare for our new semester.
 - b) Slack & Mondays
 - (1) This needs to happen! If you're on council and are not on these applications, it is mandatory. We have constant updates through these platforms.
 - c) 1st Fall Council Meeting on 9/15, full-swing every week

B. Policy Committee

1. Policy Advocacy Updates
 - a) Tuition Freeze: we did what we could as a council to put GS students' experiences out there. We are really happy with what we have accomplished. Previously to this decision, in a meeting w/ Dean Rodgers he wanted to get a pulse of the GS student body: why students won't come back to campus, enrollment expectations, tuition freeze efforts.
 - b) Racial sensitive training during orientation for students will happen
 - c) Meeting with Alumni Relations Office to garner their support for scholarships, grants and initiatives that could help current GS students (ie. laptop rental program)
 - d) We are planning a financial literacy session with JP Morgan

- e) Remote learning: trying to accomplish remote learning for students with disabilities and family. We will wait until the semester starts to reach out to stakeholders along with Dean Rodgers.

C. Communications Committee

1. The Website
 - a) We have an up and working events page, so students will also be able to refer to when wondering about any upcoming events, specifically hosted by GSSC.
 - (1) You can find the link here:
<https://gssc.gs.columbia.edu/gsscevents>
2. Meeting of the Deans publication
 - a) In the meeting where we asked Dean Rosen- Metsch and Dean Rodgers questions about the upcoming year, after a lot of work on advertising, we received the highest attendance we've ever had in a council meeting with the most maxing at 103 people in the public.
3. Advertising Events
 - a) While we put out advertisements (i.e. we just released posts for the upcoming movie screening Campus Life has created) on social media platforms like Instagram and Facebook, if you are on council and you see that something for a new event is posted -- give it share and spread the word, so that we're reaching a larger portion of the GS student body.

D. Finance Committee

1. Budget Updates
 - a) PowerPoint Presentation:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1mFAw3lCvzzOyvecy4yfNKDdQOPlnAz8nuiF84WB_jjo/edit?usp=sharing
 - (1) After working on the budget this week, I thought it was important that the council knows where our budget essentially comes from.
 - b) The excel file of the budget:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lUQnevBYioUqUrL7-3mReuvCfs-tJRxUx-hMv2QJ52M/edit?usp=sharing>

E. Campus Life Committee

1. Upcoming movie screening: Academy Award Winner Moonlight on August 28th!
2. Preparing a returning students survey for Fall 2020
 - a) We got word from the university that we ARE allowed to have in-person in events.
 - (1) We're releasing a survey to gather information on the extent on what students feel is safe.

- (2) There will not be more than 50 people allowed at these events, and we will be taking into consideration the 6ft social distancing rule.
 - (3) Question: To clarify, in-person events are still permitted after Columbia goes fully online?
 - (a) Yes, because GS is
- 3. International Students Updates (via Rhe-Anne):
 - a) Int'l students will have to apply for I-20s whenever CU goes back to a hybrid formatting of teaching. The fact that we have gone fully online does not permit students to qualify for an I-20 visa.
 - (1) Students are worried about Health Insurance payment. The Deans are working on proof of non-entry to help our students. Although we haven't heard anything yet, we're pushing for a final response with the Deans.
 - (a) Student health fee is already cut. This fee is different from the Health Insurance overall.
 - (b) Int'l students also get charged an Int'l Students fee. I don't think this will be lowered, but we will push for clarification on this with the Deans.
- 4. Senior Class Updates
 - a) No Updates
- 5. Student Veteran Updates:
 - a) We're focusing on the 2 promises I made during my campaign: mental health and veterans finances.
 - (1) Mental Health: In order to foster community for our veterans on this, I've held weekly online group chats that allow our veterans to just find new friends and have an open space to talk.
 - (2) Finances: We're at a risk of having our benefits cut for school by the government. I've been in contact with a lawyer to prevent this from happening and work on extending the benefits we currently have.

F. University Senator

- 1. No Updates

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Co-sponsorship Requests

- 1.

B. Digital Book Rental Program

- 1. For students that will not have access to borrow books from the library this upcoming year, maybe we can consider a new way to help students study this year by providing a source where they can access what Columbia has to offer freely.
- 2. For international students: if there could be an affordable way for students to have access to our course books...that'd be great and I think we should look into that.

IV. STANDING BUSINESS

A.

1.

B.

1.

C. Meetings

D. Office Hours

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.

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 Chair at jane.jeong@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