



1st of October, 2024

GENERAL BODY MEETING

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Call to order
- b. Roll Call

Officer	Status
President Maya Platek	P
VP of Policy Oscar Wolfe	P
VP of Finance Eric Yu	P
VP of Communications Isabel Tenney	P
VP of Campus Life Caitlin B. Anderson	P
Chief of Policy Marquise Johnson	P
Chief of Finance Adam Platek	P
Chief of Communications Haya Fine	P
Chief of Campus Life Chaya Droznik	E
*Academic Affairs Rep. Nora Zhu	P
First-Generation, Low-Income, and Working Students Representative Janel Perez	P
Veteran Students Rep.	
Students with Disabilities Rep. Paul Audoin	P
Diversity & Equity Rep. Jessica Kim	P
Health & Wellness Rep. Eleanor Robins	P
*Commuting Students & Students with Families Rep.	
*Policy Coordinator Peihan Ge	P
*Policy Coordinator Gezi Fang	?
*Policy Coordinator Galia Labowitz	E
*Student Body Liaison Rex Park	P
*Student Services Rep. Alec Rodriguez Stangle	P

Officer	Status
Treasurer Venska Pongoh	P
*Finance Coordinator Irene Souny	P
*Finance Policy Advisor Brea Sloboda	P
Social Media Rep. Maeve Sheehan	P
Technology Chair Sophia Ho	P
*Content Coordinator Thomas West	P
*PR Coordinator Amelia Pagan	P
*PR Coordinator Jeanne Fontaine	E
Alumni Affairs Rep. Anna Hazolyshyn	P
International Students Rep. May Sin Than Tung	P
Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) Rep. Jake Resnick	P
Community Service and Sustainability Rep. Aoife Houlihan	P
Senior Class President Taylor Moniz	E
Senior Class Vice President Evan Edler	P
First Year Class President Gloria Lee	P
First Year Class Vice President Inés Caldara	E
Dual BA & Joint Program Rep. Jorge Ballesterro	P
*Campus Life Coordinator Carina Rudolph-Math	P
University Senator Bruce Goumain	L
Voting Members: 27 → Quorum → 20	Total:



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C. Adoption of the Current Agenda

1. **Motion Passes****III. REPORTS**

A. President—\$30 million GS investment, Dean/President visits to council, Veterans and Commuting Students Rep. applications, one-on-one meetings with GB (Haya)

a. Introduction

- i. Senior in GS, studying econ and poli-sci, Israeli, but born and raised in Japan
- ii. Been a hard day for many members of the Jewish community due to Yaakov Shapiro's passing – if anybody in the GS community needs support I am here for you, and GS and Columbia have resources here to support you

b. Dean Rosen-Metsch \$30 Million

- i. New Housing Project
 - 1. Important step in the right direction for getting us equitable status and meeting everyone's needs, which is not the case in GS right now
- ii. Very exciting news!!
- iii. Dean Rosen-Metsch and Dean Rogers will be talking about this on October 15th in Council
 - 1. They'll tell us what this means and there will be an opportunity to ask them questions about it as well

c. Prez Armstrong and Melanie Bernitz (?) will be visiting council on October 8

- i. Another good opportunity to talk to them and ask questions

d. Opening applications for veterans and commuting students rep roles

- i. Will be out tomorrow

e. Over next month and a half my goal is to have a one-on-one with each of you

- i. Will be releasing a when-to-meet in the next week
- ii. Hopefully within the 6-7 weeks
- iii. Really want to hear about everyone's ideas and personal goals for GSSC
- iv. I also host weekly office hours on Mondays from 12-1 in the GS Lounge
 - 1. If anyone in the student community wants to meet with me at that time, I am open

B. Policy

- a. Motion to adopt minutes from last week: adopted
- b. Will be voting on metro card statement today, allow policy committee to start working on it and advocate on it. Open to discussion.



C. Finance—GSSC finance updates

- a. Goes through slideshow as to how our funding works (insert link here later)
 - i. GSSC External Funds
 - 1. Paying less of Bacchanal's budget this year to 5%
 - 2. Facilities Fund
 - a. Fund student activities
 - 3. JCFC (Joint Council Finance Committee)
 - a. Capital Investment Fund
 - 4. Senior Week
 - 5. 4 school events
 - a. Ex. tree lighting, glass house rocks, etc.
 - 6. Food pantry
 - 7. **Total allocation: \$137,500.00**
 - a. Increased by \$54,000
 - i. Due to increases in student activity fee
 - ii. Because other councils have been picking up our slack, and due to our increase in student engagement on campus it is only fair for us to pay our dues
 - ii. GSSC Internal Spending
 - 1. **Total Allocation: \$320,657**
 - a. Increased by \$8,370.40
- b. Why don't we use our endowment towards financial aid?
 - i. We only use part of our endowment each year
 - 1. This endowment is supposed to last forever
 - ii. Even though the endowment is massive its separated into separate schools (ex. CC has their own endowment, GS has their own endowment, etc.)
 - 1. When donors donate, they donate to a specific school
 - 2. Since we are a younger school we have less alumni donating
 - 3. This \$30 million donation is a great step towards the right direction

D. Communications- WhatsApp group chat, absence reporting, agenda requests, GS investment statement (Maeve)

- a. Putting everyone in a Whatsapp group chat, check your emails with all info to join
 - i. There will be channels within the Whatsapp for each committee
 - ii. All admins will have access to it
- b. Absence reporting
 - i. Please CC Isabel when you email Maya and VPs about absences



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- ii. Can also CC Chief of Comms Haya
 - iii. Can also email gssceboard@columbia.edu email address to email everyone on the board if that is easier
 - c. Agenda requests
 - i. Goes to Isabel and Haya, 12pm Monday must be submitted
 - ii. In emergency cases can be sent later but try and stick to deadline
 - d. GS investment updates coming soon!
- E. Campus Life–Gala, Basketball Mania, Lerner Pubs, GSSC headshot event (Haya)
 - a. Gala
 - i. Two successful site tours on Friday!
 - ii. One more site tour booked for tmrw morning
 - iii. Everything is very top secret for now
 - iv. If you have any gala theme suggestions, reach out!
 - b. Basketball Mania
 - i. On October 21st @ 7 PM
 - ii. Looking for 2 members from GSSC to partake in some charity skills games
 - 1. Any volunteers?
 - 2. Whoever wins will get \$500 to donate to a charity of their choice
 - iii. This is the kick-off for the mens and womens basketball season
 - c. Lerner Pub
 - i. On October 10 @ 7PM
 - ii. For seniors
 - iii. Need volunteers from council!
 - 1. Looking for one more volunteer so if anyone is free please reach out!
 - d. GSSC Headshot Event
 - i. Evan has agreed to take all of our headshots
 - ii. 10:30AM-2:30PM, October 11
 - iii. Committee photos will take place from 10:30-11AM
 - iv. We want everything to look cohesive this year for council so we really encourage everyone to take advantage of the individual sessions
 - v. These photos will be on the website, social media, etc. so be mindful of what you're wearing
 - vi. Will send the sign-up sheet at the end of this session
- F. Senator

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. GSSC and RA collaboration proposal–Robert (Maeve)



- a. Slideshow - (link)
- b. Robert, Residential Advisor, suggesting second collaborative event between GSSC and RAs
 - i. Resident Advisors serve as peer resources, have passive and active programming, and some happen on campus off campus, a general resource for all things Coluumbia residential
 - ii. I.e. community building, conflict mediation, skill building, resource building
- c. Event Proposal
 - i. Pistons vs Nets Basketball Game
 - ii. Game on November 3rd at 3pm
 - iii. Students can meet outside Lewisohn at 12pm to travel together or meet there
 - iv. Tickets themselves will be subsidized and completely subsidized tickets will also be offered
 - v. Way to bring a community together, sense of pride, encourage community bonds among students
 - vi. Will solidify cooperation and communication between RAs and GSSC established last year - and school pride!!
 - vii. Hopefully will create ongoing collaboration between the two
- d. Requests
 - i. **Asking for \$850 for 25 tickets**
 - ii. RA team will cover an additional \$510 to cover remaining costs
 - iii. \$10 per ticket as the selling price for students, \$35 original cost
 - iv. 3 or 4 tix completely subsidized and a few tickets reserved for certain people from GSSC and RAs attending
 - v. Marketing to the student body to encourage the student body to attend
- e. Questions
 - i. Adam: Why not a better game?/Better value tickets?
 1. Answer - These are the best value tickets, some students aren't looking at the status of the team coming from less basketball backgrounds, are just excited to see a game
 - ii. Maya: Would you consider other dates? (November 3rd right before fall break)
 1. Answer: Most cost effective game, didn't want to come in asking for too much money, but can discuss with any and change the date/discuss
 - iii. Jake: Should we sell more tickets if there was a 30 person waitlist last year?



1. Answer: GS RA budget is small, money last year raised was used for other things, is interested in discussing changing the amount of tickets but it would increase RA contribution which can be challenge
2. RAs don't get allocated same budget as other student groups because events are typically free or only need money for food, so same answer will be given every time in regards to increasing money spent
- iv. Eric: What was your total allocation last year? And did you spend all of it?
 1. Answer: \$5,000, Yes
- v. Eric: Would you plan on doing the same in the Spring?
 1. Yes, we are an important resource available on campus trying to increase RA visibility
- B. WVCU co-sponsorship presentation–Marquise
 - a. Presenting on behalf women's veterans community (WVCU)
 - b. Event: connectando columbia
 - c. to engage community and celebrate hispanic culture
 - d. 8pm following their general body meeting in Kent hall
 - e. attendance abt 20 ppl
 - f. free burrito bar, domino tournament, latin music
 - g. co sponsorship request:
 - i. cover costs of catering: \$324
 - h. email: wvcu@columbia.edu
 - i. motion: \$475 from co-sponsorship line item for food and supplies
 - j. Questions:
 - i. Oscar: Do they have a budget?
 1. Answer: No, because they were just founded in September
 - k. food is expensive! and there are particular approved vendors
- C. Jorge – Potential Dual BA Rep
 - a. Sciences Po
 - b. Economics and Philosophy
 - c. Wants to bring people together in big events, transcend the Dual BA bubbles
- D. Aoife – Potential community service and sustainability Re
 - a. Trinity Dual BA
 - b. Was on GSSC last year
- E. GSSC MetroCard Statement – Oscar
 - a. Reads the statement
 - i. Provides subsidized MetroCards to those in need
 - ii. Hasn't been able to fulfill every request we have received



1. Especially important due to GS housing shortage and large number of commuters
- iii. Currently funded by GSSC (meaning it comes from student activities fee)
 1. Move for it be funded by GS
- b. Not planning on sending this exact statement, it's meant to be used as a baseline for the final statement
- c. Hoping to expand this statement past GSSC
- d. Motion to approve statement: **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.

A. May

- a. Tomorrow October 3rd, from 5:30-7:30 there is a global veterans event in 205 Kenhart (?)
 - i. For non-US veterans
 - ii. There will be food!
- b. Questions
 - i. Anna: Tomorrow is October 2nd – so which one is it?
 1. Answer: it's actually on Thursday

B. Marquise

- a. Game on Saturday – Columbia vs Princeton
 - i. Volunteering event with MilVets
- b. MilVets military ball just came out with their info
 - i. At Chelsea Pier on November 8th
 - ii. Most ppl who attend aren't veterans
 - iii. \$50 per ticket
 - iv. Similar to Gala – very formal
 - v. Good networking opportunity
 - vi. Able to bring 1 guest

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT



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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)

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