COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL

GSSC

GENERAL BODY MEETING

14th of October, 2025

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

a. Call to order
b. Roll Call

Officer	Status
***President** Oscar Wolfe	P
VP of Policy Nora Zhu	P
VP of Finance Irene Souny Bihr	P
VP of Communications Maeve Sheehan	P
VP of Campus Life Chaya Droznik	E
Chief Policy Representative Gavin Xue	P
Chief Finance Representative Paul Audoin	E
Chief Communications Representative Laila Shai	P
Chief Campus Life Representative William Luo	P
Academic Affairs Representative Anand Shukla-Parekh	P
Alumni Affairs Representative Neomi Li Simoni	P
Commuting Students Representative Dominic Hardy	P
Diversity and Equity Representative Ishan Feisal	E
FGLI and Working Students Representative Jolee Cobb	P
Health and Wellness Representative Sophia Wen	E
Student Services Representative Joseph Byrne	P
Students with Disabilities Representative Maria Neagu	P
Students with Families Representative Cybel Emmanuel	P
Policy Coordinator Beah Avila	P
Policy Coordinator Aaron Green	E
Policy Coordinator Erik Rogel	E
International Students Representative Apolline Ancel	P
Treasurer Brian Luna	P

Officer	Status
Internal Finance Chair Bianca Sallusti	P
Finance Coordinator Venska Pongoh	P
Social Media Representative Heewon Jang	P
Technology Chair Adriana Podokshik	P
Content Coordinator Luiza Guimaraes	E
Content Coordinator Nichakul Punnahitanon (Nicky)	P
Communications Coordinator Sophia Ho	P
Communications Coordinator Talia Ofek	E
Senior Class President Aleigh Alarie	P
Senior Class Vice President Jeanne Fontaine	P
First Year Class President J. Stephane Kakou	P
First Year Class Vice President Mai First	P
CityUHK Dual Degree Representative Angel Liu	P
JTS Dual Degree Representative Jake Resnick	A
SciencesPo Dual BA Representative Jana Abdelhafez	P
Tel Aviv University Dual Degree Representative Gabriella Jacobs	E
Trinity College Dublin Dual BA Representative Carina Rudolph-Math	L
Transfer Student Representative Benjamin Kuleshov	P
Veteran Students Representative Micaella Lavi	P
Career Advancement and Networking Chair Hannah Hasangwangmu	E
Campus Life Coordinator Emily Oo	P
University Senator Robert Mulvey	P
Quorum → 29 TOTAL	33

C. Adoption of Last Week's Minutes
   1. Motion **Passes**/Fails

D. Adoption of the Current Agenda
   1. Motion **Passes**/Fails

II. REPORTS

A. President
   a. We have exciting senior events and the GS Housing Relocation Survey Report!

B. Policy

C. Finance

D. Communications
   a. Apologies for broken camera
   b. If you look at the GSSC website you can see the last three meetings minutes and videos, apologies for no sound in first video

E. Campus Life

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. GS Housing Relocation Survey Report
   a. Motion to adopt this document: **PASSES**
      i. allows us to distribute it publicly
      ii. "this report is adopted by the GSSC"
      iii. Laila: how is this report going to be circulated? A: this will be circulated throughout separate channels, including Spectator, even news channels outside Columbia, the GS administration, anyone who may have played any part in it, also will be available on the GSSC website.
      iv. GS friend informed me that her building would not be Columbia Residential next year so this is still continuing.
      v. Robert: I encourage people to approach me for questions about housing. There will be a building for GS students in Fall 2026. What exactly do we see as the upshot of this? What are the next steps?
         1. Oscar: I am hoping that everyone who receives this report reads the testimonials, it's a wealth of info and pretty upsetting. Data is important and this report establishes the facts. The testimonials describe what students affected want. People told us a lot. It's about avoiding a downside. Without action of this sort, there is no incentive for the broader admin to do this again.

2. Irene: To give an example, communication was one of the biggest frustrations. If students are able to see what actually happened, it acknowledges it.

vi. Is there a reason why there isn't a list of possible outcomes in the report?

1. From a strategic perspective, that would be a separate doc. This is ideally a reference point for the future. I want this to be limited in scope, more of an account of what occurred. I hope this leads to more meetings.

B. Senior Headshots

(1) Last year there was a service for free headshots for seniors, hoping to repeat it.

(2) Seniors last year said they appreciated it a lot and found it helpful for the future.

(3) <u>Request:</u>
300 dollars for about 8-10 hours of photography. There are about 650 seniors, but this event will be happening next semester again so some will do it next semester.

(4) <u>Discussion:</u>

1. **Aanad:** Does this include a specific location? **A:** On campus outside, low steps.
2. **Laila:** The CCE has a spot for free headshots, what's the upside of these instead? **A:** These look better, also better for fellowships and better quality.

(5) Motion: **PASSES**.

C. Senior Cruise

a. Details:

i. Happening during senior week (on the night of class day),

ii. Specifically for GS students.

iii. Includes an open bar.

iv. Family and friends are welcome!

b. Request to allocate $30,434.79

c. Discussion:

i. **Annad**: What is the ticket price? Were there any problems regarding purchasing for friends and family? **A:** 1st round: waives for seniors to buy for themselves. 2nd round: opening up to friends and family. Last year: $90 (senior) and $130-140 (guest)

ii. **Bianca**: What is it? A party on a cruise? What is included? **A:** A cruise going down Manhattan. We have the whole boat to ourselves: food, open bar, photobooth, security

iii. **Mai**: Would it be more effective to have 1 round of ticket sales instead of 2? **A:** Can discuss later. Our main priority is to get the contract signed. Please suggest ideas if you have any.

iv. **Cybel:** Last year, students were charged for drinks, so please look into it and be careful.

d. Motion: **PASSES**

IV. STANDING BUSINESS

A. First Year Event

a. Last time this proposal was tabled waiting for further information.

b. Purpose:

1) Foster community.

c. Details:

1) Oct. 25, Saturday.
2) Sakura Park.
3) 3pm-5pm.
4) Wearing Columbia merch.

d. Cost:

1) Coffee.
2) Catering.
3) Tables, mats, speakers, plates.
4) Total cost: 300$.

e. Discussion:

1) **Appoline:** would suggest allocating 400$ to make food more accessible to gluten free and vegan students. A: the money should be enough, but would like to amend the initial motion to 400$: **PASSES**
2) Irene: come see me after the meeting.
3) **Bianca:** where does the money go if they don't use it? A: it goes back to the budget.
4) **Cybel:** is this a rainy day? Did you check the weather? **A:** should be okay.
5) **Aanad:** is the amount of money accurate? This seems like a lot of money. A: prioritizing local shops, heavily subsidized, good quality.
6) **Gavin:** some people might find it hard to locate sakura park since they are new, should probably get a graphic done. **A:** maybe go together from Columbia, making sure that people know where it is.

f. Motion: **PASSES**.

B. RA's Basketball Event
   a. Details:
      i. Date: December 4th at 7:30 PM
      ii. Utah Jazz vs Brooklyn Nets
      iii. Successfully acquired a secure quote at $65 per ticket
      iv. 40 tickets in total. 34 of which will be sold at $20, which means we will have a revenue of $680. Therefore, the total cost of revenue of $1,050.
   b. Request: $1,500
   c. Advertisement will be released as soon as possible via Newsletter.
   d. Motion to vote will be in the executive session.

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. GS event for international student for tomorrow lunch - free food & alumni

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

This segment of the meeting is reserved for non-Council members to address the General Studies Student Council on any matter of concern. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker shall be observed. The Council will not take any action during this time. Council members will not respond to public comment at this time, however an executive board member may reach out to commenters after this meeting for follow up.

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