



**General Council Meeting
August 31st, 2024**

- I. Call to order at 10:03 am
 - a. Confirmation of Quorum

Departments credentialed in by 5 pm on August 30th, 2024

 1. Civil Engineering
 2. Economics
 3. Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering
 4. Earth and Planetary Science
 5. History
 6. Law
 7. Mechanical Engineering
 8. Medicine
 9. Organization, Information and Learning Sciences
 10. Physics
 11. Public Administration/Public Policy
 12. Sociology

Departments credentialed after 5 pm on August 30th, 2024

 1. Biology

Other Departments Represented

 1. Psychology
 - b. Adoption of Agenda
 - i. A motion to adopt the agenda is made and seconded, and the motion is adopted by the council.
 - ii. The council chair reads out the indigenous peoples' land and territory acknowledgement. The President reads out the statement acknowledging the labor and sacrifices of black Americans.
- II. Opening Business
 - a. Media, Gallery and Public Comments: no speaker, no comments.
 - b. GPSA Council Members: No comments
- III. Officer Reports:
 - a. **President Michel Rivera Ramirez:** Michele welcomes everyone to the first council meeting of the year and highlights the efforts made over the summer to standardize council operations. He also mentions the awarding of over \$50,000 in summer grants and the upcoming fall grant cycle starting in September.
 - b. **Council Chair Ashish Ravi Joshi:** Michelle discusses the outreach efforts made in August to previous council members and board of directors to update the RDSA

application process. He notes the increased attendance at meetings and the distribution of printed folders containing parliamentary procedure cheat sheets and other important documents. Plans for an orientation on parliamentary procedures and other topics are mentioned, with a focus on ensuring all council seats are filled by the end of the year. The importance of addressing issues faced by graduate students, such as parking, mental health, and safety, is emphasized, with suggestions for forming subcommittees to address these issues.

IV. Committee Reports

- a. **Grants Director Joseph Conteh:** Joseph Conteh provides a report on the summer grant and scholarship cycle, highlighting the awarding of \$52,600 in grants and scholarships. Specific grants and scholarships mentioned include the Student Research Grant, Professional Development Grant, and Guidance Scholarship Fund. Concerns about the HSC Rural Rotation grant and the need for further funding are discussed, with plans to work towards securing this funding. The importance of attending workshops as a requirement for grant eligibility is emphasized, with strong recommendations from the accountant.

V. Council Member Reports

- a. GPSA Council members: Representatives of all departments present introduced themselves.

VI. Action Items

- a. Approval of Standing rules:
 - A motion to open the standing rules for discussion is made and seconded, and the standing rules are opened for debate.
 - The main change discussed is the move towards in-person meetings to facilitate better communication and engagement among council members.
 - The importance of having certified alternates and proxy privileges is reiterated to ensure continuity and representation.
 - All members unanimously agree on having in-person meetings.
 - Members also discuss potential upgrading of facilities to improve hybrid meeting infrastructure if and when needed
 - The meeting concludes with a focus on moving forward with the approved standing rules and addressing the needs of the various departments and their representatives.
 - Members vote unanimously in favor of approving the standing rules.
- b. Approval of the Finance Committee Members:
 - The council unanimously approved the Finance Committee with the following details:
Mariano Fernandez – Finance Director
Rebecca Owopetu – Finance Vice Chair
Caitlyn Tullar – Committee Member
Soumyodipta Karmakar – Committee Member
Nikhil Sain – Committee Member
Nenna Udebunu – Committee Member
- c. Approval of the Legislative Steering Committee (LSC) Members:
 - The council unanimously approved the Legislative Steering Committee with the following details:
Wilfred Padmore Osei – LSC Chair

Vishlesh Varaganti – LSC Member
 Ferdinand Forkua Kwarteng – LSC Member
 Gareth Ripol – LSC Member
 Priya Bhakta – LSC Member

VII. Upcoming meetings:

a. September 28th, 2024, at 10 am in SUB Lobo A & B

VIII. Informal Brainstorming session

IX. Adjourn at 11.00 am

Attendance Record

Member	Department	Credentialed/Alternate/Proxy	Council Chair Comments
Benjamin Garcia	Biology	Credentialed	Credentialed past the deadline so not allowed to vote.
Ankit Aryal	Civil Engineering	Alternate	
Wilfred Padmore Osei	Economics	Credentialed	
Milan Joshi	Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering	Credentialed	
Marie Von Haas	History	Credentialed	
David Lonergan	Law	Credentialed	
Parker Murphy	Law	Credentialed	Was not able to attend because of a medical issue. Attendance might be considered to fulfil stipend requirement if needed.
Hanumesh Sai Pamisetty	Mechanical Engineering	Credentialed	
Arlin Bustillos	Medicine	Credentialed	
Trevor Caldwell	Medicine	Credentialed	
Grace Faustino	Organization, Information and Learning Sciences	Credentialed	
Srinidhi Pawar	Physics	Credentialed	
Gareth Ripol	Public Policy	Credentialed	
Kodiak Ly	Sociology	Credentialed	
Cloe Knutson	Earth and Planetary Science	Credentialed	
Carlie Sivils	Psychology	Not credentialed/No RDSA application submitted	Since no RDSA application or

			credential forms were turned in by the deadline, member was not allowed to vote
Ashish Joshi			
Michel Rivera Ramirez			
Joseph Conteh			
Sofie Carillo			
Stephanie Flores			
Jacob Griego			
Soumyodipta Karmakar			
Vishlesh Varaganti			
Ferdinand Forkua Kwarteng			
Caitlyn Tullar			