Meeting Minutes | 1st meeting of the 45th General Assembly Session (2023-2024)
13 September 2023 at 7-8:30pm
Location: Silverman Hall 240B at Penn Law


7:17 pm

1 Opening
- Meeting called to order, opening remarks by Speaker Gina Perrucci.
- Agenda approved.

7:24 pm

2 Introduction to GAPSA (35)

Executive Board Introductions
- VP of Advocacy Saloni Tandon: What values do we need to define? Accessible, equitable, etc.
- VP of Finance Nakisha Renee Jones: Total operating budgets is under their purview.
- VP of Operations Gabrielle Newell: Public relations, alumni relations, data analytics, logistics.
- VP of Programming Anusha Singhal: Goals include increased collaboration and more accessible programming.
- Professional Council Chair Kendall Hart: Takes professional students issues and organize them into legislation to be reviewed by the General Assembly.
- Research Council Chair Ludwig Zhao: Grants for research travel, academic event funds, advocacy (ex increasing stipends, organizing town halls).
- IDEAL Council Chair Chloe Ricks: Control of the Empowerment Fund for affinity groups. Goal to create a listserv to encourage more overlapping interaction and initiatives.

7:35 pm

GA meeting structure
- Presidents Advisory Council (PAC) meeting this Friday, reach out to Michael for an invite to join.
• A motion to extend meeting time now needs 3/4th’s vote to pass.
• Use Roberts rules of order, refer to one pager.
• See constitution and bylaws for official information on procedures.
• Expect Agenda Monday before the GA meeting, Minutes the Friday after the GA meeting.

7:43pm

GA Rep responsibilities and committee information

Krone

• University council introduction, UC Council committees, trustee committees. More information in slides.
• Full list of all rep seats on website (link will be sent after GA). Application for seats is in slides.

Q: Applying for all committees and councils is through the same application?
A: Yes. All in the QR code.

• GA assembly member roles and responsibilities: Show up to GA meetings, go to council meetings (meeting time is up to chair, 1hr long), go to committee meetings.
• GA members must join at least one internal committee. Further information on slides, please fill out a form for preference of a committee.

Q: Committees meet every two weeks?
A: Yes!

• In the case that you cannot attend General Assembly meetings: appoint a proxy ahead of time, can be done twice per semester. Email gapsa.logistics with name, email, and school/program of the proxy. Two unexcused absences are also permitted.
• Stay connected over emails and slack workspace. Go to Michael for invite link to the GA 23-24 slack channel. Council and committee channels to come.

7:52pm

Energizer / Ice Breaker (10)

Krone

• Originally scheduled 10 minutes, opted for 5 during meeting for sake of time.

7:59pm

GradFest Introduction (10)

Singhal

• New addition of GAPSA alumni dinner Friday 22nd 7-9pm.
• Sign up for grad fair. Expect President of Penn or Provost to be there. Get your student group represented!
• Movie night, sports day, axe throwing, and speed friending still have tickets. Raffle tickets for boat cruise will be at grad fair.

Q: Boat cruise tickets are definitely sold out?
A: Yes, unless you enter the raffle and win.

Q: Do we need volunteers for programming events?
A: Join the Programming committee to volunteer.

• Reach out to Anusha with questions and concerns.

8:02pm
Budget and Finance Introduction (10)  
Alvarado and Jones

- Approval process of the budget: new timeline, prelim budget is needed in January rather than March, final needed in March.
- No longer have monthly allocations, rather it will be done all at year end, less P-cards, no carryover due to encumbrances from last year, cap of 300k for future carry over. More to come.
- Three budgets to know about and review, info and numbers in slides.
- One goal is to recommend that pot of money for event collaboration that is held to G12 be extended to IDEAL council.
- Three sessions will be hosted on the budget. Material will be sent out the night of the GA meeting. Friday: a budget tutorial will be made, recording should exist for those unable to make it. Walk through of budget i.e. how to read major changes, things that are unchangeable due to the constitution. Reps should think of amendments which are to be submitted the following Saturday by midnight.
- Two sessions of budget office hours will be held. Feel free to email questions as well to Rene.
- On Sept 27 in two weeks, final vote on amendments of budget will occur.

8:14pm

Recess Director and Deputy Appointments (10)  
Perrucci

Presented themselves:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gaurav Mangal</th>
<th>Sparsh Maheshwari</th>
<th>Mayowa Fageyinbo</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Dir of Intl Student Affairs)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Cultural Programming)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Equity and Access)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ananth Srinivas</td>
<td>Dora Racca</td>
<td>Paul Welfer</td>
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<td>(Dir. of Public Relations)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Data Analytics)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Alumni Relations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerone Wint</td>
<td>Rene Alvarado</td>
<td>Sofia Castelli</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Dir. of Wellness)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Budget)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Academic Programming)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hongyu (Viva) Wan</td>
<td>Aradhana Kasimetty</td>
<td>Grace Chang</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Deputy Dir. of Alumni Relations)</td>
<td>(Dir. of Logistics)</td>
<td>(Deputy Dir. of Records)</td>
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- Motion to vote on director appointments. Seconded. All in favor.
- **Recess appointments confirmed.**

8:18pm

3 Open Forum

- Quorum announcements: In person is 3/7 IDEAL, 14/23 Professional Council, and 6/9 Research Council. 9 Research Council positions remain vacant, 27 remain vacant on Prof Council, and 3 for IDEAL.
- Discussion on making presidents of G12s non voting members of GA:

  Assembly Member A: Motion to appoint all 16 presidents of 16 G12s as nonvoting members of the general assembly.
Assembly Member B: Are all graduate students members of GAPSA as is, so what would be the difference between GA non-voting member and non-voting graduate student attendee?

Assembly Member A: Only non-voting GA members can attend closed sessions and receive notice of GA meetings.

Point of info: Are all of the 16 aware and in agreement with this motion?

Assembly Member A: Some are. Some are already non-voting members.

Point of clarity: if president of G12 are voting members already, will this make them nonvoting?

Assembly Member C: If you are G12 and have a vote as a GA rep, this motion would not demote you.

Assembly Member D: Can we end Q and A and open a formal debate?

Perrucci: Q and A is over.

Assembly Member E: Motion to postpone debate, open at council and reopen and next GA meeting.

Seconded. All in favor. Debate postponed until next meeting.

- Misc Q and A:
  Assembly Member E: What’s going on with happy hour?
  Perrucci: We are waiting for more GA members.

8:25pm

4 Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn.
- Seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.
## Attendance

### Professional Council
- Hugh Strike Law (CSR)
- Olivia Hefferman Law (CSR)
- Christian Bogardus Medicine (MSG)
- Maya Alexis Medicine (MSG) Virtual
- Mo Soumaoro SP2 (SP2SG)
- Elyse Cinquino SP2 (SP2SG)
- Isabelle Schlehr Veterinary (SAVMA)
- Sabrina Garcia Veterinary (SAVMA)

### Research Council
- Rebekah Davis Business (WGA) Virtual
- Ashish Erasani Business (WGA) Virtual
- Alison Lee Business (WGA)
- Divya Achtan Business (WGA) Virtual
- Isaiah Matthews Business (WGA)
- Rhea Datta Business (WGA) Virtual
- Loyd Bradley Business (WGA) Absent
- Cristian Navarro Business (WGA) Absent
- Shivani Daftary Dental (PDM) Absent
- Lauren Verheyden Dental (PDM)
- Katherine Bencosmo Dental (PDM)
- Tre Ambrose Design (WSC)
- Meagan Kearney Design (WSC)
- Lauren Pawlowski Design (WSC)
- Akshay Kumaria Education (GSESG)

### IDEAL Council
- Briana Edwards IDEAL BWGA Absent
- Zihao Wang IDEAL CSSAP
- Samuelle Delcy IDEAL EE Just Absent
- Carlos Jarquín IDEAL LAGAPSA Virtual
- Catherine Zhang IDEAL PAGSA
- Sereen Assi IDEAL PGWISE
- Krishleen Kaur IDEAL Rangoli Absent