

Spring 2026 Advocacy Meeting Minutes

GSO Advocacy Committee Meeting

In Person:

Location:

Time: Thursday, April 23rd, 2026

Attendance:

- **Reem Ahmed:** GSO vice President, Advocacy committee chair, COUN ED representative
- **Clement Okolo:** GSO President.
- **Tabitha Lemaire:** Communication Department Representative.
- **Leah Pontiff:** MBA Department Representative
- **Yazdan Mahmoudi:** English Department Representative
- **Sawyer Coco:** History Department Representative
- **Saiful Islam:** Mechanical Engineering Department Representative
- **Md. Sayem Bin Kashem:** Engineering and Technology Management Representative

The meeting started at 10:06

- **Old Business**
 - Grant Writing Workshop:
 - Big Success!
 - We are considering creating a 3-part series Grant writing workshop in the fall.
 - Resume workshop in April
 - Successful, well attended!
- **New Business**
 - The president will be at the General Meeting on April 24th, 2026

- Please make sure to let your departments know and remind them that the general meetings are open for everyone, not just the representatives
- Please come prepared with questions and discussion points.
- The advocacy form (<https://forms.office.com/r/xkMjyPWL0d>) can be used to submit anonymous questions. I will be going through the submissions and reading them out loud to the president during the meeting.
- Tax Exemption forms
 - [The forms are available on the website](#)
 - You can get tax exemptions when you make purchases related to university business (eg . Lodging expenses during a conferences)
 - Feel free to print the form, show to the front desk and they should deduct taxes from your payment
 - This is not a discount or a voucher, this only removes taxes from your payment
 - Can only be used in the state of Louisiana, and only for UL-related business/ representation.
- **Floor Open for Any Other Concerns**
 - FYI: Anybody can schedule time with Career Services or email their resume to resume@louisiana.edu for feedback
 - Career Services also do aptitude tests for graduates and undergraduates

The meeting ended at 10:40