Graduate Student Organization

Spring 2025 General Meeting 2 Friday,
March 28, 2025, at 12:30 P.M.
Location: Bayou Room 211 - Student Union

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
    a. Meeting called to order at 12:32 P.M.
2. **Attendance** [establish quorum: 50% +1 of current membership]
3. **President's Welcome:** Clement Tochukwu Okolo
4. **President's Report**: Clement Tochukwu Okolo **[12 mins]**
    a. GSO Official Funding Letter
    b. Graduate Student Appreciation Week: **April 6-11**
        i. Donut Day with SGA; **9:00 am, April 9th @ Martin Hall 332**
            1 Students will pick up donuts for their department at this time from Martin Hall
    c. Climate Survey – Dean MFK will meet with the council at General Meeting 3
    d. GSO VP Election @ General Meeting 3. *See Bylaw for Eligibility Requirements*
        i. Congratulations to Abdel!
5. **Vice President's Report:** Abdel Garbie [10mins]
    a. Advocacy Committee Updates
        i. GSO Advocacy Meeting 3
            1 UL Faculty will be present to answer questions regarding international students.
        ii. Spring 2025 Information Session for International Student
6. **Treasurer's Report**: Farooq A. Khanzada **[12 mins]**
    a. Status of current applications [see budget spreadsheet]
        i. Important note: Doctoral Research Fund will be put on pause due to national guidelines
    b. Committee recommendation to withdraw up to 50% of semester encumbrance to fund outstanding applications
    c. Fund Raising Initiatives Updates
        i. Looking for dates for Canes' giveback night where GSO takes a certain percentage of the profit. Looking for April 10th as a potential date.
            1 The council has moved for the date to be April 11th at Pinhook.
        ii. Working on the update of the tier list used for travel funding ceiling.
7. **Communications Report**: Tessa Rock **[12 mins]**
    a. Big Event Update - **03/29; 8:30am @ Martin Hall [Kick-off]**
    b. GSO Scavenger Hunt; **April 7 @ Alumni Center [Kick-off]**

a. Form to take pictures with various places on campus starting on this date, ending Friday at around 5pm. There will be raffle prizes for those who complete.

c. Other Committee Updates

a. Second, stay up and write when very well, students are very happy with stay up and write. There is one remaining this semester on April 16th from 7pm to 9pm in the Student Union Bayou Room.

8. Old Business [No Update]

9. New Business [20mins]

a. Vote—GSO Operations Fund ["…5% of semester encumbrance or $500, whichever is more." *See by-law*]

a. The council has moved to set aside 5% of semester encumbrance or $500 for GSO Operations, whichever is higher.

b. Vote—GSO Supplementary Budget ["…withdraw up to 50% of semester encumbrance to fund outstanding applications." *See by-law*]

a. The council has moved to withdraw 50% of semester encumbrance to fund all outstanding applications.

c. Vote — Outstanding Applications from General Meeting 1

a. The council has moved to fund these applications.

d. Vote—Funding Applications for General Meeting 2 [see budget spreadsheet]

a. 3 applications missing documents moved to 3rd meeting for consideration. Applications in white will be funded. Applications in grey will not be funded under the travel category.

b. Motion from Mary McMahon – Partially fund application that cannot be fully funded – was approved.

i. Applications in grey will be moved to third meeting, where funding will be allocated from other categories to fund at least 1.

10. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions

11. Announcements [4mins]

a. Official Photo with the GSO Shirt @ General Meeting 3

b. After this meeting, the GSO President will follow up via email to reps with notes you can relay to your departments' students

c. Representatives are responsible for finding a successor and ensuring that they understand their responsibilities [see **By-law**]

12. Adjournment – Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 PM