**Graduate Student Organization**

Summer 2025 General Meeting Friday, July 18 at 12:00 P.M.

Location: [Microsoft Teams](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_ZThmN2YzZmMtYWNiMC00ZDkyLWIyZDUtYzRhNDc3MTUzODBj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2213b3b0ce-cd75-49a4-bfea-0a03b01ff1ab%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221edf81c4-7d85-4be5-980a-467b8e4a6351%22%7d)

# Call Meeting to Order: Meeting started at 12: PM

# Attendance [establish quorum: 50% +1 of current membership]

* 1. **Clement Okolo: President**
	2. **Farooq Azam Khanzada: Vice President (CIVE)**
	3. **Elizabeth Boyd: Treasurer (CHEE)**
	4. **Tessa Rock: Public Relations Officer**
	5. **Traelyn Brasseaux: Secretary (CMIX)**
	6. **Terri Richard: (MBA)**
	7. **Nuzhat Tabassum: (COMM)**
	8. **Brianna J Doucet: (EDFL)**
	9. **Mary McMahon: (CODI)**
	10. **Mohamed Ghoneim: (EECE)**
	11. **Precious Batubo: (GEOS)**
	12. **Reem Ahmed: (COUN)**
	13. **Yazdan Mahmoudi (ENGL)**
	14. **Kevin Torgersen: (BIOL)**
	15. **Heaven Rodrigue (CJUS)**
	16. **Taylor Townsend (HIST)**
	17. **Sohel Ahmed (ENGT)**
	18. **Agnideep Aich (MATH)**
	19. **Pierre-Olivier Pire (MODL)**
	20. **Silver Damigoru (PETE)**
	21. **John Miller (PHYS)**
	22. **Taylor Roussel (PSYC)**
	23. **Justin Fontenot (NURS)**
1. **President’s Welcome:** Clement Tochukwu Okolo
2. **President’s Report**: Clement Tochukwu Okolo
	1. GSO Account Update
	2. Revision on GSO Funding Application Process
		1. GSO Funding webform Phaseout
			1. Information Security confirmed by this new process, Executive Board now FERPA Trained
	3. GSO Public Relations Officer Vacancy
		1. Will be proceeding with the vote at the end of the meeting.
3. **Vice President’s Report:** Farooq Khanzada
	1. Fall 2025 Initiatives
		1. Increased information for students graduating soon and applying for internships/jobs
		2. Networking opportunities for current students to meet with industry employees and companies
		3. Educational sessions from professors to help students secure grant funding with help writing proposals
		4. Host a panel of students who passed their comprehensive exams to help current students ease their nerves about their exams
	2. Summer Advocacy Concerns
		1. Students want shopper shuttle to run on multiple days instead of just Friday
			1. Heavily dependent on available funding and resources

# 6. Communications Report: Tessa Rock

a. Fall 2025 Initiatives

i. Hope to continue Stay Up and Write, but to also implement a new all-day event with food and beverages related to writing

**7. Treasurer’s Report**: Elizabeth Boyd

1. Status of current applications [see budget spreadsheet]
	1. As addressed in funding committee meeting, one applicant is not currently a student and as such ineligible for funding until they become a student in the Fall.
2. Microsoft Form Demo
	1. Going forward, Funding will be fully through this form.
	2. Naming conventions are extremely important for this form, as sorting to find a file will be reliant on proper naming conventions. See proposed bylaw.
	3. Note for representatives: Make sure before providing a rep letter that the application is both complete (contains all documents) and eligible for funding within the applied semester.
3. Bylaw updates
	1. Current - Section IV, Sub-Section 2A: Funding Outstanding Applications Using Supplemental Fund from the GSO Account:

In the event the allocation for a given funding category is exhausted and money is available in the GSO account, the General Council may vote to withdraw no more than 50% of the semester’s encumbrance total from the GSO account to fund as many outstanding applications as the supplemental funding will allow. This vote can only take place once per semester and must occur during the second General Meeting. Subsequently, the withdrawal approved by the General Council can only take place once a semester, after the second General Meeting.

Proposed addition to end of by-law:

In the event of withdrawal of supplemental funding from the GSO account, any unused funds remaining at the end of the semester must be returned to the GSO account and may not be reallocated to fund additional outstanding applications.

* 1. Current - Section IV, Sub-Section 2B: Funding Outstanding Applications Using Supplemental Fund from the GSO Account:

The supplemental fund will be divided into the allocation percentages as described in section VI. If at the third General Meeting, there are categories that have not exhausted the funds from the original encumbrance, the supplemental funding allocated to those categories must be used to fund outstanding applications of other categories that have exhausted both the original encumbrance allocation and supplemental allocation. Once the supplemental funding is exhausted for the semester, GSO will not be able to fund any additional outstanding applications and applicants will be notified accordingly.

Proposed Change:

The supplemental fund will be divided into the allocation percentages as described in section VI. If at the third General Meeting, there are categories that have not exhausted the funds from the original encumbrance, the supplemental funding allocated to those categories must be **returned to the GSO account.** Once the supplemental funding is exhausted for the semester, GSO will not be able to fund any additional outstanding applications and applicants will be notified accordingly.

* 1. Current - Section IV, Sub-Section 2C: Funding Outstanding Applications Using Supplemental Fund from the GSO Account:

By the Third General Meeting, all unused supplemental funds (from the supplemental budget) from other categories will be rerouted to fund categories where there is a need based on a first come, first served basis.

Proposed Change:

Remove subsection C entirely as this has been covered in subsections A and B.

* 1. Current - Section IV, Sub-Section 1D-A: Funding Outstanding Applications Using Supplemental Fund from the GSO Account:

Each semester the remaining funds from the programming budget must roll over into the budget for Travel with/without Academic Duties.

Proposed Change:

Each semester the remaining funds allocated to the programming budget from the original encumbrance must roll over into the budget for Travel with/without Academic Duties.

* 1. Proposed new bylaw:

Funding applicants must follow the naming conventions for application forms as listed on the website. If not, the application will be denied.

# 8. Old Business

# 9. New Business

1. Vote—Funding Applications for the summer [see budget spreadsheet]
	1. The council has moved to fund all approved applications within the travel category in the Summer, and move all unfunded applications to be considered in the Fall semester if the student is still a student within the Fall semester.
	2. The council has moved to reject the research and dissertation application from Esau, with Sarah’s application being moved to the Fall for consideration if they are still a student.
	3. The council has moved to fund the two applications under the Membership/Professional Exams in white, move the applications in red to the Fall if they are still students.
	4. The council has moved to reject the application under the programming category.
2. Vote—Bylaw Updates
	1. Bylaw Change 1:
		1. The council has moved to approve these changes to the bylaw.
	2. Bylaw Change 2:
		1. The council has moved to approve these changes to the bylaw.
	3. Bylaw Change 3:
		1. The council has moved to approve these changes to the bylaw.
	4. Bylaw Change 4:
		1. The council has moved to approve these changes to the bylaw.
	5. Bylaw Change 5:
		1. The council has moved to approve these changes to the bylaw.
3. Vote—GSO Public Relations Officer Position
	1. In the absence of nomiations, Trae will step in as the Public Relations Officer. Congratulations Trae!

# 10. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions 11. Announcements

1. After this meeting, the GSO President will follow up via email to reps with notes you can relay to your departments’ students
2. Representatives are responsible for finding a successor and ensuring that they understand their responsibilities [see [By-law]](https://gso.louisiana.edu/sites/gso/files/GSO%20ByLaws%2010282022.pdf)

# 12. Adjournment

1. Meeting ended at 1:22 PM