

**Graduate Student Organization (GSO) Spring 2023
General Meeting 1
Friday, February 17, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.
Location: Helma Constantine Forum B (209 B), Student Union**

1. Call Meeting to Order–12:38
2. Attendance [establish quorum: 50% +1 of current membership]
3. President's Welcome: Clement Tochukwu Okolo
4. Graduate School Address: Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser
 - a. Thanked GSO representatives for their time
 - b. Offered to respond to questions
 - c. Shared the GSO Fall 2022 Advocacy Report with other offices on campus to aid in promoting GSO; Clement T. Okolo presented the GSO Fall 2022 Advocacy Report to the Graduate Council.
 - d. Graduate Student Appreciation Week (last week of March)
 - i. Research Competitions will include paper and poster competitions covering multiple categories.
 - ii. Papers will be due in mid-March
 - iii. Poster competitions will take place during Graduate Student Appreciation Week.
 - e. SGA did a college wide initiative, purchasing a poster printer for Graduate Students,
 - i. Located in the library,
 - ii. Graduate school providing paper and ink,
 - iii. Partnering with advance office to figure out logistics
5. President's Report: Clement Tochukwu Okolo
 - a. Presented GSO Fall 2022 Advocacy Report
 - b. Questions included:
 - i. Can we expect to see cost of living increases for graduate stipends?
 1. The graduate school is working to increase the wage for students, (i.e., more money per stipend), but that can mean less GA positions overall
 2. The school is also balancing the tuition waiver with the stipend
 3. Based on the passing of a recent bill in the state legislature, more graduate student fees will be waived or not assessed in the coming year
 - ii. How is the cost of international student health insurance being handled?
 1. RFP for health insurance, last bid it was more than double; to continue providing insurance they couldn't include dependents, these contracts last every 2 years
 2. Mary Pritchard asked about the existence of a list of resources for clinics for un- or under-insured families to access healthcare in Lafayette.
6. Vice President's Report: Brice Gutshall

- a. Overview of Advocacy Committee Meeting topics
- 7. Treasurer's Report: Stacy Calhoun-Grosch
 - a. Status of current applications [see budget spreadsheet]
 - b. Stacy will be stepping down at the end of the semester
 - i. Those interested in being Treasurer should contact Clement or Stacy so that shadowing/training can be arranged
- 8. Public Relations' Report: Jeremy LaBorde
 - a. Overview of Communications Committee Meeting
 - b. Example of Spotlight
 - c. Jeremy will be stepping down at the end of the semester
- 9. Old Business
 - a. Update on GSO Endowment Fund Initiative
 - i. Currently unviable with the amount of funding GSO currently has, and potentially not possible due to GSO funding coming from student fees
- 10. New Business
 - a. Vote—Funding Applications for General Meeting 1 [see budget spreadsheet]
 - i. Travel Fund: 31 applications received
 - 1. All eligible application were approved, no opposing votes
 - ii. Research & Supplies Fund: 2 applications received
 - 1. All eligible application were approved, no opposing votes
 - iii. Professional Development Fund: 4 applications received; to be considered in general meeting 2
 - 1. All applications were held to be considered in General Meeting 2
 - iv. Programming Fund: 1 application received
 - 1. Application was declined due to the event not having an academic purpose which is required per our bylaws.

| App # | Date | Time | Name | Funding Category | Dept | Amount Requested | Amount Approved |
|-------|----------|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 01/12/23 | 19:05 | Matthew Andersland | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$250.00 | \$250.00 |
| 2 | 01/12/23 | 19:05 | Matthew Andersland | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$90.00 | \$90.00 |
| 3 | 01/12/23 | 19:05 | Matthew Andersland | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$60.00 | \$60.00 |
| 4 | 01/13/23 | 0:37 | Jessica Bradley | Research Supplies-Printing | EDFL | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| 5 | 01/14/23 | 18:25 | Rhiannon Thorne | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$300.00 | \$300.00 |
| 6 | 01/17/23 | 17:04 | Brandi Hanna | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 7 | 1/17/23 | 17:10 | Maxwell Gontarek | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 8 | 01/18/23 | 21:17 | Ayodeji Adegoke | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$500.00 | \$400.00 |
| 9 | 01/19/23 | 13:38 | Andrew Selcer | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$400.00 | \$400.00 |
| 10 | 01/21/23 | 22:27 | Patrick Joseph Caoile | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 11 | 01/24/23 | 11:21 | Sarah Warner | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$300.00 | \$300.00 |

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| 12 | 01/24/23 | 22:21 | Jon-Patric Veal | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$400.00 | \$400.00 |
| 13 | 01/25/23 | 13:42 | Anna Jackson | Travel w/out Academic Duties | BIOL | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| 14 | 01/25/23 | 16:33 | Aishat Abdulgafar | Travel w/out Academic Duties | CMIX | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| 15 | 01/29/23 | 15:26 | Ashley Tippit | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 16 | 01/30/23 | 12:35 | Kiara Davillier | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$300.00 | \$300.00 |
| 17 | 01/31/23 | 19:55 | Sara Alahmadi | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | CMIX | \$400.00 | \$400.00 |
| 18 | 02/02/23 | 9:05 | Harold Bosstick | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$300.00 |
| 19 | 02/02/23 | 9:56 | Lauren Bedsole | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 20 | 02/03/23 | 8:36 | Ashley Kidd | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | CODI | \$500.00 | \$300.00 |
| 21 | 02/03/23 | 16:33 | Brianna Sadighian | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 22 | 02/06/23 | 14:00 | Taylor Johnson | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 23 | 02/07/23 | 15:20 | Samantha Schaefer | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$300.00 |
| 24 | 02/07/23 | 17:45 | Haven Gomez | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | ENGL | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 25 | 02/08/23 | 12:10 | Prynceston Fant | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$332.50 | \$332.50 |
| 26 | 02/08/23 | 14:44 | Kevin Torgersen | Research Supplies-Equipment | BIOL | \$160.00 | \$160.00 |
| 27 | 02/08/23 | 15:16 | Shekufeh Shafeie | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | CMIX | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 28 | 02/09/23 | 17:01 | Nicole Pyke | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$500.00 | \$400.00 |
| 29 | 02/09/23 | 17:52 | Ruthie Menou | Travel w/ Academic Duties-Conference | PSYCH | \$360.00 | \$300.00 |

11. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions

- a. Graduate Student Success and Retention Committee seeks graduate student voices
- b. Representatives brought up concerns about lack of financial safety nets, especially for international students and desire for inflation increase for graduate stipends

12. Announcements

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

13. Adjournment–13:54

Departments in Attendance

Clement Tochukwu Okolo – President
 Brice Gutshall – Vice President, ARCH
 Stacy Calhoun-Grosch – Treasurer, BIOL
 Jeremy LaBorde – PR Officer, STEC
 Precious Batubo – GEOS

John Olajire – CMIX
Conner Chaney – EECE
Mary Pritchard – CMCN
Benjamin Vidrine – HIST
Yusuf Afolabi – MATH
Dudun Anireju – PETE
Mary McMahon – CODL
Brianna Doucet – EDFL (Proxy for Allison Comeaux)
Romy Zingraff – CJUS
John Miller – PHYS
Erica Piazza – NURS
Morgan Burroughs – MUSC
Jon-Patric Veal – PSYCH
Juliette Okoronkwo – MECH
Alexandra Dufour – MBA
Remil Aguda – CHEE (Proxy for Elizabeth Boyd)

Additional Attendees

Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser – Dean of Graduate School