

Attendance:

Faryal Atif, Clement T Okolo, Abdelrahman Garbie, Benjamin Vidrine, Onyeka E Enwesi, Sohel Ahmed, Grayson G Stepanek, John J Olajire, Morgan Burroughs, Sumona Hoque Mumu, Pierre-Olivier Pie
(11 Representatives)

Meeting Started: 6:02 PM

Meeting Ended: 6:50 PM

Total Duration: 48 Minutes

Welcome

- Opening remarks from Faryal Atif, Vice President of the GSO and Advocacy Committee Chair
Gives thanks for Homecoming Nomination
General Wellness Check

Presentation from Representative Stepanek, Office of Career Services

- Resume Assistance: you can schedule 1:1 sessions with Lily, our GA who exclusively hands resume reviews. Email resume@louisiana.edu to set one up. Simply make sure you have a rough draft of your resume; she needs at least something to start with. For resume templates, visit career.louisiana.edu/students-alumni/resume-writing-tips/sample-resumes.
- Interview Prep: you can schedule mock interview sessions through our office too. I'd recommend emailing career@louisiana.edu to set one up!
- Career Exploration: you can take various career assessments to better understand what career would be best for you. Email explore@louisiana.edu to explore your career options!
- Career Events: we host multiple events each semester to benefit our students: All Majors Career Fair, Part-Time Job & Volunteer Fair, Resume Review, Education Interviewing Day, and much more!
 - Certain events include opportunities for professional headshot photographs
- Career Closet & Campus Cupboard: for the Closet, students can take 8 articles of FREE professional clothing every semester. For the Cupboard, students can receive FREE food and hygiene items after filling out some initial documentation. To utilize these resources, bring your ULID (or provide your C#)! They are located at 210 E St. Mary Blvd.
- Seminars & Workshops: we do class presentations on various career-related topics or Career Services itself, so if you'd like to get one for your class, visit career.louisiana.edu/students-alumni/seminars-workshops/career-workshop-request.
- All current students and alumni are welcome to any information or services provided by Career Services.

- For more information, visit career.louisiana.edu
- Stay updated by following us on social media!
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/ulcareerservices.
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/ULLafayetteCareerServices
 - LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/ulcareerservices

Questions/Discussion on Presentation

- GSO VP Faryal Atif

Q: What is the schedule for the office or can you just schedule whenever?

A: Can schedule whenever to perform the one-on-one interviews but on the days after career fairs, the rooms are taken up by businesses doing their own interviews

Q: Are there any more major fairs scheduled?

A: The next one is in the Spring of 2024 (Date TBD)

Q: Is Handshake as important as is emphasized by UL Lafayette?

A: The more you use it for the jobs you want, the more businesses will see you looking for jobs within their field. Employers are actively viewing it and inviting UL Students to career fairs

Q: Does the Office also provide headshots for all students all year round?

A: No, but with the All-Majors career fair, there will be professional photographers to take the pictures.

The service is especially important to Career Services due to the cost of headshots ranging from \$150.00-\$250.00 USD.

- GSO Treasurer Abdelrahman Garbie

Q: Is there any chance for walk-in headshots?

A: No, but it is something worth suggesting

Even for a couple of days per semester (As per Faryal's suggestion)

Q: Are the clothes [At the Career Closet] useful for graduate students?

A: Extremely so, some clothes Representative Grayson wore to the meeting come from the location.

- GSO Kinesiology Representative Sumona Hoque Mumu

Q: How do we donate to Career Closet? Where do we do the donations?

A: Donate to the sites directly, during operating hours

Walk-in drop off

A: Can also drop it off in the Career Service's office within Agnes-Edwards

- GSO VP Faryal

Q: What can be donated?

A: Lightly worn professional clothing, (Professional socks, Accessories, Ties, Jackets)

Anything deemed too casual is donated to local charities (Goodwill)

Any donation given will be donated somehow to the community

Q: And at the Cupboard?

A: Non-perishable foods [Pastas, Box Dinners, Canned Goods, etc.] and hygiene items [Tampons, Deodorants, Soaps, etc.]

- GSO Treas Abdelrahman Garbie

Q: Is there a good supply of items?

A: Definitely, especially with the donation drive held in the summer of 2023

- GSO VP Faryal

Q: Can the stores be open solely for the grad students one day?

A: Surely, even possible to schedule a tour as well for any tour group

Q: The GSO representatives/graduate student body can go to do community service work?

A: Yes, especially on Fridays (restocking/reorganizing days)

Graduate Assistants run the closest so they both understand the abundant scheduling issues and would greatly appreciate the help

Comments: VP Atif expressed the desire to have a day within the semester scheduled for GSO Representatives

University News

- Assistantship Opening

Office of Recruitment for Undergrads

GA Position

- Homecoming Schedule!

As students, we should be able to take part in university activities

Spread word on the GSO/Engage with other students.

The schedule is open to all Grad Students

Schedule [Here](#)

Concerns Brought Forward by the Meeting Members

- GSO Treas Abdelrahman Garbie

Received a complaint about Apartment Complexes/Off-campus housing

The unsuitability of off-campus student housing

Proposed a tier system of apartment complexes within Lafayette
[GSO Approved Apartment Complexes in Town]

- GSO President Clement Okolo's response: The proposed idea would work, esp. if we coordinate with the housing department on campus
- GSO VP Faryal's Response: Very few Grads deal with on-campus housing, so we deal with a unique problem on campus

Would need to organize with people who live on the sites to provide accurate ratings
(Clement Agreed)

- GSO Pres Clement: We can provide a list of housing with a link to reviews and encourage graduating grad students to drop honest reviews when they are leaving their apartment complexes.
- GSO VP Faryal: We do not have a housing location for people staying short term (Esp. working for the University)
- GSO Treas Abdelrahman Garbie: Why don't we have that?
- GSO VP Faryal: We can propose these things [Housing Locations] to the grad school, but otherwise the idea of sharing housing info is a great idea.
- GSO Pres Clement Presented on this issue last semester, with a discussion with housing staff.

Revealed this is an issue that needs resolution and that professors in the housing department do not have the necessary jurisdiction yet.

- GSO VP Faryal: We don't even have something to resolve airport pickup

We need to have something ready for the next meeting with the Doctor over housing department

- GSO Treas Abdelrahman Garbie: Why do we not provide discounts for these students?
- GSO Pres Clement Okolo: State issue, but we can suggest the fix

Announcements

- Vice President Atif affirms the next Advocacy Meeting will be in person with the Office of Campus Diversity At the Teche Room [Student Union Room 116]
- GSO President Okolo and Vice President Atif reiterates that the advocacy committee is open to all invited grad students