

**Graduate Student Organization (GSO)**  
Fall 2023 General Meeting 2  
Friday, October 20th, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.  
Location: Helma Constantine Forum A (209 A), Student Union

**1. Call Meeting to Order [12:36 PM]**

**2. Attendance** [establish quorum: 50% +1 of current membership]

**3. President's Welcome:** Clement Tochukwu Okolo

**4. President's Report:** Clement Tochukwu Okolo

- a. Update to the Student Fees Waiver Situation
  - i. GSO Executive Board Meeting with Dean Farmer-Kaiser confirmed that our budget will not be reduced due to the loss of our funds via the Graduate Student's university fees.
- b. Further update on Supplemental \$50,000 Fund
  - i. The funds are still mainly for use by PhD students, but they also exist outside GSO's jurisdiction.
    - This allows the GSO to restructure its own budget to serve Master's Students while pointing PhD Students to the \$50,000 Fund when applicable.
- c. Public Relations Officer Nominees – Tessa Rock, Jessica Ojadi, and Darian Cheramie.
  - i. President Okolo made quick introduction with discussion as to the vote held later for which of the three to take the position.
- d. Bingo Night with Grad School – Griffin Hall, Room 147 [5 – 7:30 PM]

**5. Vice President's Report:** Given by President Clement Tochukwu Okolo

- a. VP Atif had Rep Grayson speak on behalf of Career Services to discuss the benefits of the organization.
  - i. Events such as All Majors Career Fair, Part-Time Job & Volunteer Fair, Resume Review, Education Interviewing Day, etc.
    - Dates and Times will be provided by Career Services
  - ii. Career Closet & Campus Cupboard
    - Located at 210 E St. Mary Blvd
    - Provides access to professional clothes (Suits, Jackets, Dresses, Shoes) and non-perishables, respectively.
  - iii. Interview Prep
    - Requires appointment with Career Services to coordinate

**6. Treasurer's Report:** Abdelrahman Garbie

- a. Status of current applications
  - i. Multiple new travel applications, but as of now the fund is \$8000 in the red
  - ii. Multiple Research and Supply Funds cannot be approved
    - Due to requests for books that cannot be approved due to damages incurred on the material during research.
- b. Supplemental Budget - \$8000 withdrawal recommendation from Funding Committee
  - i. Would be spread between the four categories by percentage of budget used by each section.
- c. By Law Update – Renaming “Programming” category to “Events” category
  - i. Hopefully clears up the use of the category so that applications begin to come in.

## **7. New Business**

- a. Vote – PR Officer
  - i. Held after all three presented their resumes
  - ii. Unfortunately one could not continue forward due to status as SGA Senator
    - Our by-laws still restrict SGA Senators from taking part in the GSO Executive Board
  - iii. GSO General Council Elected Tessa Rock as the New GSO PR Officer
- b. Vote – Executive board elections bylaw update
  - i. Motion to add a condition that, in the absence of a GSO Representative's Candidacy, positions within the Executive Board can be filled by members of the General Graduate student body so long as they meet the position's criteria and are not graduates within departments already represented in the GSO Executive Board.
    - Seconded and Approved to be added to the GSO's by-laws.
- c. Vote – Funding Applications for General Meeting 1
  - i. Motion to approve all travel applications save those that do not meet requirements
    - Seconded and Approved
  - ii. Motion to approve all Research and Supply Applications save those that do not meet requirements
    - Seconded and Approved
  - iii. Motion to approve all Professional Development Applications save those that do not meet requirements
    - Seconded and Approved
  - iv. Motion to withdraw \$8,000 from GSO Savings to fund outstanding applications
    - Seconded and Approved
- d. The vote on the Renamed Funding Category By-law update moved to Third General Meeting

## **8. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions**

None

## **9. 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. Representatives are responsible for finding a successor and ensuring that they understand their responsibilities [see [By-laws](#)]

## **10. Adjournment [1:36 PM]**