



Purdue Graduate Student Senate (PGSS)
Senate Meeting Minutes

First Meeting
Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 6:00 PM
Purdue Graduate Student Center (PGSC)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
 - a. 6:07 PM
- II. Roll Call**
 - a. Announcement of Newly Elected Senators and Alternates
 - b. 35 responses, that is over 50% we need, quorum met
 - c. List of new senators shown (Appendix A), warm welcome to those new senators
- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Note: motion to not read minutes made by senator from HDFs, second heard
 - b. Unanimous consent for approval of minutes, no dissent
 - c. Minutes approved from April 2022
- IV. Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. Request to withdraw resolution R003
 - b. Vote to approve this new agenda
 - c. Unanimous vote, no dissent
 - d. Agenda approved, motions carried by unanimous consent
- V. Officer Reports**
 - a. President's report, 3 mins
 - b. A lot of meetings, two biggest advocacy goals is related to housing, cost of living skyrocketing, hoping something will happen soon
 - c. Survey may go out, all grad students to participate
 - d. Mentorship initiative, support from grad school, they have their own mentorship initiative, PGSG working on peer mentorship
 - e. Please take a look at President's officer report
 - f. No questions
 - g. No other officers to report
- VI. Committee and Team Reports**
 - a. Legislative Review Committee (LRC) Reports – Josiah Davidson, Interim LRC Chair
 - i. Reviewed 4 pieces of legislation, short time period, elected to vote by virtual manners, all were constitutional
 - ii. Tip: in actions, identify who you are asking for change, identify who you want to enact change
- VII. Other Reports**
- VIII. Old Business**
 - a. No old business
- IX. New Business**

- a. **Introduction of Emergency Legislation**
 - i. No emergency legislation
- b. **Confirmation of Presidential Appointment – Parliamentarian**
 - i. President to speak on how he wants to handle the appointment
 - ii. If interested, please reach out to President, Alex Seto at pgsg.president@gmail.com
 - iii. Role: reviewing legislation, rule as constitution, chair the LRC
 - iv. Pretty straightforward, downside is you cannot submit legislation
- c. **Election of Senate Officer – Senate Clerk**
 - i. Person who will take notes and managing/enforcing attendance
 - ii. Constitution outlines what is outlined for this role
 - iii. Entertaining nomination for senate clerk
 - iv. Self-nominations allowed
 - v. Is it a paid position? yes
 - vi. Hours commitment? be here at senate, take notes, maybe answer emails
 - vii. Clerk needs to be present every meeting? yes
 - viii. Can clerk have substitute? no prohibition against it but preferred to be same person
 - ix. No more questions
 - x. Nominations
 - xi. Mary Brown, Senator from Philosophy, self-nomination, second by Senator from ECE, Somosmita
 - xii. Move into period of election, Mary Brown to speak
 - xiii. Questions? plans for not being able to make it? don't see that there will be a conflict, committed to being here, will reach out if cannot attend to Senate Chair or COS
 - xiv. How do you take notes quickly? typing and will use template, will write everything down
 - xv. Motion to end question, second heard
 - xvi. Mary Brown stepped out
 - xvii. We will discuss 3-min period
 - xviii. Senate clerk had access to google doc and typed in the doc, that will probably continue like that
 - xix. How does senate clerk take notes and vote? conflict of interest? No COI, Josiah explained why
 - xx. Motion to end discussion, second heard, unanimous voice count motion to end discussion period approved
 - xxi. Voting via discord, poll uploaded
 - xxii. 35 yes, 1 no
 - xxiii. Mary Brown elected as senate clerk
- d. **Survey regarding housing at Purdue University – Alex Seto, President, PGSG**
 - i. QR code displayed for housing survey
 - ii. General information for grad school to know, how much you pay for rent, how much is the cost of living etc.
 - iii. Feedback solicited

- iv. Most places don't cover tv and internet, please separate it
- v. Dollars or percentage error?
- vi. What is my percentage? calculator should be added? ask how much their stipend is instead?
- vii. For address, can i put apartment complex? more important is who you are renting from
- viii. Apartments who offer streaming services like xfinity plans
- ix. Are utilities included?
- x. Add complex and company options
- xi. Add back button!
- xii. Will PGSG have access to the results of this survey? we think so
- xiii. How many hours did you spend looking for housing? allow non-numerical values
- xiv. Move out and move in schedule concerns
- xv. 5 mins elapsed, adding 3 mins to continue questions
- xvi. Know which places are pet friendly! add that question to living expenses
- xvii. What are the goals of this?
- xviii. Add how many bedrooms are in the space
- xix. Open response question for people to show grievances
- xx. Is this available to other students outside of senate? it will be after we address these concerns
- xxi. Include something about special needs, mobility issues, etc.
- xxii. Bus stop and transportation accessibility, how much time do you spend walking to bus stop?
- xxiii. Family option for how much you pay makes no sense
- xxiv. Motion to extend time by Senator from Math department, second heard, Senator from EAPS, all in favor
- xxv. Senator from ECE senator yielded time to Akshita, about the bus schedule, summer and weekend schedules vary, needs to be considered, they increased rent too, renewal lease issue mentioned
 - 1. Senator from Industrial Engineering added on about predatory activities
- xxvi. From Chief of Staff, Ailin Fei: add branching? for families, solo people, people with roomies?
- xxvii. Car and bus variability to be considered
- xxviii. Non-traditional students having childcare payments to make, this issues affects a lot of people
- xxix. Legal issue: PGSG to provide legal advice regarding housing?
- xxx. Purdue has student legal services, they deal with tenant, landlord dispute, can we advertise that? yes
- xxxi. Formal period of discussion, thumbs up in discord for speaking list,
- xxxii. Senator from Materials Engineering Daniel Sinclair first, concern with open ended question, add bunch of checkboxes instead?
- xxxiii. Senator from Industrial Engineering, connection with Turkish students, postdoc issues, students starting late, we should compile resources for grad students, resources to touch base with, provide information and a sort of welcome packet?

- xxxiv. Community team's old housing guide, & there is off campus housing office, willing to fund more if more grad students want the service
 - xxxv. Senator from Computer Science, two questions, school district refer to elementary schools? yes. second question: Senator from Computer Science forgot
 - xxxvi. Senator from Biology, their department is thinking about making a similar survey for their students, will with align?
 - 1. this will be sent out by grad school, your department can reach out to the grad school for the data
 - xxxvii. Senator from Industrial Engineering again, off campus office not helping families to find places to live together,
 - xxxviii. Senator from Computer Science, remembered, two things wanted to add, 5 point scale on how difficult it was to find a lease that fit your goals, second proposed question to add, yes or no questions regarding on campus housing
 - xxxix. Senator from Agricultural Economics, is there an alternative to Purdue Village? is the university considering something?
 - 1. that's the survey will inform
 - 2. the need for one, the location, etc.
 - xl. Senator from Statistics, two questions, when did the individual apply for housing, and second whether they get management company lease or sublease?
 - xli. Senator from EAPS, grievances about housing, maintenance takes a very long time, questions about maintenance should be added
 - xlii. Senator from Math, is there application fee? add question, safety, whether rental companies are willing to change keys of place due to safety reasons,
 - xliii. Senator from Industrial Engineering, tentative options in the meantime? temporary housing options? also subleasing or not
 - xliv. Senator from Communications, transportation add carpool section, do you pay gas money,
 - xlv. Senator from Chemistry , renter's insurance required at place?
 - xlvi. Senator from HDFs, motion to stop discussion, email Alex if you have any other points, second heard, requires $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote to move on, in favor ending discussion? motion carries, discussion has ended
- e. Consideration of New Legislation**
- i. FA22-R001 – “Expanding Upon Grief of Absence Familial Parameters and Course Work Definition”**
 - 1. Motion to waive reading, Senator from Chemistry, second by Senator from HDFs
 - 2. Voice count in favor, motion carries, reading has been waived
 - 3. Legislation brought forth
 - 4. Authors to speak on legislation
 - a. Student in department had a death in family and had to return home (international), PI threatened to remove them from group if they left, student left and returned to not being part of the research group
 - b. Issue with handbook

- c. Redefine coursework to become more broad
5. Move to LRC report, is constitutional
6. President's report in support
7. Question period
 - a. Speaker list posted on discord
8. Senator from Math, what handbook are you talking about? graduate staff manual
9. Senator from Math, what about grief department on campus?
10. Senator from Food Science, clarifying on situation for student involved
11. Senator from HDFs, clarify language on legislation, best of their ability upon return sentence
12. Senator from MSE, if approved, who is this legislation addressed to?
 - a. grad school?
13. Senator from MSE clarifying question about amendments
14. Senator from Computer Science, Office of Dean of Students deals with grievances,
 - a. this was under the staff handbook not technically grad student handbook
15. Senator from ABE, towards end of resolution, question about grieving without approval from PI, is this allowed and do you think this will happen?
 - a. rephrasing will be considered
16. Senator from Curriculum and Instruction, how often can someone utilize their bereavement days?
17. no more questions about factual pieces
18. discussion open
19. Senator from MSE, five work days over calendar year, language of bill doesn't change the rule, but rather speaks out for students who are being taken advantage of
 - a. some minor grammatical adjustments, suggest to carry through with dean of students only after legislation is passed
20. Senator from Computer Science, shared personal story about time of leave and deaths of relatives and close friends, add a note about the potential abuse of this policy, propose amendment to add be it result that whoever it is being addressed to include friends in the list of people who would be permitted to allow leave of absence (Josiah wrote it down)
 - a. motion on floor, second from Senator from IBSC? (i missed it),
 - b. discussion opened
 - c. Senator from HDFs, wordsmith edit made
 - d. Senator from Agricultural Economics, how do we make sure someone doesn't abuse the friend policy?
 - e. President, grad student employment manual handled by grad school, grief absence policy for students handled by ODOS, there is a precedent for friends

- i. suggestion to update the grad staff manual to match policy provided by ODOS
 - ii. offered amendment to be adjusted later
 - f. Senator from IBSC, doesn't think students will abuse this, it is not vacation time, make up time is expected
 - g. We are still in motion to amend
 - h. Senator from MSE, agrees with Senator from Agricultural Economics, should be kept brief, airtight, and tight, borrow language from undergrad handbook?
 - i. Senator from ABE, note on international students, and time concern, legislation as is seems to be geared towards domestic students
 - j. Senator from Curriculum and Instruction, clarifying note on being the devil's advocate during this time
 - k. Senator from ME, motion to end discussion of amendment, second math, all in favor,
 - l. The discussion period ended
 - m. Vote on amendment
 - n. Pass by majority
21. Senator from CS amendment to be added to the original proposal
 22. Returning back to discussion order
 23. Senator from Statistics, 2 things, why did you think the coursework was the point of interest for this? 2, how do we handle PIs who write into the contract that everything is void, these are now my rules
 - a. Sponsor responded
 24. President, amendment to be considered, split off two asks in two diff bills, grief of absence to be one, and friend thing
 - a. Motion to replace entire piece of legislation with new verbiage proposed by President
 - b. Second heard from Senator from MSE,
 - c. Motion to read new amendment, second heard
 - d. Amendment was read
 - e. Discussion about amendment continues
 - f. Senator from ASEC, support addition of GAPS, addresses specifically coursework, not another doc that addresses things outside of coursework, this is great for coursework but another document should address assistantship type work
 - g. Senator from MSE, GAPS policy to include grad work to a limit
 - i. president responded
 - h. Amendment is appreciated by sponsor
 - i. Senator from HDFs, motion to end discussion and move into voting, second by Senator from MSE,
 - j. Voting no dissent, motion to amend was accepted
 25. Back into discussion of new legislation amendment

26. Senator from MSE, motion to end discussion, move into voting, second heard,
 27. No dissent, move to voting for this resolution
 28. Senator from MSE motion for roll call
 29. Legislation passes as is with amendment at 32 yes, 3 no, 13 abstain
- ii. Considering Bill first, motion passed
- iii. **FA22-R002** – *“Empowering Graduate Student Employees to Use Rightfully Earned Time Off or Be Compensated”*
1. Sponsor spoke
 2. President’s report there is precedence for this, everyone else gets paid leave except grad staff
 3. Questions open
 4. Senator from MSE, where does money for compensation come from?
 - a. PI pockets
 5. Senator from MSE follow up, describe from their pockets
 - a. grants, their budget,
 6. Senator from CS, RAship paid by department, TAs might work differently
 7. Senator from Physics, what do you mean by getting money for not taking vacation days?
 - a. answered by Senate Chair
 8. Senator from Statistics, what does this apply to? only vacation days?
 - a. you can take from vacation or sick time when asking for time off
 9. Senator from HDFS motion to end question move into discussion, second by English,
 10. Motion carries
 11. Period of discussion open
 12. Senator from HDFS continued, HDFS only has sick time, no vacation time
 13. Senator from ECE, some grad students do not have PIs, this would be unfair to those who do not work as RA, additionally, PIs applied for grants a while ago, some money is not movable, a resolution like this requires PIs to find money to accommodate, it’s not accounted for at the moment
 14. Senator from Math, instead of just saying PIs, maybe saying departments, in math, we are not attached to anyone until later in the program, even so, we may just be TAs until the end, so adding language that says PIs and departments
 - a. Motion to add ‘department’ language to resolution
 - b. Motion on floor to amend statement to add department language, second by Senator from Physics and Astronomy
 - c. Senator from ECE, concern with PI and department pushing responsibility on each other
 - d. Senator from MSE, creates uneven distribution of funds, not a lot of clarity in amendment

- e. Senator from ASEC, TA and GA position, how does this work? how about fellowships? compensation should be from funding sources
- f. Vote to amend with the language stated
- g. Motion does not carry

15. Back to period of discussion

16. Senator from ABE, PIs taking advantage of grad students, compensation for not taking vacation days can be misinterpreted, payment should be compensated only if PIs are requiring students to work during holiday times

17. Senator from FS, motion to end discussion and move to voting, second heard PoliSci

18. About 50/50 vote to end discussion, formal vote was opened due to not passing majority vote to end discussion and move to vote

19. 17 for, 25 against

20. Discussion continues

21. Motion to table by Senator from IE, second by Senator from Statistics,

22. Majority vote tabled this legislation to next meeting

iv. FA22-B001 – “Hiring a Photographer for Hispanic Heritage Month

1. Motion to waive reading by Senator from TLI, second heard by Senator from Nutrition Science,

2. All in favor to waive reading

3. Author to present on bill

4. President’s report straightforward bill

5. Period of questions

6. Motion to end questions, move to discussion, second IBSE

7. Majority passes

8. Move into period of discussion

9. Senator from EAPS, photographer secured and assured? this photographer agreed, it is on their calendar, price remains at 75

10. Senator from Math, country they were born in? it is the country they identify with

11. Senator from ASEC, what does 75 include? an hour? a day? physical prints of photos?

- a. For an hour of their time to take pictures of grad students, digital copies to be distributed through social media and newsletter

12. Senator from Stats, motion to end discussion and move to voting, second from MSE,

13. Discussion has ended, moving into voting

14. 36 for, 1 no, 11 abstain

~~**v. FA22-R003 – “Proposal for PGSG to Sponsor Career Fair Events for Graduate Students in Engineering Education and Education Majors”**~~

f. Consideration of Emergency Legislation

- i. None

X. Reports of University Committees and Boards

- a. No reports

XI. Announcements

- a. PGSG Homecoming Event - Volunteers Needed
 - i. <https://tinyurl.com/PGSGHCVolunteer>
- b. Hurricane disaster relief announcement by PGSG Life
 - i. Donations being solicited for disaster relief
 - ii. How are supplies getting to families?
 - iii. This is put on by Puerto Rican student association
 - iv. Is there a preference? items versus monetary? no preference but for items there are needs
- c. Hispanic Heritage Month event announcement
 - i. Fri Oct 7 2022, 4:30pm at LCC, come get your picture taken
- d. Senate Vacancies
 - i. List of vacant positions shared (Appendix B)

XII. Adjournment

- a. Motion, ECE second BPP
- b. All in favor
- c. Adjourned circa 8:45 PM



Appendix A: List of Newly Elected Senators

Aeronautics and Astronautics - Krishna Bansibhai Thakkar
Agricultural and Biological Engineering - Mike Sserunjogi
Agricultural Economics - Haseeb Daudzai
Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication - Bryanna Nelson
Anthropology - Olivia Palepoi
Biochemistry - Steven McKenzie
Botany and Plant Pathology - Ricky Critchfield
Chemical Engineering - Annie Sun
Communication - Savannah Meier
Computer Science - Jacob White
Curriculum and Instruction - Theodora Amuah
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Alaunie Smiley
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences - Austin Blevins
Economics - Talha Cakir
Educational Studies - Stephanie Contreras
Engineering Education - Barbara Fagundes
Engineering Technology - Pragatheiswar Giri
English - Danielle Giles
Food Science - Anael Kimble
Forestry and Natural Resources - Ken Yao Chong
Health Sciences - Sydney Stradtman
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture - Camila Ulloa Gomez
Hospitality and Tourism Management - Rachel Zhang
Human Development and Family Studies - Amy Loviska
Industrial and Physical Pharmacy - Pradnya Prakash Bapat
Industrial Engineering - Utkuhan Genc
Languages and Cultures - Santiago Parra Giraldo
Management - Arindam Roy Chowdhury
Materials Engineering - Daniel Sinclair
Mathematics - Alexandra Cuadra
Nuclear Engineering - Stepan Ozerov
Nutrition Science - Julia Choi
Philosophy - Mary Brown
Physics and Astronomy - Shayamal Singh
Political Science - Matthew Ellis
Public Health - Sidney Smith
Sociology - Reilly Kincaid
Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences - Brooke Rodgers
Statistics - Imon Banerjee
Veterinary Clinical Sciences - Oluwabunmi Ojo



Appendix B: List of Senate Vacancies

Accounting
African-American Studies
Agronomy
Art & Design
Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center (AAARCC)
Biomedical Sciences
Black Cultural Center (BCC)
Business Analytics and Information Management
Comparative Pathobiology
Computational Interdisciplinary Graduate Program (CIGP)
Computer Graphics Technology
Construction Management Technology
Engineering Management
Entomology
Finance
Gerontology
Global Supply Chain Management
Health and Kinesiology
History
Human Resource Management
Independent Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
Information Security
Ingestive Behavior
Latino Cultural Center (LCC)
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Center
Linguistics
Marketing
Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology
Native American Educational and Cultural Center (NAECC)
Nursing
Nutrition
Pharmacy Practice
Philosophy and Literature
Psychological Sciences
Theatre
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies