



GSA Senate Meeting  
April 20, 2023 @ 5pm – 7pm

Location: Baker 254

Zoom:

<https://syracuseuniversity.zoom.us/j/92966471078?pwd=KzNINGJmZ21uT0YzV3BHaJlVQzBCdz09>

Meeting ID: 929 6647 1078

Passcode: 318165

## Agenda

1. Welcome - Emme
2. Roll Call - Makayla
  - a. Apologies & Proxies
  - b. Quorum - Yes, 7 people
3. Previous Minutes – Makayla
  - a. Motion made to approve April 6th 2023 Notes - Mike Goodman, seconded by Gabriela Wemple - vote unanimous approval
  - b. Motion made to approve April 13th 2023 Special Meeting Notes - Mike Goodman, seconded by Gabriela Wemple - vote unanimous approval
4. Recap/Old Business
  - a. GSA DEI issues – All
    - i. Elevator Pitch Competition as part of the conference - first three place winners were native English speakers and the three runner-ups were international students, issues raised about whether this was an inclusive competition
      1. How do we make it an inclusive competition? what do we replace it with? talking with ESL or the Whitman School who leads a workshop in giving an elevator pitch, to see how we could eliminate this bias and prevent it from happening again? - tabling for the future Senate in the planning of this event next year
    - ii. Graduate Student Publication Mugs
      1. mug with the abstract of the student's first publication from their time at ESF was presented to the graduate school but the issue was for MPS students who may or may not publish or for students who don't publish at all
        - a. put out a call for students to decide what they want on the mugs - put out a Google Form?
          - i. abstract
          - ii. patent title
          - iii. project title
          - iv. certificate titles
          - v. degree title with their name
  - b. Campus Accessibility – Jordan J
    - i. working with MOSA to move this forward - meeting in the next few weeks
  - c. Town Hall w/Provost - Mike
    - i. May 2nd 2023 at 11:30 am to 1 pm in Gateway- awaiting confirmation on food options from Provost Mukasa's secretary

- d. SUNY SA Conference – Mike
  - i. Emme, delegate from Upstate Medical, and two MOSA representatives
  - ii. SUNY SA provided a rental car and housing so nothing is coming out of the GSA budget
- e. Grants & Awards – Anindita
  - i. applications are coming in for the Spring round of grants and awards - await an update on the Spring budget for the final meeting on May 4th 2023
- f. Spring (Final) TG – Leah
  - i. end of semester graduation celebration - picnic type of event
  - ii. amphitheater or the herb garden area of Thornden park
  - iii. food catering - StrongHearts (what they had last year) or Alto Cinco (they have vegan options)
  - iv. alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
  - v. weekend before graduation tentatively (May 5th or 6th)
  - vi. use this as an opportunity to gauge interest in GSA Senate positions and potentially encourage people to apply for appointments
- g. Elections - Shu
  - i. so far 5 nominations for 3 chairs, 1 director, and something else
  - ii. somebody who wanted to be a department representative for ERE back in February but their nomination form got lost - going to contact them again
  - iii. send out some more reminders and highlight the honorariums that are included
- h. GSA support of RA Unionizing – Emme/Jack
  - i. a short one to two sentence statement that says we endorse the mission and vision of the RA Union
  - ii. Jack is going to send more information along the way about the specifics of the unionizing efforts
  - iii. sent a letter to President Mahoney and the approval is planning to vote on May 3rd in Moon Library - voting members included Research Project Assistants and Research Aides
- i. GSA support of GSEU Living Wage Campaign - Emme
  - i. this was sent out within the last two weeks
- j. Benefits of Student Leader Meeting - Emme
  - i. meeting again next week and have so far agreed that all of these things are doable
    1. told her that it feels like graduate students are being exploited by the administration and are expected to fix the problems that are way above our scope
    2. MOSA Senate would be good people who are able to register early like Honor's students to work around the schedule of planning events for the undergraduate students
    3. advocating for a concession on student fees for Senate members - started with all Senate members and if not compromised for Executive members (5 from GSA and 6 from MOSA)
    4. Administration needs to be the ones planning the Executive Mixer - MOSA shouldn't need to be using their budget
    5. administration trying to get College Hour back on the agenda - Marshall is not in use, but Illick is up next and then another building - there is not enough rooms

- a. need to find a block of time for students every week that doesn't make students compete with faculty for classes and other activities
  - k. GSA Publication Mugs - Emme
    - i. see the second DEI issue
- 5. New Business
  - a. Committee Updates – All
    - i. PD Event - in collaboration with Dr. Josh Drew, workshop but no deliverables happening this coming week - we have extra pens and tumblers that we can provide if needed
  - b. SUNY ESF's Auxiliary Service Corporation Committee
    - i. nominate 2 members of the GSA to sit on this committee
    - ii. give advice to the administration about what students need in terms of services on campus and provide recommendations for where these services could come from
  - c. GSA 23' – 24' Agenda - All
    - i. keep pushing administration to interact and pay for an event that communicates with students (President and Provost's office separately)
    - ii. grow membership and participation of the Senate by this time next year
    - iii. set goals to target empty positions - get department chairs and faculty to encourage students to self-nominate
    - iv. encourage participation of administration and general student population to come into the General Meetings
    - v. have a bigger presence in orientations and use this as an opportunity to recruit open seats as well
    - vi. expand our network to other universities and colleges outside of SU - connect with Upstate and other colleges within the region
    - vii. Elevator Pitch competition work up
  - d. Distinguished Teacher Award Committee
    - i. should have a graduate student representative for this committee
    - ii. GSA nominates one student to sit on this committee - trying to vote for about a week from now
    - iii. going to ask Valerie when she gets back
  - e. Stipend Question
    - i. paying it as an honorarium avoids IRS and visa challenges
    - ii. Tom is going to talk to HR and get back to us before the final May meeting
  - f. Executive Reports due by May 1st
- 6. Date of next meeting
  - a. May 4, 2023
    - i. Transfer of Power
- 7. Adjourn