

GSA Senate Business Meeting  
Nov 29, 2023 @ 5:30pm – 7:00pm



Baker Lab Room 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
    - i. Makayla Light being proxied by Olivia Grogan
  - b. Quorum - yes
    - i. 9/15
3. Confirmation of meeting minutes for Nov 1, 2023
  - a. Motioned by Emily Friden, seconded by Amy Owens, unanimous consent confirms motions
4. Senate Business
  - a. Previous Business
    - i. Resolution 02.23 Update
      1. Resolution to divest programming to the general grad student body
      2. Said we would provide funding for students to host events through (1) department reps and (2) affiliate organizations
      3. Departments qualify for \$200 per year as long as they have a representative, will also be a set funding for affiliate organizations (\$800 for this academic year) - funding is so far working
      4. Executive members met and discussed:
        - a. Leaning towards creating a new role (Chief Programming Officer) and they would be in charge of the affiliate organizations.
        - b. That change won't take place until academic year 2024-2025.
        - c. There is a challenge with appointments, but this gets to a point of people getting interested too late in the semester and they won't be able to do much with the role.
        - d. For next semester, any appointments should be made before the beginning of the semester. (Example: for next semester senators should be appointed before January 16th)
        - e. Will make one more appeal to the student body asking for department reps before January 16th to qualify for the funding.

b. Committee Updates

i. All

1. Social committee

- a. Wine tour was the last event
- b. \$35 over budget, will be well under budget for spring events
- c. For first welcome event of next semester, thinking of TG at bar w/food and drinks, doing it at Fagen's, will do finger foods, will be the first Friday night after we get back from break

2. Chemistry

- a. Department mixer is next Tuesday, half department funding was used to buy gift cards for the event, mostly undergrad is supporting the rest
- b. There is bi-semester meetings with department chair, second meeting is sometime next week.

3. Chief Financial Officer

- a. Still fighting with Key Bank, has to meet with bank person to sort it out.
- b. Doing a lot of reimbursement forms
- c. Waiting for move to do inventory on what we have (swag, etc.)

4. External Affairs

- a. Went to Syracuse University's grad senate meeting, intense
- b. Exchanged email with SU person to see if reps would be interested in attending our meetings.
- c. Amy and Emme attended a SUNY Student Assembly conference last week and there is a lot more room for grad student presence. There was a lot of overlap that could be applicable for graduate students. The student assembly people gave different talks. Most campuses were represented. Undergraduates were dominating the conversation at the assembly. From these conferences you can understand what you could do on your own campus.
- d. Adopted a resolution to lobby the chancellor to advocate for a law applying to K-12 to be applied to college campuses.

5. Environmental Science

- a. There was a mixer sponsored by the department before break.

- b. Suggestion: Open mic, equivalent of sci-pi
  - 6. Chief Communications Officer
    - a. Instagram grad student highlights
    - b. Student senate drop-ins (discussed later)
    - c. GSA T-shirts
  - 7. Environmental Studies
    - a. Looking at doing event next semester
    - b. Want guest speakers for the spring semester for the ES seminars
  - 8. Grants and Awards
    - a. Next week is the deadline for the form, looking to form committee and wants to approach Makayla as well as anyone else interested.
    - b. If there is any help needed for forming the new position description, happy to help.
  - 9. Inclusion, Diversity, International Affairs
    - a. The Thanksgiving dinner was successful.
    - b. Had an event in Marshall and discussed student concerns about ESF Moon Library entry
    - c. Khalil: Had a meeting about inclusion in syllabi
  - 10. Research and Curriculum
    - a. At the last research affairs meeting, raised suggestions for half-day trainings for grad students on their research, how to be published, and how to collaborate with senior professors. Discussion on how research will be shared with international scientific community. Next meeting for research affairs committee will be in two weeks.
- 5. Any Other Business
  - a. December Commencement
    - i. Happening on December 8th by Hendricksen Chapel
    - ii. Did mugs for graduates last year
    - iii. Need to list of graduates who will be walking for commencement for December so we can see if we need to order more mugs for the grads
  - b. BoT Meeting 12/23
    - i. On December 8th
    - ii. Student leaders give updates, anything in particular to discuss
      - 1. GSEU

- a. Major concerns are that there is fee money from the NYS budget that was passed in July, wondering where the money was distributed
    - b. Might have more after next GSEU meeting
    - c. Updates:
      - i. Town hall is Friday at noon, will be able to lay out everything in the new contract
      - ii. Still no dates on when bargaining from the state
  - c. Goals for Next Semester
    - i. GSA Senate Drop-In
    - ii. Vacant Senate Roles
  - d. CNY Conference on Environmental Science and Studies
    - i. Committee on research did agree to incorporate student spotlight into research for the conference
    - ii. Need to figure out a structure before a call for abstracts, will be out before end of the semester
    - iii. Feb 29-March 1
  - e. Graduate Research Mentors
    - i. The framework has been figured out and all information is on the website.
    - ii. If there is anyone interested, direct them to the website to sign up.
    - iii. Still in the market for a professor for the graduate course
6. Adjourn
- a. Date of Next Meeting – Jan 16 or 18 during college hour
    - i. Motion to adjourn by Andrea Cass, seconded by Amy Owens