

# GSA Summer 2023

## July Senate Meeting

10 July, 2023 | 6:00pm - 8:00pm

### I. Attendance [15 minutes]

- A. In attendance: Grace De Oro, Jessica Burstrem, Charles Waters, Akash Vartak, Nirandi Jayasingh, Emily Faber (present by Hannah Seppala as alternate), Sayali Satish Dhavale, Atharva Puranik, Gurpreet Kaur Saluja, Harshal Chauhan, Alexi Scheiber, Hannah Seppala, Nirandi Jayasinghe, Zach Nichols, Ravi Sharma, Sayali Satish Dhavale, Deevyesh Deepak Upadhyaya, Arya Honraopatil, Jeff Halverson
- B. Quorum (as of starting the meeting) - Considering we are 2 senators short in CAHSS, we have quorum = 12/14
- C. Meeting called to order at (President): 6:06PM

### II. Land Acknowledgement:

UMBC was established upon the land of the Piscataway and Susquehannock peoples. Over time, citizens of many more Indigenous nations have come to reside in this region. We humbly offer our respect to all past, present, and future Indigenous people connected to this place.

### III. New Business [60 minutes]

#### A. Introductions

##### 1. Provide Cabinet emails:

###### a) President:

(1) Grace De Oro – [gsapresident@umbc.edu](mailto:gsapresident@umbc.edu)

###### b) Vice-President:

(1) Jessica Burstrem – [gsavicepresident@umbc.edu](mailto:gsavicepresident@umbc.edu)

###### c) Treasurer:

(1) Charlie Waters – [gsatreasurer@umbc.edu](mailto:gsatreasurer@umbc.edu)

###### d) Secretary:

(1) Akash Vartak – [gsasecretary@umbc.edu](mailto:gsasecretary@umbc.edu)

##### 2. 23-24 GSA Contact List

##### 3. All members present, introduced themselves and what they are studying and where they work.

#### B. Website updates (Akash)



1. Senators need to send Akash (gsasecretary@umbc.edu) their names as they want displayed and a square cropped headshot.
  2. Committee chairs need to send the following details:
    - a) Your current Degree and Program
    - b) Hometown: City, Country
    - c) Previous Degree(s)
    - d) Favorite Quote or fun fact about you.
- C. How voting works (Grace, Akash)
1. Roberts Rules:
    - a) An informative document:  
[https://assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/roberts\\_rules\\_simplified.pdf](https://assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/roberts_rules_simplified.pdf)
  2. Motion to vote: Clarify what is the motion
    - a) The person proposing a motion clearly outlines what their motion is and what they are proposing.
    - b) A motion is a statement of something to be done/asked for.  
 Example: "Motion to declare every Tuesday as Taco Tuesday and have tacos for snacks."
  3. Second is needed
    - a) Someone other than the motion proposer needs to show support via 'seconding' - "I second the motion"
    - b) This gets recorded in the meeting minutes.
  4. After a second, voting starts
  5. How are votes counted?
    - a) What are and How are abstain votes treated.
      - (1) Abstain votes are moved from the total number of votes being cast.
      - (2) Final result of whether a motion passes or not is calculated from the total number of non-abstain votes.
  6. Motion to table
  7. What is quorum?
- D. GRP Chair / GRP Committee approval (Charlie)
1. Charlie explained the details of the Grants Review Panel.
  2. He explained how the panel worked and also explained the role of the panel chair.
  3. Charlie is looking for students from CAHSS and CNMS to represent those colleges on the GRP.
  4. Deevyesh motioned to approve a GRP chair.
    - a) Hannah seconds the motion.
    - b) Motion passed: The position of GRP Chair has been approved and can now be appointed.
      - (1) Yes = 11, No = 0, abstain = 0.



5. Atharva motioned to appoint Achala as the GRP chair.
  - a) Seconded by Sayali.
  - b) Atharva and Nirandi expressed their interest in appointing Achala as the GRP chair.
  - c) After some discussion this motion has been tabled, pending Achala's presence in the next meeting. She can then pitch herself for this position.
- E. GSO Committee Members needed. Senator responsibilities: Town halls, committees, etc. (Grace & Jessica)
  1. Grace requested senators to take a few minutes to read up and learn about the various university and GSA committees and GSOs.
  2. Senators have to participate in at least one university committee and so should identify which committees they would like to serve in.
  3. Senators have to mandatorily attend every monthly regularly scheduled senate meeting. Sending an alternate in your place, counts as being present.
- F. Inform Senate about [Senate speaker position](#)
  1. Grace explained the position of the Senate Speaker and its responsibilities.
- G. Strategic Planning Committee (SPC):
  1. Akash will be preparing a document about the Strategic Planning committee, under whose purview the future bylaws updates fall under.

#### IV. Announcements

[30 minutes]

- A. Fill out [When2Meet](#) for August for Senate Meeting
- B. ByLaw updates will take place in the August Senate Meeting.
  1. Moving forward, the SPC will be responsible for bylaws updates.
  2. For now Jessica and Akash will be working on the bylaws update, and will present them in August.
- C. Grad School Welcome Day August 25th
- D. Mandatory GSA retreat 14 Sept, 2023.

#### V. Adjourn

- A. Motion to adjourn was proposed by Emily (Kara as her alternate).
  1. Seconded by Atharva and Nirandi
  2. Meeting was adjourned unanimously.

