

GSA Fall 2023

December Senate Meeting

11 December, 2023 | 11:00am - 1:00pm

I. Attendance [~10 minutes]

- A. In attendance: Joel Tyson, Shaline E, Akash Vartak, Alexi Scheiber, Aminah Amjad, Arya Honraopatil, Atharva Puranik, Daniel Douglas, Deevyesh Deepak Upadhyaya, Emily Faber, Grace De Oro, Gurpreet Kaur Saluja, Hannah Seppala, Harshal Chauhan, Jackson Tucker, Jeff Halverson, Jennifer Artis, Jessica Burstrem, Kara Seidel, Nirandi Jayasinghe, Ravi Sharma, Ridwan Islam Sifat, Sayali Satish Dhavale, Sreevikas Edukulla, Zach Nichols
- B. Roll call and Quorum, as of starting the meeting (Secretary) - Quorum requirement 66%. Quorum present = 12/16
- C. Meeting called to order by Senate Speaker (Atharva): 11:03 am
- D. Approval of [November Senate Meeting Minutes](#):
 - 1. Atharva motioned to approve.
 - a) Atya seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion passed with Yes = 12 , No = 0
 - c) Minutes have been approved.
- E. Meeting agenda approval
 - 1. Deevyesh motioned to approve.
 - a) Atharva seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion passed with Yes = 13, No = 0
 - c) Agenda has been approved.

II. Land Acknowledgement: [~5 minutes]

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. Old Business

- A. SKY Campus Happiness GSO Proposal [~10 minutes]
 - 1. A representative from this body wasn't present at the meeting.
 - 2. Consequently, senators decided to table this.



3. Emily motioned to table
 - a) Atharva seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion passed with Yes = 13, No = 0
 - c) Motion has been approved. This agenda point has been table for a future meeting.

B. Name Change of NA senators [~10 minutes]

1. Student Affairs Senators got 8 votes.
2. Student Life Senators got 5 votes.
3. Atharva motioned to make “Student Affairs Senators” as the new name.
 - a) Deevyesh seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion passed with Yes = 13, No = 0
 - c) Motion has been approved. “Student Affairs Senators” is the new official name of Non-Academic Senators.

IV. New Business

A. GSO Proposals [~15 minutes]

1. Association of Neuropsychology Students and Trainees
 - a) Shaline E joined as the representative for this organization.
 - b) Atharva motioned to approve ‘Association of Neuropsychology Students and Trainees’ as a GSO.
 - (1) Daniel seconded the motion.
 - (2) Motion passed with Yes = 14, No = 0
 - (3) Motion has been approved. This organization is now a GSO.

B. Results of Survey regarding GSA and it’s functions (Arya) [~10 minutes]

1. A survey was recently conducted to assess graduate student’s awareness regarding GSA TownHalls.
2. The questions asked were:
 - a) Do you know about GSA town talks?
 - b) Have you ever attended a town hall meeting?
3. We received 116 responses.
4. The survey showed that GSA’s visibility needs to increase. Only a small section of students may be aware of town halls.

C. Town Halls Debrief [~20 minutes]

1. Alexi brought this up. The core idea is to understand what colleges are going through and common issues that everyone can contribute to rectifying.



2. Senators provided insights into what their town hall's discussions were.
3. Overall, the attendance was low, which is historically usual for GSA town halls. GSA is now working on getting ideas together to increase outreach regarding town halls.

D. Suggest a piece of Public Art in Sherman Hall (Alexi) [~5 minutes]

1. Work on the Sherman building is progressing. The school has commissioned a public art piece to be added to a huge wall. The renovation of Sherman Hall is bringing a new piece of public art piece, set to grace the campus.

V. Announcements [~20 minutes]

- A. Thank you (Grace)
- B. No Senate Meeting in January
- C. Spring 2024 Senate Meetings When to meet.
 1. Will be coming out in late January
- D. OGSL Office changes:
 1. Changing office hours: will be staying open till a little later in the evening.
 2. Thinking of having an open house where people can come and have open discussions.

VI. Adjourn

- A. Meeting was adjourned at 12:18 pm.

