

GSA Spring 2024

February Senate Meeting

14 February, 2024 | 10:00am - 12:00pm

- I. Attendance [~10 minutes]
- A. In attendance: Shivam Yadav, Vahid Andalib, Smriti Khilnani, Anji Naik Jeshavath, Achala Denagamage, Alexi Scheiber, Aminah Amjad, Arya Honraopatil, Atharva Puranik, Charles Waters, Daniel Douglas, Deevyesh Deepak Upadhyaya, Emily Faber, Grace De Oro, Gurpreet Kaur Saluja, Hannah Seppala, Harshal Chauhan, Jackson Tucker, Jennifer Artis, Jessica Burstrem, Kara Seidel, Nirandi Jayasinghe, Ridwan Islam Sifat, Sayali Satish Dhavale, Sreevikas Edukulla, Zach Nichols
 - B. Meeting called to order by Senate Speaker (Atharva): 10:05 am
 - C. Approval of [December Senate Meeting Minutes](#):
 - 1. Atharva motioned to approve.
 - a) Sayali seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion passed unanimously
 - c) Minutes have been approved.
 - D. Meeting agenda approval
 - 1. Atharva motioned to approve.
 - a) Emily seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion passed unanimously
 - 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. If you haven't already reviewed Grace's Update, please do [~5 minutes]
 - 1. 📎 GSA UPDATE.jpg
 - B. SKY Campus Happiness GSO Proposal [~10 minutes]



1. Shivam shared presentation and was followed by questions addressed activities, funding, costs to participants, how UMBC students are involved;
2. Atharva motioned to approved the GSO.
 - a) Jackson Tucker seconded the motion.
 - b) Motion did not pass; with Abstain=3, Yes = 1, No = 9
 - c) Motion has been Denied. SKY Campus Happiness is not approved as a GSO under GSA.

IV. New Business

- A. GSO Proposals [~35 minutes]
 1. UMBC American Statistical Association (ASA) Student Chapter
 - a) Vahid shared presentation; questions included how officers are elected;
 - b) Atharva moved to approve, Nirandi seconded, 14 yea; GSO approved
 - c) Atharva motioned to approve.
 - (1) Nirandi seconded the motion.
 - (2) Motion passed with Yes=14
 - (3) The GSO has been approved.
 2. TMA (Telugu Movie Association)
 - a) Anji shared presentation and was followed by questions included why this particular focus and costs to participants
 - b) Atharva motioned to approve.
 - (1) Zach seconded the motion.
 - (2) Motion passed with Yes=14
 - (3) The GSO has been approved.
- B. Election Procedure (Akash, Atharva) [~15 minutes]
 1. [Document](#) highlighting the process.
 2. In Akash's absence, Atharva presented and explained the process.
 3. Jessica asked for clarification to be added that nominees not excused will be disqualified, but not those who were excused in advance for good reason (class, religion, etc.)
- C. Town Halls (Atharva) [~15 minutes]
 1. Atharva moved to have "Senator Meet and Greet" and count as third Town Hall.
 - a) Sayali seconded the motion
 - b) Motion passed with Yes=13, No=1
 2. Discussion included whether it should be virtual AND/OR in person



3. Whether each Senator must attend for 30 min or 1 hr
4. Atharva will follow up by email.

D. Commuter Week (Grace) [~15 minutes]

1. Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS) will be hosting our Off-Campus Housing & Resource Fair on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the University Center 301. This event will be hosted during our Commuter Week, to provide our commuter students with connection to off-campus apartment complexes, community resources, and on-campus resources.
2. E-Council does think that being at this event would be beneficial to the Graduate Student Body-
3. Who would be available and willing to volunteer for the event?
 - a) Jackson Tucker agreed to volunteer and requested follow-up by email or calendar invite
 - b) Hannah & Emily can also attend

V. Announcements

- A. 2 senate meetings in the month of April and no senate meeting in the month of May. When2meet link coming soon to GSA member's email.
 1. E-Council Election senate meeting will be held between 9th to 12th April
 2. Last Senate meeting will be held between 23rd to 25th April.
- B. Dan asked on behalf of Center for Democracy & Civic Life that during Town Halls Senators share voting registration resources; discussion included how to make civic life relevant to international students too
- C. Jessica talked about testifying in the Maryland House of Delegates Appropriations Committee hearing on the collective bargaining bill yesterday. Interim Provost David Dauwalder testified strongly against it on behalf of UMBC. Senators asked for information about how to submit written testimony. Jessica asked Dan to share that.

VI. Important Dates

- A. Grad Student Week - April 1 to April 5, 2024

VII. Adjourn

- A. Atharva moved to adjourn
 1. Nirandi seconded
 2. Motion passed unanimously
 3. Meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm.

