Graduate Student Association
General Council Meeting
Minutes

Wednesday, November 1st, 2023, 7:00-9:00 pm

In-person Location: HUB 302
Zoom: https://ucr.zoom.us/j/95911712349
Meeting ID: 961 9656 5640

AGENDA

1. Land Acknowledgement: “In honor of Rupert and Jeanette Costo’s founding relationship to our campus, we would like to respectfully acknowledge and recognize our responsibility to the original and current caretakers of this land, fire, water, and air: Íviatem (Cahuilla), Máara’yam (Serrano), Tóngva, and Payómkawichum (Luiseño) peoples, and all of their descendants past, present, and future. Today, this meeting place is home to many Indigenous peoples from all over the world, including UCR faculty, students, and staff. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work in these homelands.”

2. Approve Agenda and Minutes (7:05)
   a. Vote on November Agenda: Approved by unanimous consent (Zaira motioned, Marina seconded)
   b. Vote on October Minutes: Approved by unanimous consent (Samuel motioned, Akshay seconded)

3. Attendance (7:07)
   a. Zoom (A link will be provided in the chat during the meeting):
   b. How to fill out the sign-in sheet? Example link (please don’t fill it out!)
      https://forms.gle/zH83r5LHV3l, based on the organization of information on our website: Who we are: https://gsa.ucr.edu/who-we-are/

4. Grad Success Announcements (Dawn M Loyola) 7:10
   - Not present to provide updates

5. UAW Updates (Eliana Buenrostro) 7:20
• Eliana - Unit chair at UCR for UAW
• Last month – vote on membership wanted to merge post-doc and graduate worker union
  o Passed by 92% margin
  o Sending petition for approval
• Check your check! Paychecks came in today (Nov 1) – be sure you are getting paid the correct amount (full raise should be visible in this paycheck)
  o A TA salary was included in the Zoom chat (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1c7LRSoA-pspnE6cKBv3KTGD06yX9iGDTeiLUyjitiNk/edit#gid=901793577)
  o GSR salary scale (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1c7LRSoA-pspnE6cKBv3KTGD06yX9iGDTeiLUyjitiNk/edit#gid=2037800659)
• November 14 is 1 year anniversary of strike
  o An event is being planned for this and info will be released soon
• Timesheet email was sent to students today
  o There is no requirement to fill out timesheets
  o Submit them blank – no need to fill out time sheets every month; you are not required as a worker to do this

6. President updates (Ivett Gabriella) 7:30
   a. Police Accountability Board Update
      i. Military Equipment info: https://police.ucr.edu/assembly-bill-ab481
         • Explained what military grade equipment the police on campus have; basic equipment needed if there is any earthquake are major incident
      ii. If you would like to learn more about our Campus Police, they have a Transparency Dashboard here: https://police.ucr.edu/transparency-dashboards
         • Police post information on this dashboard in order to promote transparency
   b. SSFAC Committee Update: Still seeking 1 graduate student for SSFAC (paid position! involves weekly meetings). See the attached Flyer We are hiring (1).png.
      • Student Success Fee Advisory Committee – determines how money from student fees will be divided amongst programs
      • Paid position that involves weekly meetings on Monday from 3-4:30pm
   c. Added all first-year students to the mailing list
      • Takes a few weeks to finalize list which is why it took so long
   d. Board of Trustees meeting update: Chancellor's PPT.pptx
      • Provides many positive aspects about UCR
        o “UCR is the Only One”
e. Career Center professional photo booth: [https://careers.ucr.edu/rprofessional-photo-booth](https://careers.ucr.edu/rprofessional-photo-booth)
   - Great opportunity to get a good headshot picture
   - It's free and you can just walk in, no appointment needed

f. UCR School of Public Policy Dean’s Ambassador is hosting a watch party for the next presidential debate. See Flyer: [SPP Watch Party](#)
   i. Details: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 4:45 to 7:30 p.m.
   ii. UCR Alumni & Visitors Center
   iii. RSVP: spp-debate-11-08.eventbrite.com

7. VPAA updates (Katie Vidueira): 7:40 (Katie absent; updates by Ivett)
   a. Mini GSA - new re-registration date and form: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1r4vvApGj5W_qUHAicRiWB40Mf5BbRiWNspR35yGXlME/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1r4vvApGj5W_qUHAicRiWB40Mf5BbRiWNspR35yGXlME/edit)
      i. The deadline has passed but Mini GSAs are more than welcome to join; they just won’t be confirmed until the December GSC meeting. Please email Katie at: [vpaa.gsa@gmail.com](mailto:vpaa.gsa@gmail.com)
   b. Requirement of dept. Reps to be on a GSA standing committee - please sign up if you haven’t done it yet
      i. Standing Committees: [GSA Standing committees 2023-2024.xlsx](#)
   c. Hiring for SPP, SOM, and SOE AAO - email Katie if interested

8. VPEA Updates (Zaira Vidal Cortes): 7:50
   a. Mental Health Summit, UC Davis updates: Met with all UC campuses. The discussions covered topics related to mental health (i.e., how they can better improve graduate student situations). Also met with Well and the Title IX office to discuss more transparency on how cases are managed (at the student and faculty levels)
      - Beginning of October at UC Davis
      - Mental health has major impact on graduate student relations with other students and faculty
        o Faculty manages through different organization from students, but topics discussed will hopefully lead to more transparency and efficiency when dealing with cases
   b. 2023 Grad Summit UCLA: Folder with Flyers: [UCGPC Event Flyers](#)
      i. Walk-ins allowed in case no registration was done.
      ii. Email regarding commuting arrangements/carpooling with other students
      - This Saturday at UCLA
   c. 10/9/23 Meeting with Shawm Brick (Executive Director/Student Financial Support)
      - Discussed PTSD and the Native American Opportunity Plan.
      - President Drake is interested in expanding the NAOP. Several UC campus representatives discussed potential ways to expand
- Native American student fee and its impact.
- If you ever have any questions about fees that are charged to your student account, reach out and ask for clarification.

d. **10/19/23 Meeting with Senator Scott Wiener:** Some of Wiener’s latest key priorities include housing, transit, and health. In the housing sector, he's pushed for SB 473 and SB 4, aimed at streamlining affordable housing development and utilizing open land (hopefully near UC campuses?!). On transit, Senator Wiener focuses on securing funding for Bay Area transit systems while addressing service issues, like those faced by Bart and SF buses (it seems there will be some sort of state defunding for transit?) Hopefully, he can advocate for statewide transit funding for all cities and towns). In health, he championed bills like SB 90 to cap insulin costs, SB 58 for psychedelic therapy, and several others (PREP included) to enhance medication access and youth mental health.

- Again, any issues with transportation issues and guarantees, please reach out so these issues can be addressed.

9. Break 8:00-8:05

10. **VPIA Updates (Marina Murillo-Sanchez) 8:05**

a. **Career Center Liaisons** recruitment just posted on Handshake here: [https://ucr.joinhandshake.com/stu/jobs/8381315](https://ucr.joinhandshake.com/stu/jobs/8381315)
   - Application deadline is November 9th, 2023
   - Job description sent in GSA newsletter
     i. There is a new Graduate Peer Advisor: Xinyao Zheng, careercenter9@exch.ucr.edu

b. The first meeting of the Housing Committee will be in November (specific date TBA)- Send suggestions to Marina if you have anything you want her to bring up and advocate for.

c. Pending amendments to bylaws: Conference Travel Grant section
   - Amended section 14 – respecting staff
   - New section – Appeals section
     i. Both these sections were shared in last month’s GSC meeting
     ii. Vote: [https://forms.gle/FoEL8ioXiPS2vtqw9](https://forms.gle/FoEL8ioXiPS2vtqw9)
   - Only elected officers and mini-GSA representatives (or proxies) allowed to vote – no appointed officers
     - Results: Passed - 30 approved, 0 disapproved, 1 abstained

11. **Basic Needs Liaison Updates (Destyni Cravens) 8:15**

a. Holiday-themed “Lunch & Link” will take place on November 22nd from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 pm at HUB 383.
   i. This event will center on allowing graduate students from all departments/programs across UCR’s campus to come together, share a potluck-style meal, and network with one another. It aims to provide a welcoming space for graduate students who will not be traveling home for the Holidays this year.
ii. RSVP here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdy5xCEiB9XFo4b4H_y8oPGCPfldB2Hz7dVKBsDfinx4Ld_aA/viewform

- Spots are filled for this event, but email Destyni to be put on the waitlist
  - basicneeds.gsa@gmail.com
- QUESTION: Basic Needs Committee – committee meeting started yet?
  - No, committee meetings for all committees have not yet started. Once all committees are filed, committee meetings will commence.
  - Basic needs and the well are sharing the Basic Needs Committee for now

12. CTG Coordinator updates (Antonio Rivera-Montoya) 8:20
   a. Proof of attendance, presentation, and acceptance.
   b. Eligibility
   c. Proof of attendance is important!
   d. Round table funding – must be group moderator
   e. You can ask for extensions for flights days before or after the conference
   f. Only 1 UCR student can apply as a presenter; all other collaborators can only apply as conference attendees

- Questions can be sent to Antonio: gsagrant@gmail.com

13. Additional Comments 8:30
- Update from Alba – International Student Affairs Officer
  - Event where they show International students around the library and how it works
  - Coffee Social for international students
    - November 8 from 3-4pm
  - Art time for international women
  - International appreciation week November 13-17
  - Party – November 15 from 6-9pm
- Update from Akshay – GSHIP Officer
  - Attended UCOP meeting in Oakland
    - Health insurance premium data – Grad insurance premium ~$1500. Previous quarter was ~$1300.
    - Premium increase due to claiming more amount compared to the amount of insurance paid in. Many students are using a lot of emergency services (700 last year, 551 can be avoidable by being treated on campus)
    - Loss ratio of 3% by claiming $11 million and paying in ~$9 million
    - If student is enrolled in GSHIP, you can access any service within a 50-mile radius. Now, you need a referral to access any doctor within this 50-mile radius.
- GSHIP coverage is very good, so we want as many people to enroll in GSHIP as possible.
  - Now state-of-the-art building and equipment on campus (Student Health Services) and experienced professionals to address a majority of issues in-house (no need for emergency services)
    - Hiring new psychiatrist
    - New check-in procedures
    - Access to student health services after hours (24-hour online telemedicine)
  - As representatives, educate students on GSHIP and the availability of help at the Student Health Center

14. Public Comments: 8:40

15. Adjournment 9:00 – motioned by Ivett, seconded by Allan Zheng