AGENDA

1. **Land Acknowledgement:** (7:02)
   “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), Máára'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 on these homelands.”

   We encourage you to look up and learn about the peoples whose lands/waterways we occupy today. You can do so in three different ways:
   1) [https://native-land.ca/](https://native-land.ca/)
   2) via the Facebook bot: [https://www.facebook.com/LandAcknowledgement/](https://www.facebook.com/LandAcknowledgement/)
   3) a new SMS bot was developed, making it easier for those in the US to learn which Indigenous territories they’re standing on. Text your zip code or your city and state (separated by a comma) to (907) 312-5085, and the bot will respond with the names of the Native lands that correspond to that region. (The service currently only works for US residents but may be available for other countries in the future.)

2. **Approve Agenda** (7:04)
   a. **Vote** - approved

3. **Approve the April meeting minutes** (7:05)
   a. [April 2022-2023 GSC Meeting Minutes.pdf](April%202022-2023%20GSC%20Meeting%20Minutes.pdf)
   b. **Vote** - approved

4. **Attendance** (7:07)
a. Zoom: The link provided in the chat during the meeting:

https://forms.gle/sxAyN96TsEJRkH1F6

b. How to fill out the sign-in sheet? Example link (please don’t fill it out!)

https://forms.gle/zH83r5LHV3i, based on the organization of information on our website: Who we are: https://gsa.ucr.edu/who-we-are/

5. **GradSuccess Updates** by Monique Posadas (7:10)

a. A job offer has been sent out and accepted by Don Loyola. Gradsuccess will have a new director soon.

b. **Flyers:**
   - Gradquant We are hiring.png
   - Gradquant workshops.png
   - Gradsucess.png
   - Welcome to the final stage.png
   - GradSuccess We are hiring.png
   - UCOP Grad slam final watch party.png
   - STATA workshop series.png
   - teaching careers week.png
   - Learning outcomes.png
   - TADP office hours.png
   - Summer teaching preparation.png
   - Coffee social.png

c. On May 4, we have the following events: Grammar refresher from 1 to 150 articles, which is an online program through the writing center. Hypothesis testing from 3 to 5, which is a Zoom event. In addition, there is Teaching Careers Week coming up during the week of May 8, with many programs to look forward to.

d. Teaching Careers Week is coming up during the week of May 8, with a keynote and various programs throughout the week. Please check out the flyer for more information and to see all the wonderful things that are happening during this week.

e. During the week of May 8, there is also the Grad Quants Spring Stat Workshop Series, which includes workshops ranging from the basics of stats to more advanced topics. Please check out the flyer for more information on all the workshops that are included in this series. The G-SMP program, which I coordinate, will be seeking peer mentors who will be paid for a year-long, 7% position.

f. Regarding the G-SMP program:
The program is seeking paid peer mentors for a year-long, 7% position, which involves mentoring a couple of first-year mentees for the whole year at a rate of $23 per hour. Info sessions about the program will be held on Zoom, with the first one on May 9 at 2pm and the second one on May 30 also at 2pm. Decoding Chat on GVT in Grad Quant will take place on Wednesday, May 10, from 10am to 12pm, both in-person (in Life Sciences 1425) and on Zoom.

g. Other events include: Grad Success Coffee Socials every Wednesday from 3pm to 4pm in the Physics Courtyard. Graduate Student Writing Center's Writer's Room every Friday from 10am to 12pm, which is held on Zoom.

h. Moving on to the latter part of the month, there are several events included:
   i. Introduction to Simulations and Cross Variations in AR on May 16 from 2pm to 4pm, which is a Grad Quant event held in Life Sciences 1425 and on Zoom.
   ii. TTP program teaching workshop on learning outcomes on May 18, which is virtual and focuses on good teaching practices.
   iii. Virtual Art Night on May 23 from 6pm to 8pm.
   iv. Preparing for Summer Teaching with TA DP on May 24 from 11am to 11:50am.
   v. Getting Unstuck in Your Summer Writing workshop by the Writing Center on May 25 from 3pm to 3:50pm.
   vi. Additional details about these events can be found on the flyers which will be posted. Please note that the charging workshop is free for grad students.

i. Regarding Grad Quant, they will be hosting a workshop on quantitative data and statistics. Grad Quant is the perfect resource for anything related to quantitative data and statistics, and they offer open hours where you can sit down with a consultant to look through your data. They are the perfect people to approach if you have specific questions about your own research. Additionally, if you have more general questions about statistics or want to learn about specific things in AR, Grad Quant is also a great resource.

6. **UAW Updates** by Eliana Buenrostro, new chair (7:20)
   a. Tentative Agreement SR Wages Explainer
   b. Tentative Agreement ASE Wages Explainer
   c. Eliana One Rostro is the newly elected unit chair for our campus.
d. Last weekend, some members attended a statewide membership meeting at UC Davis where they voted on important issues, including potential contract repeal, which was voted down.

e. The members also voted to start an exploratory committee on merging 2865 and 5810, the postdoc union, to ensure future leverage during strikes.

f. During the previous strike, it was a coincidence that the contracts of both unions expired at the same time, allowing them to strike together for higher demands.

g. Representatives from each campus will be part of the committee.

h. There are wage increases. Check your check. The increase will start with the current pay period. If you are a TA or GSR, you should have received an increase. A link to tables that explain the raise amount based on GSR step was provided. The raise amount for TAs is also different.

7. Event Sponsorship request by Jessica Maccaro (7:30)

a. Artistic Expression of Original Research Art Show Proposal by SciComm@UCR

b. Details about the program: We have an event sponsorship request from the Artistic Expression of Original Research partial proposal from Segment at UCR. Jessica is here to present their sponsorship report. She introduces herself as the president of Psychology at UCR and explains that their group mostly consists of graduate students, who are trying to get training and experience in communicating their science in creative ways. They had a workshop last quarter called Artistic Expression of Original Research, where grad students in the sciences transformed their data or concepts into art pieces. The workshop included 10 weeks of different artists from various mediums teaching them art, and they've been working on their pieces since the winter quarter. They are hoping to have two art shows in the spring to display their art pieces, which will ultimately be for the goal of science communication through a creative and effective approach. About 10 grad students from various sciences are creating pieces in different mediums, such as poetry, abstract art, sculpting, etc. They will stand next to their piece at each event, and people can ask them about their pieces and research as they walk through. They plan to have one art show on campus at the barn, and another downtown during the Artwalk night. They expect an audience of almost 200 people across both events and are looking for funding to pay for the venue. The events will be two and a half hours each, and there will be food and drinks, just like an art show. And because there's an hourly fee for the barn and to pay for like the beverages and the catering and stuff like that, and for stuff to help the artists display their pieces, like an easel and whatnot. So that's what they're doing and if anyone has any questions, they're free to ask.
c. **Public question**: Is this open to all graduate students, regardless of major?
   Yes. They are open to having other grad students in the sciences create an art piece and be part of the art show by reaching out to her via email, which she will put in the chat. She further mentioned that they will have a retreat at Anza Borrego reserve the following weekend, where they will work on their pieces together, and that interested individuals can still get involved. The speaker encouraged everyone to come and be part of the event.

d. **Vote - Approved**
   [https://forms.gle/U7tYoJ6Mqdsaiyp8](https://forms.gle/U7tYoJ6Mqdsaiyp8)
   6 in person votes agreed to the sponsorship

8. **President Updates**: by Ivett Gabriella (7:35)
   a. **Student conduct issues at Grad Success**. They asked us if we could help them curb the hostility coming from grad students at their events. Planning to send a friendly reminder to grad students.
      i. Letter being put together to address this concern
      ii. Note that many staff at grad success are other students
      iii. Budget is limited per department, about 3600 grad students at UCR, so it is not always practical to serve the entire population
      iv. In general, please be more respectful. If food runs out, it’s just budget issue/more attendees than expected
   b. **CA Budget hearings**:  
      i. May 2, 2023: Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 hearing on student basic needs - [Check Assembly Daily File](#)
      ii. May 4, 2023: Senate Budget Subcommittee 1 hearing on remaining UC issues - [Check Senate Daily File](#)

9. **VPIA Updates by Katie Vidueira** (7:40)
   a. **Housing Committee Updates**. Looking for 18 grad students to attend the focus group. TBA by email. UCR has hired a 3rd party co. to evaluate best housing needs for the campus. The co. meets with campus partners and stakeholders on May 9th.
      May 19th - 1:30-2:20 Bannockburn J120 102
      Feel free to contact VPIA by: [Gsavpia1@gmail.com](mailto:Gsavpia1@gmail.com)
   b. **Bylaws Committee Updates** (proposed changes are highlighted. Yellow are added, red are ready to be deleted):
      [GSA Bylaws 2022-2023 (Proposal).docx](#)
      i. **Discussion topics**:
         Finance officer election requirement
         Office hour by appointment for every officer’s
         Appeal for the meeting instead of recommendation letter from PI
         Student conduct
GSHIP committee
The Conference Travel Grant Award

ii. **Public comment** on “student conduct issue” in the added travel grant award part: So I have a concern about Article J, the article about student conduct, and I kind of have an understanding of what the impetus was to include that by your comments about grad success and having those issues but I'm wondering if you have considered how doing so reporting such unacceptable behavior might shape a student's understanding of themselves within the academic and social contexts, right, because I think there's folks here who understand that university is an inherently oppressive and violent institution. So if we resort to these entities like making these reports to student conduct that is an inherently and violent oppressive institution. That cycle of institutional violence continues. So the concern here is that, with this article, it insinuates this self-imposed right to make this report to Student Conduct. I mean, that's already a given right, like anybody can go make a report, but it's really like amplifying that with this article here. So then by extension, this effectively extends the university's institutionally violent hand through complicit university actors. So then, write yourselves like through this article and you know, I'm just really wondering if you have considered, or maybe might consider now, alternative means to tend to such issues and concerns when they arise because I really urge you all to really consider that, to not rely on those entities like student conduct that are inherently oppressive and violent. So maybe instead, no GSA staff should help facilitate dialogue, mutual understanding, and shared agreements between parties involved, so like there should be spaces that are created so that there's an impartial facilitator or mediator present. So right, because I don't know if you all really understand what happens after a report is made to Student Conduct. Right, it gets out of your hands, right, and it goes to the university. So they decide how to adjudicate or determine the best course of action for the respondent, so toward the person that you're making these allegations against, so this could be anything ranging from writing a humiliating paper to determine what you learned from such a situation to being suspended or completely removed from the university, right, so like being suspended effectively cuts people off from their healthcare. Right, they no longer have any employment through the university. So I really feel super strongly about this because as it stands right now, that student conduct does not operate as they operate as an anti-transparency entity. So what that means is like transparency is a situation in which information about a
decision-making process is made publicly available and can easily be verified both in terms of the rules and the identities of the decision-makers that does not exist with Student Conduct. So what this does is actually increases the probability of an abuse of power. So that's how student conduct operates. I am urging you all to consider tabling the student conduct article and coming up with alternative ways to engage in being an impartial facilitator to mediate issues when they arise instead of resorting to institutional violence. Please challenge yourselves to consider this. That's all I will say for now. I urge you all to take my words into consideration.

I am wondering if you all are familiar with the standard operating procedures that are in place for Student Conduct to carry out an equitable process for all students who go through it. I'm just curious if you have an understanding of how Student Conduct operates. I am curious about your understanding of Student Conduct's standard operating procedures. Are you aware of how many standard operating procedures are in place to carry out an equitable process for all students who go through it? I'm trying to gauge your level of understanding of Student Conduct because including them as a last resort is still unacceptable to me. They have zero standard operating procedures in place. The Student Conduct office received nearly 4000 reports for the academic year 2021-2022, and they have only about five or six full-time staff. It seems like they are not equipped to handle this workload.

Replies to this comment:

1. We acknowledges concern about student conduct and the potential negative consequences for students. The reason for including the article about student conduct is that there are cases where mediated situations do not work. An example of a successful mediation with the ombuds on campus, but notes that there are situations where the other party is not willing to participate in mediation. Concern for undergraduate students and professional staff who may feel intimidated. We have tried to resolve these issues in the past.

2. You propose adding language to the bylaws that grants GSA staff the right to report unacceptable behavior, without specifying who the report should be made to. The report could be directed to GSA directly or to Student Conduct. You acknowledge that reporting to Student Conduct is already an option, but you suggest that leaving it open-ended could offer more flexibility.
3. I understand that you are concerned about the situation and feel that you have the right to protect yourselves from violence coming from students. You believe that the measures being discussed are a form of self-protection and that it is not fair to expect you to tolerate violent behavior without taking action. You mentioned that there have been past incidents of violence towards your group, and you feel that it is important to address these issues and take action to protect yourselves.

4. Regarding the chat comment questioning the definition of 'unacceptable behavior,' I agree that it can be subjective and difficult to define specifically. However, the point of this policy is to provide protection for GSA staff and leave interpretation up to the situation. As previously stated, the staff is protected by this policy. We will not be voting on this today. If anyone has further comments, please email me or Ivette, and we will continue to work on this policy.

iii. Other public questions:

1. The decision to have two GSA cabinet members decide the whether to have the GSC meeting online, in-person, or hybrid opens the possibility of an impasse if they disagree with each other. Should their be a third member to have an odd number of voters?
   
   Reply: Good idea. Possibly have the VPEA also included as one of the members.

2. Would the confidential office hours for the DIAL office be affected by removing the requirement to hold office hours?
   
   Reply: It shouldn’t. The bylaws states that the removal for having office hours are only for non-required purposes i.e. office hours just to discuss officer position in relation to the GSA. The confidential officer hours can still be scheduled if required by DIAL.

3. About the Conference Travel Grand Coordinator (CTG) section, the appeal application does not include late applications. No late applications can be appealed.
   
   Reply: Good catch. Language will be updated to explicitly state that late applications cannot be appealed.

4. The language at the end of the CTG section may be too strong in that it aligns the interest of the GSA to the University/Student Conduct, which may be at odds with graduate students. This can also be a deterrent for those afraid
of repercussions for discussing the travel grant with the coordinator. The language should be changed.

The current language is a reaction to both recent and historic interactions between the CTG, Grad Success, and dept. GSA and the graduate student population. The right to call Student Conduct is not about any undesired interactions, but rather threatening and abusive language. Modification of the language should however include alternative means of dealing with these situations before escalation to Student Conduct and perhaps a brief description of behavior warranting use, direct or otherwise, of Student Conduct. Likely, this language will need to be revisited as to whether to have the words "Student Conduct" in the bylaws is the source of controversy.

5. About the CTG section, how much time is allowed for a response about an appeal and what is the point of the second appeal process?

The bylaw section about the CTG is from the CTG policies, which are not set by the the GSA. Although the CTG committee meets monthly, appeals do warrant a meeting amongst the members. Within 15 days is an expected response time, but this is just historic response times. As for the second appeal process, typically the appealer has more information that they can resubmit, which increases their chances of an appeal.

iv. **Vote** of eliminating the GSHIP Committee:

https://forms.gle/B3D2vWMb7faHSDAT8

**Approved**

v. The full approval requires 2 runs of GSC meetings, we will show the bylaws change this time and vote in the next GSC meeting.

c. **Basic Needs Liaison Position**: open next academic year

d. **DIAL position**: open next academic year May 15th, by handshake

Feel free to contact VPIA or previous officers

10. **VPAA Updates** by Marina Murillo Sanchez (8:20)

a. CHASS Executive Committee updates

i. Survey among faculty for effect of “recent times”

ii. Sharing results when they have them

iii. New department, Black Studies dept., still in the works

1. Obstacles (bureaucratic) from UCR admin

11. **DIAL Updates** by Songling Chen (8:20)
a. GSA DIAL Application now opens till 8 am PDT on Monday, May 15: [Graduate Student Opportunities](#)
   - [GSA DIAL application.png](#)
   - [GSA DIAL.png](#)

b. Spring 2023 Lunch and Learn event: Navigating Uncomfortable Work and Personal Situation
   i. A raffle for five $10 UCR dining cards
   ii. Date: Thursday, May 11
   iii. Time: 11am-12pm
   iv. Location: HUB 268
   vi. [Navigating uncomfortable work and personal situations.png](#)

c. UC SVSH training update: starting from Jan, 2024, every UC campus is required to have this training.

d. U.S. Department of Education's Proposed Change to its Title IX Regulations on Students' Eligibility for Athletic Teams
   ii. To submit a public comment (Comments must be received on or before May 15, 2023): [https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/04/13/2023-07601/nondiscrimination-on-the-basis-of-sex-in-education-programs-or-activities-receiving-federal](#)

12. Career Liaison Updates by Ying Zhou (8:30)
   a. On 5/3/2023 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm, R'Grad Professional Pathway Series: How to Navigate Job Offers and Negotiate Salary
   b. UCR Career Center Graduate Peer Advisor 2023-2024 (Ph.D. Students Only is hiring!
      i. Application Deadline: **Monday, May 8, at 8 am**
      ii. Applications will ONLY be accepted through [Handshake](#)
   c. On Wednesday, May 10, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm [UCR Just in Time Virtual Career Fair 2023](#)
   d. Please share with us what kind of career related workshops or events that will be most beneficial for you to help us to serve graduate student better at career.gsaucr@gmail.com

13. Finance Officer update by Vanessa Gomez (8:35)
   a. HUB Governing Board selected certain colors and patterns for the new HUB furniture:
14. **International Student Affairs Officer updates** by Junyi Chen (8:45)

1. **F-1 Employment Workshop**: In this workshop, an International Student Advisor will explain employment options available to F-1 students currently in their program. This workshop will go over on-campus employment and off-campus employment authorization also known as Curricular Practical Training (CPT). We will talk about the CPT application process and deadline dates.
   
   **Date & Time**: May 19, 2023, 9:00 AM  
   **Location**: Zoom  
   **For more information**: [F-1 employment page](mailto:https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oEKdi1YK5yyAGQjFTeP6NId9vVAzW0v8LkJinUmr7mo/edit)  

2. **STEM OPT Workshop**: In this workshop, an International Student Advisor will go over the process to apply for Optional Practical Training (OPT) for STEM students. OPT is a form of work authorization for F-1 international students that will be graduating soon or have recently graduated. We will discuss the eligibility requirements, application procedures, and FAQs that encompass the OPT STEM application process.  
   **Date & Time**: May 24, 2023, 4:00 PM  
   **Location**: Zoom  
   Hosted by staff in the International Students and Scholars office. Contact the ISS office if you have questions: internationalstudents@ucr.edu

15. **Academic Senate Committee - Courses update** by Derrian Tabilin (8:50)

   Teaching experience opportunity (with no pay): [R'courses.png](mailto:https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oEKdi1YK5yyAGQjFTeP6NId9vVAzW0v8LkJinUmr7mo/edit)  
   a. GSA request from 2019 for R’Courses
i. 1 unit courses that grad students would put together and teach
ii. Already an undergrad version, but grad students wanted to have these courses as well.

b. Continue to pursue?
   i. Questions have arose that still need to be addressed e.g. how will this position affect the TA union contract?

c. These 1 unit level courses could be used to help undergrads and master students meet full time requirements i.e. 15 units

d. Step one is to see if grad students want to be involved
   i. Why would grad students want to be involved? Unpaid and only 1 hour.
   ii. Who should they talk to about the specifics of the ask?
      1. Reach out to GSA President to discuss further. Dept. GSA presidents are to find interest in their department and present them to the GSA president.

16. Public Comments (8:55)

   a. Public question: A few meetings ago, it was brought up that there is a plan to increase fees for grad students to provide consistent funding for R’Garden. To do so, there was supposed to be a referendum for students to vote for it. As an open question to the GSC and attendees, where is the progress on the referendum?
      i. From President, ASUCR brought up the plan and was managing the vote, but have not contacted with president since.
      ii. From another grad student on some ASUCR committee, the referendum was not submitted on time and thus was not on the ballot this year.
         1. Could be resubmitted next year.

   b. Comments in the Zoom chat window.txt

17. Adjournment (9:03)