



**GSA Council Meeting
CO-20240830**

GSA Council Meeting Agenda

Date: Friday, August 30, 2024

Time: 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Venue: MB14.250

Chair: Siva Sankar Reddy Veluri

Minute Taker: Umair Hussain

Agenda:

1. Attendance sheet verification

Present:

Directors:

1. Chidambar Joshi
2. Mahimur Khan
3. Narayana Vedula
4. Pragya Jain
5. Sania Roshan
6. Sanjana Oishee
7. Shahul
8. Sujith Kumaravel
9. Varda Nisar
10. Vijaya
11. Zoya Ahmed

Non-Voting Members:

12. Sai Abhinav Tadepalli
13. Vijayraagavan Vijayathirupathi
14. Aditya Deepak Thakkar
15. Duraipaandian Anbunami Poogothai
16. Venkata Sai Pavan Kumar Maniyambakam
17. Alba Clevenger
18. Julia Pascoal
19. Umair Hussain
20. Siva Sankar Reddy Veluri
21. Enmanuel De Jesus



Absent:

1. Rozhin Saebi
2. Sovit Singh

Excused:

Claire Begbie

2. 30-minute Q&A session

3. Meeting Call to Order

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-01	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to call the meeting to order
Moved	Narayana
Seconded	Varda Nisar
For	All
Against	None
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

The meeting was called to order at 2:49 PM

4. Adoption of the agenda

- i. Patrice highlighted an issue with the June 28th meeting minutes, arguing that adding new, unrelated agenda items violates bylaws, specifically the 5-day rule for notifying members.
- ii. Varda asked for the exact bylaw supporting this, while Alba countered that new points could be added if members approve, referencing Robert's Rules.
- iii. Patrice stressed that decision points should not be introduced last minute, as members rely on the agenda to decide whether to attend the meeting. He emphasized that this principle also applies to the General Assembly.
- iv. Varda proposed that agenda items be collected 10-15 days in advance to avoid such issues.
- v. Siva reinforced the need to adhere to the 5-day rule for agenda changes.



5. Daycare & Nursery Presentation by Angela Meo & CSU, and Approval for a referendum

- i. Angela Meo and Annah (CSU) presented the daycare and nursery project. Angela, a daycare manager, introduced the daycare located at 1440 Bishop, behind the library building. The facility operates without government subsidies, relying on support from the student union and parents. Annah highlighted the importance of a referendum to secure funding for the daycare.
- ii. Angela shared details about the daycare's facilities, which include four floors with toddler and multi-age classrooms. The daycare follows a sensory program by Loris and serves primarily graduate students' families, with 45 children currently enrolled out of a capacity of 52.
- iii. Angela also mentioned the opening of a new drop-in center on October 23, offering additional childcare services at \$20 for a four-hour block. This center complements its main facility.
- iv. The request for GSA support included a proposal for a fee levy to continue offering affordable childcare. The funds would be reinvested into the daycare, supporting activities like music and therapy classes.
- v. The proposed fee levy is 2.5\$ for all GSA members and \$0.25 per credit for undergraduates. This fee levy had been approved by the council last year, but a previous referendum did not reach the required voter turnout, necessitating a new vote.
- vi. Varda suggested the creation of a promotional package to be sent to directors and setting up tables to promote the agenda effectively.

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-02	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to the approval of the referendum for the daycare levy
Moved	Shahul
Seconded	Varda
For	8
Against	None
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

6. Approval of June Council meeting minutes

Discussion on Approval of Meeting Minutes



- i. Varda expressed concern that the meeting minutes had not been amended and requested that they would be addressed.
- ii. Sai responded that amendments would be made and that suggestions could be incorporated before final approval. Varda indicated that if the suggested amendments are accepted now.

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-03	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to make amendments to the minutes right now
Moved	Varda
Seconded	Narayana
For	9
Against	None
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-04	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to the approval of the June meeting minutes
Moved	Varda
Seconded	Shahul
For	9
Against	0
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

Pending Discussion from Closed Session

Motion for Closed Session



Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-05	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to the proposal of a closed meeting session
Moved	Shahul
Seconded	Narayana
For	6
Against	1
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

Conclusion of Motion passed in Closed Session

- i. After the closed session, it was decided by the council unanimously that any action be halted and no further actions regarding student care or the LIC would be made until a future hearing/discussion by the council.
- ii. Agenda points 6-10 Have been tabled for the next council meeting.

- 7. Approval of Special Council meeting minutes**
- 8. Approval of Emergency Council meeting minutes**
- 9. Approval of the 2024.08.02 Council meeting minutes**
- 10. Approval of Committee Monthly Reports**

Sai Abhinav informed the council that agenda points 6 through 9 had been tabled for the next meeting.

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-06	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to approve appointment committee minutes
Moved	Shahul
Seconded	Narayana
For	7



Against	0
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

- i. There were several appointments to various councils and committees this month, including 5-6 interviews and 7 direct appointments.
- ii. Sarah Rahimi was appointed as the GSA representative for the Student Tribunal.
- iii. Student Tribunal: There were 7 open positions with 8 applications. One applicant was already part of the tribunal pool.
- iv. Board of Governors: There were 9 applications, and 5 applicants were interviewed. Darshan was appointed to the Board of Governors.
- v. Senate Committees:
 - a. Wade Paul was appointed to the Research Committee.
 - b. James was appointed to the Academic Program Committee.
- vi. Faculty of Arts and Science Councils: All three open positions were filled, though no specific committee names were mentioned.
- vii. Academic Freedom Committee: One candidate was hired.
- viii. Council School: There were 6 applications, with Clair and Chadambar appointed to the council school.
- ix. Sai Abhinav thanked the Vice President of Academics for their work in overseeing and facilitating these appointments.

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-07	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to approve the appointment committee report.
Moved	Shahul
Seconded	Narayana
For	10
Against	0
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes



11. Point of Information: FROSH Update

- i. Sai Pavan provided an update on Frosh, noting that it is going well with several events already conducted. He mentioned the upcoming Loyola picnic and other events, emphasizing the need for volunteers. He suggested that directors should volunteer for at least two activities
- ii. Duraipaandian added that there are several department orientations, specifically highlighting the need for a Fine Arts director to volunteer.

12. Point of Information: Mural Art Project Update

- i. Aditya provided an update on the mural project, noting that the initial sketch has been completed and coloring will begin today. There was a slight delay due to the artists' unavailability, but the project has now taken pace. The mural is expected to be a nice addition to the GSA house.

13. Approval of Annual Budget for 2024-25

The annual budget was presented. The various distribution of the money was also shown during the meeting.

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-08	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved for the approval of the Annual Budget.
Moved	Mahimur
Seconded	Varda
For	8
Against	0
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

14. Approval of Summer Funding

Vijayraagavan reported that 100 applications for summer funding were received and categorized. The budget for each category, including a slightly reduced amount for extracurricular activities compared to previous years, was managed by reallocating from the skill reimbursement fund. All funding requests were approved within the budget.



Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-09	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved for the approval of summer funding.
Moved	Narayana
Seconded	Gopal
For	9
Against	0
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

15. Point of Information: Academic Events partly funded by GSA

Sai Abhinav announced that the GSA has partly funded two conferences: the “SynBio Expressions Conference” on September 10th-13th and the “Situating Emergencies Conference” in September.

16. Point of Information: Policy Changes

- i. Sai Abhinav outlined the need for bylaw changes/reviews, noting that both staff and executives have reviewed the bylaws to identify necessary modifications.
- ii. Vijayaaragavan presented proposed updates to the GSA bylaws, including:
 - Roles and responsibilities for the Vice Chair.
 - Changes to the election timeline.
 - Knowledge transfer processes for executives.
 - Consideration of an increase in honorarium for both executives & directors (no decision made yet).
 - Mandatory meetings for directors with their faculty members.
- iii. Mandatory meetings for directors with their departments.
- iv. Hybrid meetings will be limited after January, with a shift to in-person meetings.
- v. Discussion on how to schedule meetings effectively.
- vi. Changes to the funding policy were discussed, focusing on the flow of responsibilities and eliminating redundancy.
- vii. Emmanuel emphasized that the goal is to clarify and separate funding amounts.



17. By-Election Timeline update

Sai Abhinav noted that GA committee minutes have not been approved. Due to an ongoing strike by Concordia staff members, which may impact the voting system. Elections might be delayed, potentially starting in mid-October and ending in November.

18. New Business

Sai Abhinav announced the resignation of Sovit Singh & Rozhin Saebi due to missing four council meetings, as per the by-laws requiring resignation after three missed meetings.

a. Approval of Executive's Fall Semester Action Plan

Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-10	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT President moved to table the approval of the action plans
Moved	Sai Abhinav
Seconded	Shahul
For	9
Against	0
Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes
Motion Number: Motion CO-20240830-13	
Motion Agenda:	BIRT Director moved to adjourn the meeting
Moved	Shahul
Seconded	Gopal
For	9
Against	0



Abstain	None
Adopted	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm