



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY



Welcome!

Graduate Student Council
General Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, 04/03/2024

Agenda



- 5:30 – 5:40 Attendance /
Motion to Conduct All Votes by Roll Call
- 5:40 – 5:55 **Constitutional and Bylaw Amendments.**
- 5:55 – 6:10 **RTA.**
Motion to reschedule vote.
Motion to make RTA vote a direct
vote by graduate students.
- 6:10 – 6:40 **Eboard Elections.**
- 6:40 – 6:50 **Open Discussion**
Proposed: Divestment Resolution

The GSC logo is a white, scalloped-edged shield containing the letters "GSC" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

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GSC Rep Attendance



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Motion to Conduct All Votes by Roll Call

The background of the slide is a blue-tinted photograph of a large group of students walking away from the camera on a wide campus path. In the background, there is a large, multi-story brick building with many windows, and some trees are visible to the right.

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Constitutional & Bylaw Amendments

Constitutional Amendments



Article VI. Amendments

- A. Any representative or executive may propose an amendment to this Constitution.
1. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the VP for Internal Communications at least one (1) week before it can be considered.
 2. The VP for Internal Communications shall distribute copies of the proposed amendment to GSC within one (1) week of its receipt and 48 hours before the General Assembly where the amendment will be considered.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VI.

- B. Any amendment to this Constitution shall require approval of the graduate student body.
 - 1. The General Assembly may vote to send an amendment to referendum by simply majority vote of all voting members, in person or by proxy. The student body shall then vote by supermajority.
 - 2. The student body may vote, by submission of a petition, independently of the Council, to amend the constitution by supermajority vote of a referendum.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VI. B. (continued)

3. Referendums voting shall remain open for four (4) weeks or longer based on the following criteria:
 - i. In the case that the one-fourth ($1/4$) criterion has not been met after four (4) weeks, the vote will be closed at the end of the day on which the one-fourth ($1/4$) criterion is met or eight (8) weeks have passed, whichever comes first.
 - ii. If, after eight (8) weeks, the one-fourth ($1/4$) criterion has not been met, the measure does not pass.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VI.

- C. Any amendment which receives approval shall become effective immediately after adjournment of the meeting at which it is adopted or voting period, unless the amendment specifies a time at which the amendment shall take effect.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VII. Bylaws and Funding

- A. Bylaws subordinate to this constitution, shall be adopted at a General Assembly meeting by a supermajority vote of those voting members present, in person or by proxy.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VII. Bylaws and Funding

- B. The Graduate Student Council Fee shall be levied on all graduate students at 1.0% of the tuition cost of one credit, set by the average of the part-time credit rate of all schools represented in the Council and rounded to the nearest whole dollar, each semester.
1. In the event that a school has multiple rates, the lowest rate is used in all calculations for that school's Council Fee.
 2. The Council must, at minimum, annually audit the Council Fee.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VII. Bylaws and Funding

- C. Individual schools/colleges may add additional fees at their discretion.



Constitutional Amendments



Article VII. Bylaws and Funding

D. The Council Fee may be amended in accordance with Article VI of this constitution.



Constitutional Amendments



Article X. Non-Discrimination Policy

The Graduate Student Council shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, sex, age, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity or expression, or handicap in recruitment, admission to membership, access thereof, or treatment in its programs and activities.



Bylaws Amendments



Article I. Purpose

- A. The Case Western Reserve University Graduate Student Council Bylaws are the standing rules governing the operation and meetings of the Graduate Student Council (GSC).
- B. The Bylaws are inferior only to the Grant of Power awarded to the GSC by the Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) Board of Trustees and the GSC Constitution



Bylaws Amendments



Article II. Definitions

- A. **Ad hoc committee** - temporary committees of the Graduate Student Council whose membership comprises appointees from appropriate Vice Presidents or the President with approval from the Executive Board.
- B. **Author** - any individual who has contributed language to a piece of legislation.
- C. **Bill** - an Amendment Bill, Budget Bill, Confirmation Bill, or Petition of Recognition Bill.
- D. **Bill, Amendment** - legislation to amend any internal procedure or Governing Document of the USG.
- E. **Bill, Budget** - legislation related to the allocation of GSC funding.
- F. **Bill, Confirmation** - a bill confirming an individual or group to any office or board.
- G. **Bill, Petition of Recognition** - A bill to confirm the petition of a new student organization to be recognized under the GSC.
- H. **Executive-headed Committees** - a committee formed by a Vice President to.....
 - I. **Constituency** - the graduate student population represented by their respective school or college Council Representative.
 - J. **Legislation** - A Resolution, Amendment Bill, Budget Bill, Confirmation Bill, or Petition for Recognition.
- K. **General Assembly** - (GA) all voting members of the Graduate Student Council: Council Representatives and members of the Executive Board.



Bylaws Amendments



Article II. Definitions (continued)

- L. **Graduate Student Council** - (GSC) comprises all elected, appointed, and at-large members; membership of Ad-hoc committees does not constitute membership to the GSC.
- M. **GSC Executive Committee** - comprises the President, Vice Presidents, and all GA appointed offices of the GSC.
- N. **GSC Governing Documents** - including, but not limited to the Grant of Power from the CWRU Board of Trustees, GSC Constitution, and GSC Bylaws.
- O. **Motion** - any substantive action taken by the General Assembly or Executive Board.
- P. **Petition** - A document signed by at least 10% of the undergraduate student body or relevant constituency containing specific language to be sent to referendum.
- Q. **Proxy** - any member of the CWRU graduate student body fulfilling the duties of a member of the GSC.
- R. **Quorum** - 1/4 of the voting members of a body, committee, college/school, or university.
- S. **Referendum** - a vote taken by the graduate student body on a single, yes-or-no question, with at least 25% of the full-time graduate student body or relevant constituency participating.
- T. **Resolution** - an opinion endorsed by the General Assembly.
- U. **Signatory** - any individual, group, or organization expression support for a piece of legislation.
- V. **Simply Majority** - 50% + 1 rounded to the nearest whole number of the voting population in favor.
- W. **Standing Committee** - any of the primary committees which the GSC Vice Presidents are tasked with forming.
- X. **Supermajority** - 66% rounded to the nearest whole number of the voting population in favor.



Bylaws Amendments



Article IX. Graduate Student Council Fee and Budget

- A. As per the Constitution, individual schools/colleges may add additional fees at their discretion. These fees, where appropriate, shall be facilitated by the Council and are as follows.
 - 1. Graduate students enrolled in the School of Graduate Studies shall be assessed a fee of 0.1% of the tuition cost of one credit, set by the part-time credit rate in the School of Graduate Studies, to be contributed directly to the Verhosek Fund (V-Fund) endowment.



Bylaws Amendments



Article IX. Graduate Student Council Fee and Budget (continued)

B. Budget Approval and Administration

1. The budget period of the Graduate Student Council shall begin June 1st and end on the following May 31st.
2. To allow for greater programming flexibility, prior to the budget approval of the current period by the General Assembly, the Council may utilize up to 20% of funds which were calculated in the previous budget period for spending of the current budget in the current budget period.



Bylaws Amendments



Article IX. Graduate Student Council Fee and Budget

B. Budget Approval and Administration

3. The annual operating budget should be presented and voted upon during the first general assembly meeting of the fall semester or no later than September 30th, whichever may come first.
 - a. The Executive Board shall determine the percentage allotted to support student organizations during the budget proposal, approved by the General Assembly.
 - b. The Executive Board shall determine the percentage allotted to the Executive Board to be used to support other organizations which petition for additional funding, approved by the General Assembly.



Bylaws Amendments



Article IX. Graduate Student Council Fee and Budget

B. Budget Approval and Administration

4. For budget approval, a simple majority vote of the General Assembly is required with no less than one-fourth ($1/4$) of voting Council Representatives present.



Bylaws Amendments



Article IX. Graduate Student Council Fee and Budget

C. Institution, Modification, or Removal of Other Fees

1. To institute, modify, or remove fees of the entire graduate student body, the General Assembly may refer a motion to the whole graduate student body, or appropriate constituency, by means of a referendum.
 - a. A motion may be referred by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly with no less than quorum present.
 - b. A supermajority vote of quorum of the current semester's enrollment of graduate students is required for the motion to pass referendum.



Bylaws Amendments



Article IX. Graduate Student Council Fee and Budget

C. Institution, Modification, or Removal of Other Fees

3. Passage of the motion will be reflected by a change to the Bylaws under Section A of this Article and need not require an amendment bill of the General Assembly to be appended.
4. The referendum shall be open for four (4) weeks or longer based on the following criteria:
 - a. In the case that quorum has not been met after four (4) weeks, the vote will be closed at the end of the day on which the one-fourth (1/4) criterion is met, or eight (8) weeks have passed, whichever comes first.
 - b. If, after eight (8) weeks, quorum has not been met, the referendum automatically does not pass.



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RTA Updates

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE RTA PASS

The RTA Pass is a sticker given to students for public transportation access provided by the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA), the public transportation organization for the greater Cleveland area.

The Graduate Student Council will be having a vote: should we renew the contract with the RTA, to provide public transportation access to all graduate and professional students?

THE RTA PROPOSAL

RTA wants to sign a contract for graduate students' RTA pass.

Differently than in the past, the contract will last for 5 years

(Fall/2024-Summer/2029)



BENEFITS

What they offer us:

**EVERY DAY, ALL DAY ACCESS TO PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

ALL LINES (BUS AND TRAIN)

**YEAR ROUND - GRAD STUDENTS PAY IN THE
FALL AND SPRING, ACCESS LASTS THROUGH
THE SUMMER**

CONDITIONS

- **THEY ARE NOT WILLING TO
REDUCE PRICES, BUT IT IS FIXED
FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS**
- **ALL OR NOTHING: EITHER ALL
SCHOOLS GET ACCESS, OR NONE**
- **THE DECISION NEEDS TO BE MADE
BY THE END OF THE SEMESTER,
BEST BY MAY 1 (GSC GA MEETING)**

MONTHLY AND YEARLY PRICES

	Monthly	Yearly
Monthly Fare	\$95	$\$95 \times 9 =$ \$855 <small>*Not including Summer</small>
With Grad Student Pass	\$12.5	\$150 <small>*Including Summer</small>
Savings	\$82.5	\$705

***Including Monthly Fare in the Summer:**

RTA Monthly Fare= $\$95 \times 12$: \$1140

Savings: \$990

COST COMPARISON WITH AND WITHOUT THE RTA PASS

Individual Monthly Fare: \$95/month



Daily Pass use, 3 times a week: \$15



Daily Pass use, 4 times a week: \$20



Daily Pass use, 5 times a week: \$25



THE VOTE

If voted yes: All graduate students pay the RTA pass fee on SIS, for Fall and Spring semesters, and receive RTA pass stickers that will last for Fall, Spring, and Summer.

If voted no: No graduate students pay the RTA pass fee or receive the sticker (whole graduate student body).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RTA does not have data on how graduate student utilizes the RTA. They will have it by 2029, the system will start being implemented in the next couple of years.

Learn more about RTA options here: <https://www.riderta.com/fares>

For school representatives voting: please remember that you represent your school on all GSC votes.



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Elections

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**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
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School Reports/ Open Discussion

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Closing Remarks

Adjournment



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
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- Final GA meeting for the year will be on Wednesday, May 1st
- Email general questions or concerns to: gscinfo@case.edu
- Check out our website: <https://community.case.edu/gsc/about/>

Thank you for coming!

President



- Meeting with President Kaler and VP Whiting
 - 4/29/24
- President's Roundtable
 - 4/09/24 at 4 p.m.
 - 5/14/24 at 4 p.m.



VP of Finance



- **Total amount spent in February: \$38,143.73** (March ledger not yet available).
- **Main expenses:** GSC GSAW Ball 2024 \$31,252.50

Total Amount Used For February	Starting Balance for March	
\$38,143.73	(\$115,680.44)	
Total Budget	Used so far (as of Feb 29)	Budget Remaining
\$239,138.00	\$150,160.74	\$88,977.26



VP of Social & Special Programming



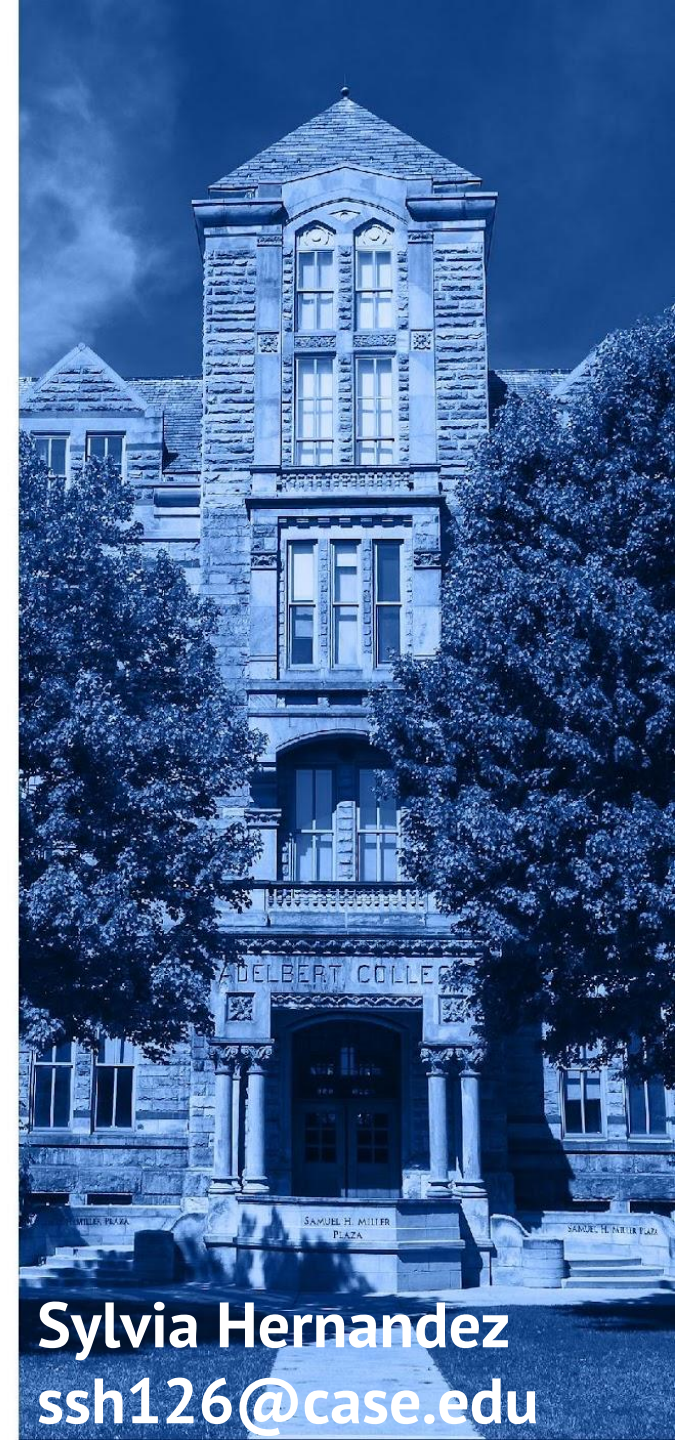
- Happy Hour/Trivia with GCAS this Friday- April 5th
- GSAW Ball on April 13th
- Hudson Relay sign-up and Alumni Mixer- April 27th
- Thwing Study Over tickets on sale- \$3, April 30th



VP of Professional Development



- Sylvia Hernandez has resigned.
- We will be assessing the outstanding work left with her departure.
- Thanks to Sylvia for all her hard work!



VPs of Student Organizations



Start Spring 2024 Budget:

- GSC 102 → \$1,200
- Student orgs/co-op events → \$36,450

Approved Budget Requests*

- \$28,904 (4/3/24)

Co-Sponsorships**

- \$10,600 (included in budget request total)

IMPORTANT:
CUT OFF FOR BUDGET REQUESTS IS
FRIDAY, APRIL 12 AT 11:59 PM.

