



RUTGERS

UNIVERSITY | NEW BRUNSWICK  
Graduate Student Association

# Plenary Council Meeting

Graduate Student Association  
March 6th, 2023

# Recognizing New Organization - French GSO



**Late group - Eligible for \$1000 funding through May 31st, 2023**

**getINVOLVED Page:** <https://rutgers.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/frenchgso>

**Mission:** The purpose of this organization shall be to further the social, cultural and academic interests of the students in the French graduate program at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

## **Officers:**

- Treasurer: Alice de Reviers de Mauny
- Secretary: Nathalie Agbessi
- President: Stéphane Eckert
- Vice-President: Florence Kewou Ndeuchi



# Presidential Update





# **GSA Elections 2023-24**

# GSA Officer and Senator Positions



**Nominations will be open for the GSA Officer and Senator positions for the 2023-24 AY. Open positions are:**

- **Executive Board Positions:** President, Executive Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
- **VP Positions:** VP of External Affairs, VP of Events and Programming, and VP of Marketing Orientations and Communications
- **Directors:** Professional Development, and Academic Development
  - NOTE: GSA Director positions are appointed by EC and confirmed by council after elections
- 4 School of Graduate Studies (SGS) University **Senators**

## **Expected Timeline**

Nominations Open: March 20th

Nomination Close: March 24th at Midnight

Election Period: March 27th - March 29th

# Are you eligible?



## Who can run for an officer position

- Any graduate student enrolled in the following schools:

**Edward J. Bloustein  
School of Planning and  
Public Policy**

**Graduate School of  
Applied and  
Professional  
Psychology**

**Graduate School of  
Education**

**Mason Gross School  
of the Arts**

**Rutgers Business  
School- NB**

**School of Arts and  
Sciences**

**School of  
Communication and  
Information**

**School of Engineering**

**School of  
Environmental and  
Biological Sciences**

**School of Graduate  
Studies**

**School of Management  
and Labor Relations**

**School of Social Work**

- Non-SGS, RBHS constituency is sometimes unclear. Get in touch if you have questions.

# Procedure



## How to run for Office:

- Email the GSA Elections Commissioner at [elections@gsa.rutgers.edu](mailto:elections@gsa.rutgers.edu) nominating yourself for the position you are interested in, with the email of another graduate student who can second your nomination (cc'd)
- Email a brief statement of purpose
- A nomination form will be available on the GSA website

## How elections work

- All graduate students in the GSA's constituency will have the opportunity to vote for the 72 hours elections are open (All students in SGS will be able to vote for Senators)
- Students will have access to candidate's statement of purpose when voting to help make their decision.

# **\*KEY\* Dates**



- The GSA will run **four information sessions this week** to provide in depth info about what being a GSA board member involves and approximate levels of time commitment.
  - 1st session: **March 6th 8 - 8:30 PM**
  - 2nd session: **March 7th 9 - 10 AM**
  - 3rd session: **March 8th 9 - 10 AM**
  - 4th session: **March 10th 4- 5 PM**
  - **Check getINVOLVED for links!**
- Nominations and Elections Period
  - Nominations Open: **March 20th**
  - Nominations Close: **March 24th at 11:59 PM**
  - Election Period: **March 27th - March 29th**
  - Results Released: **March 31st**



# NEEDED - Election Commissioner



- **We are looking for an election commissioner! please email: [president@gsa.rutgers.edu](mailto:president@gsa.rutgers.edu)**
  - Duties:
    - Supervise GSA elections to ensure fairness and efficiency
    - Organize and publicize elections to maximize voter turnout
    - Compile nominations and votes
  - Great way to interface with the GSA!

# Reasons to join the GSA



- Community: Meet graduate students across campus and gain a broad perspective of the graduate student experience and how the university works
- Advocacy: Gain access to Rutgers administrators across many offices and advocate for graduate student interests
- Don't just ask, create! Create new programs and resources for graduate students when just asking the university for new resources isn't enough
- Professional development and resume building: Gain experience running a complex organization with an over \$250,000 budget
- GSO Support: Work to improve and maintain the quality of the funding and reimbursement system for GSOs across Rutgers

# Reasons to join the Senate



- Serve as a representative of School of Grad Studies graduate students to a university wide body of faculty, staff, and students
- Select your committee from 7 options including Student Affairs, Instruction, Curricula, and Advising, University Structure and Governance, and Budget and Finance
- Gain the opportunity to run for a position representing graduate students to the Rutgers Board of Trustees (which oversees and advises the president)
- Gain a deeper understanding of how the university works and how the university's many constituencies (faculty, admins, alumni) interact
- The Senate meets just one Friday a month from 1:10 to around 3:00pm, with committee meetings in the morning
- Learn more about the Senate at [senate.rutgers.edu](http://senate.rutgers.edu)



# EVP Update





# Proposed Amendment

## Article 3 Officers Section B Elected Officers

3. Each elected Officer shall serve without salary or other financial remuneration.

## Amendment Proposed –

## Article 3 Officers Section B Elected Officers

3. Officers of the elected Executive Council (President, Executive Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary) will receive compensation in the following manner – President and Treasurer will receive an academic yearly compensation of \$1000, Executive Vice President will receive an academic yearly compensation of \$800 and Secretary will receive an academic yearly compensation of \$600. Compensation will be made in two installments – once for each semester served. If someone does not serve the entirety of the academic calendar, then the compensation will be pro-rated by month. If the officer is removed or suspended according (Article III, Section H, Part 1 and 2) then the office will not be compensated.



# Contract Campaign Update Rutgers AAUP AFT

- A living salary increase that keeps pace with inflation
- Fall 2022 minimum: \$37,150 and increasing each year to \$41,504 in fall 2025

Increased pay for Winter/Summer Instructors

- Equal funding

Union inclusion for Fellows so that they can have TA/GA pay and benefits

Five years of guaranteed graduate funding across the university

- Funding extensions for grad workers affected by pandemic delays

Annual diversity graduate dissertation assistantships (DGDAs) with TA/GA pay and benefits

- Expanded medical and caregiver leave

Childcare subsidy

- Bargaining for the Common Good demands:

a community fund for local residents

rent freeze for Rutgers-owned properties forgiveness of internal student debt and fines



# Treasurer Update





# Funding Guidelines Amendment Proposal

## 4.2.2 General Funding Prohibitions - Transportation

Special permission requests for off-campus events or field trips must be accompanied by a transportation proposal.

- Public transportation proposals
  - Departure/arrival locations/times, transit systems/stations, est. cost/attendee
- Carpooling Proposal (at least two passengers attending the event)
  - Planned departure/arrival locations+times, est. # of vehicles, method of coordinating carpools

PERs for approved events must include:

- Public transportation
  - All original receipts
- Carpooling\*
  - Screenshot of origination and destination locations with total distance tracked on Google Maps/MapQuest
  - List of vehicles, drivers, and # of passengers in each
  - Parking and tolls can be reimbursed with original receipts

\*Carpooling with personal vehicles will be reimbursed at the IRS determined mileage rate. As of Jan 1, 2023, this rate is \$0.655/mile. [More information on Rutgers policy here](#). This carpooling policy (with the exception of passenger requirements) will be put into effect for guest speakers in section 4.2.2 General Funding Prohibitions under Speakers and Invited Participants.





# Secretary Update





# Business Manager Update





# Vice President of External Affairs Updates





- Collaborating with the Office of Federal Relations in order to send a delegation of graduate students to DC for advocacy
  - Date will be April 25th or April 26th
- A application to join the trip has been prepared and will be made available by email soon

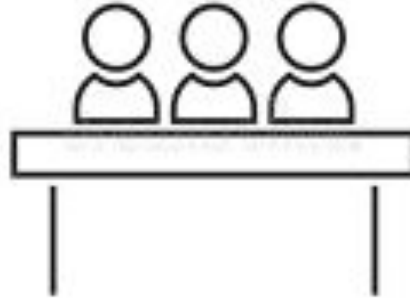


# Professional and Academic Director Development Updates





# Committee Updates





# Recreation Committee

- Ice skating
  - Co-sponsored with CCB GSO
  - Thursday, March 16th 9 - 10:30 PM
  - 20 min drive from campus
  - Roosevelt Park - Edison, NJ
  - Email [recreation@gsa.rutgers.edu](mailto:recreation@gsa.rutgers.edu)





# Mental Health Committee

## Breath Based Wellness Session

- The GSA organization is presenting a Breath Based Wellness Session Via Zoom with special guest, Pooja Bhaloode. Pooja is a 1000+ hours trained Breathwork and Meditation Instructor. This event will happen February 13th, 7:00-8:00pm.

- Link to register via Zoom:  
[http://tiny.cc/meditation\\_mondays](http://tiny.cc/meditation_mondays)







# DEI Committee

## SEBS DEI IDEA Grant



Aimed at linking current undergrads with grad students via a panel discussion and social hour where undergrads can learn about different paths to graduate school.

- Date: March 22nd
- Location: Livingston Student Center
- Co-Sponsored with SEBS DEI Orgs and SACNAS
- We're looking for some grad students of different backgrounds who may want to share their experiences:
  - International
  - Non-Traditional (older/prior work experience/not straight from undergrad)
  - 1st Gen
  - Postbac
  - DACA status
- Email: [diversity@gsa.rutgers.edu](mailto:diversity@gsa.rutgers.edu)



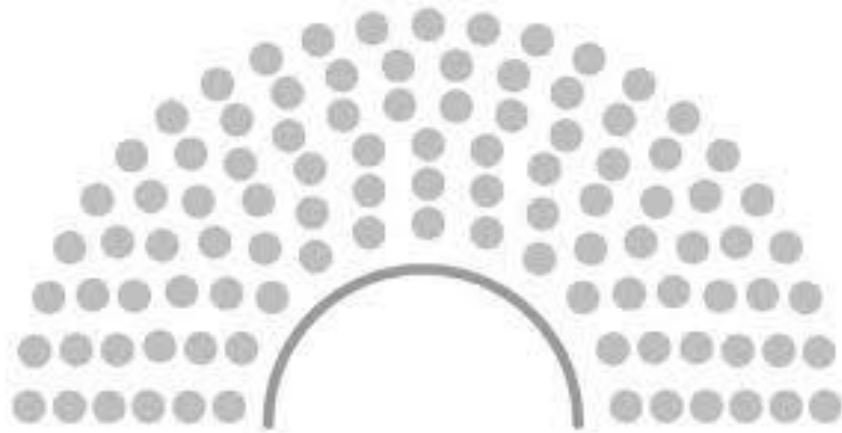
# GSA Events Update

- GSA Coffee Mixer on Wednesday, March 8th, 9-11am at the GSL
- GSA Free Movie night @ RU Cinema: SHAZAM! on March 19th
- Corn: The A-Maize-ing Global Food Staple- Thursday, Mar 23rd 6-7:30pm  
- CASC MPR
- GSA End of Year Backyard Grill Party - Wednesday, May 3rd, 4-7pm at  
the Busch Campus Engineering Quad

Please RSVP on [getINVOLVED!](#)



# Senate Updates





Open to all  
New Brunswick RU  
Graduate Students!



**SCAN  
HERE**

To join the Rutgers Graduate  
Student Association Discord  
Server!

Please share with your  
GSO members and at  
your GSO events!

Questions? Email [discordmod@gsa.rutgers.edu](mailto:discordmod@gsa.rutgers.edu)

**[Rutgers GSA Discord Server Link!](#)** (or) **<https://discord.gg/QGKjYJ62vX>**



Questions? Comments? Announcements from  
GSOs