RUTGERS–NEW BRUNSWICK
Graduate Student Association

PLENARY COUNCIL MEETING - 11TH NOVEMBER 2025

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (7:00 – 7:15 PM)
- Opening remarks by GSA President
- Attendance
- Fun icebreaker question
    - What's your favorite animal?

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES (7:15 – 7:30 PM)
- Overview of upcoming events by all GSOs who would like to share
- Reminder about the mandatory attendance of council meetings
- Graduate Student Lounge safety update following recent incidents
    - Following the recent theft incident at the lounge, discussions are in progress to evaluate the situation and develop preventive measures to ensure it does not happen again.
    - Please don't leave bags, laptops or phones unattended - even while charging.
    - BE DILIGENT AND KEEP ITEMS WITHIN SIGHT OR TAKE THEM WITH YOU.
- New GSO added (Mason Gross Graduate Student Association)
- Do we want a standard election timeline across all GSOs?
    - Various answers
    - Suggestion of making transition docs for incoming/elected leaders
- Introduction of a new column in GSA website to celebrate achievements by Graduate Students and organizations.

3. FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MATTERS (7:30 – 7:45 PM)
- Review of Funding Eligibility Rules
    - Minimum meeting attendance requirements (we understand if there is an issue and you cannot make it, hence the 6 meetings requirement)
        - It can be any member of the GSO board in attendance
    - 10–15% deduction policy explanation in detail.
        - GSA had only $150k to allocate, however, $165k was the total amount requested
            - We had to decide between either dividing that $15k between all GSOs or not punishing the ones who are in good standing
            - We ultimately decided to go with the 10-15% cuts depending on the number of meetings attended
            - More funding transparency requested of GSA
    - EoY report and finance training prerequisites

- Discussion on per-person funding increase proposal ($15 → $18 or $20 with max $30/day)
    - (We will officially vote in December's council meeting)
    - Concern of how much food to order when not all people who RSVP'd show up

4. RESOURCES & TOOLS (7:45 – 7:55 PM)
- Overview of available resources on the GSA website:
    - Finance training slides
    - GSA logos and templates
    - Event planning guides
    - Council meeting minutes archive

5. UNION (ANDREW TO HAVE A SMALL CHAT WITH GSO LEADERS) (7:55 – 8:05 PM)

6. DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM (8:05 – 8:25 PM)
- Feedback from GSOs on event processes and funding policies
- Suggestions for upcoming semester programming
- Open floor for GSO announcements for collaborations