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- I. Call to Order – 18:15**
 - II. Recognition of Senators**
 - III. Senate Orientation**
 - a. Introduction to GSS**
 - i. Provides an overview of GSS structure, committees, operations, and other general information.
 - b. Introduction to the Senate**
 - i. Explains the GSS hierarchy, policies, governance, and the responsibilities of an individual Senator.
 - c. Parliamentary Procedures**
 - i. Explains how to make a motion.
 - ii. While any graduate student may attend or participate in GSS Senate meetings in person, during motions and the resulting discussion only Senators can participate. The only exception is executive sessions, called by the Senate, where only members of the body (i.e., Senators and E-Board members) are present.
 - iii. Senate meetings are conducted in person. Special exceptions are granted only to off-branch campus Senators, who may attend online.
 - d. Conduct and Documentation**
 - i. Senate meetings are public, documented, and you represent your constituencies. Meetings are recorded and documented; there is no expectation of privacy except for voting in closed ballots or executive sessions.
 - 1. Representing your department means everything you say, vote on, or discuss during meetings reflects your department's stance as one of the five main UConn governing bodies.
 - 2. Constituencies may remove a Senator as their representative at their discretion.
 - 3. No side conversations are permitted. All remarks must be made directly to the main assembly while in session.
 - ii. Senators must be recognized by the Chair unless serving a specialized role, such as assisting with procedures.
 - iii. Debate or discussion must always relate to the motion or topic at hand. Broader discussion must remain relevant to graduate students represented by GSS. Motives or personalities may never be debated. Professionalism must be always maintained. Anyone engaging in any form of harassment or targeting will be removed from the meeting and reported to the appropriate governing bodies.

- iv. Disruption or inappropriate behavior is not permitted. The Chair or Senate may remove individuals for failure to follow decorum. The Chair may adjourn or reschedule a meeting if decorum and parliamentary procedures break down. Any rescheduled meeting is mandatory and tied to Tier-II funding (for attendance requirements under Financial Policies).

e. TII Funding and Resources

- i. Training will be held this Friday. Attendance is not mandatory; however, important procedures for filing Tier-II funding requests will be discussed.
 - 1. All Tier-IIs are responsible for completing necessary procedures to ensure compliance with GSS and UConn policies for funding.
 - 2. The Treasurer will review these procedures in depth during the meeting.
- ii. Each Tier-II must have a Senator to file for funding.
- iii. Funding requests must be submitted at least 40 calendar days in advance. Documentation for marketing and funding requests must also be submitted 40 calendar days in advance. Details are available here:
<https://gss.uconn.edu/funding-2-2/>
- iv. Any funding request not submitted in accordance with the official procedures (as listed on the website and in policies) will not be funded. All Tier-IIs are solely responsible for complying with correct funding procedures.

IV. Approval of consent agenda

- a. Meeting agenda
 - i. **Motion:** Extend Senate meeting by 30 minutes. By Patrick, seconded by Quin.
 - 1. *Motion passes unanimously.*

- b. GSS Senate meeting minutes
 - i. April 30, 2025 [Senate meeting minutes.PDF](#)
- c. GSS Executive Committee meeting minutes
 - i. Sept 5, 2025 [Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - ii. August 15, 2025 [Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - iii. August 6, 2025 [Special Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - iv. August 2, 2025 [Special Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - v. July 18, 2025 [Special Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - vi. July 11, 2025 [Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - vii. June 13, 2025 [Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - viii. May 29, 2025 [Special Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - ix. May 21, 2025 [Special Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - x. May 15, 2025 [Special Executive Committee minutes .PDF](#)
 - xi. May 13, 2025 [Executive Committee minutes.PDF](#)
- d. **Motion:** Approve all minutes listed above.
 - i. *Motion passes via unanimous consent.*

V. Issues Forum

VI. Executive Committee Reports

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Treasurer
- d. Communications Director
- e. Activities Director
- f. Parliamentarian

VII. Old Business

- a. None

VIII. New Business

- a. Closed-ballot election to elect Senators-At-Large (uncontested)
 - i. Tal Arkin
 - 1. 8 ayes
 - ii. Medha Arora
 - 1. 11 ayes
 - iii. Kolbe Flood
 - 1. 7 ayes
 - iv. Harrison Kelley
 - 1. 9 ayes
 - v. *Results: All are approved for Senator at Large (with 12 total votes).*
- b. Motion to adopt rectified Bylaws without typos as approved by Procedures Committee on July 22, 2025.

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- i. Leo presents bylaw typo change to Senate.
 - ii. July 22, 2025 [Procedures Committee Minutes.PDF](#) 2.b.i.5.
 - iii. Fix [Bylaw VI.9.e](#) to reflect the language voted by the Senate.
 1. “If a member of the Executive Committee does meet the requirements” to “If a member of the Executive Committee does [not](#) meet the requirements.”
 - iv. **Motion:** Approve typo changes made by procedures committee. By Patrick, seconded by Dubey.
 1. *Motion passes with 14-0-0.*
 - c. Motion to approve summer pay for Executive Committee members who have met the summer meeting attendance requirements per Bylaw VI.9, paid out as a fellowship with the following amounts:
 1. President: \$2,500
 2. Vice President: \$750
 3. Communications Director: \$1,500
 4. Treasurer: \$2,500
 5. Activities Director: \$1,500 (to President as Interim Activities Director)
 6. Parliamentarian: \$750 (to Vice President as Interim Parliamentarian)
 - ii. Maham describes all position payments amount listed above, as well as President being for interim Activities Director and VP for interim Parliamentarian. This is in the Bylaws as written treated as a Semester.
 - iii. **Motion:** Motion to approve summer payments for meeting attendance requirements of listed amounts in point c. above. By Dubey and Atta Seck seconds.
 1. *Motion passes with 13-0-0.*
 2. **Note: All four executive committee GSS officers left the room during the discussion and voting on this agenda item.**
 - iv. **Motion:** Extend time by 15 min (currently 20:36). By Emma, seconded by Medha.
 1. *Motion passes unanimously.*
 - d. Motion to approve July (\$1,336.27) and August (\$2,389.17) TSOS Bills as presented.
 - i. **Motion:** Approve TSOS bills as presented July and August. By Emma, seconded online by Fahim.
 1. *Motion passes with 16-0-0.*
 - e. Motion to approve \$2000 for Fall Senate Meeting Refreshments.
 - f. Motion to approve \$1000 for Fall Executive Committee Meeting Refreshments.

- i. **Motion:** Approve both points e. and f. for \$3000 for refreshments. By Heigel and seconded by Seck.
 - 1. *Motion passes with 15-0-0.*
 - g. Closed-ballot election to elect Activities Director
 - i. Medha Arora
 - 1. Describes how she worked with the entire E-Board over the summer from July to present. Community is very important which is why I have put so much time into the graduate student community as well.
 - 2. 13 ayes
 - ii. Zachary Blanchard
 - 1. 3 ayes
 - iii. *Medha Arora is elected as the Activities Director (16 total votes).*
 - h. Parliamentary Vacancy Election Announcement
 - i. **Motion:** Motion to open Parliamentary Election immediately for nomination by Senators until September 14th, 2025 at 5:00 PM. Senator email GSSVicePresident@uconn.edu and GSSParliamentarian@uconn.edu and then have the nominee accept the nominee on the same email thread.
 - 1. Motion by Emma, Kolbe seconds.
 - 2. *Motion passes via unanimous consent.*
- IX. **Good News**
 - a. GSS Y2K Party on September 20th, 2025, at 9:00 PM at Kathmandu
- X. **Adjournment – 20:46**

Senators Present:

- 1. Quin Zabel
- 2. Patrick Corrigan
- 3. Renuka Loganathan
- 4. Nadia Upah
- 5. Medha Arora
- 6. Bikash Pal
- 7. Jakiya Sultana Joya
- 8. Tal Arkin
- 9. Vanessa Heigel
- 10. Azeem Sarwar
- 11. Emma Siegfried
- 12. Md. Abdullah Ali Shakil
- 13. Muhammad Faheem Hassan

14. Ayah Abdallah
15. Atta Seck
16. Erika Shams
17. Kolbe Flood
18. Michael Jolly
19. Harrison Kelley
20. Abhishek Dubey
21. Lev Becker

Observers Present:

1. Anietie Williams
2. Emmanuel Peprah-Yamoah
3. Saurabh Badole
4. Tingkai Li
5. Gaurav Thapa Chhetri
6. Kham Khatri
7. Onder M.Samil
8. Kari Comstock
9. Chiamaka Nwabanne