

University of Connecticut
Executive Committee Meeting
September 5, 2025 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Student Union 213 (GSS Office)

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

Attendance: Sandip Roy, Leo Gold, Maham Liaqat, Noah Kravette, Medha Arora, and Nick Lanza.

1. Call to Order – 5 PM

2. Executive Committee Report

- a. President
 - i. Events
 - 1. 106+ attendees at orientation. Strong turnout; consider making this an annual event.
 - 2. Husky Welcome Back Party drew over 300 attendees. Great feedback received.
 - 3. Post-orientation committee interest form to be sent out.
 - ii. Administration
 - 1. Leo and Sandip attended SCC meetings. Full report to follow at Senate.
 - 2. Budget cuts discussed. University evaluating inefficiencies. UConn has a no attendance record policy, and they may go back to it.
 - 3. UConn considering removal of anti-Black racism course requirement (course remains available).
 - 4. Facility record updates ongoing.
 - 5. Budget committee actively reviewing finances.

iii. Meetings

- 1. Meeting held with Reka Rin.
- 2. Letter sent to Dean of Graduate School requesting portion of composition fee.
- 3. Meeting with Dan Clokey to advocate for future fee increase.

b. Vice-President

- i. No electronic voting this year due to technical issues. Exploring collaboration with USG on shared software/hardware.
- ii. Senate meetings fully in-person, with exceptions for non-Storrs-based members.

c. Treasurer

- i. Ongoing challenges regarding next year's funding.
- ii. Funding orientation scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2025.

d. Communications Director

- i. Added resources and executive page to website. Awaiting bios, photos, and quotes from members.
- ii. Documentation and minutes up to date.
- iii. Marketing completed for all events; weekly announcements ongoing.



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- iv. Documentation for Senate meetings must be submitted by Saturday prior to meetings (24 hours from 72-hour deadline), or sent independently from Chair / Treasurer in emergencies.
- v. Tier-IIs must notify Communications Director of any event changes to comply with financial policy (via email or the Tier-II marketing form). Noncompliance may lead to revoked funding as we are required to notify all graduate students of event with information to attend to comply with our financial policies.
- e. Activities Director (Sandip)
 - Events have been well-received. Leo and Medha helped with check-in. Noah helped communication, emails, WhatsApp, and management. Medha helped management, posters, and Instagram.
- f. Parliamentarian (Leo)
 - i. Senator nomination form closed September 3, 2025.
 - ii. 20+ Senators approved with diverse representation.
 - iii. Orientation slideshow in progress.

3. Old Business

- a. September Event at Kathmandu
 - i. **Motion:** Approve up to \$8,000 for up to 200 people for the September 20, 2025, Kathmandu event. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Leo.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
- b. Budget for AY 2025-26 events
 - i. Sandip: Recommend reappropriating \$5K or so from special allocations for events.
 - ii. Maham: We should do more BBQ or picnic because it is cheaper and easier.
- c. Budget for AY 2025-26 Events
 - i. Sandip: Recommend reallocating \$5,000 or so from special allocations.
 - ii. Maham: Suggests more picnics/BBQs as cost-effective options.
- d. GSS Senator Orientation
 - i. Sandip: Will not be creating a PowerPoint as that is what Leo will do.
 - ii. Leo: Will present on the structure of GSS, Senate authority, member responsibilities, and basic parliamentary procedures--including how to make a motion, who can speak, and when.
 - iii. Noah will cover minutes requirements, FOIA compliance, and OCS documentation. He will also explain that all verbal contributions must be on the record and that private side conversations are not allowed. Per decorum rules and Robert's Rules of Order, the Chair--or the Senate as a body--has the authority to remove individuals from meetings for



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disruptive behavior or violations of procedure. If disorder persists, the Chair may reschedule or adjourn the meeting. These rules exist to protect Senate function and ensure fair, professional proceedings. Persistent violations at events may also result in permanent removal from GSS activities.

iv. Maham will present on funding processes, including how to submit the Tier-II marketing form.

4. New Business

- a. Hiring of Activities Coordinator
- **b.** TSOS Bills
 - i. July: \$1,336.27
 - ii. August: \$2,389.17
 - iii. **Motion:** Propose to Senate to pay both TSOS bills.
 - 1. Motion by Maham, seconded by Sandip.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- c. GSS Tier-II Treasurer Training
 - i. Maham: Funding orientation scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2025.
- **d.** Coffee Hour Expense
- e. GSS E-Board Meetings for Fall
 - i. Refreshments Budget
 - 1. E-Board food
 - a. Oct 3: Kathmandu
 - b. Nov 1: Huskies
 - c. Nov 12: none
 - d. Dec 3: none
 - 2. Senate food
 - a. Sept 10: Big Y (e.g. subs, etc)
 - b. Sept 17: Willington Pizza
 - i. 3 seafood casino (1 bacon, 2 non-bacon)
 - ii. 2 California pizza
 - iii. 2 Buffalo pizza
 - iv. 3 Greek salads
 - c. Oct 22: Gannset wraps
 - i. 4 Tuna wraps
 - ii. 7 Athenas with chicken
 - iii. 10 falafels
 - iv. 2 Ham
 - v. 7 Buffalo chicken
 - d. Nov 12: Willington Pizza
 - i. 3 seafood casino (1 bacon, 2 non-bacon)



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- ii. 2 California pizza
- iii. 2 Buffalo pizza
- iv. 3 Greek salads
- e. Dec 3: Gannset wraps
 - i. 4 Tuna wraps
 - ii. 7 Athenas with chicken
 - iii. 10 falafels
 - iv. 2 Ham
 - v. 7 Buffalo chicken
- 3. **Motion:** Approve food listed above for Fall 2025 E-Board and Senate meetings. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Noah.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- f. Updated Meeting Dates
 - i. Oct 3; 5 PM; SU 213-
 - ii. Nov 1; 5 PM; SU 213-
 - iii. Nov 12; after Senate; BUSN 127-
 - iv. Dec 3; after Senate; BUSN 127
 - v. **Motion:** Approve updated E-Board meeting dates. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Leo.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
- g. GSS Senate Meetings for Fall
 - i. **Motion:** Approve \$3,000 for up to 15 coffee hours (superseding previous \$2,000 approval). Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
- h. Huskies Halloween Event
 - i. **Motion:** Approve up to \$10,000 for up to 250 attendees for October 31, 2025, Halloween event.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
- i. **Motion:** Add agenda items to approve reimbursements and August 22 catering order. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - i. Motion passes unanimously
- j. Orientation August 22 Catering
 - i. **Motion:** Approve catering expenses from August 22 orientation. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
- k. Reimbursements
 - i. Sept 5 Coffee Hour
 - 1. **Motion:** Reimburse Sandip \$155.58. Motion by Maham, seconded by Leo. Sandip left the room for the vote.
 - a. *Motion passes 3 ayes-0-0.*
 - ii. Aug 1 Karaoke



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- **GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE**
 - 1. **Motion:** Reimburse \$223.16 for Big Y event. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Leo. Maham left the room for the vote.
 - a. Motion passes 3 ayes-0-0.
 - iii. July 11 & 19 Grad Nights
 - 1. **Motion:** Reimburse \$471.70 for Big Y purchases. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham. Leo left the room for the vote.
 - a. Motion passes 3 ayes-0-0.
 - **I.** Executive Session
 - i. **Motion:** Enter executive session for hiring matters. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham. Session begins at 6:20 PM. Nick and Maham exit.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
 - 2. Executive session ends at 6:47 PM via unanimous consent.
 - m. Emergency E-Board Meeting
 - i. **Motion:** Approve Sept 10 E-Board meeting post-orientation to decide on 5/hr assistant hire. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
 - n. Event Access Fee
 - i. **Motion:** Require non-fee-paying attendees to pay at-door food cost. Motion by Leo, seconded by Sandip.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
 - Outdoor Events
 - i. Sandip: Suggests more recreational events (e.g., Mansfield Park, Beach Hall field).
 - i. New Activities Director can choose as desired.
 - p. Summer Pay for Vacant Roles
 - i. **Motion:** VP to receive \$750 as Parliamentarian; President to receive \$1500 as Activities Director. Motion by Maham, seconded by Noah. VP and President recused.
 - 1. Motion passes 2 ayes-0-0.
 - q. Submission Deadlines
 - i. Leo: All agenda materials must be submitted by Saturday at 12 PM.
 - 5. Good News
 - 6. Adjournment 7:02 PM