

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut
Executive Committee Meeting
November 5, 2025 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Virtual (Via Webex)

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

Anticipated Attendance: Sandip Roy (President), Maham Liaqat (Treasurer), Noah Kravette (Communications Director), Medha Arora (Activities Director), and Kari Comstock (Parliamentarian).

Join using the following link: Meeting link: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/sar20009

1. Call to Order – 5:01 pm

2. Executive Committee Report

- a. President
 - i. Holding off for the Senate, but there has been some discussion from the university.
- b. Vice-President (Absent)
- c. Treasurer
 - i. In communication with Senators and will be sending an email to gather more information regarding the fee.
- d. Communications Director
 - i. Sent a thank-you email to everyone who attended the Halloween party and received helpful feedback on why people attended and what they'd like to see at future meetings.
- e. Activities Director
 - i. In the process of getting a quote for Friendsgiving from Huskies.
- f. Parliamentarian
 - i. Working on getting the Procedures Committee to meet.
 - 1. Sandip: Please follow up with everyone and send all relevant information by Sunday at 6 PM, so Leo can forward it to the Senate before the November meeting. Time is running out.

3. Old Business

- a. SASFAC Packet
 - i. Currently working on gathering signatures at events and asking Senators to help collect signatures as well.
- b. Discussion: Bylaw changes
 - i. Parking reimbursement as a fellowship and clarifying the exact timing.
 - ii. Eligibility for office ensuring students have prior experience.
 - iii. A single Senator may not represent two constituencies.
 - iv. Clarifying who in the Senate is allowed to speak, and when.
 - v. Kari: I'll send this to Noah (former Parliamentarian, AY 2024–2025) and Sandip for guidance on the language.

4. New Business

- a. Discussion: Update on Fee-Increase signature collection
 - i. Sandip: We have about 130 signatures. How much do we need to get?
 - ii. Maham: We need to collect over 300 signatures.



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- iii. Sandip: Make sure every event being held is used as an opportunity to collect signatures. Tier-II organizations benefit directly from the fee increase, so it's important they understand this and actively participate. Maham, please send an email to all Senators and Tier-II organizations emphasizing the importance of collecting signatures. If everyone contributes, we can reach 300+.
- b. Discussion: Update on Social Work program integration
 - i. Medha: I met with David Clokey. We need a student from the School of Social Work to send a letter stating they want to opt into paying the GSS graduate activity fee instead of the Social Work-specific fee. After that, we'll need to collect in-person signatures from Social Work students.
 - 1. Apparently, any leftover funds in the activities budget roll over into the next activities budget, ideally into the GSS fund.
- c. Discussion: GSS portion of comprehensive fees
- d. Vote: TSOS Bills
 - i. Sandip: We can't vote on the TSOS bills yet because Maham hasn't sent them. Maham, please send them to Leo by Sunday, so the Senate can vote on them.
- e. Discussion/Vote: November and Early Spring events
 - i. Medha: Maybe we can host a special coffee hour for the last event in December.
 - ii. Noah: We could include a gingerbread house-making activity as Medha previously suggested.
- 5. Good News
- 6. Adjournment 5:31 pm via unanimous consent