



MINUTES
New Senator Meeting

Thursday, August 31, 2023
SOEB 120
4:00-5:00 pm

Agenda Overview and Attendance

Welcome Message from our President

- The GSA is a place to hear concerns of graduate students and propose solutions through mobilization
- The GSA is a community for graduate students

Brief Introductions from the Executive Board

- Alexander Grindstaff, President: PhD candidate in JSNN; second term as president; 4th year in GSA
- Terry Chavis, Vice President: PhD student in TEHE; first term as vp
- Brooks Youngmark, Treasurer: PhD student in Public Health Ed; first term as treasurer
- Ashley Loper-Nowak, Student Relations; PhD candidate in History; second term as student relations chair

Review Structure of the GSA, the Constitution, and Senator Responsibilities

- Four executive board positions; GSA senators represent their departments; senator responsible for relaying important information to their department; senators are the first line of communication
- Three committees to volunteer for: Programming, chaired by VP; Finance, chaired by Treasurer; Student Engagement, chaired by Student Relations; more information on how to volunteer coming soon
- Can also serve as a university-wide delegate; find available positions [here](#)
- Find the complete Constitution and Bylaws [here](#)

Answer Questions

- Alternate senator is there to be a back-up
- Budget cut decisions will be made in December; chancellor approval of budget cuts will be made in January
- Find our emails on the GSA [website](#)
- A draft of the Graduate Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities will be sent to senators
- Issues: Standard of Living, Pay, Grad Student Retention Rates, Fee Structure
- A poll on topics to focus on this year will be sent out with the sign-up form