



**HARVARD
GRADUATE
COUNCIL**
12 GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, ONE HARVARD.

THE HARVARD GRADUATE COUNCIL
The Representative Body for All of Harvard's Graduate and Professional Students
February 7, 2022, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Location:

The general council meeting will take place on Zoom (starting at 6:30 pm). **Zoom link is below:**

Janet Park is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: HGC General Body Meeting 02/07/2022
Time: Feb 7, 2022 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom meeting

Topic: Peter Choi's Personal Meeting Room
Join Zoom meeting

<https://harvard.zoom.us/j/6911061985?pwd=QlkwK3VsRUtFVkdXamtEWUZyc3Qzdz09>

Password: snakeplant

Join by telephone (use any number to dial in)

+1 929 436 2866

+1 301 715 8592

+1 312 626 6799

+1 669 900 6833

+1 253 215 8782

+1 346 248 7799

International numbers available: <https://harvard.zoom.us/u/anzJo6ns4>

One tap mobile: +19294362866,,6911061985# US (New York)

Join by SIP conference room system

Meeting ID: 691 106 1985

6911061985@zoomcrc.com

ATTENDANCE POLICY: please disregard for this meeting

We require in-person attendance of a minimum of one representative from each school for schools that are conducting classes in-person (all other additional reps from that school may attend in-person or remotely if they wish). If you are from a school that conducts classes in-person and you cannot attend the meeting in person, PLEASE forward the meeting calendar invite & meeting agenda to your **PROXY** and email vp@hgc.harvard.edu and governance@hgc.harvard.edu by **SUNDAY, 2/6, at NOON**. Otherwise, we will expect that you will be in attendance in person. If your school's enrollment policies are in-person and a rep or proxy is not in attendance at general council in-person, votes cast via Zoom will not be counted and your school will be considered absent. The only schools who may attend fully remotely are HES and HGSE (consistent with some of their current program's remote enrollment policies).

Meal Reimbursements:

Meals eaten on the evening of Monday, February 7 (either before or after our HGC meeting) will be reimbursed up to \$20.00. If you would like to reimburse your meal, please fill out this form: <https://hgc.harvard.edu/reimbursement>

I. HES PowerPoint presentation (6:30 pm - 6:55 pm) - Brett Monson & Jim Smith (HES) (6:30 pm - 7:00 pm)

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1nz2071UJMmLeGfZ4mZwHui0wVRLv-yRU/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=112646804097094796517&rtpof=true&sd=true>

II. Roll Call and Welcome – Peter & Himaja (7:00 pm - 7:10 pm)

Schools	First Name	Last Name	Individual Present?	School Present?
SEAS	Mark	York	Yes	Yes
GSAS	Anna	Walker	Yes	
	Michael	Cheng		
	Nikita	Kupko	Yes	
	Tammy	Lan	Yes	
HLS	Joan	Josiah	Yes	
	Gabrielle (Gabe)	Crofford		
	Ivanka	Canzius		
HBS (HBSSA)	Brian	Ratajczak	Yes	
	Kyle	Blank		
	Vivek	Agarwal		
HSDM	Subin	Jeong	Yes	Yes
HES (HESA)	Brett	Monson	Yes	
	Jim	Smith		
HKS (KSSG)	Camille	Choe	Yes (7:30 pm)	
	Jordan	Biggers		
HSPH (HCSA)	Natasha	Matthews	Yes	Yes
HMS	Marta	Williams	Yes	
	Michael	Liu		
	Divya	Singh	Yes (6:57)	
HGSE	Parisa	Loftis Hamm	Yes	
	Meredith	O’Toole	Yes	

GSD	Aeshna	Prasad		No
HDS	Mayank	Kumar	Yes	Yes

Executive Board Members in attendance: Carlos, Peter, Himaja, Kathleen, Nima, Stefania, Landon, Shankar, Xavier, Max (7:30 pm)

2. Quorum in attendance: Yes, 9 schools present
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - 3.1. Approval of the Agenda - **MOVED** by Parisa Loftis-Hamm (HGSE), **SECONDED** by Natasha Matthews (HSPH), **DISSENT** None. Agenda **APPROVED** 6:50 pm ET.

III. Public Comments (7:10 pm - 7:25 pm)

- 1.

IV. Open Discussion (7:25 pm - 7:40 pm)

1. *HGSE Rep Parisa Loftis-Hamm*: creation of a university wide military affiliation student group
 - a. Parisa (HGSE): Kathleen and Parisa are interested in pursuing this, Harvard Veterans Alumni Association has an arm for current students, met with a student leaders and found that there is a need for cross-school connections with this
 - b. Kathleen (HGC): Social events to gather military-affiliated folks (students, families, significant others, etc.) across the graduate schools
 - i. This can be an event that HGC puts together or we can support other events that schools are hosting
 - c. Brett (HES): There is an all-Ivy veterans club - something to look into
 - d. Peter (HGC): there are other organizations that are school-specific and it might be worth considering creating collaborations between them to create a university-wide student group
 - e. Parisa (HGSE): From research, there are organizations at HBS, HLS, and HKS. There are specific needs such as career support, as well as opportunities to understand the GI bill and the process. Being inclusive of all military-affiliated people would be helpful. How can HGC be involved?
 - f. Peter (HGC): establishing a university-wide student group is an option, or perhaps an easier option is to work to submit a One Harvard catalyst fund application and partner with existing organizations
 - g. Shankar (HGC): with bringing students together, HGC can help to facilitate this (esp connecting students with similar organizations)

- h. William (SEAS): How can international students get involved?
 - i. Parisa: This would be a way for all military-affiliated people to connect, not just for those who are US-based
2. Harvard Graduate and Professional Students Intramural Sports League - *Peter, Himaja, Gino, Ian*
- a. IM Sports Information: <https://engage.gsas.harvard.edu/news/246356>
 - b. HGC Working Group or Information/Communications Committee. Club Sports Roster.
 - c. Potential University-wide Participation & Leadership Opportunities
 - d. Gino: have been working with the admin to see if we can start a university-wide graduate IM league, there has been a working group on this and this is still a work in progress and the finances are still up in the air, but promising updates
 - e. Had a game the other day, a lot of people were really excited and many were interested in forming a league
 - f. Reaching schools other than GSAS has been challenging, would like to open this up to all schools. The admin will want to have more student perspectives in the leadership decisions - considering reaching out to students in other schools to see if one student per school can serve as a representative on a Council which can inform the work of the IM league
 - g. Questions for Input:
 - i. How can we start reaching non-GSAS students,
 - ii. what's the best way to get reps from each of the schools,
 - iii. How can we build our mailing list/ some sort of way for the league to gather feedback/interest from all schools
 - h. Peter (HGC): Peter and Himaja have been in conversations with GSAS and the Provost office, we wanted to make sure that all 12 schools are represented and have an equal opportunity to participate. We ended this conversation last semester with the dissemination of the survey but we haven't seen the results. We have spoken to information team and asked if they can help collect a database of all club sports from all schools - with the creation of this we can create an email listserv to gather more interest and also share information.
 - i. Peter (HGC): in order for us to foster greater bi-directional relationships between student governments and the HGC, we would like for reps to, for example, share their agendas/notes from their student gov meetings. Also, HCG Chairs would like to connect with counterparts at each of the student governments (ex. HGC Communications connect with Communications Officers at each of the schools)
 - j. Xavier (HGC): Would be great to share logistical information (ex. Is there a cost/membership), connecting with other student gov officers (such as those who oversee student life) would be great

- k. Landon (HGC): Do you know how many people attended the pilot event and what percent of student were from each schools
 - l. Gino: Don't have an exact number, it has to be at least 200 people (more like 250 to 300), seemed like a lot of schools were represented but predominantly GSAS
 - m. Peter (HGC): there are many people involved in this conversation (Pres, VP, Chair of Student Groups, etc.) - while Info has kindly agreed to help with this aggregation of data, PLEASE let us know if you would like to help!!
 - n. Meredith (HGSE): It might also be worth considering partnering with some of the college-based clubs open to grad students like the Cycling Club, which has a particularly strong graduate student membership. While not an intramural per se, it'd definitely be worth keeping on the radar
 - i. Peter: the idea is great for gathering more participation, in terms of including them into the IM leadership it might be more tricky
3. University COVID Learning Policies - Debrief on Meeting with HUHS's Director Dr. Giang Nguyen
- a. Student input channels
 - i. Peter: Want to recognize Jordan Biggers (HKS rep) who helped catalyze this conversation. We wanted to better understand how these learning policies are being made and whether student input is being considered
 - ii. Met with Giang Nguyen and received some insight - these decisions are typically made by the Deans of each of the schools with the President and Provost - these decisions are informed by Advisory Committees with scientific experts and are based on school-specific, university-specific, and state/national data
 - iii. In a sense, it is the central admin who makes the decisions with contributions from each of the Deans
 - iv. Regarding student input, the answer was a bit ambiguous. There are town halls that schools host to gather input. But the students whose input is being considered is not known and we also don't know the accountability mechanism
 - v. The reason why this is in discussion is because we want to hear how you would like to establish a channel for student input and what that channel would look like
 - vi. Carlos (HGC): they should be consulting with their school's student governments
 - vii. Parisa (HGSE): There is a lot of survey fatigue so we want to make sure that this would be representative, but potentially an option to consider

- viii. William (SEAS): maybe create an open forum where people can submit questions, how is HGC involved with the leadership who makes these decisions?
 - 1. Peter (HGC): unfortunately we aren't part of these decision-making bodies, but we do want to stress the importance of more student representation in these spaces
- ix. Peter (HGC): Will keep you in the loop, Deans are definitely part of the conversation so reps are encouraged to reach out to Deans and keep us in the loop

V. Updates and Reports (7:40 pm - 8:05 pm)

- 1. **Advocacy & Policy – Xavier & Max**
 - a. HGC advocacy committee update (7 min)

<https://tinyurl.com/AdvC-NL>



The poster features the title "HGC ADVOCACY COMMITTEE" in red. Below it is a red box with the text "WORK GROUP AREAS". A bulleted list follows, detailing various focus areas. At the bottom, there is a call to action to read and subscribe to the newsletter, with the URL "tinyurl.com/AdvC-NL" and the Harvard Graduate Council logo.

HGC ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

WORK GROUP AREAS

- First Generation, Low Income Students
- International Students
- DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)
- Mental Health
- Sustainability
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging
 - Includes Anti-Racism & Gender Equity
- COVID Response & Remote Learning
- Student Services
 - FinAid, Communication, Legal Services, Alumni Benefits, Etc.

READ AND SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!
tinyurl.com/AdvC-NL

 HARVARD GRADUATE COUNCIL
 Twelve Graduate Schools. One Harvard.

- Xavier (HGC): First committee meeting was held in January - there were a few work group areas that were highlighted as ones with the most number of people interested
- Will be working on creating a list of advocacy action items
- URL above has the first newsletter that went out
- Reps, please feel free to show up to committee meetings!
- You can fill out the survey tonight to say you are interested in being part of the committee
 - Reach out to advocacy@hgc.harvard.edu and policy@hgc.harvard.edu with any questions

3. Requesting members of HGC to present during this meeting/draft presentation
 4. Camille: How would this be funded?
 - a. Peter: Nobody really knows the answer. Because this is pertinent to facilities school wide, funds may be pulled out of Provost's office
- c. Increasing Diversity of Mental Health Clinicians at HUHS
- i. Plan A: HUHS commitment to hiring diversity & joining Harvard Giving Day
 1. With this initiative, HGC recognizes that mental health is a big issue. HGC is interested in hiring more diverse mental health counselors at Harvard
 2. Initial intent was to launch a fundraising campaign. That intent has now shifted to Harvard
 - ii. Plan B: Student Health Planning Insurance Committee - ways to increase business relationships with other network to expand networks of other mental health clinicians available via telehealth.
 1. Can we create a new business relationship with an additional network that offer more opportunities for virtual therapy/more diverse counselors
 2. This issue will be discussed at a meeting this week
 3. SHIPS committee: looking for someone that would be interested on sitting on the board
- d. HGC Operations
- i. Chair of Operations
 1. Peter: Janet is dealing with family medical issues; taking step back from her role as Chair of Operations; she will continue to help out with logistics but there will be nobody new appointed to this position
 - ii. General Statement About Bidirectional Communication for Action.
 1. Ex-Officio Seats and Their Connections
 - a. Nikita is on Harvard Library Faculty Advisory Council
 - b. Camille on Radcliffe Committee
 - c. Nima- HUIT
 - d. Encourage reps to connect with ex-officio members; current ex-officio members are encouraged to share updates/items of interest from their respective board
 2. Constituent Graduate Schools

- a. HGC Meeting Minutes <-> Graduate Student Government Meeting Minutes
- b. Constituent Graduate School Newsletters
- c. Increasing Involvement From Other Graduate Schools' Student Governments (bidirectional sharing of meeting minutes and publicity of events, advocacy initiatives, etc., optional attendance of HGC general council meetings, speaking priorities)
 - i. All school government officers are invited to this meetings; would like them to take part in these discussions
 - ii. All attendees invited to participate throughout meeting

VIII. Action Items (8:05 pm - 8:59 pm)

1. Constitutional and Bylaws Amendments: *Brett Monson (HES) & Carlos Gonzalez Sierra (Chair of Governance)*:
 - a. Notice and comment period closed in December for the two proposed constitutional amendments and one amendment to the bylaws. You can view the proposed language [here](#).
 - i. No quorum at December meeting
 - ii. Brett - Budget proposal - Budget would be approved in the spring semester
 - iii. Carlos - second proposal is consistency in voting language
 - iv. Carlos - third proposal is change to bylaws
 - v. **MOTION** to approve of **Amendment 21-1-A** by **Camille (HKS)**, **SECONDED by Brett (HES)**
 1. 10 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
 - vi. **MOTION** to approve of **Amendment 21-2-A** by **William (SEAS)**, **SECONDED by Parisa (HGSE)**
 1. 10 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
 - vii. William (SEAS): Wouldn't this be equivalent to moving to the previous question? (not fulfilling the 48 hours)
 - viii. Carlos (HGC): This is to close the voting if all the reps agree to do so. Will add a footnote for clarification in practice.
 - ix. **MOTION** to approve of **Amendment 21-3-A** by **Parisa (HGSE)**, **SECONDED by William (SEAS)**
 1. 10 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
2. Catalyst Fund voting (6 applications) - Link to document here: [☰ 2/7catfund](#)

- a. Dave Evans Design Thinking Workshop (11/5/2021)
 - i. Club: HBS Christian Fellowship
 - ii. **MOTION to approve Parsia (HGSE), SECONDED by Camille (HKS)**
 - 1. 6 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 6 abstain - Motion **FAILS**
- b. 30th Anniversary Independence of Central Asia Celebration (2/12/2022)
 - i. Club: Central Asian Student Association
 - ii. **MOTION to amend amount to \$1500 Brett (HES), SECONDED by Camille (HKS)**
 - 1. 8 votes in favor, 1 votes against, 3 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
 - iii. **MOTION to approve the main motion amended to \$1500 Nikita (GSAS), SECONDED by Parsia (HGSE)**
 - 1. 8 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 4 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
- c. Africa Business Conference (3/26/22)
 - i. Club: HBS African Business Club
 - ii. **MOTION to amend to \$2000 Brett (HES), SECONDED by Wiliam (SEAS)**
 - 1. 8 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 4 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
 - iii. **MOTION to approve the main motion amended to \$2000 Brett (HES), SECONDED by Camille (HKS)**
 - 1. 7 votes in favor, 1 votes against, 4 abstain - Motion **PASSES**

MOTION to extend meeting by 10 minutes from the end of the meeting William (SEAS), SECONDED by Brett (HES)

8 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 4 abstain - Motion **PASSES**

- d. Etiquette Dinner on May 15, 2022
 - i. Club: Harvard Graduate Women in Science and Engineering
 - ii. **MOTION TABLED**
- e. Networking Event for Harvard graduate students interested in biotech (2/16/2022)
 - i. Club: Harvard Biotech Club
 - ii. **MOTION to approve Williams (SEAS), SECONDED by Subin (HSDM)** with stipulation no single school with more than 30% in attendance (at minimum 4 schools in attendance, Exec board does not count)
 - 1. 8 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 4 abstain - Motion **PASSES**
- f. Holi Celebration (3/25/2022)
 - i. Club: Harvard Chan South Asian Students Association
 - ii. **MOTION TABLED**

IX. Announcements (8:59 pm - 9:00 pm)

- 1. HGC Spring Semester Retreat

- a. Current Ideas: Ice skating

X. Adjournment

Next Meeting: February 21, 2022 at Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH)

- Motion to **adjourn** by William (SEAS), **seconded** Camille (HKS), **dissent** by 9:08 PM EST, General Council meeting **adjourned** at **PM**