



**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

November 8, 2021, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Meeting Zoom recording:

https://harvard.zoom.us/rec/share/63zVy9zSmF9GUNETRf3ng7lfogwCxW92daTqx9AH8gscasglAyFpFp4T9egDhv4j.Aa0iM_3gXvhcUbu-

Location:

For those attending in-person, we will be meeting at **Aldrich 209 at Harvard Business School (Soldiers Field Rd, Boston, MA 02163)**. The directions to the school will be in the following link (<https://www.hbs.edu/maps/#45.0%2c47.6>). Upon arrival, our HBS reps will provide a brief **tour** of the business school, **starting promptly at 6:30 PM in front of Baker Library on the river side**. **Those who are remote will have the opportunity to participate via Zoom with the information below (starting at 6:55 pm).**

Janet Park is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: 11/8 HGC General Body Meeting

Time: Nov 8, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom meeting

<https://harvard.zoom.us/j/91719071602?pwd=MHdUSVAxcjkzcWhZSG1QV1VOLzhQQT09>

Password: 977999

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/j/aeJWA7Ijll>

One tap mobile: +19294362866,,91719071602# US (New York)

Password: 977999

Join by SIP conference room system

Meeting ID: 917 1907 1602

91719071602@zoomcrc.com

IMPORTANT INFO REGARDING ATTENDANCE:

We require in-person attendance of a minimum of one rep from each school for schools that are currently 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 operations@hgc.harvard.edu and governance@hgc.harvard.edu by **SUNDAY, 11/7, 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). Please let Janet know if the school rep(s) from your school have to attend the meeting virtually also by **SUNDAY, 11/7, at NOON**, and we can make accommodations.

Meal Reimbursements:

Meals eaten on the evening of Monday, November 8th (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. HBS School Tour (6:30 pm - 6:55 pm)

-Meet in front of Baker Library on the river side

-HBS reps will provide a 2-minute voice over of priorities of HBS's SA this year

II. Roll Call and Welcome – Peter & Himaja (7:00 pm - 7:20 pm)

Schools	First Name	Last Name	Individual Present?	School Present?
SEAS	Mark	York	Absent (present virtually)	No
GSAS	Anna	Walker	Absent	Yes
	Michael	Cheng	Absent	
	Nikita	Kupko	Present	
	Tammy	Lan	Absent	
HLS	Joan	Josiah	Absent	Yes
	Gabrielle (Gabe)	Crofford	Absent	
	Ivanka	Canzius	Present	
HBS (HBSSA)	Brian	Ratajczak	Present	Yes
	Kyle	Blank	Present	
	Vivek	Agarwal	Present	
HSDM	Subin	Jeong	Present	Yes
HES (HESA)	Brett	Monson	Present	Yes
	Jim	Smith	Absent	
HKS (KSSG)	Camille	Choe	Absent	Yes
	Jordan	Biggers	Present	
HSPH	Natasha	Matthews	Present	Yes

(HCSA)				
HMS	Marta	Williams	Absent (present virtually)	No
	Michael	Liu	Absent (present virtually)	
HGSE	Parisa	Loftis Hamm	Present	
GSD	Aeshna	Prasad	Absent	No
HDS	Mayank	Kumar	Present	Yes

2. Quorum in attendance: Yes
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - 3.1. Approval of the Agenda - **MOVED** by Natasha (HCSA), **SECONDED** by Kyle (HBS), **NO DISSENT**. Agenda **APPROVED** 7:23 PM ET.

III. Public Comments (7:20 pm - 7:35 pm)

- Kyle (HBS): cross-registration across schools

IV. Open Discussion (7:35 pm - 7:50 pm)

- Ivy+ summit (wants to use this opportunity to figure out what we want to focus on, there were more issues discussed but these were identified as the most important/feasible ideas)
 - Creating a Law / Business Student Clinic for students to take advantage of (at UPenn, this conversation started among the international students); offer a low-rate/pro bono tax and legal services (e.g. HBS students already have CPA); explore offering this at the Ivy+ level
 - Free menstrual / feminine products in all 12 graduate schools: push for it at a university-wide level (already have in HSPH, HLS, HMS)
 - Kyle (HBS): based on the direction, expand this to hygiene products for all
 - Relocation cost coverage for students moving advisors, students who feel unsafe as a result of their work in external clinics (primary for HLS, HMS, and HSDM students)
 - When students switch doctoral advisors, some universities provide a reassignment fund
 - HLS, HMS, HSDM, and HSPH students work within the general community through external clinics and there have been cases where students have been targets for violent and harmful behavior - and oftentimes community members who are responsible for this are often not

removed from clinic services and are not removed from that student's service. Universities should provide funding for relocating for these students who may feel uncomfortable (ex. those who have been victims of stalking).

- Kyle (HBS): odd that Harvard doesn't cover relocation costs; police not getting involved also seems to be an issue
- Peter: schools do have the means, but they're just on a case-by-case basis (there's no university-wide policy) and students need to push to get these resources; we just need to be able to open up a diplomatic conversation
- Xavier (HGC): Having to switch your work assignment or just moving?
- Peter: could be both; schools should have financial responsibility for this
- Mark (SEAS): supportive of all of these items; in the PhD programs several people have switched advisors
- Peter: Advisor-related questions are PhD specific
- Natasha (HSPH) - in support of these items
- Jordan (HKS) - agree with what was said, and are there other subject matters that we should also be discussing?
- Peter: the past few meetings have been focused on introduction to HGC, and from here on we hope to focus on initiatives as a Council
- Other topics:
 - COVID-19 funds and how they are being utilized
 - Asked for a report from all schools, will be shared
 - Princeton: offering booster shots to everyone
 - MIT got \$10 million dollars relocated to COVID relief efforts
 - Brown has free fitness classes and paid student gov
 - Columbia - CARES program - increased funding for COVID support
 - DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)
 - Columbia's DEI office: Yearly Injustice Statement
 - MIT has DEI plan
 - Cornell: Student-owned grocery stores
 - Equitable pay
 - UChicago: has members who sit on the board of Trustees; anti-racist book club
 - Penn & MIT: online IDs (virtual student ID cards) - makes cross-registering easier
 - Penn & Columbia: food pantry that alleviates student costs; resolution discussing relocation of graduate students

- Yale: free feminine hygiene products
- Increase \$5 student fees for every graduate student at Harvard
 - Parisa (HGSE): can you elaborate?
 - Peter: student fees differ per school and helps to fund student hov for that specific school, HGC funds come directly from Provost so having individual student fees that fund the HGC would be really beneficial to funding HGC - and other university-wide student govts have operating budgets that are much higher (~\$1 mill)
- Launching university-wide graduate survey
- Bandaid vs surgery equivalent of mental health and what resources should students access
 - Parisa (HGSE): Addressing stigmas around mental health (normalizing the idea that any mental health issue is one of importance and should be addressed)
 - Natasha (HSPH): agrees with Parisa and would be happy to help with this initiative, maybe the service day event HGC is hoping to hold can fundraise for our mental health efforts
 - Troy (HGC): to really destigmatize mental health - we have to be culturally sensitive; it can't be a blanket campaign
- Yale and Princeton have spouses group (have benefits and can access services)
 - Kyle (HBS) - lead for partner group at HBS - happy to speak about it of other schools want to start a similar program
 - Partners can have a hard time with everything involved (relocating, building a community, etc) - the HBS program has a really great community and recommends this program in other schools - happy to help with this
 - Peter: Not sure if this is an HGC initiative since this might be better as a school-specific program
 - Kyle (HBS): HGC could create a handbook for starting this program in other schools
 - Brian (HBS): partner group at HBS is pretty robust but the lack of this service being available in other schools prevents partners from really feeling a part of the campus
 - Parisa (HGSE): can we have liaisons from different partner groups report to HGC

- Retreat Recap
 - Thoughts on Retreat (will also send an anonymous survey)
 - Parisa (HGSE): thanks to exec board, hope with HGC is to build rapport and community and have more in-depth conversations - as a goal for the whole year
 - Landon (GSAS): could have been more breaks in between - it was really long so it was hard to keep focused the entire time! In the future, if we want to keep people's attention, we can have more breaks
 - Himaja (HGC): all resources from retreat will be available online - please take a look
 - Goals and action items for HGC

V. Updates and Reports (7:50 pm - 8:20 pm)

1. **Executive – Peter & Himaja (7:50 pm - 7:58 pm)**
 - a. Meeting with Provost Alan Garber and President Larry Bacow
 - b. Understanding the difference between school-related and university-related items
 - c. Things that warrant Provost's attention (academic/health); president's attention (business/administrative/investment strategies/has a say in finding new faculty members and drawing the best talents from the world); deans of schools' attention (oversee student life, academics, etc);
 - d. Also asked a few Qs related to advocacy efforts we led last year (climate change/sustainability - will share info as soon as it is ready)
2. **Operations & Governance – Janet & Carlos (7:58 pm - 8:00 pm)**
 - a. Reminder to respond to 1-on-1 meetings email from Carlos (for all school reps) and to respond to the President's Circle email from Janet (for all school presidents)
 - i. Carlos sent the reps an email to schedule one-to-one meetings so that the Ops team (Janet and Carlos) can meet with you
 - ii. Please also remember your presidents to also fill out the poll
 - iii. Please fill out Feedback forms (as soon as it is available)
3. **Advocacy & Policy – Xavier & Max (8:00 pm - 8:02 pm)**
 - a. Check in - Shopping Week: reps, please check this out
 - i. Most respondents (grad students) were in favor for keeping shopping week - want to work with undergrads on this - is there any strong opposition to keeping shopping week? Want to make sure all schools feel like their

- voices are being represented in this conversation and effort (the conversation can also be taken off-line)
- ii. Peter: based on what is school-wide versus university-wide, perhaps this conversation should be facilitated by individual school governments (GSAS) because it's based on teaching stipends - perhaps off-board this project and support individual schools
 - iii. Xavier (HGC): we can move forward that way
 - iv. Infographic: <https://imgur.com/a/WoqaJty>
 - v. [Text Format](#)
- e. Interest Form Extension! - reps, please fill out this form if you are interested in being a part of a specific committee - almost every functional pair has a committee and it's a way to dive into specific projects
- i. Due 11/12!
 - ii. Advertisement (with caption): <https://imgur.com/gzJ29jG>
 - iii. Interest Form Link: <https://tinyurl.com/HGC-Adv>

VI. Information & Communication – Nima & Troy (8:02 pm - 8:07 pm)

- a. 11/30 meeting with HUIT - accepting any questions or concerns to relay to HUIT
 - i. Preliminary meeting, Nima will be repping HGC
 - ii. May be a way to build up momentum around this
- b. One Harvard Podcast
 - i. Troy had a meeting with Tara (former Chair of Communications) - hoping to get podcast launched in December and looking for rep feedback for what content to include
- c. One Harvard catalyst is live - encourage people / organizations from your school to apply

7. Student Life & Community Engagement – Estefania & Landon (8:07 pm - 8:15 pm)

- a. Yale Harvard Game - **please let Student Life and VP know how many buses your school will be providing to transport student to H-Y game and at what cost**
 1. Schools HSPH, HBS (5 buses), HLS (2 buses) - HGC decided to partially fund one of the HLS buses because HLS students expressed the highest interest in attending the game
 2. HGC's \$3000 budget: \$1500 for buses and \$1500 for subsidized rate tickets
 3. Tailgating: met w the HBS students association (Margot) - intending to spend \$25000 on tailgating and said we could participate but would have to contribute our funds (cost to rent a lot is \$3000, which exceeds our budget, so we won't be able to partner with them)

4. Himaja: one thing is potentially allocating reserved funds to that event (but needs a vote) - trying to be careful not to spend too much on one event
5. Xavier: what would it look like to increase the price of the subsidized tickets?
6. Himaja: we have \$1500 allocated for buying tickets - planning to purchase 100 tickets (if we're able to get more than 100 people to buy tickets, we would be able to break even and get more tickets, so please spread the word when the registration is live)
7. Peter: Is the one HLS bus HGC is funding going to be open to students from all 12 schools?
8. Himaja: HLS will prioritize its own students first and then will open up seats for the rest
9. HGC will discuss with HLS student government offline on Harvard-Yale buses
10. Parisa: how will HGC support schools that want seats for buses but don't have the means to provide them to their students; how will HGC manage disappointment/pushback from the student body who wanted seats but weren't able to reserve?
11. Landon: we want to create One Harvard and want all students from all graduate schools to attend the H-Y game. Nevertheless we don't have sufficient funds so we need to optimize resources based on our survey

b. Friendsgiving

8. **Finance & Student Groups – Kathleen & Shankar (8:15 pm - 8:20 pm)**

A. [Latino Student Association's Catalyst Fund application](#)

- a. Kyle: is the number of students (~1000) for this event the number that they're trying to cap or the number that they're trying to aim for?
- b. Kathleen: it's the cap (ballpark number based on the RSVP's they have so far)
- c. Troy: any reporting requirements like receipts/data from the organizer?
- d. Kathleen: not according to the current policy
- e. Peter: would be interested in seeing what the turnout looks like so we know to what extent the event supported cross-school community building
- f. Kathleen: the organizer will have to provide a list of attendees after the event
- g. Kyle: supports this event (it's actually a reasonable pricing for a social event)

- B. One vote tonight for Catalyst fund - supports events that foster cross-school collaboration and student engagement

VIII. Action Items (8:20 pm - 8:50 pm)

- Brett Monson (HES): 21-1-R resolution about legal aide:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zp9iDwX4R8CRqkMqW85eM1DZASJS7dU/edit>
- Peter: Brown has an attorney on retainer who provides these services; proposes amendment to add CPAs for tax services
- Nikita (GSAS): if these services are implemented, they would be in very high demand; there would be many more students who wish to use but physically cannot (and foresee months of delays) - what about reimbursing students who need these services and get them outside?
- Peter: think about the financial strategy and planning presentation - we need to know where the money will come from; reiterate Ivy+ - stresses working with student/faculty clinics to keep the costs low
- Mark: willing to be on the committee
 - **MOTION** to pass the resolution by Brett (HES), **SECONDED** by Jordan (HKS), Motion **PASSES**
- Voting:
 - In favor:
 - HGSE
 - HLS
 - GSAS
 - HES
 - HBS
 - HDS
 - HKS
 - HSPH
 - HSDM
 - In opposition:
 - None
 - Abstain:
 - None
- Harvard One Catalyst Fund Request: [Latino Student Association's Catalyst Fund application](#)
 - **Main Motion:** **MOTION** to pass the resolution by Jordan (HKS), **SECONDED** by Natasha (HSPH), Motion **PASSES/FAILS**
 - Amendment: Kyle (HBS) moves to amend amount to 50% of what their total event cost will be (HGC provides \$2,000), Jordan (HKS) seconds,
 - Discussion:

- Max (HGC): I understand the importance of precedent, so I'm happy to remind the Council when this comes up again
 - Parisa (HGSE): why reduce it to 50%?
 - Kyle (HBS): if the organizer has the means to fund the event, they should be able to match; right now, they're just asking for the maximum amount (\$2500)
 - Kathleen: the current app asks for the budget for the event; what the organization's entire budget for the year is, we don't know - if we'll find this info helpful, we can try to incorporate it
 - Amendment (revised based on friendly amendment): Kyle (HBS) moves to amend amount to 50% of what their total event cost will be (HGC provides \$2,000), given that the applicant can still run the event with this fund, Jordan (HKS) seconds,
 - Discussion
 - Parisa (HGSE) **motions to extend discussion** by 2 min, **seconded by Brett (HES), no dissent**
 - Parisa (HGSE): when we have a group that wants to host an event but have no funds, do we still only provide 50% of what their event will cost?
 - Kyle (HBS): if groups really need funding for their event, then we should consider fully funding them
- Voting:
 - In favor of passing the amendment: amendment **PASSES**
 - HGSE
 - HLS
 - GSAS
 - HES
 - HBS
 - HDS
 - HKS
 - HSPH
 - HSDM
 - In opposition:
 - None
 - Abstain:
 - None
- **Main Motion: MOTION** to pass the resolution by Jordan (HKS), **SECONDED** by Natasha (HSPH), Motion **PASSES**
- Voting:

- In favor of passing the Request:
 - HGSE
 - HLS
 - GSAS
 - HES
 - HBS
 - HDS
 - HKS
 - HSPH
 - HSDM
- In opposition:
 - None
- Abstain:
 - None

IX. Announcements (8:50 pm - 9:00 pm)

- Peter recommends that Coming Back event funds get allocated to H-Y game
- Motion to extend the meeting by 5 minutes: Parisa (HGSE), Natasha (HSPH) seconds, no dissent, motion passes and meeting extended to 9:05 pm ET
- Jordan (HKS) to suspend __, Kyle (HBS seconded)
- Kathleen - Coming back event was only \$500
- Natasha (HSPH) - HPSH cannot allocate a bus for HGC (only one bus for HSPH), unsure of working with grad council
- Himaja (HSPH) - working with Ivy from HSPH, also spoke with Yale and will likely not do a formal tailgating event but will there maybe just informal gatherings.
- Landon (HGC) - HBS is selling bus tickets to HBS and by Thurs if there are any seats left she can start selling tickets to non-HBS students
- Jordan (HKS) motions to extend meeting by 5 min, __ seconded, any dissent - HLS
 - For: HBS, HGSE, HSPH, HKS, HES
 - Against: HDS, GSAS, HLS
 - Motion **PASSES**
- Brett (HES) - probably not support partially funding bus unless tickets are available to all students
- Landon - we will meet with HLS student body president and condition funding on making sure non-HLS students can have seats on the bus

X. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Monday, November 22, 2021, 7 - 9 pm ET (HLS)

- Kyle (HBS) motion to adjourn, Jordan (HKS) second, no dissent, Gen Council meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm