



HARVARD GRADUATE COUNCIL

Twelve Graduate Schools. One Harvard.

Dear Harvard Graduate and Professional Students,

Reflecting on my tenure as president, I am proud of the programming, services, and advocacy the Harvard Graduate Council (HGC) provided our graduate community this year. Allow me to share some highlights.

Consistent with our mission, HGC hosted programming throughout the year to unite the graduate community as "One Harvard." In partnership with the Graduate Student Affairs Circle, we began the year with the fifth annual Grad Fest, followed by the first biannual graduate student tailgate celebrating the return of The Game to Harvard. We must thank the Provost's Office and the student governments from Harvard Law School, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard Medical School, and Harvard School of Dental Medicine for partnering with us to help make the tailgate possible. HGC ended the year in style with the return of the Harvard Graduate Council Masquerade Ball, our 10th annual graduate student formal. More than **1350 graduate students from every graduate and professional school benefited from at least one of our programs this year**. Congratulations to the Harvard Graduate School of Education for claiming the first One Harvard Cup.

In addition to our university-wide events and continued support for university student groups, HGC held smaller events to catalyze interschool friendships and coordinated other initiatives to benefit students. We hosted group meals throughout the year and launched our Buddy Program in the spring. HGC also offered low-cost professional headshots and partnered with the GSAS Student Center to provide holiday cards for students to send to their families. More than **648 graduate students took advantage of at least one of these opportunities**.

Part of our core mission is to serve as the voice of the Harvard graduate community. Our members served on seven university administrative committees and met with President Bacow, Provost Garber, and the Council of Dean of Students. The Council also passed eight resolutions supporting issues of importance to Harvard graduate students, including race-conscious admissions, a graduation celebration for students with disabilities, and the continuation of Harvard emails for our graduates.

HGC is also proud of our increased outreach to students. We participated in eleven club fairs in the fall and held our town hall in the spring. Equally significant, after years of advocacy, HGC communicated this year via email with the entire Harvard graduate community for the first time. **All these efforts increased the Council's visibility on campus and grew our social media platforms by more than 1200 new followers.**

These programs and initiatives were only possible with the leadership and effort of our members. For that reason, HGC approved honorariums for our board members for the first time this year, thus joining our peer institutions in the Ivy League in recognizing the countless hours student leaders invest in improving their graduate communities.

As for me, it has been an honor to serve you as president of the Harvard Graduate Council. While I will miss being a part of HGC, I find comfort in knowing that I leave the Council in the capable hands of Brett Monson and Idongesit Sampson. I am confident they will continue building on our progress this year.

With gratitude,

Carlos Gonzalez Sierra '23
President, Harvard Graduate Council