



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

September 27, 2021, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location:

For those attending in-person, we will be meeting at the Quincy street entrance, near the white picnic tables outside the **Gund Hall at 6:30 pm**. Following that, our GSD representative, Aeshna Prasad, will take everyone on a tour of the main building (Gund Hall). At **7:00 pm**, we will gather at **Gund 111** and convene our HGC meeting. **Those who are remote will have the opportunity to participate via Zoom with the information below.**

Aeshna Prasad is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: HGC Meeting 09-27

Time: Sep 27, 2021 **06:45 PM** Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom meeting

<https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99023783810>

Join by telephone (use any number to dial in)

+1 312 626 6799

+1 929 436 2866

+1 301 715 8592

+1 346 248 7799

+1 669 900 6833

+1 253 215 8782

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

One tap mobile: +13126266799,,99023783810# US (Chicago)

Join by SIP conference room system
Meeting ID: 990 2378 3810
99023783810@zoomcrc.com

We recommend in-person attendance of one rep from each school for schools that are currently conducting classes in-person. Given the last-minute notice of this information, we will be flexible for this meeting (please let Himaja know if the school rep(s) from your school prefer to be virtual for this meeting and we can make accommodations)!

Meal Reimbursements:

Meals eaten on the evening of Monday, September 27th (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. GSD School Tour - Aeshna Prasad, GSD Representative (6:30 pm - 7:05 pm)

II. Roll Call and Welcome – Peter & Himaja (7:05 pm - 7:25 pm)

- Roll Call -
 - HBS - Present (Brian & Vivek)
 - HDS -
 - HES - Present (Brett & Jim)
 - GSAS - Present (Mark)
 - GSD - Present (Aeshna)
 - HGSE - Present (Parisa)
 - HKS - Present (Camille)
 - HLS - Present (Joan & Gabe)
 - HMS -
 - HSDM - Present (Dahee)
 - SEAS - Present (William)
 - HSPH -
- Introductions (say name + school)
- Quorum in attendance
- Approval of the Agenda
 - Approval of the Agenda - **MOVED** by Will_SEAS_, **SECONDED** by _Vivek HBS_, **NO DISSENT**. Agenda **APPROVED** _7:26__ PM ET.

III. Public Comments (7:25 pm - 7:35 pm)

- Izzy Cho, Harvard Crimson
 - Reach out via Slack/Email with stories → students enrolled in HGSE, limited access to in-person classes for virtual (?) students from last year
 - Story - Harvard Title IX policy related to reporting or filing complaints from one school to another and issues that students have faced with the current process - if you have any insights you would like to provide on current reporting mechanisms, please reach out to Izzy to be interviewed
 - Deadlines: earlier is better, would be good to schedule a time to talk within the next couple of days or early next week (interviews can be conducted on Zoom)
 - Email: Isabella Cho <isabella.cho@thecrimson.com>
- Matt Volpe, HGSU Financial Secretary
 - Strike authorization vote (SAV) that HGSU members are voting on: HGC and HGSU work together - both have members from every school at Harvard. HGSU is an independent organization, not funded by the university. Certain limitations because not a Harvard organization in the same way.

- 2 reasons for vote: Real resources - process to deal with harassment and discrimination claims where the decision isn't made by a university authority, section on harassment and discrimination carved out of contract
- Raises - lower than the amount of inflation
- Only represent student workers but hope work will trickle down to other university affiliates, they have been working on these efforts for the last three years so are looking for ways to build collaboration and momentum
- Sign up online to become a member
- Matt can also answer specific questions about financial matters - will provide email & other contact info
- One effort has been to ensure that students have free legal counsel when trying to navigate the process of getting justice - only HLS provides this service at the moment
- Email: Volpe, Matt <mvolpe@g.harvard.edu>
- *You can also reach Matt at HGSU.finance@gmail.com*
- *You can become a member of HGSU at harvardgradunion.org/join (note that to qualify for membership you must either work in a teaching or research job, have worked in the past, or be in a program where you are guaranteed to work in the future.) Almost all PhDs are eligible, and lots of non-PhDs as well, and anyone who is not sure if they qualify for membership can email Matt!*
- *You can also go to Harvardgradunion.org to learn more and get on their email list! (Scroll down for that)*
- William Qian, SEAS HGC Rep
 - In reference to the current opioid epidemic, Harvard has a museum honoring someone who has contributed to this crisis and we should build momentum to change the name
 - Arthur Sackler Art Museum
 - Reach out to William Qian for more information and if you would like to get involved

IV. Updates and Reports (7:35 pm - 9:00 pm)

Executive – Peter & Himaja (7:35 pm - 7:50 pm)

- General Remarks from President
 - Use slack! And take full advantage of its features (e.g. reactions)
- Updates from Vice President
 - Recruitment for elections, eligibility
 - HGC Retreat: *Saturday, October 16th, from 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm*
 - Meal reimbursements: <https://forms.gle/9R9VmHyAtxAA2qsF6>

Operations & Governance – Himaja (7:50 pm - 7:57 pm)

- HGC Elections: October 4, 2021 via Zoom (HBS) (<https://hgc.harvard.edu/elections-0>)
 - Really important to continue outreach!
 - Social media graphics will be recirculated to share in newsletters etc. Spread the word!
 - Election day details will be settled offline soon
 - Candidates give 2-3 minute speeches & reps vote
 - People can run for several positions
 - HGC election FAQ video, info will be uploaded to SM & website
 - One vote per school - each group of reps per school decides (12 votes total)
 - Another round of positions open in the spring
 - Exec members cannot vote - only HGC reps
 - Hybrid election style again, especially if degree program is currently virtual (will be able to pitch virtual)
 - If program is in-person, you are encouraged to be here!
 - Deadline extended to **Saturday, October 2nd, at 11:59 pm ET.**
 - Reps, please forward election materials to your schools!
- The following positions are up for election this Fall:
 - Chair for Operations
 - Chair for Finance
 - Chair for Governance
 - Chair for Policy
 - Chair for Communication
 - Chair for Community Engagement
 - Chair for Student Groups

Advocacy & Policy – Xavier (7:57 pm - 8:03 pm)

- Goals and plans for upcoming year
 - Job requires collaboration, everyone is really important in this effort
 - Ideas
 - College is trying to get rid of shopping week-- where undergrads pick whatever classes they want to try out and then decide what they want to enroll in, concerns over effect on graduate student wage
 - Admin removed shopping week due to COVID-19 when everyone was virtual
 - Changes the way enrollment work (before, TFs were hired and allocated based on interest and enrollment)

-- now bc shopping week is removed, TFs could be removed from a class when that class have low enrollment -- which could affect the stipend that TFs are given

- Peter and Himaja have discussed this issue with the College President (Noah) and VP (Jenny)
- There is current discussion about whether this change with eliminating shopping week actually hurts (or potentially helps) graduate students serving as TFs
- Xavier will be working to make a brief and facilitating conversations to ensure we are working towards the best interests for grad students
- How to improve the learning experience for people who are still virtual
- Working with everyone to gather feedback and understand school-specific advocacy initiatives and see how cross-collaboration can/should happen
- For people who want to be involved in HGC but are not officially part of the Council, they can get involved through the Advocacy Committee and other committees throughout the year (these are open to the public)
- Last year, HGC had multiple conversations and drafted up a resolution addressing concerns over the alumni email (which is an alias email and is currently being eliminated)
 - Nima serves on the HUIT committee which will be working with the harvard email taskforce to ensure a better solution is given for students
 - For last year's graduates, school email access was extended - additional solutions moving forward will be considered
- If you are interested in helping with advocacy efforts within Harvard and outside (External Advocacy Committee), please reach out to Xavier
 - Email advocacy@hgc.harvard.edu if interested!

Information & Communication – Nima (8:03 pm - 8:10 pm)

- Sign up for Trello (representatives only)

- <https://trello.com/invite/b/vrEOAWFW/ec463ccfd4fad6d70ad4a082839a1d26/hgc-general>



- Project management software - message Nima with questions!
- Follow us on social media:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/HarvardGraduateCouncil>
 - <https://www.instagram.com/harvardgraduatecouncil>
 - LinkedIn:
 - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/harvard-graduate-council-hgc/?viewAsMember=true>
- Elections:
 - Subscribe to the HGC Mailing List here:
 - <https://forms.gle/jTkofb3DZS8piR8g8>
 - HGC Election Information: <https://forms.gle/4qAMcr1n8rRpCBXJ6>
- Reach Nima at information@hgc.harvard.edu
- HLS has a new shield and we have updated our graphics (see Slack) -- please use the new graphics!
- PLEASE sign up for Slack if you have not already, and use the #general channel
 - Join link:
 - https://join.slack.com/t/harvardgradua-l4t8153/shared_invite/zt-we3rh7gy-7VykiApYL1Dpm3x4JKiM_w
 - Separate rep channel
 - general is open to more folks, liaisons, community at large
 - You **can't** make as many channels as you want*

Student Life & Community Engagement – Estefania (8:10 pm - 8:30 pm)

- Gradfest updates
 - Throughout October
 - Plant giveaway - let Estefania know if you'd like to volunteer!
 - A few in-person events - yoga, games night, etc.
 - Website: <https://www.harvardgradcircle.com/copy-of-about>
 - Other communication material: posters/graphics (Estefania will send via email to all reps)
 - In person grad fest April of next year!
 - Let Estefania know about potential performers
- Student life committee

- Send Estefania message on Slack about interest in joining or if you have ideas for events

Finance & Student Groups – Peter (8:30 pm - 8:32 pm)

- FY 20-21 Report and FY 21-22 Budget are being compiled
 - Provosts will be reviewing our 2021 actuals and reviewing our spending
 - Himaja and Peter working on estimates for 2021 - 2022
 - Will be voting on the 21-22 budget soon (within the next couple of meetings)

V. Action Items (8:32 pm - 8:35 pm)

- Please email president@hgc.harvard.edu and vp@hgc.harvard.edu if you would like to be considered for serving as the HGC liaison to the Office of Gender Equity
- Please fill out this form ASAP! <https://forms.gle/8qvWuzjdA8DriLUM8>
 - **If you are interested in serving on the Office of Gender Equity Student Advisory Committee, PLEASE EMAIL HIMAJA AND PETER TONIGHT/TOMORROW MORNING**
 - Time commitment for liaison/graduate representative roles: 1 meeting per month, max 1.5 hours
 - Positions available for Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, Office for Gender Equity (formerly Title IX) Advisory Board, HU Police Department, and HU Library System Executive Leadership
 - Deadline is fast approaching - express interest ASAP.
 - Positions open to HGC - reps and exec board

VI. Members Privileges (8:35 pm - 8:50 pm)

- Feedback from reps
 -
- What are your duties/roles as a HGC rep? Expectations of HGC exec?
 - Meetings for reps will be every other week and can be seen on the HGC calendar : <https://hgc.harvard.edu/meetings>
 - Next week elections will be a special case of 2 meetings in a row
 - Someone will have 1:1 meetings will all the reps to go over roles and expectations (short staffed now so bit of a delay)
 - Himaja will send out a form/reference document to help with the transition and as a tool for sharing about HGC
 - Retreat will include training to go over intricacies of the role including someone from the Harvard Office of Financial Strategy & a negotiation workshop, etc.

- HGC Constitution - discrepancy in number of representatives allowed per school between different uploads on the website
 - Check the date of the file
 - Minimum of one rep per school and max of 4 for every 500 students (proportional representation based on student population)
 - 3 for HLS
 - Review website and update (Thanks, Gabe! :))
 - Depends on each school where the rep sits within the program
 - Have numbers for previous reps and can share contact information with permission

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

- Harvard One Catalyst Fund - funding for student groups at Harvard who want to create cross-school collaborations around topics that are of interest to students at the university and promote “One Harvard”
- Exec Board will try to get more information out about this fund soon!
- Cannot be used for charities or fundraisers!

VIII. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Monday, October 4, 2021 7 - 9 pm ET (HBS) [Elections]

Meeting adjourned motion introduced by William (SEAS), seconded by Aeshna (GSD), no one opposed, meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm ET.