

GSSC Meeting Minutes July 2026

Graduate School Student Council Meeting

07/09/2026 11:00 AM. Graduate Student Lounge BSB 3-114B

Attendance: Syamantak Mukherjee (President), Dativo Sanchez-Gonzalez (Vice President), Rana Azab (Secretary), Anushka Phadnis (Treasurer), and Madhavi Jere (MD/PhD Representative)

GSSC members met to discuss escalating the outstanding payroll issues, establishing Individual Development Plans for students joining a lab, creating a student reporting slot for program directors and the executive committee, and removing minimum enrollment requirements from advanced courses.

Call to order: Syamantak Mukherjee called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Motion: Syamantak Mukherjee moved to discuss escalating the outstanding payroll issues.

Motion seconded by Dativo Sanchez-Gonzalez. We have not received a response from Mr. Phillips in some time. We will pursue escalation in order to obtain a resolution.

Motion unanimously approved.

Motion: Anushka Phadnis moved to discuss encouraging and establishing Individual Development Plans (IDPs) for students joining a lab.

Motion seconded by Rana Azab and Madhavi Jere. IDPs would be shared with the student's committee and/or a representative from the Graduate School Office. At minimum, an IDP would comprise a timetable and expectations, required training (courses, workshops, etc.), and the supervisor's commitment to products and networking opportunities (symposiums, career fairs, etc.). IDPs would be reviewed periodically.

Motion unanimously approved.

Motion: Dativo Sanchez Gonzalez moved to discuss establishing a slot for students to submit a report to program directors and the executive committee.

Motion seconded by Syamantak Mukherjee. The reporting student could be a council representative or be randomly selected. The reports would allow program directors and the executive committee to raise student concerns during faculty assembly meetings.

Motion unanimously approved.

Motion: Syamantak Mukherjee moved to discuss removing the minimum enrollment requirement from advanced courses.

Motion seconded by Rana Azab. We will raise this with faculty for consideration.

Motion unanimously approved.

Motion: Syamantak Mukherjee moved to discuss updates on working to make the MD/PhD Representative an official position on the council.

Motion seconded by Anushka Phadnis. The council is planning to take a vote on formally establishing the MD/PhD Representative as an official council position. Upon a successful vote, a new constitution will be drafted for approval, and a Qualtrics survey will be sent to Graduate School students to vote on the amendment.

Motion unanimously approved.

Adjournment: Syamantak Mukherjee adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

Secretary signature

Rana Azab