

ASGC Plenary Meeting Agenda

March 31, 2020, 6:30 PM | Zoom: [971695284](https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/join/joinMeeting?meetingID=971695284) | <https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/>



ARTS & SCIENCES GRADUATE COUNCIL

1. Welcome (President)
2. Presentations
 - a. Dr. Melanie Bernitz & Dr. Michael McNeil (Columbia Health)
 - b. Gaspare LoDuca (CUIT)
3. Sign-in Instructions (Communications)
 - a. Sign in: <https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/form/asgc-plenary-attendance>
4. Approve Minutes from February Plenary
5. Vote on Constitutional Changes (See Appendix)
6. Announcements
 - a. Elections for ASGC Executive Board will happen at the end of this meeting
 - b. University Senate Elections Results: Mike Ford (Humanities) & Andrej Arpas (Social Sciences)
 - c. Submit Nominations for Awards by 11:59 pm tonight
 - i. [Chinweike Okegbe Service Award](#)
 - ii. [Faculty Mentoring Award](#)
Award Committee Meeting on Wednesday at 12 pm ([email](#) to participate)
 - d. [COVID-19 Concerns](#) page on ASGC Website
 - e. Increased Support of the [Food Pantry at Columbia](#)
7. Committee updates
 - a. VP, Administration
 - i. Volunteering Opportunities
 - b. Finance
 - i. Travel Grants & Student Initiative Grants
 - c. Quality of Life
 - i. QoL Survey Complete
 - ii. Ongoing conversations with Columbia Residential
 - d. Events
 - i. Virtual Book Club (Book Culture)
 - ii. Dungeons & Dragons (Hex & Co.)
 - e. Masters Affairs
8. External Representatives Updates (VP, External Affairs):
 - a. Health
 - b. Libraries
 - c. Graduate Workers of Columbia (GWC)/Union
 - d. IGB
9. Senators' Updates

10. ASGC Executive Board Elections (VP, External Affairs)

- a. President
- b. Vice President, Administration
- c. Vice President, External Affairs
- d. Finance Chair
- e. Communications Chair
- f. Quality of Life Chair
- g. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair
- h. Events Co-Chairs
- i. Master's Affairs
- j. Media Chair

11. New Business (Open Forum)

12. Adjournment (President)

ASGC plenary meetings are conducted in the style of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition)*

Obtain the floor (the right to speak) by being the first to raise your department placard when the person speaking has finished. You must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.

- No member can speak twice to the same issue until everyone else wishing to speak has spoken to it once.
- The agenda and all committee reports are merely recommendations. When presented to the assembly and the question is stated, debate begins and changes can occur.

Appendix: Proposed Constitutional Changes

Proposed to be voted on at the March Plenary.

These changes accomplish three things:

- Creation of a DEI Chair and Committee
- Redistribution of Alumni Chair duties to the VP, Administration and Media Chair
- Cleaning up obsolete wording regarding the transition from GSAC to ASGC (2018)

Description of the DEI Position

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Chair Responsibilities shall include

1. Responsible for directing the DEI committee towards the goals of encouraging diversity, equity, and inclusion for graduate students and across the university.
2. Act as a liaison between ASGC and DEI-focused student groups by attending their board meetings.
3. Convey student grievances to the ASGC Executive Board and the GSAS Administration.
4. Report on DEI-related advocacy and activities (including programs organized by student groups) at plenaries, Executive Board Meetings, meetings with GSAS Administration, and through the ASGC Newsletter.
5. Work with the Quality of Life chair to ensure that the annual QoL survey addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
6. Advocate for DEI issues at the GSAS and University-wide levels (such as the Diversity & Inclusion Task Force)
7. Administer Diversity Initiative Grants (which supplement, rather than replace Student Initiative Grants) to student groups and departments that sponsor DEI-related events.

	Current	Proposed
Con. IV.1	The Executive Board shall consist of the following Offices: President, Vice President (Administration), Vice President (External Affairs), Communications Chair, Finance Chair, Quality of Life Chair, Alumni Chair, two Events Co-Chairs, Media Chair, and Master's Affairs Chair.	The Executive Board shall consist of the following Offices: President, Vice President (Administration), Vice President (External Affairs), Communications Chair, Finance Chair, Quality of Life Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair , two Events Co-Chairs, Media Chair, and Master's Affairs Chair.
Con. IV.3	The Executive Board, except for the Master's Affairs Chair, term shall begin May 1st and end April 30th. Officers serving the 2017-2018 school year, will remain ex-officio officers to the new student group, ASGC, through the end of the 2017-2018 academic school year.	The Executive Board, except for the Master's Affairs Chair, term shall begin May 1st and end April 30th.
Con. V.2	Standing committees include: Community Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, Quality of Life Committee, Alumni Committee, Events Committee, Master's Affairs Committee.	Standing committees include: Finance Committee, Quality of Life Committee, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee , Events Committee, Master's Affairs Committee.
Con. VI.7	In March 2018, the GSAC Plenary will hold elections for the Executive Board of the Arts & Sciences Graduate Council (ASGC) in accordance with the ASGC Constitution & ASGC Bylaws. Positions include: President, Vice President (Administration), Vice President (External Affairs), Communications Chair, Finance Chair, Quality of Life Chair, Alumni Chair, two Events Co-Chairs, Media Chair, and Master's Affairs Chair.	[cut obsolete section]
Con. VIII.1	Should any external group request a representative of the academic graduate student body, the executive board shall discuss this request and shall decide whether to provide representation to the group in question. The Community Chair will inform the ASGC about their actions at the following ASGC meeting.	Should any external group request a representative of the academic graduate student body, the executive board shall discuss this request and shall decide whether to provide representation to the group in question. The Vice President (External Affairs) will inform the ASGC about their actions at the following ASGC meeting.
Con. IX.11	In the event of a vacancy in the Office of the President, the Vice President shall immediately become the President and the Office of Vice President shall become vacant.	In the event of a vacancy in the Office of the President, the Vice President (Administration) shall immediately become the President and the Office of Vice President (Administration) shall become vacant.
Con. X.17	Section 17: All current GSAC sponsored groups, including student interest groups and departmental government groups will no longer be recognized by GSAC as of March 31st 2018. All current GSAC sponsored groups must re-submit for recognition under ASGC's constitution to GSAC's vice president prior to April 1st 2018.	[cut obsolete section]
Con. X.18	Section 18: April 1st 2018, all remaining GSAC funds and GSAC property will be transferred to the Arts & Sciences Graduate Council (ASGC), this includes, but is not limited too, website access and ownership, mailing list access and ownership, officer email access and ownership, GSAC specific paraphernalia, and all Funds.	[cut obsolete section]
By-Laws I.3	Section 3. Vice President responsibilities shall include:	Section 3. Vice President (Administration) responsibilities shall include:
By-Laws I.10	Section 10. Community Chair responsibilities shall include:	Section 10. Vice President (External Affairs) responsibilities shall include:

	<p>Section 7. Alumni Chair responsibilities shall include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Responsible for directing the Alumni committee activities towards improving Alumni participation while fostering growth of future alumni relations with current students. 2. Coordinate an internal document of past GSAC and ASGC officers and DRs with up-to-date contact information. 3. Communicate the needs of graduate students to the Alumni Board. 4. Coordinate with the Alumni Board to plan events related to the professional development of graduate students, including alumni networking events and professional skills events. 5. Maintain ASGC LinkedIn Page fostering Alumni engagement with Current Students 	<p>[Alumni Chair position and Alumni Committee dissolved; items 1-4 move to Vice President (Administration); item 5 is already under Media]</p>
<p>New By-Laws section to be added that describe the DEI Chair:</p>		<p>Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Chair Responsibilities shall include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Responsible for directing the DEI committee towards the goals of encouraging diversity, equity, and inclusion for graduate students and across the university. 2. Act as a liaison between ASGC and DEI-focused student groups by attending their board meetings. 3. Convey student grievances to the ASGC Executive Board and the GSAS Administration. 4. Report on DEI-related advocacy and activities (including programs organized by student groups) at plenaries, Executive Board Meetings, meetings with GSAS Administration, and through the ASGC Newsletter. 5. Work with the Quality of Life chair to ensure that the annual QoL survey addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. 6. Advocate for DEI issues at the GSAS and University-wide levels (such as the Diversity & Inclusion Task Force) 7. Administer Diversity Initiative Grants (which supplement, rather than replace Student Initiative Grants) to student groups and departments that sponsor DEI-related events.
<p>New By-Laws section to be added that describe the DEI Committee:</p>		<p>Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chaired by the DEI Chair. 2. Communicate the needs of students to the ASGC Executive Board. 3. Maintain relationships with student groups and consider ways to promote DEI advocacy. 4. Evaluate and disburse Diversity Initiative Grants. 5. Maintain relationships with GSAS Administration and OADI. 6. Work with the Quality of Life committee to ensure that the annual QoL survey addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
<p>By-Laws II.6 & 8</p>	<p>[Describe the duties of the defunct Alumni and Community committees]</p>	<p>[cut obsolete sections]</p>
<p>By-Laws II.12</p>	<p>Section 12. All current or past ad hoc committees voted on by GSAC will terminate March 31st 2018.</p>	<p>[cut obsolete sections]</p>
<p>By-Laws IV.2</p>	<p>Section 2. The order of elections in March shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Finance Chair, Community Chair, Quality of Life Chair, Media Chair, Events Co-Chairs, Alumni Chair.</p>	<p>The order of elections in March shall be: President, Vice-President (Administration), Vice President (External Affairs), Finance Chair, Communications Chair, Quality of Life Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair, Events Co-Chairs, Media Chair.</p>