ASGC Plenary Meeting Agenda
January 18, 2022, 6:30 PM
Zoom Link | password: 599581| https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/

Dates of Upcoming ASGC Plenary Meetings (a Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm):
February 15, March 22, April 19

1. Welcome (President, Ashley Wells, asgc.president@columbia.edu)
2. Guest
   a. Rachel Bernard (Director of Graduate Career Development) & Francesca Fanelli, GSAS Compass (Associate Director of Graduate Career Development)
      i. Rachel and Francesca used the GSAS Compass webpage for the presentation. The staff is flexible, willing to work with grad students who are just beginning their programs to grad students interested in a specific position. They frequently send out a workshops schedule via email to GSAS. In the past they’ve held career fairs, but this semester, they are planning a spring career expo, for which they are partnering with four other grad schools. Toward the bottom of the page, they highlighted tabs for the student toolkit, GSAS and university resources, and employers and alumni links. They also highlighted a large blue button to the right side of the page labeled “Access GSAS Connect,” which takes students to their GSAS Connect profile. They encouraged students to log in if they haven’t yet to start exploring. Within GSAS Connect, students can view upcoming events and adjust settings so the tech can better learn your preferences and highlights. A menu along left side of the page offers a variety of options, including: Jobs & Internships, all of which are appropriate for M.A. and Ph.D. students; a place to develop a Public Profile; a place to upload Documents like a resume, CV, etc.; Events; Interviews; Appointments, where students can schedule an advising appointment; a Resource section with a curated resource library full of documents that will help with any aspect of a job search from exploration to beyond; and more. The Resource section is a great place to start with timelines and for general information.
      ii. The GSAS Compass staff is always open to suggestions, so if there is an employer you’d like to see at one of our events or workshop or panel you’d like to see, please send an email to: gsas-compass@columbia.edu
      iii. Questions:
1. For students looking for tips on writing resumes, and particularly a resume maker, is that something we have available on our page?
   a. We have the resume builder, but Simplicity recently went through a bunch of updates, so it is not visible on the site anymore. The resume builder will be coming back soon, and the Career Development team will publicize it when it is.
2. When filling out a profile, if it’s incomplete, do employers still see it? If we only fill out part of it, do they see it?
   a. The system has a “promote me” feature allowing employers outside to see. You can reach that setting by going into My Account, to Privacy, to that specific option, and you can toggle the button back and forth to indicate you’re ready for your profile to go public or keep it private.
3. Is there a mentorship program in terms of connecting grad students to employers somehow?
   a. GSAS Compass don’t provide a program that connects employers/alumni with students in that intensive mentorship program. Students often get mentorship from programs, but this office has more to do with opportunities. They also help coordinate a fellowship experience with administrative office on campus for Ph.D. students. Additionally they have events that are somewhat like a speed-mentorship, which are short group sessions where you might exchange contact information, etc. GSAS Connect is working on rolling out programs to connect masters students with similar resources. They are also working on connecting to larger groups, and often refer students to Alumni. They also encourage students to find a variety of people to help guide, give opinions, and offer mentorship, rather than just one. Though they don’t have a formalized program, they will help you think strategically about how to develop those mentors and identify areas where you need additional support.
4. If anyone has any questions or suggestions, please email. And please take advantage of this resource regardless of what stage you are in your graduate career

3. Sign-in Instructions (Communications Chair, Mariah Noble, asgc.communications@columbia.edu)

4. Updates
   a. President, Ashley Wells (asgc.president@columbia.edu)
      i. Columbia Residential Conversation - 8th year of housing
         1. Ashley had a conversation with Dean Richard and the GSAS housing liaison last week to discuss some of the confusion that was taking place
regarding GSAS students moving into their 8th year and their eligibility for housing through Columbia Residential. GSAS clarified that while Columbia Residential does have an open application policy for all students that want housing regardless of their year, GSAS places a restriction on students due to the fact that they are not allotted enough beds for all of the students that need housing. GSAS only gives 5 years of guaranteed housing and only allows for GSAS students to apply for two additional years of housing after that - up to 7 years. The only exceptions that GSAS allows for their policy revolve around approved medical leaves, domestic violence issues, and weather related damage making an apartment unlivable. Unfortunately, extensions for students moving into their 8th year that cite Covid-19 as the reasoning will not be accepted.

2. In order to mitigate this confusion moving forward, Ashley will ask next year’s President to prioritize having both Columbia Residential and the GSAS housing liaison attend plenary meetings so that the most accurate information is being presented. Additionally, any students who are having issues with this policy and/or with issues regarding housing in general should reach out to Emma Johnson, who is the current GSAS Housing Liaison (edj2115@columbia.edu)

ii. Current Covid Restrictions and Spring Semester Plans

1. As of now, there is a University wide rule that all on and off campus in person social events are to be cancelled. We do not yet know if this restriction will carry over into February. We will keep you updated on if our next plenary meeting will be in person.

iii. March 2022 Plenary Date Change

1. The original date for this meeting was during Spring Break, so that meeting will be moved to Tuesday, March 22

b. VP, Administration, Laura DiNardo (asgc.vpadministration@columbia.edu)

i. End of Semester Dept. Rep Mixer - Dependent on when Covid Restrictions lift

1. Keep an eye out for information on that.

c. VP, External Affairs, Bhargav Gopal (asgc.vpexternalaffairs@columbia.edu)

i. Senate Elections

1. We’re getting a new list of voter rolls from the Senate staff. Once we have that, we can announce the Senate election and hopefully gain interest from qualified candidates

d. Finance, Tea Crnkovic (asgc.finance@columbia.edu)

i. Travel Grants

1. New spring travel restrictions guidelines
2. Deadline this Friday
3. https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/content/student-travel-grant

ii. Student Initiative Grants

1. Student spending against Columbia policy
   a. There are always some issues with students not fully knowing how to submit expenses, so Harold Ansah and Tea are compiling more detailed instructions for event expenses and submitting
reimbursement packages. Anyone with questions should contact Harold (hansah@columbia.edu).

2.  https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/content/student-initiative-grant

iii. Annual Budget
1.  https://council.gsas.columbia.edu/content/annual-budget
2.  Due to an excess of funding from the previous year, we have plenty of funding for initiative grants and travel funds, so please encourage students to apply.

e. Quality of Life, Megan Reddy (asgc.qualityoflife@columbia.edu)
   i.  QoL Survey planning

f. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Arden Lee (ga2448@columbia.edu)
   i.  Diversity Initiative Grants
   1.  We also have plenty of money to spend, so please let us know if you can submit applications.
   2.  Arden also encouraged members of her subcommittee members to fill out a survey for when to meet this week or next week.

g. Events, P.J. Robinson and Thu Hai Pham (events.asgc@columbia.edu)
   i.  All January Events are postponed
   ii. Upcoming events are TBD - dependent on Covid restrictions

h. Masters Affairs, Hannah May (asgc.masters@columbia.edu)

5. External Representative Updates (VP, External Affairs, Bhargav Gopal, asgc.vpexternalaffairs@columbia.edu):
   a. Health, Pragya Gupta (pg2705@columbia.edu)
      i.  No comments
   b. Libraries, Rahim Hashim (rh2898@columbia.edu)
      i.  They haven’t had a meeting yet, but hopefully that will happen in the near future, so we’ll have an update. As a recap, they have created a vision committee for how to best plan out spaces in Uris and get feedback from the graduate and undergraduate community. There are meetings this coming year, and they will start building in 2023.
      ii. Currently, Rahim is not aware of any libraries available to everyone on Manhattanville Campus. Dear Mama is a popular place to study but gets pretty packed.
   c. ISSO, Anzhen Tang (at3399@columbia.edu)
      i.  No comments
   d. Student Workers of Columbia (UAW)/Union, Alex Jensen (caj2167@columbia.edu)
      i.  The strike has ended, so now we’re figuring out make-up work plans for the spring. Implementation appears to differ from department to department, so there’s not one specific stipulation for student workers.
   e. IGB, Colton Klein (colton.klein@columbia.edu)
      i.  The IGB’s next meeting is on Saturday.
f. PhDC, Karen Perez (kip2105@columbia.edu), Sara Shabani (ss5558@columbia.edu),
   Brett Stine (bls2187@columbia.edu)
   i. The PhDC hasn’t had its January meeting yet, but we are excited that we’ll have
      all three GSAS seats filled this semester.

6. Senators’ Updates
   a. No comments

7. New Business (Open Forum)
   a. None

8. Adjournment (President, Ashley Wells: asgc.president@columbia.edu)

*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.