

**UGA Graduate Student Association**  
**University Council Update**  
**November 2018**  
**Dr. Dannie Leigh Chalk**

- Introduction of 2018-2019 Executive Team
  - Dr. Dannie Leigh Chalk, President; University Council, Executive Committee, Graduate Affairs Committee, Educational Affairs Committee, University Libraries Committee
  - Ms. Chasity Tomkins, Vice-President; University Council, Curriculum Committee
  - Mr. Travis Henry, Secretary; Technology Fee Committee
  - Ad hoc members:
    - Ms. Stacey Allyn Chavis, University Council Member, Committee on Student Life, and Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics
    - Mr. Justin Simpson, Strategic Planning Committee
- Announcement of organizational name change and rationale
- GSA Pillars for 2018-2019
  - *Communication & Articulation*
  - *Virtual Engagement*
  - *Fiduciary Transparency*
  - *Reciprocity*
  - *Graduate-Specific Programming*
    - GSA-created programs will serve the unique interests and needs of graduate students. GSA will not invest in programs that duplicate services already offered by other arms of the university or that serve the academic, professional, or fiscal interests of select groups. This will include the re-envisioning of the yearly graduate student Interdisciplinary Research Conference (IRC), which will be designed for the benefit of UGA graduate students and will encourage experimentation, intellectual risk-taking, and collaboration.
  - *Grassroots Collaboration*
    - GSA will increase its efforts to collaborate at the departmental and program level. Graduate student organizations from all departments and programs are encouraged to reach out to GSA for assistance in developing programming including, but not limited to, special speaker events, workshops, roundtables, performances, and field experiences. In this way, GSA can extend its support as directed by the immediate goals of graduate students within their fields and disciplines.
- 2019 Interdisciplinary Research Conference (IRC) Call for Papers: “Resistance and Renewal”
- Collaborative workshops with Mariann Burrignt, University Libraries’ Head of Scholarly Communication, Copyright, and Science Collections
- Collaboration with UGA’s Equal Opportunity Office to develop workshops on sexual harassment and assault for Graduate Research Assistants
- Evolving committee on UGA transit issues and relations with Athens Transit, soon to be opened into graduate community-wide forums