

September Update for University Council

As the official, university-sanctioned representative body of graduate and professional students at the University of Georgia, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) has been busy advocating for interventions, policies, and programs that address graduate student concerns and organizing impactful activities, initiatives, programs, and services that improve the graduate student experience.

Key areas of success are noted below:

- I. Through recent events (e.g. 2024 Graduate School Welcome and Pizza Palooza), the Graduate Student Association officers have **met and welcomed 150+ graduate students** (back) to the University of Georgia.
- II. We aim to engage ~15 graduate and professional students as an organizational team participating in the upcoming Dawg of Service.
- III. With 40+ representatives from academic programs in the social sciences, natural sciences, physical sciences, life sciences, humanities, and professional areas, the Graduate Student Association Council plans to address the concerns of graduate and professional students in five distinct committees. GSA's organizational capacity is being expanded through 2 ad-hoc committees.
- IV. To date, graduate student voice is present within the University Council, the Graduate Council, the Student Affairs Student Advisory Board, and the Student Technology Fee Advisory Committee.
- V. The voice of graduate students has been instrumental in launching Dining Services' new meal plan, explicitly designed for commuting and residential graduate and professional students.
- VI. The Graduate Student has **initiated and/or maintained communication and engagement with multiple stakeholder groups such** as The Graduate School, the Division of Student
 Affairs (Engagement, Leadership & Service), the Student Government Association (SGA), The
 Staff Council, the Office of International Student Life, and the University of Georgia Alumni
 Association.

Further questions regarding the Graduate Student Association may be directed to the President at gsa@uga.edu.