



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
GRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

General Assembly Meeting

September 9, 2026

12 -1pm

In person: Gatton Student Center, 330AB

Remote: Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order (President: Maisy Webster)

2. Introductions

3. Attendance (Secretary: Amanda Gyesi)



Committee Interest form - <https://uky.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/735301>

4. Overview of Graduate Student Congress (Maisy Webster)

- a. **Mission:** GSC exists to unify and represent graduate and professional students, as well as postdoctoral scholars at UK in matters affecting the quality of their academic, professional, and campus experience.
- b. **Organization Aims**
 - Identify graduate and profession student's concerns and engage in problem-solving and advocacy
 - Connect students with resources and support services on campus
 - Offer funding opportunities and assist with expenses related to professional development activities.
 - Host social events to connect students across colleges.
 - Organize workshops and events aimed at enhancing students' career development.
- c. **Goals for the year**
 - Increase advocacy through increased connection with grad student body about concerns, Increased communication with university stakeholders, and improved information sharing.
 - Improve service delivery effectiveness through a focus on a smaller number of high-quality initiatives.
- d. **Key initiatives**

Ongoing

- Regalia closet
- Academic printing services
- Current affairs updates for grad students
- Visit to state capitol

- Wellbeing events
- Social events

New goals 2026/27

- Anonymous feedback system for grad students
- Expanded Printing services
- Emphasis on resource sharing

e. Organization structure



f. Leadership Awards

New for Fall 2026: Leadership compensation based on role responsibilities:

- Executive Board positions: \$400/semester
- Committee Chair positions: \$200/semester
- Volunteer awards: 5 \$100 awards/semester based on nominations

5. Constitution Review (Vice President: Kameron Cox)

Overall Purpose:

- Make the Constitution less overly specific.
- Give future GSC leadership more flexibility.
- Move detailed procedures into the By-Laws.
- Make it easier for GSC to adapt to changing student needs.
- Clarify how the Constitution and By-Laws work together.

Clarify the roles of the:

- Executive Board
- Leadership Team
- Representatives

a. Overview of changes this year

Items amended focused broadly on:

- Constitution's overall purpose and focus.
- Defined leadership teams more broadly.
- Revised to create a broader framework for standing committees.

- Revised committees and executive board oversight.
- By-laws and what they are responsible for.
- Rewording language used for meeting requirements.
- Broader framework for standing committees.

b. Questions/discussion

No specific questions were raised on the constitution, except for a clarifying question on the format of the document.

c. Vote on changes

Election Results:

- 94.7% YES
- 2.63% NO
- 2.63% ABSTAIN

6. Staffing and Operations (Chief of Staff: Jamar Green)

Overview:

Six committees in total

- **Appropriations & Implementations Committee**
Review applications for academic printing awards weekly and manage the poster tube rental system; monitor organization budget and spending
- **Internal & External Affairs Committee**
Develop and monitor systems for collecting anonymous feedback from graduate students across campus and report responses to the Executive Board on a bi-weekly basis (e.g., basic needs, resources, stipends, health services, etc.); plan Frankfort visit
- **Wellbeing Committee**
Coordinate and host at least one event per semester (around midterms if possible) to promote graduate/professional student well-being (e.g., massage therapy drop-in, etc.)
- **Professional Development Committee**
Manage applications for regalia rental closet
- **Community Engagement Committee**
Manage social media for GSC by posting at least once per week about upcoming events and/or ongoing initiatives; host community events
- **International Student Affairs Committee**
Gather information on the needs of international students and share with the leadership team, generate initiatives/events to support international students

a. **Committee updates**

- All representatives and volunteers will be appointed to committees based off a committee interest ranking process
- Appointments are made by the Chief of Staff

- All committee Chairs will be appointed by the Chief of Staff
- You will rank your interest for each committee on a scale of 1 (Most Interested) to 6 (Least Interested)
- Form will open 9/9/26 at 12 PM and close on 9/11/26 at 11:59 PM
- Notifications of the committee and chair appointments will be sent via email the week of September 14th
- Committee appointments will be on a 'first come, first serve' basis
- The sooner you complete the interest form, the better chance you will have of getting on the committee you are most interested in

b. How to sign up for committee work & leadership

- Interest form - <https://uky.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/735301>

7. General Updates & Reminders (Maisy Webster)

- GSC now has a Teams Page
- Join on BBNvolved for more updates.
- Next meeting: Wednesday 10/7/26 at 12:00pm
Alumni Gallery @ WT Young Library
Virtual option via Teams
- President's office hours:** Thurs 2pm – 3pm via zoom or by request
Zoom link: <https://ukth.zoom.us/j/85123761519?pwd=9uBQvhsqNcKlyW6FXuD0x0TZ0HiWkt.1>
- Officer elections
 - Officer positions are open for new members (treasurer, student affairs officer).
 - Members can email Vice President to show interest.
 - Kameron's email: Kameron.Cox@uky.edu

8. Open Floor/Discussion

- Travel Grants and changes implemented: GSC can't provide grants directly to individuals, have pivoted to providing material resources to support conference travel (i.e. posters); open to ideas for additional ways to support professional development.
- If you're planning events with GSC you can apply for some funding. More information to follow about this process once committees are organized.
- Director of Graduate Students position open (Student Government Association). More information to follow via email.
- Can GSC help with transportation? No, not if it is going directly to a student. We cannot provide direct reimbursement to individuals.

9. Meeting Close

- Meeting ended at 12:50pm
- Invitees – 122; Attended- 47

Please email any questions or concerns to gsc@uky.edu