STEERING COMMITTEE:

President: Sarah Joseph
Vice President Administration: Lisa Kahl
Vice President Communications: Ian Bradley-Perrin
Budget & Finance: Sarah Arkebauer
Quality of Life: Sandra Chiritescu
Alumni & Career Development: Adam Blazej
Culture: David Mejia
Social: Frank Cusimano
TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATION ..................... 3

ADMINISTRATIVE ........................................ 4
  UPDATES .............................................. 4
  AWARDS .............................................. 6
  ELECTIONS ............................................ 6

BUDGET & FINANCE .................................... 7
  STUDENT INITIATIVE GRANTS ....................... 7
  TRAVEL GRANTS ...................................... 7

QUALITY OF LIFE ...................................... 7
  QUALITY OF LIFE SURVEY .......................... 7
  NAGPS ................................................. 7

ALUMNI & CAREER DEVELOPMENT ................. 8
  HOW TO SUCCEED .................................... 8
  LINKENIN WORKSHOP ............................... 8

SOCIAL & CULTURE EVENTS .......................... 8
  MUSIC, CONCERTS, & DANCE ....................... 8
  SPORTS ............................................... 10
  HAPPY HOURS & OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS ....... 10
DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATION

VOTING SEATS: 60 (39 GSAS; 21 NON-GSAS)
• Filled: 29
• Vacant: 41

ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & PRESERVATION (0/2)
• Unrepresented: Architecture, Urban planning

ARTS & SCIENCES: BIOMEDICAL* (5/10)
• Unrepresented: Biomedical Informatics; Genetics & Development; Cellular, Molecular & Biomedical Studies; Microbiology, Immunology & Infection; Neurobiology & Behavior; Pathobiology & Molecular Medicine

ARTS & SCIENCES: HUMANITIES (10/13)
• Unrepresented: Art History & Archaeology, Classical Studies, Classics

ARTS & SCIENCES: NATURAL SCIENCES (6/9)
• Unrepresented: Astronomy, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology

ARTS & SCIENCES: SOCIAL SCIENCES (3/5)
• Unrepresented: Anthropology, Sociology

BUSINESS (1/1)

ENGINEERING* (2/10)
• Unrepresented: Applied Physics & Applied Mathematics, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering & Engineering Mechanics, Computer Science, Earth & Environmental Engineering, Electrical Engineering

INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS (1/1)

JOURNALISM (0/1)
• Unrepresented: Communications

PUBLIC HEALTH (0/4)
• Unrepresented: Biostatistics, Epidemiology, EHS, Sociomedical Sciences

NURSING (0/1)

SOCIAL WORK (0/1)

MA PROGRAMS (1/1)**
*The GSAS Biomedical programs and the Engineering programs are represented by GSO and EGSC, respectively. These two groups send at least one representative to our monthly meetings.
** All MA programs are represented by one department representative—this will change to 3 representatives next Fall.
ADMINISTRATIVE

UPDATES

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES
After working with the Dean’s office to determine how our budget is allocated, it came to our attention that GSAC provides services to students who do not contribute into our budget. We came up with a plan to meet with the student groups (GSO-Medical Campus, EGSC-Engineering, and GSA-Public Health) to discuss this matter before bringing it to the attention of the respective Deans. After communication with EGSC, we have determined that EGSC will collaborate with GSAC efforts, but that EGSC will be solely responsible for advocating student needs for Engineering students. To this end, GSAC starting in the FALL 2017 will not provide travel funding or Student Initiative Grants to Engineering students and social events will be in collaboration with EGSC.

UPCOMING CHANGES
In February, the GSAC President and Vice President of Administration met with the EGSC President and Interschool Chair to discuss budget disentanglement for the coming academic year 2017-2018. Based on mutual agreement, EGSC will not be represented by 11 voting DR seats from the start of the new academic year, but only send their Interschool Chair to GSAC plenary meetings. However, the change to GSAC Constitution has not been made yet, but will take place in the first two plenary meetings of the upcoming academic year 2017-2018.

In addition, it is the aim of the outgoing and incoming GSAC Steering Committee to draw up a document that outlines GSAC’s ongoing effort to align GSAC’s constituency and programming with GSAC’s budget sources. We will continue to work with other student governments to integrate and disentangle student representation on Columbia’s campus.

CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION (APRIL)
Change to Article VI Section 3 to increase of voting seats for MA students, from 1 to 3.

Article VI. Voting
“Section 3. All MA programs will collectively be represented by three representatives, entitled to one vote each.”

INVITED PLENARY SPEAKERS
• January 2017: ISSO
• February 2017: OMBUDS Office
• March 2017: Graduate Workers Bargaining Committee

STUDENT GROUPS SPRING 2017
APPROVAL
New approved student groups: 2
Unapproved group applications: 0

Graduate Queer Trust (GQT) (February)
The Graduate Queer Trust (GQT) has three mission statements. First, GQT seeks to provide the first social framework for LGBTQ individuals across GSAS. Second, the Trust aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and promote interaction with members
across different departments. Third, GQT seeks to create a space for all LGBTQ students in the Graduate School to strengthen their personal and professional pathways.

**Columbia University Amateur Radio Club (February)**
The Columbia University Amateur Radio Club has existed, on and off, at Columbia since 1908 and is considered by many to be the oldest ham radio club in the world (see our website for our history). The club operates amateur (Ham) radios to teach electronics and radio science, to provide an on campus community for like-minded individuals, to communicate across borders, and provide our community with the ability to communicate should a disaster cripple our nations infrastructure. For example, Ham radio operators played a key role in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Sandy.

**END OF YEAR REPORT**
The following GSAC recognized student groups are going inactive:
- Columbia Laboratory Environment & Energy Network (CLEEN)
- Columbia University Petroleum Society
- South Asian Women's Collective (SAWC)

The following GSAC recognized student groups are now suspended (due to not completing the end of year report):
- 92% Alliance
- Columbia Biotechnology Club
- GSAS Parents Group
- Human Rights Graduate Student Group

All remaining GSAC recognized student group are still active and in good standing with GSAC. The full updated list of student groups is available at http://columbiagsac.wpengine.com/student-groups/list-of-recognized-graduate-student-groups/

**CO-SPONSORSHIPS**

**EXPANDED QUOTATION**

This year GSAC was a sponsor for an Interdisciplinary Conference on the Uses of Intertextuality in Non-Textual Media called: Expanded Quotation. This event was organized in part by Sophie Schweiger, a GSAC Representative. The conference was two days, April 6-7, 2017, and featured Chrsitian Kracht, author of “Imperium”, and student based discussions. GSAC donated $100 for this event.

**MARCH FOR SCIENCE**

GSAC, along with EGSC, GSO, CUSP, QSTEM, and the GWC-UAW hosted busses to bring students to Washington D.C for the March for Science on April 22, 2017. Over one hundred graduate students from Columbia participated in the March at Washington D.C. while others marched in NY. The busses, water, and ponchos were provided for free by the GWC-UAW.
AWARDS

FACULTY MENTORING AWARDS
GSAC presents a faculty mentoring award annually during convocation to two members of Columbia University faculty to recognize excellence in mentoring PhD students. This award is a student initiative; selections were made entirely by graduate student representatives from GSAS and affiliated schools based on student nomination letters spanning across all disciplines. The recipients of the 2017 awards are:
Dr. Van C. Tran, Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology
Dr. Oded Netzer, Associate Professor of Business

CHINWEIKE OKEGBE SERVICE AWARD
Each year GSAC presents three Service Awards to a combination of graduate students and/or non-students in recognition of their service to the Columbia graduate community. This year the award was re-named in honor of Dr. Chinweike Okegbe, an exceptional graduate student who embodied what it meant to serve the wider Columbia Community, and this year was the first year the Chinweike Okegbe Service Award was presented. The recipients of the 2017 Chinweike Okegbe Service Award are:
Andrew Hsu, PhD Candidate in Chemistry
Joseph Harder, PhD Candidate in Chemistry
Andrea Solomon, Vice Dean and Dean of Academic Affairs

ELECTIONS

2017-2018 STEERING COMMITTEE
President: Lisa Kahl, PhD Candidate in Biology
Vice President of Administration: Andrew Hsu, PhD Candidate in Chemistry
Vice President of Communication: Abigail Ironside MacBain, PhD Candidate in East Asian Languages & Cultures
Alumni & Career Development Chair: Frank Cusimano, PhD Candidate in Nutritional & Metabolic Biology
Budget & Finance Chair: Sarah Arkebauer, PhD Candidate in English & Comp Lit
Quality of Life Chair: Krista Van Giesen, MA Student in Medieval & Renaissance Studies
Culture Chair: David Mejia, PhD Candidate in Latin American & Iberian Cultures
Social Chair: Sarah Joseph, PhD Candidate in Genetics and Development

SENATE ELECTION
The GSAS Student Senator for the Humanities resigned. In May, we held an election to fill this open seat. Yu Cheung, a first year masters student in the East Asian Languages and Cultures Department, ran unopposed and was elected to fill the position to serve for a one year term until graduation. We are currently in communication with the University Senate to move the election process from the plenary to an administrator in the Dean’s office.
### STUDENT INITIATIVE GRANTS

**APPLICATIONS**

- Number of grants submitted: 19
- Total funding requested: $14,463
- Maximum funding requested by one group: $1,000
- Minimum funding requested by one group: $400
- Median funding requested: $980

**AWARDS**

- Number of grants awarded: 19
- Total funding awarded: $10,500
- Maximum funding awarded to one group: $700
- Minimum funding awarded to one group: $300
- Median funding awarded: $600

### TRAVEL GRANTS

**APPLICATIONS**

- Number of grants submitted: 6
- Departments represented: Sociology (3), Latin American and Iberian Cultures, MESAAS, Climate and Society
- Average funding requested: $500
- Total funding requested: $3,000

**AWARDS**

- Number of grants awarded: 22 (54% of applications)
- Number of grants awarded: 6
- Departments represented: Sociology (3), Latin American and Iberian Cultures, MESAAS, Climate and Society
- Average funding awarded: $500
- Total funding awarded: $3,000

### QUALITY OF LIFE

**QUALITY OF LIFE SURVEY**

During the Spring 2017 Semester, the Quality of Life Committee designed, administered, and analyzed the 2017 Quality of Life Survey. The survey was administered using Google Forms and had 419 responses (~10% of the graduate student population). The full report is forthcoming and will be available on our website.

**NAGPS (APRIL)**

The Quality of Life Chair hosted the 2017 National Association of Graduate and Professional Students Northeast Regional Conference, April 7-8 with 25 members of
graduate student councils in attendance. There she and President Sarah Joseph were able to network with leaders from other schools, compare notes on best practices, and further encourage the advocacy work that NAGPS does on a national level.

---

ALUMNI & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

MAKING THE MOST OF THE SPRING 2017 CAREER FAIR
Description: Co-sponsored with EGSC. This workshop provided attendees with information and strategies for making the most of CCE’s 2017 Spring Career Fair.
• Date: February 13, 2017
• Location: Mudd 545
• Number of attendees: 70

LINKEDIN WORKSHOP AND HEADSHOTS
Description: Co-sponsored with EGSC. Attendees were provided a LinkedIn tutorial, followed by an opportunity to have professional head shots taken by the Columbia Photography Association.
• Date: April 27, 2017
• Location: CCE Conference Room
• Number of attendees: 15
• Net Cost: -$200 (2 photographers for 1 hour, $100/hour/photographer)

SOCIAL & CULTURE EVENTS

MUSIC, CONCERTS, & DANCE
SLEEP NO MORE
• Date: Nov. 16, 2016
• Location: McKittrick Hotel
• Tickets sold: 28/30
• Ticket purchase price: 2595
• Ticket sell price: 40
• Net: -1475

DIANNE REEVES (JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER)
• Date: Feb. 10, 2017
• Location: Lincoln Center
• Tickets sold: 20/20
• Ticket purchase price: 700
• Ticket sell price: 15
• Net: -400
BRAHMS REQUIEM WITH HERAS CASADO
• Date: Feb. 16
• Location: Carnegie Hall
• Tickets sold: 29/30
• Ticket purchase price: 1628.2
• Ticket sell price: 25
• Net: -928.2

EDDIE PALMIERI (JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER)
• Date: Mar. 3, 2017
• Location: Lincoln Center
• Tickets sold: 19/20
• Ticket purchase price: 630
• Ticket sell price: 15
• Net: -345

WILCO
• Date: Mar. 22, 2017
• Location: Beacon Theater
• Tickets sold: 19/20
• Ticket purchase price: 1851.55
• Ticket sell price: 40
• Net: -1091.55

NATASHA, PIERRE AND THE GREAT COMET OF 1812
• Date: Apr. 14, 2017
• Location: Imperial Theatre
• Tickets sold: 15/16
• Ticket purchase price: 2000
• Ticket sell price: 30
• Net: -1550

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE
• Date: Apr. 20, 2017
• Location: Hudson Theater
• Tickets sold: 19/20
• Ticket purchase price: 2188.5
• Ticket sell price: 40
• Net: -1388.5
THE BOOK OF MORMON
• Date: May 3rd, 2017
• Location: O’Neill Theatre
• Tickets sold: 30
• Event cost: $2084.5
• Ticket sell price: $45
• Net: $-729.5
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: Yes, 3 total
• GSAC volunteers required: 2
• Description: Book of Mormon Showing on Broadway

THE BOOK OF MORMON
• Date: May 24/25th, 2017
• Location: O’Neill Theatre
• Tickets sold: 30/10
• Event cost: $2789
• Ticket sell price: $45
• Net: $-1224
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: Yes, 5 total
• GSAC volunteers required: 2
• Description: Book of Mormon Showing on Broadway

SPORTS
BASKETBALL: NY KNICKS VS. TORONTO RAPTORS
• Date: Apr. 9, 2017
• Location: Madison Square Garden
• Tickets sold: 19/20
• Ticket purchase price: 2500
• Ticket sell price: 50
• Net: -1550

HAPPY HOURS & OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS
HUNTER MOUNTAIN SKI TRIP
• Date: March 18, 2017
• Location: Hunter Mountain
• Tickets sold: 30
• Ticket purchase price: 2195
• Ticket sell price: $40-130
• Bus Cost: $1622.65
• Net: -$1125
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: No
• GSAC volunteers required: 1
• Description: Students took a bus up to Hunter Mountain and for Ski/Snowboarding.
NIGHT AT THE BAR: GIN MILL
• Date: March 23, 2017
• Location: Gin Mill
• Tickets sold: 74
• Ticket purchase price: $1776
• Ticket sell price: $10
• Net: -$926
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: No
• GSAC volunteers required: 2
• Description: TEASE at the Gin Bar for Grad Students with a 2 hr drink special.

GSAC/GAPSA UPENN ALUMNI MIXER
• Date: April 1, 2017
• Location: The DL
• Tickets sold: 200
• Event cost: $4032
• Ticket sell price: $10
• Net: $4967
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: Yes
• GSAC volunteers required: 2
• Description: Open bar for 200 UPENN and Columbia Students and young alumni

GSAC/EGSC POKER NIGHT
• Date: April 15, 2017
• Location: Mudd – Morningside Campus
• Guests Attended: 43
• Event cost: $200
• Ticket sell price: $0
• Net: -$200
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: Yes
• GSAC volunteers required: 2
• Description: Poker tournament for 43 EGSC and GSAC students

END OF THE YEAR PARTY: THE PARLOUR
• Date: May 12, 2016
• Location: The Parlour (UWS)
• Tickets sold: 175
• Event price: $4700
• Ticket sell price: $10 - $15
• Net: -$2300
• Non-GSAS guests allowed: Yes
• GSAC volunteers required: 2
• Description: Drinks and Appetizer event at a local venue for the end of the year Party.
MARCH FOR SCIENCE: POSTER MAKING

- Date: April 20, 2017
- Location: Kraft Center Rooms 5A and 5B
- Event price: $150
- Ticket sell price: Free
- Net: $0
- Non-GSAS guests allowed: No
- GSAC volunteers required: 0
- Description: A social event co-hosted by the Office of University Life, EGSC, and GWC-UAW to allow students to create posters and enjoy snacks. The event had no cost because GWC-UAW provided the poster making material and the Office of University Life funded the food and drinks.