



GSS General Senate Minutes

Monday, October 6, 2025 | Hybrid: [Zoom Link](#) or UC 4th floor room 402/403 | 6:30 - 8:30pmPT

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. **Executive:** Kojo, Ana, Mrigank, Shivani, Alvin
- b. **Senators:** Paul, Jaylene, Satinderpal, Maria, Valentina, Wyatt, Dede, Sophia, Nyssa, Mahdi
- c. **Support Staff:** Richie, Miz, Mya
- d. What is your favorite part of the fall season? [6:30 pm-6:45 pm]

2. Land Recognition Statement (Sacramento) [6:45 pm - 6:50 pm]

- a. Senator Paul presented his own land recognition statement. This statement gives indigenous people a space to say things they have already known and valued.

3. Approval of Agenda [6:50 pm]

- a. Senator Dede motioned to approve the agenda
 - i. Senator Wyatt seconded
 1. Agenda was approved unanimously

4. Senator Report (School Nursing and Health Professions) [7:00pm - 7:10pm]

- a. Senator Satinderpal met with her school's representative on October 3 and presented a Narcan proposal. The School of Nursing and Health Professions expressed strong enthusiasm for expanding Narcan education to staff, faculty, students, and the wider USF community.
- b. Received positive feedback and approval to organize a Narcan demonstration event on campus, led by her supervisor.

- c. Was advised to contact advisor Richie to reserve a venue and begin advertising to ensure strong attendance.
- d. Requested support from senators in attending and assisting with event logistics and scheduling.
- e. Advisor Richie noted that undergraduate students are also developing a Narcan Resolution and recommended collaboration with ASUSF President Emiko to align efforts and strengthen impact.

5. Senator Support

[7:10pm - 8:00pm]

- a. Ana (VP IA) - [Communication and Collaboration Guide](#)
 - i. Presented the GSS Communication and Collaboration Guide to clarify expectations and best practices for internal coordination.
 - ii. Explained that each senator pair is allocated \$1,000 for the academic year and must decide how to distribute these funds.
 - iii. Stressed the urgency of informing students about the availability of these funds and identifying eligible groups for support.
 - iv. Outlined communication channels and emphasized the importance of document retention and transparency within the GSS Google Drive for continuity across future senate teams.
 - v. Reinforced that all GSS-sponsored events must remain open to the USF community to foster inclusivity.
 - vi. Reviewed executive expectations and outlined the feedback and support structure available to senators.
 - vii. President Kojo reiterated the importance of shared priorities and open communication, encouraging ongoing collaboration among all GSS members.
 - viii. VPIA Ana opened the floor for questions; none were raised.
- b. Alvin (VP Treasury) - [Senator Initiative Fund](#)
 - i. Presented four graduate student funding opportunities for the year:
 - ii. Conference Funding: Up to \$300 for registration, lodging, and air travel.
 - iii. Certification Funding: Up to \$150 for certification fees.
 - iv. Event Funding: Up to \$2,000 for GSO events such as panels, speaker series, and networking events.

- v. Development Funding: Up to \$500 for internal GSO needs such as branding or uniforms.
- vi. Senator Nyssa asked if her GSO qualifies for funding.
 - 1. VPT Alvin confirmed eligibility if the organization is recognized and documentation is complete.
- vii. Senator Mahdi inquired about processing times within the Law School.
 - 1. VPT Alvin confirmed the application portal is open and accepting new submissions.
- viii. All funding requests must be submitted at least three weeks before the event date.
- ix. The Senator Initiative Fund may be used for food, decorations, and self-care items for senator constituents, available exclusively to GSS senators.
- x. VPT Alvin encouraged senators to communicate with their advisors and executive team when preparing proposals.
- xi. Advisor Richie reminded senators that all purchases must be finalized before contacting him for reimbursement or coordination.

6. Break

[7:30 pm -7:40 pm]

7. Advisor – Richie: Resolution and Statement Process

- a. Provided an overview of the structure and process for developing resolutions and statements, including examples of successful past initiatives.
- b. Explained the formal steps required for drafting, presenting, and passing resolutions through GSS.
- c. Senator Dede asked how general students can reach out for support and what themes have been most successful.
 - i. Advisor Richie responded that resolutions addressing broad student needs or cross-departmental issues tend to gain the most traction.

8. Committee Reports

[8:00pm - 8:15pm]

- a. Finance Committee:
 - i. Reported \$1,800 allocated across multiple funding requests, including:
 - ii. 3 event applications
 - iii. 1 conference application
 - iv. 1 certification application

- b. Internal Affairs Committee:
 - i. Reviewed potential senator candidates and will present one recommendation for Senate approval.
 - ii. Confirmed three guest speakers for the remainder of the semester.
- c. External Affairs Committee:
 - i. Provided updates on Fall Summit preparations:
 - ii. Newsletters and flyers are nearing completion.
 - iii. Senators were reminded to contact alumni for panel participation.
 - iv. Marketing materials are finalized and will begin posting soon.
 - v. Encouraged senators to attend the summit in person when possible.
- d. Mission Committee:
 - i. Requested senator participation in projects addressing student-parent housing.
 - ii. Actively developing two resolutions: Muni Pass and Student-Parent Housing.
 - iii. Met with student representatives this week and will begin drafting resolutions based on feedback and interest levels.

9. Approval of Appointed Senators [8:15 pm]

- a. School of Management (Edvina Bahar)
 - i. Senator Mahdi motioned to open the vote
 - 1. Senator Valentina seconded
 - a. After discussion, Edvina Bahar was approved to be the School of Management representative unanimously.

10. Fall Summit - Monday, November 3 [8:15 pm - 8:25 pm]

- a. Update
 - i. Alumni outreach to be completed by the end of the week to finalize the panel lineup.
 - ii. Senators are asked to attend between 5:00–5:15 PM for headshots and group photos.
 - iii. The final list of panelists and event details will be confirmed by the next meeting.

11. Closing Announcements [8:25 pm - 8:30 pm]

- a. International Student Fall Break Retreat & Picnic - upcoming event details to be shared.
- b. Prepare questions for guest speaker Marcella DeProto, Assistant Vice Provost for International Student and Scholar Services, who will attend the next meeting.
- c. Next Meeting: Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:30 PM.