

**Agenda of the  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Undergraduate Student Senate**

Speaker Fox

1833<sup>rd</sup> Regular Meeting

Zoom Meeting

November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 PM

- 1. Call to Order:**
- 2. Announcements:**
- 3. Roll Call:**
- 4. Approval of the Minutes:**
- 5. Officer Reports:**
  - a. University Student Trustee Scalona [studenttrustee@umass.edu](mailto:studenttrustee@umass.edu):**
  - b. President Epstein [sgapresident@umass.edu](mailto:sgapresident@umass.edu):**

Hi everyone! I hope you're all doing well and taking care of yourselves! This week I worked on the SGA budget with Secretary Ngo, huge shoutout to her for getting it done especially with being new to the role! I met with Chair Carino to discuss the Racial Justice Demands that are related to academics and will be at the next AO meeting to talk to the rest of the committee about it as well. I'll also be talking to USC about the demands as well. Secretary Abramson and I created a plan for RSOs to pack up their belongings in Bartlett in preparation for the move to the new Student Union-- they will be coming in to pack starting Wednesday and the last day will be 11/20 (so Andrew and I will be basically living in Bartlett for the next week and a half:)) We are also creating a plan to pack up the SGA office later this week. On Friday, Speaker Fox, Secretary Lechowicz, Attorney General Latimer-Ireland, and I got a tour of the new Worcester Dining Commons from Garrett DiStefano which was really amazing and so interesting to hear from Garrett about all of the thought that went into it, as well as UMass Dining's plans for next

semester. I met with Jean MacKimmie to discuss the position of Secretary of University Policy and how they will work with res life as well as how she is feeling about next semester in relation to res life. On Tuesday, I will be attending the Land Acknowledgment Team meeting. I've also been working on two motions-- one around funding for Secretary of University Policy and one to introduce/ establish for the year the position of "Advisor to the President on Mental Health". Sara McKenna, Jennie and I's pick for Secretary of University Policy will be up for confirmation by AA tonight (Monday) and then hopefully senate!

**c. Vice President Chang [sgavicepresident@umass.edu](mailto:sgavicepresident@umass.edu):**

Hi everyone! I think it's crazy there's a week and half left of classes. This past week I met with our fellow SGA leaders on ESOs operations for Spring, joined my first meeting for an Associate Vice Chancellor for a new Equal Opportunity office, attended two SLSOSAC mtgs about budget and updates, met with Solomon and Nancy Buffone about Town-Gown relations, and had a OEI SAB meeting. Also, the elections commissions applications are out and are due Thursday at 11:59PM, please share this with folxs who may be interested.

**d. Speaker Fox [sgaspeaker@umass.edu](mailto:sgaspeaker@umass.edu):**

Hello everyone! I hope that you all had a nice weekend and are finishing out the semester strong! Last week I continued to work on the SGA ESO guidelines and we will have our first draft submitted to SEL on Tuesday the 10th. I had the privilege to tour the new Worcester Dining Commons with President Epstein, our Attorney General, and Secretary of Technology Friday morning led by Director of Residential Dining Garrett DiStefano. I also attended the SLSO advisory council to approve their budget in time for the Agency deadline as well as the weekly finance meeting with the whole SGA finance sector, SACL matrix, and SEL directors. This week, on Monday, I spoke with GSS about GSO operations as they will be submitting a plan for the spring as well. I met with SLSO Attorney Stark for a biweekly meeting. On tonight's agenda we have Provost John McCarthy and Senior Vice Provost Carol Barr delivering their introductions. I have appreciated all of the administrators who have given us the time to ask

questions and form a connection! The Restorative Justice Task Force will also be presenting tonight. We also have committee appointments for the newly confirmed Senators before you tonight, which was based on preference and balancing committee numbers. Cheers to a full Senate! For the rest of the week, I will be meeting with the Student Union Management Board, Research and Libraries Working Group, and Wellbeing Wednesday Task Force meeting. Get ready for our monthly training on November 15th at 11:00 AM, which will be informal and a good learning opportunity. I am also going to be putting up Coordinating Council appointments next week, please let me know if you have any interest in participating or have questions. Please email me if you have any questions or want to chat!

**e. Associate Speaker Gandhi [sgaspeaker@umass.edu](mailto:sgaspeaker@umass.edu):**

Hi everyone! I hope you're all having a great second to last week of the semester! This past week, I met twice with SGA leadership to discuss ESO Operations for the spring semester. That draft was submitted to SEL yesterday. Last Friday, we were present at the SORC Virtual Fair. Shoutout to Secretary Ngo, Chair Curto, Senator Collins, and Vice President Chang for helping out with that! Senate Training is coming up this weekend. For attendance, if you have an excused absence, please fill out the absence form that we usually use for Senate Meetings. If you have any questions or concerns, always feel free to shoot me an email!

**f. Chief Justice (if requested) [sgajudiciary@umass.edu](mailto:sgajudiciary@umass.edu):**

**g. Residence Hall Association President [rha@sacl.umass.edu](mailto:rha@sacl.umass.edu):**

**h. RSO Council Presidents:**

**i. Agency Reports:**

**j. Cabinet:**

**Secretary Montilla [sgadiversity@umass.edu](mailto:sgadiversity@umass.edu):** - Attended the DEI Advisory Board.

- Will meet with the student trustee, the AG and others to work on a Survivors Bill of Right

- Has continued to work with the Racial Justice Coalition

- Will meet with Assistant VC Shelly Perdomo on Thursday

- Will meet with the Land Acknowledgment team on Tuesday (11/10)

**Attorney General Latimer-Ireland** [sgaattorneygeneral@umass.edu](mailto:sgaattorneygeneral@umass.edu): Hi all! Happy Wednesday!

First, a huge congratulations to my undersecretaries Ashley and Zach - I'm looking forward to working with them. If you're still interested, please reach out - there's always stuff to do.

This past week I interviewed undersecretaries, had a call with Senator Terentiev about ESO bylaws, and did some additional research into that issue. I am working on a one-pager of guidance for senators/cabinet about open meeting law and how text/chat communications play into that. I met with Dean Ashley for a quick intro meeting this past Friday - we spoke about restorative justice, the code of conduct, and how we see ourselves collaborating. I also attended the SLSO budget meeting and advisory committee meeting - we approved the budget which has since been submitted and discussed the office's spring plans and upcoming 3rd Staff Attorney search, where I will be serving on the hiring panel.

Please reach out with any questions or if there's any initiatives you would like some guidance on.

**Secretary Bennett** [sgapolicy@umass.edu](mailto:sgapolicy@umass.edu): Hi everyone, I hope you're doing well.

- Last week I met with Nancy Buffone, the Associate Vice Chancellor for University Relations and Vice President Chang to discuss Town-Gown relations, and what SGA can do to be a part of that.

- One of the biggest takeaways from our discussions is that outside of some well-known exceptions, students are actually doing an excellent job keeping the Amherst area safe. There have been 119 noise complaints since August which is down from the usual amount. Of those, 87 indicated how many people were on site with an average of 9 people. There have been less than 5 student ambulance transports due to alcohol this semester, and a very busy weekend during the regular school year has 5-10 alone.

- I am following up with Nancy and other administrators to set up regular meetings and setting up a meeting with Chris Dunn, Executive Director of Government Relations and Special Advisor to the Chancellor

- This Monday (tonight at the time I am writing this report out) I will be attending the Amherst Town Council Meeting and can provide more details afterward at the Senate meeting.

**Secretary Lechowicz** [sgatechnology@umass.edu](mailto:sgatechnology@umass.edu): Website Updates

- Continued updating our Senators page for this semester, that page is now fully updated with all the relevant information from last week's senate meeting, new senators, etc.

- Last week I updated the Advisory Board notes page to point to the correct folder now that we're in a new academic year, and will be meeting with Chief of Staff Cohen moving forwards to attempt a consolidation of our notes from past years into a centralized location that will reduce the drain of records from year-to-year. Bigger project though.

- Met with Secretary Yee about the upcoming homepage redesign, and really am starting to kick things into gear with that project. We should have something new live up by next week, and the full migration will be complete by the end of this calendar year.

## Meetings

- I have/had a meeting with the chancellor on Tuesday along with faculty members of the LMS Ad-hoc committee to discuss multimodal learning at UMass, and the future charge of a committee to look at pathways the university should take when expanding educational opportunities beyond "traditional" modalities.

- I have continued attending the Chancellor's Teaching, Learning, Technology and Student Success planning group meetings for the Spring semester; now that the plan is publicly available, we are looking at potential tech and plan implementation issues that could come up this spring.

- I had a meeting last Thursday with Vice Provost Jim Roche, Assoc. VC for UR Nancy Buffone, CMO Key Nuttall, and Director of First-Yr Admissions Mike Drish to discuss the collaboration moving forwards on UMass Campus Tour, a mobile tour experience app that I worked on over the summer - I am working closely with them moving forwards to establish a phased wishlist of features for the app, and anticipate publishing before the Spring semester.

- Currently going through the process of hiring undersecretaries - doing interviews this week.

Updates on that to come at next meeting.

**Secretary Abramson** [sgaregistry@umass.edu](mailto:sgaregistry@umass.edu): - Toured Bartlett to prepare for packing process

- set up packing schedule so RSOs can come into Bartlett and get their stuff (for senators who have never been on campus: Bartlett was the building used for all RSOs and the SGA while the new student union was being constructed)

- working on motion to change the RSO application process

- attended last week's ESO Operations Planning meetings

- was a little late to the craft center advisory board meeting but still got to attend and speak with them about the new student union

-SU land acknowledgement meeting Tuesday

- connected with SOJEC about RSO council anti-racism trainings

**Secretary Duddy** [sgaveteransaffairs@umass.edu](mailto:sgaveteransaffairs@umass.edu): I have planned meetings with Director of Veterans Services Matt Bauchmann and Veterans Benefits Certification Manager Lynn Gates regarding potential projects to help veterans at UMass. I worked with Secretary Lechowicz to update the Virtual SVRC and have been looking into how UMass has been helping it's students who have been getting activated due to COVID and civil unrest.

**Secretary Yee** [sgapublicrelations@umass.edu](mailto:sgapublicrelations@umass.edu):

**Secretary Ngo** [sgafinance@umass.edu](mailto:sgafinance@umass.edu): For the last week, I completed the budget and turned it in Friday with the help of President Epstein (shoutout to them <3) and a shoutout to Amelia for being so helpful for all the questions and for meeting with me multiple times last week. I had my weekly Finance Meeting where we met with the Student Affairs and Campus Life staff, mainly just introductions and them telling a little about their roles. My undersecretary application is still open until TOMORROW at 1 pm!

**Secretary Morel-Paletta** [sgasustainability@umass.edu](mailto:sgasustainability@umass.edu): This week I met with Kathy Wicks (the director of UMass Dining Sustainability) to discuss the current goals and issues. I also attended

the CMTF subcommittee meeting that was mostly about student engagement and outreach regarding the Climate Action plan.

**Chief of Staff Cohen** [sgachiefstaff@umass.edu](mailto:sgachiefstaff@umass.edu): I am currently working on arranging a meeting between the executive branch and the legislative branch and executive branch, establishing office hours for the SGA office, and continuing work to make a uniform system of University Board reporting.

**k. Faculty Senate Representative:**

**l. ESO Event Representative:**

**m. Vice Chancellor's Student Advisory Board Representative:**

**6. Senate Committee Reports:**

**Chair Antinori** [sgaugradexperience@umass.edu](mailto:sgaugradexperience@umass.edu): Hi everyone! Last week, I attended a food insecurity workshop with Dean of Students Evelyn Ashley. It was a great opportunity for different on and off campus groups to come together and discuss different food insecurity initiatives being worked on. I also attended the Faculty Senate Health Council meeting on Friday where we discussed a possible plan to begin installing menstrual products in restrooms in the main campus buildings in the future. The next step the Health Council plans to take is to contact Shane Conklin from Facilities Management to see when this initiative can become a reality. Additionally, at our committee meeting last week, we created feedback forms for both students and facilitators who participate in Project Connect. These forms will be distributed to the Project Connect coordinators at the Wellbeing Wednesday Task Force meeting I attend this Friday.

**Chair Carino** [sgaacademic@umass.edu](mailto:sgaacademic@umass.edu): Hello all! This week my committee gained a new member (Welcome, Abby!) and we also finalized the OER survey we will be presenting at committee of the whole that we will be presenting tonight. President Epstein also joined us to talk about RJC's academic demands and a social justice gen ed course requirement that we will be exploring more over the coming weeks. Additionally, I have a meeting with Vice Provost

Carol Barr on Monday so please let me know if there are any agenda items you would like me to bring:

**Chair Kendall** [sgaadminaffairs@umass.edu](mailto:sgaadminaffairs@umass.edu): Hi All only nine class days left in the semester ! Over the past week I notified groups of their approval for an appeal hearing, on Monday night AA approved several of those groups which there are motions for tonight. I will walk everyone through the process that occurred prior to those being voted on. In addition AA interviewed a candidate for the Secretary of University Policy position, I will provide more information on this individual during the motion. I had my weekly meeting with SLSO we discussed viewpoint neutrality as well as a number of items around the RSO Application Appeal process. Lastly we welcomed a new member to the committee. Nick hit the ground in a full on sprint with RSO Appeals. Lastly, if you have any motion that need to come to AA they need to be sent to me by tomorrow at 10am in order to be considered on the last Senate agenda of the Semester.

**Chair Gabriel** [sgasojec@umass.edu](mailto:sgasojec@umass.edu): Hi everyone! This week, SoJEC continued our work with the Anti-Racism/Racial Bias training that will be out for next week's Committee of the Whole. We're also looking to format these trainings so that they can be used for multiple groups- I've been in touch with the Secretary of the Registry in order to format these for RSO Councils. I'm looking forward to presenting with my committee to you all. If you're looking to collaborate on anything, please get in touch!

**Chair Rajkumar** [sgafinancecommit@umass.edu](mailto:sgafinancecommit@umass.edu): Met with my committee, chose Ben Katzman as Vice chair. Attended the Spring ESO planning meeting and the Finance Team meeting.

**Chair Jensen** [sgauroc@umass.edu](mailto:sgauroc@umass.edu): Hey Everyone I hope you all had a great week! UROC had an amazing meeting last Friday where we started focusing on the RSO review for next semester and talked about some great ways to help RSOs. I have been emailing back and forth with groups about meeting with them to talk about their application decision and to help them write their constitution and strategic plan for next year.

**Chair Curto** [sgaoutreach@umass.edu](mailto:sgaoutreach@umass.edu): Hi everyone! Hope you are all having a great week so far! I have been talking to a few companies about merch we will be getting updates for you all soon! My committee will be taking a look at the consultation policy this week at our meeting as well as starting to get in touch with other chairs about committee style outreach for next semester!! One committee member will be in touch with their assigned chair soon. Please make sure you are all taking care of yourselves during this crazy time or exams and finishing the semester! If anyone has any questions or wants to talk feel free to email me at [sgaoutreach@umass.edu](mailto:sgaoutreach@umass.edu).

**Chair Marceau** [sgawaysmeans@umass.edu](mailto:sgawaysmeans@umass.edu):

**7. SGA Advisor Lydia Washington** [lwash@umass.edu](mailto:lwash@umass.edu):

**8. The Committee of the Whole:**

**9. Special Orders:**

**2020-SO45**

Motion to appoint Chris Figueiredo to the Finance Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO46**

Motion to appoint Michael Suchecki to the Outreach and Development Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO47**

Motion to appoint Abby Velozo to the Academic Oversight Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO48**

Motion to appoint Nick DeFranco and Kyle Kendall to the Administrative Affairs Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO49**

Motion to appoint Ahmad El-Zeftawy to the Undergraduate Services Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO50**

Motion to appoint Tasneem Kelly to the Social Justice and Empowerment Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO51**

Motion to appoint Ritik Shah to the Undergraduate Registry Oversight Committee.

*Sponsored by Speaker Fox*

**2020-SO52**

Motion to appoint Sara McKenna as the Secretary of University Policy.

*Sponsored by President Epstein and Vice President Chang*

**10. Unfinished Business - Main Motions:**

**11. New Business - Main Motions:**

**2020-S8**

Motion to recognize Community Without Stigma as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S9**

Motion to recognize UMass Amherst Students for Life as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S10**

Motion to recognize Sunrise UMass Amherst as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S11**

Motion to recognize Horizons for Homeless Children as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S12**

Motion to recognize Sigma Sigma Sigma as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S13**

Motion to recognize University of Massachusetts Film Discussion and Critique Organization as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S14**

Motion to recognize Sikh Student Association as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S15**

Motion to recognize The UMass Tap Team as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S16**

Motion to recognize Breaking Bread as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S17**

Motion to recognize SMART Woman Securities as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S18**

Motion to recognize Leading Women of Tomorrow as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S19**

Motion to recognize The UMass Amherst Badminton Club as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S20**

Motion to recognize Advancement of Diversity in Business as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S21**

Motion to recognize UMass Brotherly Union as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S22**

Motion to recognize Filipino Student Association as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*

**2020-S23**

Motion to recognize Sk8her as a Registered Student Organization.

*Sponsored by the Administrative Affairs Committee*