



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

MINUTES

Location: [Zoom](#)

1. Call to Order & Convening Matters
 - a. Mario Thaqi calls the meeting to order at 7:35 PM
 - b. Eric Veal calls the opening roll → Quorum is met
 - c. Mario Thaqi reads the Land Acknowledgment
 - d. Swearing in New Members
 - i. Zachary Post, Business
2. Recalls
 - a. Nova Brown, SMTD
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object? Seeing any objection the member in question will have 3 minutes to speak on their behalf.
 - ii. Hera Akmal: She could not make it but she did have a statement she wrote and asked if someone could read it out. I can read it. Since the start of the semester I have been in rehearsals Sunday through Friday for my major. I cannot be consistently absent from rehearsal which is why I couldn't attend today. I attended meetings in the summer and participated when it was possible for me to attend. The lives of SMTD are demanding in ways that are different from others so I don't expect others to understand this if you're not in this school. I will not be in production after this week so I will be able to attend meetings in the future. I want to have a positive impact with the SMTD community and do not feel I should be recalled.
 - iii. Mario Thaqi: This member received more than the allowed amount of absences so they were put up for recall. Does anyone wish to enter debate?
 - iv. Erin Neely: I take it that rep Brown's rehearsals on Tuesdays happen at the same time as assembly but did she say anything about what time the rehearsals are on Sunday and how that would impact attendance?
 - v. Hera Akmal: I believe she said she had rehearsals Sunday to Friday so I'm not sure.
 - vi. Nadeen Elkordy: She has rehearsal after classes from 6 to 1 am Monday through Friday and on Sunday I believe she has it 1 to 6. Something like that.
 - vii. Jonathan Dunne: Would this continue throughout the assembly or would she be able to attend future meetings.



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- viii. Hera Akmal: She said in her statement that she would be done with production so she could attend after that.
 - ix. Mario Thaqi: Debate is now complete. Does anyone object to this recall? Hearing and objection we will now have a secret vote.
 - x. Dana Owaida: Can I motion for a hand vote.
 - xi. Maori Thaqi: No, we're required to do recalls through a secret ballot.
 - 1. Vote → Recall passes
 - a. For: 17
 - b. Against: 16
 - c. Abstain: 3
- b. Taryn Daclison, LSA
- i. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object? Seeing any objection the member in question will have 3 minutes to speak on their behalf. Since the member is not here I will speak as the introducing individual. Same as always the member received more than the allowed number of absences so they're up for recall. Does anyone wish to enter the debate?
 - ii. Dana Owaida: I know that she was very specific on filling out the excused absence forms. She was in and out of the hospital a lot. So there were a few meetings she couldn't make it to. I don't know the specifics on the excused absences. So I'll motion to the previous question.
 - iii. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object? Seeing and hearing none, the motion to recall is back on the floor. Does anyone object to the recall? Seeing an objection we will now enter a secret ballot.
 - 1. Vote → Recall passes
 - a. For: 19
 - b. Against: 13
 - c. Abstain: 5
3. Elections
- a. Mario Thaqi: There are no elections tonight.
4. [Community Concerns](#)
- a. Devin Williams Daniels
 - i. Devin Williams Daniels: I may be in the wrong part of this. I was trying to say hello and I'm throwing my hat in the ring to run for the school of LSA. I'm a US Army veteran. So I'm grateful here to showcase my advocacy for diverse minority groups on campus but show my UofM pride and show support for transfers for nontraditional students. Uofm is huge and the demographic is wide and we should tailor it to that. Seeing the board



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I'm glad we have a broad range of ages, so I hope to bring a unique perspective. Looking forward to working with you.

- ii. Erin Neely: Congratulations on your candidacy. I was wondering if there were any resolutions affecting veterans or transfer students you want to sponsor.
- iii. Devin Daniels: The most important thing is to have a space. We need a spot for us to feel space within our networks and groups. Out of the Big 10 universities, everyone has a veteran safe space on campus, but UofM doesn't have one. We face different experiences and have to take on a lot of things. Sometimes that's traumatic. Veteran suicide is high and they can't communicate very well. So I'm trying to push for advocacy to create a safe space on campus. We're speaking to around 2000 applicants on campus that are not being representatives. UofM tries to show support but in places where it matters we're lacking support.
- iv. Erin Neely: That relates to one of our resolutions tonight so there is overlap there. It's important to advocate for everyone.

b. Ira Anjali

- i. Ira Anjali: I'm here as part of the Pro-Palestine group on campus. I apologize for how things were handled last meeting. While I was not there, I acknowledged that things got really intense and heated to the point where people were rude and disrespectful. While we disagree, we are each other's peers and enemies. It is saddening that the students are being torn apart because of this important issue our world is faced with. I also want to say that while we come from different perspectives and views when it comes to Palestinian freedom and the history of how Israel was formed, these have been treated with difficult topics to deal with in America and I acknowledge that they are sensitive topics. But the question at hand has always been the role of America like Universities like ours that facilitate the genocide. America recently sent 27 million dollars and how UofM have been complicit in this genocide. In the last 2 decades, the board of regents have tried to change the way the system works so university members know less and less of how the endowments work and I want to remind all of us that 10 to 15 years ago, over 5 percent were dedicated to operations budget and has now been reduced to 4.5 percent. The reason students are forced to pay for student amenities is because people in power decided to change the system. The reason I want to emphasize that is because it doesn't have to be that way. It's easy to blame each other for what went wrong, but I'm here to urge each other how this isn't a fight about different groups



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but a much bigger struggle of what this university as an institution is and what it can stand for. The same way to talk about American imperialism, all of these systems were bureaucratic. When we think about things as a democratic decision, let's think about what that means. Rules and laws are important, but what ends up happening is that people in power make us do things that are bad. Nazi Germany, slaves were all bureaucratic. Does that make it okay? I'm sorry and I hope we can find a way to work together.

5. Reconsiderations

a. [F24-001](#): The Wolverine's Budget Act

- i. Mario Thaqi: Last week we passed F24-001 and failed F24-002 but the president can ask us to reconsider our vote within 6 days. This is different from a veto which is where the president rules it out of order. Reconsideration is the president asking us to revote and it's still the same threshold. It's by simple majority. The difference here is that once one of these petitions passes it will go into effect. Does anyone object to passing F24-001? Hearing and objection we will enter debate.
- ii. Curtiss Engstrom: Motion to vote by secret ballot with unanimous consent.
- iii. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object to that motion? Seeing an objection we will vote through a secret ballot.
 1. Vote → Motion Passes
 - a. For: 30
 - b. Against: 2
 - c. Abstain: 2
- iv. Mark Farag: We made a resolution about the Air Bus to reconsider the money, it was 25 percent before, but why is it 30 percent?
- v. Nate Cohen: I was not consulted about this so I can't answer.
- vi. Tyler Watt: The petition that was presented had that increase so I can't say as to why the 1100 students that signed it chose that number.
- vii. Mario Thaqi: Once a budget is passed we can use LDA money to move smaller amounts of money around.
- viii. Erin Neely: I thought you informed us that ex-post facto amendments were out of order.
- ix. Mario Thaqi: I don't believe I said that.
- x. Tyler Watt: We aren't able to amend this petition budget. If and when it is enacted, it can be amended. A petition cannot amend a budget.
- xi. Nate Cohen: Motion to previous question



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- xii. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object. Seeing and hearing none, we will motion to the previous question. Does anyone object to the passage of F24-001 with unanimous consent. Hearing an objection we will now vote through a secret ballot.
 - 1. Vote → Petition Passes
 - a. For: 24
 - b. Against: 11
 - c. Abstain: 1
 - b. [F24-002](#): The Gaza Reparations Act
 - i. Mario Thaqi: With the passage of F24-001, the assembly has a budget they now have to pass so F24-002 is out of order. So we will not be voting on that tonight.
- 6. Reports
 - a. [Rules](#)
 - i. Erin Neely: I was there holding down the fort for the rules committee meeting because our chair was at exec noms. We didn't have anything to discuss rules related in that meeting so we talked about travel plans and future CSG projects. Because the exec meeting was running long and we didn't have anything to consider, we adjourned.
 - b. [Finance](#)
 - i. Nate Cohen: This was the first time we didn't make quorum so we couldn't consider AR14-045.
 - c. [Communications](#)
 - i. Cory Knittle: We did not meet quorum but we had nothing to discuss.
 - d. [Resolutions](#)
 - i. Nadeen Elkordy: We had three things to consider. We passed AR14-044 which was the Wolverine's Vote Act which got more awareness on campus for accessibility and resources to vote. We passed it straight to the floor because of the time restraint. For AR14-036 and 37 we postponed 36 because it needed more adjustment and 37 we lost quorum so we couldn't pass it.
 - e. SOC
 - i. Hayden Jackson: Nothing to report.
 - f. [Elections](#)
 - i. Haley Bedell: Any candidates that are present and have not sent proof of being here, send that to the elector director. Candidacy apps open on Oct 9. We have 50 candidates. 46 for the assembly. The sustainability guidelines can be found on my report. In terms of the app itself, we made it more simple. We have candidates from every school except Dentistry.



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Please encourage your friends to apply. The elections info sheet is listed on the CSG website. Every time we approve a candidacy it'll be listed there. If you are an appointed member and want your seat back, you have to campaign for that. We are back to full marketing efforts on how to apply. We've been working with Sara Daniels and all campus office to send out emails. Polling stations are coming together. More info coming soon. Elections timeline is on the report as well as vacancies and filed candidates.

- ii. Mario Thaqi: Are you aware that there are two additional openings for SMTD and LSA.
 - iii. Hayley Bedell: After the LSA recall this evening there are 9 seats. For SMTD, because we didn't have the app open 35 days before the election, we cannot have an SMTD member run.
 - iv. Mario Thaqi: Do you believe that rep Demi, Shawn, Tia, Jessie, Megan, Curtiss, Angelica, Chaz, Zach, and Rehan must file for candidacy to keep their seat?
 - v. Hayley Bedell: yes.
- g. [Shoutouts](#)
- i. Tyler Hart: Michelle Xiao for introducing her first resolution concerning the psych minor. Amr Brown for his articulate inspiring article about his identity as Lebanese and American. Maya Akiva for starting a research position. Zach Post, welcome to assembly. Erin Neely for heart of gold and leading rules. All the candidates for running. Hayley Bedell, going above and beyond to run elections. Madeline O'Brain Anajli for speaking up against corruption around the world. Hayley Bedell for giving a great report and keeping UEC in check.
- h. Executive
- i. Alifa Chowdhury: I want to acknowledge that the Instagram incident was unprofessional so I apologize. And the tension in CSG concerning our opinions on Palestine and the American funding on genocide got heated especially at the last meeting. This isn't about me or the executive or the assembly. It's important to remember that while CSG deals with routine matters, we are at a moment where what we do can go far beyond our immediate concerns even if we don't reach consensus. I hope we can question how this university exploits students with fees while sitting on endowments that support ethnic cleansing abroad. We're taught that we can't change it but that's why SID was formed. We don't have to follow that. CSG can be a space where we build power that cares for each other and the world and not just our own careers. The morning after the



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vote, I received a message asking with hope if our petition to send money to Gaza had passed or not and it was heartbreaking to tell him no. At that moment acknowledging that we privileged young people did not send money for education. Out of grief I share this news online because we had a chance to do something meaningful and we didn't. I recognize that things escalated. I will urge everyone why there was a strong reaction to the Instagram post which didn't have material consequences but not to the petition which did. It's about the lives that have been shattered. We had a chance to make a difference and I am ashamed that this body rejected that opportunity.

- ii. Margareet Peterman: I appreciate that. To say that the posts did not have material consequences is false. I have screenshots and photos and I have received threats for comments as to why 30 seconds of a video without context and there was no other context provided for the emails sent to reps and the conduct that was used as well. I think saying that didn't have material consequences was false. I do appreciate you sharing this. Would you say that the conduct of the members of the community of spitting and people, following them, telling them that they would be seen after class is extraordinarily unprofessional?
- iii. Elias Atkinson: Someone from the community came to address that today. It's not our responsibility to speak on behalf of the people who were at the meeting. We agree with the comments that were shared today with Ira.
- iv. Margaret Peterman: I would disagree that it is not not your responsibility to comment. If you're able to comment on the misuse of a social media platform I think that failing to acknowledge what happened was unprofessional, I think that's not necessarily what your position calls for. Your position calls for CSG as a body. I'm just asking if you think that threats made to assembly members are unprofessional or not. Do you condone comments that were made?
- v. Elias Atkinson: I stand with community members.
- vi. Eric Veal: Motion to extend time.
- vii. Mario Thaqi: Seeing and hearing no time is extended.
- viii. Eric Veal: My question is to the president and vice president. I know you stand with the community. My question to you is about the members of the assembly. What will you do to make sure members feel supported? I have received threats about where I live and going to class. I want to know what you are planning to do so people feel safe coming to CSG. I want to know if you have any plans or thoughts and if you don't I would



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love to sit down with you. I don't feel supported or safe because of that if people are coming here to harm me.

- ix. Alifa Chowdhury: There's been internal conversations within our circles to make sure that doesn't happen again. We cannot be responsible for other people for what they choose to do and not do. We have been a part of conversations on how this wasn't okay and how it was unexpected. On all sides there can be better efforts taken to ensure people feel safe. I would be happy to have conversations about how to ensure that.
- x. Margaret Peterman: Motion to extend time with unanimous consent.
- xi. Mario Thaqi: Hearing an objection we will enter a hand vote for extending time. With 18 in favor, the yeases have it.
- xii. Jonathan Dunne: This question is for the CSG executive. I was wondering if the members in the community who were shouting F CSG if they were encouraged to attend by the executive.
- xiii. Alifa Chowdhury: No specific people were told to come sit in the meeting.
- xiv. Jonathan Dunne: Did you support their rhetoric of F CSG, F your vote?
- xv. Mario Thaqi: There is no response.
- xvi. Reyhaneh Najafikoupaei: I appreciate your acknowledgements. I would like to know that in your report that you shared with us that after you talked with the assembly members is that you realize that their concerns were shallow. What do you think makes a concern shallow and how can anyone judge what concerns are important or shallow?
- xvii. Alifa Chowdhury: I do not know what that's referring to.
- xviii. Reyhaneh Najafikoupaei: As part of your report, you shared that you met with the assembly members but think their concerns are shallow. I was wondering what you think makes a concern shallow or important.
- xix. Alifa Chowdhury: I think the word I used was superficial and I used it in context with the budget that was voted on. I can't speak to what is superficial and not, but in the context of the budget, funding student orgs vs. rebuilding infrastructure in Gaza while our university is funding death overseas is superficial to me. That's an opinion on a specific thing. As executives I'm allowed to have that.
- xx. Reyhaneh Najafikoupaei: That didn't answer my question but I'm okay with that.
- xxi. Margaret Peterman: Motion to extend time.
- xxii. Mario Thaqi: Seeing an objection we'll go in hand vote. 16 for, 9 against, time has been extended.



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- xxiii. Nate Cohen: It was more than unprofessional to take the Instagram account and violence and intimidation as voting members. In response to that, I want to ask what the consequences should be for that action that you took?
- xxiv. Alifa Chowdhury: I apologized. I'm taking steps to amend relationships.
- xxv. Ryan Schmidt: Do you support the violence and threats against Michigan students?
- xxvi. Elias Atkinson: No.
- xxvii. Dana Owaida: I just want to say that it's important to contextualize what happened. Yes, Alifa taking over Instagram was wrong and we all said that was a mistake, but we also need to understand that something like that was a result of grief. As long as they've apologized and taken steps to redeem that issue is correct. And this line of questioning of do you support violence against UM students. Many of you have not condemned violence against UM students against policing. I don't recall anyone being physically assaulted. What happened last week is a result of a community that was assaulted. Who was assaulted? What happened, a lot of people saw CSG as the only avenue of protest that happened. It doesn't make sense for SID to take responsibility. There's a lot of stuff that happened that I cringed at that I didn't like. I'm not here to police people who are grieving and who are angry. As someone who tried to sit down with admin, I went through this the academic way and the way that I was shut down was insane. What do you expect is going to happen when a community who is grieving feels like they lost their last avenue.
- xxviii. Margaret Peterman: Motion to extend time.
- xxix. Mario Thaqi: Seeing an objection we will enter a hand vote. 14 in favor, 12 against, time is extended by 4 minutes.
- xxx. Maya Akiva: You have been very vocal in promoting that we can't speak for other people. I want to know where the line was drawn where you decided where you could take over Instagram to speak for us. It was embarrassing personally. I had people come up to me and ask what's going on and to say I have no idea is hurtful.
- xxxi. Alifa Chowdhury: I believe I addressed that.
- xxxii. Margaret Peterman: I was curious if you could put a physical copy of the executive report.
- xxxiii. Alifa Chowdhury: I will try my best.
- xxxiv. Margaret Peterman: I do think that you did address that in your report. I appreciate that you are taking steps to amend relationships with the



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assembly. I want to ask what those steps have looked like. I personally and other members did not hear anything from you so I would have appreciated one of those. I was curious as to what those steps look like and who you have spoken to.

xxxv. Alifa Chowdhury: People I haven't reached out to, I will reach out.

i. Speaker

- i. Mario Thaqi: We have 5 vacancies. 4 in LSA and 1 in Dentistry and 1 in SMTD. We had a business position filled by Zach. We received resignation by Jasmine. Remember to fill out the excused absence form. The office of the speaker has positions that were filled by the chair and vice chair. Eric and I also mean with Dean Jones to talk about election security. We also met with Wolverine Wellness to partner with them. I would love to get some of you involved. The meeting will be on the 4th because the elections will happen on the 5th and it will be in the Anderson room. As for the 10/8 meeting I think what happened was unprofessional to what CSG is about and having differences and debate to make sure we have outcomes to represent the assembly. It's shameful from the president and vice president from what happened on that day. It felt insincere. The president reported that they cannot be responsible for what others decide to do but these people were incited to come to the meeting by the president and VP. This is the third time that the same group of people came to our meetings and threw rashful words at us so I do believe they were incited by at least the president. I completely condemn their actions. Lastly, I think their actions are unbecoming of their office.
- ii. Danah Owaida: Do you not think that referring to students and the community as "these people" is not divisive on its own? Is that not something that is perpetuating a stereotype of your own people? And please explain what you mean of how Packing CSG correlates to endorsing actions that were taken on that day?
- iii. Mario Thaqi: If you think referring to Arabs or Muslims I think you're dangerously incorrect and rebuke those characterizations. By these people I meant the people that showed up for community concerns. I am completely in support of any attempts to Pack CSG from any group of people. The thing I'm against is that these types of post were made multiple times and the group of people that endorsed these posts hurled insults at assembly members. I don't support that after these posts were made, the same groups of people have made harassing remarks and threats to the assembly and have ruptured the quorum to our chambers.



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If you're talking about how the president and VP incited this, I can't say who exactly was responsible for those posts, but I can say for certainty that the President got up from their seat and joined the crowd directly before or after it happened.

- iv. Hera Akmal: Motion to extend time with unanimous consent.
- v. Mario Thaqi: Seeing and hearing none, time is extended.
- vi. Dana Owaida: Can you discuss or outline what was discussed in the meeting with Harman or Jones?
- vii. Mario Thaqi: Yes, we talked about election security since there were concerns from the election team on how poll workers were not subject to any adverse effects from the intense election coming up. We also talked about what transgressed during the meeting on 10/8. We also had the ECRT and how they can support and investigate what happened in case there was physical abuse that happened.
- viii. Mark Farag: You mentioned that the speaker and vice speaker meet with the regents. Did we talk to any administration about anything related to the protestors being arrested?
- ix. Mario Thaqi: I'm a part of the university's president council which is where President Ono and random administrators meet 6 times a semester. At the last meeting I brought up how they condemned arresting protestors on the Diag. President Ono and I had a conversation after where he pushed back on me talking about how he disagreed and I pushed back on him. The next meeting of this council is at the end of October and to bring up these concerns and report on the protests that happen. I try to speak on behalf of the student body and how these crackdowns on protests are not acceptable.
- x. Dana Owaida: What steps are you going to take given there are investigations going on and condemning these bodies, what steps are you going to take to protect members from facing legal repercussions. We know UMPD took action against what's right and fair. I know that I didn't do anything wrong and others.
- xi. Mario Thaqi: I understand your concern and am against people being held accountable for things they didn't do. I met with certain offices and made it clear to them and they're not trying to find someone to stick this on. I gave them context to what happened. They aren't trying to implicate members of the assembly. But if they are, I am ready to stand up for our assembly. They are concerned with figuring out why it happened and make sure regardless of what side they're on, feels safe. I share your concern and am committed that consequences are properly placed. I



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brought this up during my investigation with them and they asked what I want to see in terms of accountability. I know that people came to that meeting acting in grief. We get unnecessarily angry and act out. Trying to defuse those hostile environments and assault is when people need to be held accountable.

7. Nominations

a. [Zoe Blackburn - Deputy Elections Commissioner for Finance](#)

- i. Mario Thaqi: Tyler Watt has nominated Zoe Blackburn for Deputy Elections Commissioner for Finance. Does anyone object? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations Mrs. Blackburn.

b. [Noah Rotroff - Student General Counsel](#)

- i. Mario Thaqi: Alifa Chowdhury has nominated Noah Rotroff for Student General Counsel. Does anyone object? Seeing an objection we will now enter debate.
- ii. Emily Ryan: The committee unanimously recommended against his nomination because of his unfamiliarity with how CSG operated. The nominee did not review any of the legislature from the past couple months and make incorrect statements on the accessibility of these documents and did not give a clear answer on what a strong resolution is. He also said that he would allow the assembly to dictate itself regardless of documentation. For all these reasons, the nominees lack initiative of its rules, so we do thank him for his time, but we do respectfully do not recommend his initiative.
- iii. Margaret Peterman: For more context, I know that the committee discussed their concerns about the comments that were made in terms of the approach of how the SGC position should be run. I know that rep Ryan discussed how there was a disconnect with the executive nomination committee and how we should focus on the constitution and how that should guide the resolution process and how the nominee believed that the constitution should be referenced as second practice. We were not comfortable with his attitude towards this position.
- iv. Jonathan Dunne: I would be against the nomination because of his unprofessional actions at the last assembly meeting and heckling that he had been doing.
- v. Erin Neely: I have nothing against this nominee as a person, I just want everyone to know that right off the bat. But one point I mentioned when meeting with the president is why was SGC the only nomination that was made thus far and why was it made when it was?



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- vi. Noah Rotroff: The last CSJ hearing, I was a part of. I was the one who spoke against the judicial review process and got it voided in your compiled code so I don't think that had much of an impact other than that I do know how to interpret your governing documents. It's funny listening to these comments already because I saw in the report that I didn't check the website and that's why I didn't have info on the past information, but on October 2nd, you only had one piece of legislation on your website. It's fine. I get how partisan the nominating committee was against me. They came against me pretty hot, but we can assume pretty fairly that their report is biased. I am a law student. I also spent my time in my home state in the civil rights division. I can list you off the courses I'm in, but I don't know where they're getting these comments about me. I'm a little glad that I'm able to talk on my behalf.
- vii. Margaret Peterman: I just think that I spoke first in the meeting and I wanted to share that my first question was about what he believed constituted a strong resolution and talk about a piece of legislation that could be improved. In my opinion, I didn't think that that was relating to character or anything but a general approach to how he would have handled things. I thought that was a fair inquiry. But if you could answer that now, could you please.
- viii. Noah Rotroff: The question that was asked to me during the nominating session was about a piece of legislation that passed from this assembly and I talked about how this assembly posted legislation only until last week. It left a bad taste. It's a little late for me to do legal analysis on your legislation at the moment.
- ix. Margaret Peterman: That wasn't meant to be an attack on any kind. That was my biggest question from the last meeting so I just wanted you to repeat that for the assembly, but thank you.
- x. Angelica Previero: I remember seeing Mr. Rotroff at the meeting of Oct 8 and I remember him making remarks right after the vote. There were interesting remarks being made and I was wondering that as the counsel, if you were okay with the compiled code and operating procedure would you be respected and do you commit to treat everyone with respect independent of their vote in the assembly?
- xi. Noah Rotroff: When I'm a part of the community, I'm not beholden to the rules of the procedure or compiled code. If I was elected to the position I would have more respect for the operating procedures.
- xii. Mario Thaqi: Members of the assembly are bound by quorum rules.



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- xiii. Margaret Peterman: We did have a time limit on the exec nom zoom but I had another question. I was curious as to what you envision for a Student general council team to look like. Also, what priorities would you have if given this role.
- xiv. Noah Rotroff: I don't think my answers will be satisfactory to you. To be a bit more passive, I know that Tyler asked questions about procedure and all that, but I'm more about empowering the assembly to do what it needs. How I envision my role is more of a consultative role that the assembly could come to for general questions. The General Council is here to defend CSG in CSJ which makes sense for a legal role. What else would you have the General Council do? I could also rely on others. At the end of the day, I have a specific vision of what the role is, and it doesn't involve being as involved with the assembly day to day and being more of a consultative position.
- xv. Hayden Jackson: Do you believe that the Gaza reparations act is constitutional?
- xvi. Noah Rotroff: I'll give Tyler props on his argument. My response is that not all intentions are written the same. It comes down to, I don't think that the school would have allowed the donations to happen, but the budget itself can be argued to be constitutional.
- xvii. Hayden Jackson: The reason that the school wouldn't allow that to happen is that charitable donations to other organizations is prohibited, so I'm curious as to why you think this is constitutional.
- xviii. Noah Rotroff: This goes back to what I was saying, it was an intention to make the donation and what intentions mean to the budget. This is not me saying that a donation from the university would've fallen in the guidelines.
- xix. Nate Cohen: Do you have any concerns with any of President Chowdhury's actions so far? What role do you think SGC should play when the president and the assembly have a disagreement?
- xx. Noah Rotroff: General Council is supposed to be an executive branch official, so these are difficult legal principles you're asking about. I don't know how much I could even do about another branch in the first place. Most of my remedies would have to go through CSJ. This is a separation of powers issue, and you and the executive live in different branches and it's pretty limited. I didn't see what the president did last week so I don't think I can comment on it.



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- xxi. Mario Thaqi: Motion to previous question with unanimous consent. Seeing and hearing none, we will end the debate and consider the nomination. Does anyone object? Seeing an objection, we will vote.
- xxii. Nate Cohen: Motion to vote through secret ballot with unanimous consent.
- xxiii. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object? Seeing and hearing none, we will vote through a secret ballot.
 - 1. Vote -> Nomination fails
 - a. For: 9
 - b. Against: 27

8. Introductions

- a. [AR 14-039](#): Election Code Staffing, Compensation, and Misc. Amendments
 - i. Curtiss Engstrom: I want to thank my co-sponsor and Tyler Watt for getting this where it should be. This is a basic resolution to clear out basic things for staffing in terms of election staff and increase in pay to the elections team and talking about retention of election staff.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the resolutions committee for second reads.
- b. [AR 14-040](#): Trans Umbrella Student Protection Act
 - i. Curtiss Engstrom: I want to thank my co-sponsor Angelica for her hard work. This is passionate to me. It's something I care about which is ensuring the protection of our trans, non-binary, and two spirit students. Right now there are states who are doing harm to our students who are gender diverse so I hope students can feel safe on our campus. That does include training, and ensuring proper names wherever possible, more spaces for those students, and doing what we can to ensure these students are included. Having many friends of mine who are gender diverse and hearing their stories, it hurts me to admit that our friends are going through this and want to do anything for them.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the resolutions committee for second reads.
- c. [AR 14-041](#): Supporting the Establishment of a Disability Cultural Center
 - i. Curtiss Engstrom: This is something that was urgent on our campus to create a disability cultural center. We passed a similar resolution in the 13th assembly and this will reaffirm our support to see this on campus.
 - ii. Eric Veal: This one that was pushed by community input and talking to former assembly members. Riley Kina worked a lot with different organizations on our campus



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- iii. Erin Neely: Not only has the administration not built a disability cultural center despite us asking for it last year. I understand many groups have asked before, but no action has been taken in that direction. I don't think the admin has responded to us at all about DCC or other needs by the disability community more generally. We need to consider what we will do if they don't listen.
- iv. Mario Thaqi: If this passes, I would love to connect you with leaders on our campus to get this change going like the chief financial officer or whatever office deals with this.
- v. Eric Veal: VP Harman has had past conversations about this but this is to reaffirm a lot of the work that is going on.
- vi. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the communications committee for second reads.
- d. [AR 14-042](#): Creation of a Bereavement Absence Policy
 - i. Curtiss Engstrom: Thank you to Riley for her work on this one as well. Currently our bereavement policy is not good. We want to do something for all students. We want to push and advocate for students going through a tough time so they don't have to rush back during a time of deep hardship.
 - ii. Eric Veal: We did meet with some people in the collective and that's something they're advocating for on their side. We're really jumping in to push that vehicle further. Another shoutout to Riley who did work in this.
 - iii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the communications committee for second reads.
- e. [AR 14-043](#): Advocating for a Psychology Minor
 - i. Michelle Xiao: I'm trying to advocate for the implementation of a psych minor which we don't have but other universities have. I would love your support and feedback. I know it's lacking in a lot of places. I hope to collaborate with all of you.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the communications committee for second reads.
- f. [AR 14-044](#): Wolverines Vote Act
 - i. Margaret Peterman: I'm going to motion to move this to business. But this is to advocate to increase voter accessibility. There's efforts being made to improve what happens on election day to ensure long lines aren't an issue, but this is to call on the university to do what they can to have the right to vote.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object to the motion of moving this to business. Seeing and hearing none, that motion is made.



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- g. [CA 14-001](#): Petition Review Act
 - i. Curtiss Engstrom: It ensures that the judiciary does its job and reviews what is being put forward on the petitions. Currently, it feels like they side-stepped it a little. This is a way to ensure that they do what they are bound to do.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the rules committee for second reads.
 - h. [CA 14-002](#): Disability Ex-Officio Act of 2024
 - i. Curtiss Engstrom: During the discussion with the disability culture, we need an ex-officio seat created to reduce barriers to how open CSG is to the community. Not only that, but members of our current assembly have a disability and I appreciate that all our reps who have a disability are serving, and that no matter what, if a student with a disability doesn't win, there is a seat at the table as it should be. If this passes, there will be a compiled code amended in our rules.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be referred to the rules committee for second reads.
9. Business
- a. [Minutes from the 14th Meeting of the 14th Assembly on October 8th, 2024](#)
 - b. [AR 14-038](#): Scholarship Study Task Force
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object to the passage of this resolution? Hearing an objection we will now enter debate. Sponsors, you can introduce the resolution.
 - ii. Tyler Watt: Largely unchanged from two weeks ago, this seeks to create a task force so they can decide what a scholarship looks like for refugee students. It also adds a few calls to the university to match the funds and I think it's possible that the university could take over this completely. The one amendment I have regards the composition that changes from a chair and vice chair to 5-7 members to up to 7 members with chair and vice chair so we could get it started.
 - iii. Mario Thaqi: I have met with Dean Jones about this resolution and there is interest in this resolution. I think we should check in with the university on how they can support this resolution. There is strong and institutional support for this resolution and I would love to see y'all support this.
 - iv. Curtiss Engstrom: Motion to accept all amendments with unanimous consent.
 - v. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object to accepting these amendments? Seeing and hearing none, those amendments are made. Motion to the previous question with unanimous consent. Does anyone object? Seeing



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and hearing none, we will end the debate. Does anyone object to the passage of this resolution? Going once, going twice, going three times. Seeing and hearing none, this resolution has passed.

- c. [AR 14-044](#): Wolverines Vote Act
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object to the passage of this resolution?
 - ii. Tyler Watt: Point of information, I believe there is outdated information about voting online.
 - iii. Margaret Peterman: Motion to amend page 7 and 8.
 - iv. Mario Thaqi: So your motions are to strike out 7 and 8 with unanimous consent. Does anyone object to Margaret's amendments? Seeing and hearing none, those amendments are made.
 - v. (More amendments made)
 - vi. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object to the passage of this resolution? Seeing and hearing none, the resolution has passed.
10. Matters Arising and Announcements
- a. Erin Neely: Thanks for hanging in there. I just started writing a new resolution to take up voluntary collection for humanitarian relief in Gaza outside of the student fee so there won't be legal issues with it so we can get money to Gaza civilians and students. Unrelated to tonight's meeting, the blood battle is going on now to Thanksgiving break. There are tons of blood drives around campus. There's also a red cross donor center and we can see about getting those counted.
 - b. Margaret Peterman: Since a budget passed, I started writing a resolution for students who are facing additional fees. I know this has been discussed by individuals in certain schools. This is something the University should be doing, but CSG can start supplementing for them. That's a long complicated process and it's likely funding won't be eligible for a while, but I would love input from students who are affected by student fees. So please reach out to me via slack or email.
 - c. Eric Veal: Making sure that we are reaching out to our constituents is important. Make sure you are reaching out and having those conversations that our students are getting what they need on our campus. I will be scheduling training coming up soon. Feel free to schedule coffee chats with me.
 - d. Mairo Thaqi: The same offer applies to me
11. Closing and Adjournment
- a. Eric Veal calls closing role → Quorum is met
 - b. Mario Thaqi closes the meeting at 10:47pm