

# TSC CHAIR

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May 5, 2023

To the Thornton Student Council,

I'm glad to share that the 2022-23 TSC Council had a successful year for it being the second year of this council. I'm extremely proud of all those who had helped in serving to change the overall USC Thornton student experience.

This year we had picked up the baton left off from the first council by bringing a lot of their vision to life. During my term, I wanted to ensure that each student was heard and if they wanted to voice any suggestions, comments and/or concerns, the council would be right there to help. We achieved this goal through hosting coffee and pastry events, supporting a Music Education conference, as well as aiding a networking event with the Music Industry department to help students gain possible internship and job opportunities. These events were met with resounding support from all of the Thornton community ranging from the current student body to our Interim Dean, Joshua Kun.

As wonderful as these projects were, I wanted to bring to light some other projects that I didn't get a chance to see fulfilled. One of the largest projects that the council faced was helping solve the practice room situation at Gateway. All of us who had served met with Phillip Placenti, Jeffery DeCain, and Joshua Kun to come up with some solutions, with the most prominent choice being a cultural change approach. This approach would entail students holding each other accountable and respecting the time and space. This would hopefully relieve the need of having the administrative team select an individual to be on sight but foster a larger sense of respect from within. Another project that was brought to our attention was the need for more communication across departments throughout the school. Under the guidance of the Officer of Records, Koji Sakano, Officer of of Public Affairs, Olivia Wendland, and At-Large Undergraduate Representative, Jordan DeTiege, we helped start an initiative of cross collaboration across all departments. These individuals had helped promote and take on the events listed above as well as spearheading new projects such as a movie night and karaoke for the distant future.

Throughout my term, I saw that some of the articles listed in the initial Constitution needed to be revised since they were either out of date or not on par with what we were doing. One addition that's in great necessity is the implementation for an official TSC

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Treasurer. This role would be included under “Article III. Officers” and entail the following duties:

- *The Treasurer will take, record, and file all financial responsibilities regarding all activities that the Council is involved with. The Treasurer will be in correspondence with the Officer of Records to ensure that everything is cataloged and recorded correctly as well as meeting with the Thornton Administrative Point of Contact on a monthly basis to ensure that the Council's budget is accurate. The Treasurer will also work with the At-Large Graduate Representative and the University Graduate Student Government to go forth and open/close all files for all TSC activities that require funding from the Graduate Student Government.*

By including this role, it alleviates the confusion and slight hindrances that the Council had faced during the 2022-23 year with ascertaining funding for our events. This would also give the Council **FULL TRANSPARENCY** of our financial standing and what projects to pursue.

The second revision that I saw was to detail the requirements and expectations of each member of the Council. Throughout my term, I had saw that some of the expectations were slightly unrealistic and left a large pitfall of allowing the members to become MIA. This happened with some members but they had kept in contact with me privately. As to keep this from happening in the future, below are the following revisions and possible amendments to hopefully be implemented:

- *Article IV. Section A*
  - Regular meetings of the Thornton Student Council will be held at least [once a month] per semester. At least part of the agenda for each regular meeting will be dedicated to open comment by any member of the Council. All regular meetings must be called within at least a two weeks' notice [followed by a three day notice] to the full membership.
- *Article IV. Section H*
  - At least once per semester, all representatives will submit an End of the Semester report to the Chair regarding an overall climate report for their respective departments. The Chair will compile these reports into one (1) cohesive report as an update for the Thornton Administrative Point of Contact, the Thornton Advisor, and the USC Thornton Dean. These reports will also be added to the records by the Officer of Records for future councils to look back on for historical purposes.
- *Article VII. Section B. Part 2*

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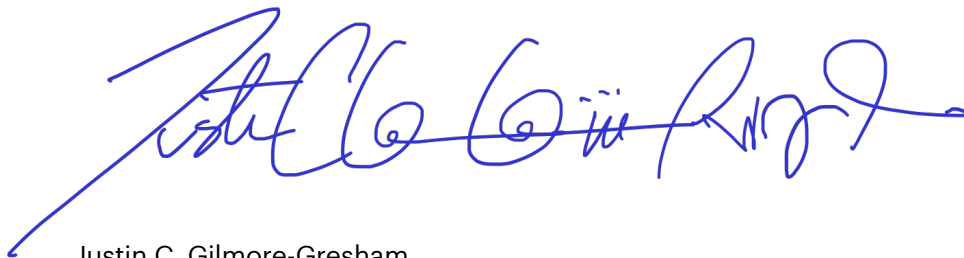
- Officers should meet with the advisor at least once per semester, preferably near the end of the semester for the purpose of discussing the Council's work for the following semester. The Chair should meet with the Thornton advisor on a monthly basis to discuss the Council's progress and tend to outstanding items on their docket.

As a whole, I want to thank each and every person who had served on this council for the 2022-2023 academic year. I'd also like to thank the Officers who had served and were a guiding light towards making the vision come to life:

- Vice-Chair, Angelica Brooks,
- Officer of Records, Koji Sakano
- Officer of Public Affairs, Olivia Wendland
- At-Large Undergraduate Representative, Jordan DeTiege
- At-Large Graduate Representative, Leonard Hayes

And of course I'd like to thank the Thornton Advisor, Phillip Placenti, for he was the one who truly helped with making this council continue to change the Thornton experience for years to come. To the 2023-2024 TSC Council, I wish all of you the best of luck and thank you for all that you're going to do in forever changing lives and education.

Humbly,



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