

PUBLIC POLICY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
END OF THE YEAR PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS FROM MARQUISE' COLLINS

Hello everyone,

I hope all is well. I am proud and honored to have served as President of the Public Policy Graduate Student Association (PPGSA). Thank you all for your support, engagement, and compassion. It is amazing to see the progress we have all made.

I pride myself on being a servant leader. Thus, I have found it essential to serve and help advocate for the well-being, success, and matriculation of the student body. I strive to leave behind a legacy marked by diligence, consistency, and equity. I am proud to have advocated for resources that benefited the broader student body. My work and leadership are driven by a passion to create positive change, as evidenced by my varied leadership roles and commitment to advancing opportunities for others.

Through my leadership, one of my goals were to fully embody Georgia Tech's motto of Progress and Service. I have worked to ensure that resources are allocated equitably to students across campus, cultivating a culture of excellence and opportunity. My focus on both the practical aspects of leadership, like budget management, and the broader impact on student success reflects my holistic approach to service. I have aimed to create lasting change at Georgia Tech, leaving a legacy that will serve future students for years to come.

My entire PPGSA Officer Administration: Marquise' Collins, Ryan Anthony, Simran Gumber, Bugrahan Namdar, Ejaz Ahmed, Boluwatife Jide-Olugbade, Tatiana Agbeyibor, Olivia Guarinello, Shreyansh Maruvada, Asmar Bayramova, and Khephra Jackson; served in pivotal roles to ensure the efficiency and success of PPGSA. I greatly appreciate them for their unwavering dedication, leadership, and commitment to serving the student body. My 2024-2025 PPGSA administration were responsible for establishing PPGSA as an official Registered Student Organization, the implementation of monthly student highlights, the coordination of monthly town hall meetings for the entire school of public policy, secured a 4% increase in graduate stipends - effective Fall 2025, and the generation of a live calendar for the Jimmy and Rosalynn School of Public Policy

During my time as leader of PPGSA, PPGSA has made a transformative leap in Summer 2024 by launching its first-ever official website and expanding its executive structure. I also established PPGSA's official social media pages, creating new channels for students to engage with one another, stay informed, and connect with alumni. Before this milestone, PPGSA had no centralized digital presence. Today, the PPGSA website serves as a one-stop hub for everything from town hall events, officer directories, alumni engagement, and organizational history. These platforms have become vital tools for strengthening community and encouraging participation in academic and social initiatives across the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School of Public Policy.

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In addition to these digital advancements, I have led the creation of three pivotal leadership roles— Chief of Staff, Treasurer, and Communications Chair. These positions were introduced to enhance operational efficiency, improve communication strategies, and ensure financial oversight, reinforcing PPGSA's ability to support and represent the graduate student body more effectively. Through these achievements, I have redefined what leadership looks like within PPGSA – leaving a legacy of innovation, accessibility, and stronger student governance at Georgia Tech.

While simultaneously serving as President of PPGSA, I also served as Vice President of Conference Funds in the Graduate Executive Branch of the Student Government Association this year. Within my role as Vice President of Conference Funds, I am proud to have led the passing of Bill 25J011. This Bill doubled the SGA Conference and Career Development Fund budget and increased funding for Georgia Tech students attending domestic conferences, international conferences, and career development events. This achievement ensures more Georgia Tech students will have the financial support needed to expand their professional opportunities. This effort exemplifies my dedication to equity and progress.

It has been an honor for me to serve you all within PPGSA. I hope that you all have established relationships, made pleasant memories, and have had potential issues remedied at least in part due to the dedicated work of this organization. I look forward to observing the gains of the school and PPGSA.

I wish you all the best. Stay positive. The best is yet to come.

Thank you,

Marquise' Collins

President | Public Policy Graduate Student Association

Marquise ' Collins

