

Sassan Hajirezaie: GSG Exec – Vice President



My name is Sassan Hajirezaie, and for those of you who have never met me, you have definitely seen me. And at 6'8", I've definitely seen you as well. I see you, and have had the opportunity to learn about and from so many of you. Now, I want to serve and represent you.

I am a third-year PhD student in Environmental Engineering focusing on mitigating climate change issues by minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. I have served in a wide variety of leadership positions ranging from the president of undergraduate government, to the vice president of a student affairs committee for holding international scientific conferences. I am outgoing, sociable, and approachable, which will help me serve as the voice of graduate students, and a more effective liaison between undergraduates, graduates, and administrators.

During the past three years at Princeton, I have noticed different opportunities to improve graduate students' lives. Foremost, interfacing with undergraduate associations and administration more, I want to increase the visibility, inclusion, and integration of the graduate body, with more social events and avenues, funding, and support resources. More specifically, I will raise concerns around the closure of the graduate dining hall during the holidays to attempt to end this trend. Dillon Gym's hours accommodate only undergraduates, not graduates, by closing early whenever undergraduate students are gone. I seek to work with USG and GSG to help bring a grocery store to campus that all students can access, with partially subsidized prices. I hope to propose systematic financial aid specifically for graduate students whenever they require support, particularly for international, low-income, first-generation, and married students with children. Another lacking area is the social scene for graduate students. While undergraduate students enjoy numerous social events with multiple dedicated buildings and funding resources, graduate students lack such a dynamic platform for social life, which can be felt during the few, often overpopulated annual social events for graduate students. These are only a few examples of barriers and challenges for graduate students I hope to bring to light, and I would love to have graduate students' input for further improvement of our quality of lives as well.

I would be honored and excited to be an advocate in GSG for all of us, and I hope to get to meet you all to hear about your specific concerns and experiences here at Princeton, ranging from addressing a financial need to navigating challenging professional relationships within your department.