



# Graduate and Professional Student Association

The Pennsylvania State University  
315 HUB-Robeson Center  
University Park, PA 16802  
Email: [gpsa@psu.edu](mailto:gpsa@psu.edu)

GPSA Assembly Meeting | Wednesday, November 2, 2016 | 6:00pm | 302 HUB Robeson Center

## I. Call to Order

- a. The meeting is called to order by the Executive Vice President at 6:04 p.m.

## II. Roll Call Attendance – See Addendum I

## III. Adoption of the Agenda

- a. Remove Bill #66-18 from the agenda. The motion is seconded.
- b. Move Bill #66-20 before 66-19. The motion is seconded.
- c. Add presidential appointments to new business. The motion is seconded.
- d. Hearing no objections to those changes, those changes are adopted.

## IV. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

- a. Hearing no objection to the past meeting's minutes, the minutes are approved as distributed.

## V. Open Student Forum

- a. No comments

## VI. Special Presentation – Kelly Mroz, Director of Student Legal Services

- a. The goal is to give students equal voice if they need legal representation.
- b. Legal Services is a student-led initiative; it opened in 2010 and is funded by student activity fees.
- c. The service is free and confidential.
- d. The caseload is approximately 60% criminal and 40% civil.
- e. In deciding whether there can be a consultation vs representation, they consider the following:
  - i. Conflict of interest
  - ii. Capacity
  - iii. Competence
  - iv. Court
- f. More than doubled the number of intakes since 2012.
- g. There is a 95% satisfaction rate; over 90% of students find it important in helping them focus on their academics.
- h. Any student is eligible to receive the services, including students who have taken comps.
- i. They cannot take cases against the University, felonies, or personal injury cases.
- j. What about the Borough's marijuana ordinance?
  - i. The officer can charge with a misdemeanor or give out a summary charge.
  - ii. Campus police have to follow state and federal law.

## VII. Executive Officer Reports

- a. President (Kevin Horne)

- i. In the Alumni Council, an ad-hoc committee was formed to discuss how to engage recent graduates (both undergraduate and graduate students).
  - ii. Please advertise the student fee board to your network. First thing on the agenda is money for CAPS.
  - iii. On Friday, from 10 – 4, stop by 111 HUB to sign a letter to your legislator.
  - iv. The Board of Trustees meeting is this week – the main meeting is 1pm on Friday at the Penn Stater.
    - 1. The public comment period at 8 am is not live streamed.
    - 2. LionPATH is on the agenda
  - v. There will be a LionPATH open source website to let everyone know what’s being worked on, and what improvements are being made.
  - vi. Please apply for the student leadership scholarship.
  - vii. We are looking for candidates to run in the spring.
  - viii. Kevin attended a dinner for the Alumni Fellow program, and 8 of the 24 fellows were graduates of the grad school.
- b. Vice President (Marina Cotarelo)
    - i. We are still looking for a Faculty Senator.
    - ii. The Graduate School wants to hold a town hall about the CGE unionization effort.
  - c. Treasurer (Sidharth Agrawal)
    - i. Kelly Diaz (LGBTQ Coalition) sends a big thank you.
    - ii. Budget summary is updated; check online.
    - iii. If you’re holding an event, the contract needs to be worked out 45 days in advance.
    - iv. Send all spending bills to Sid (and Lily, Kevin, and Jordan).
    - v. We have also spent \$26 for Thanksgiving boxes and \$61 for wireless and ink.
  - d. Secretary (Anne Whitesell)
    - i. Nothing to report.
  - e. Graduate Council
    - i. Nothing to report.

### **VIII. New Business**

- a. Presidential appointments
  - i. Nicholas Lin (Smeal) wants to connect Smeal to the rest of the grad school
  - ii. McKenzie Mitchell (Law) is interested in becoming more involved in the Penn State community; interested in policy and politics.
  - iii. Motion to approve as a slate. The motion is seconded.
- b. Bill 66-20: GWIS Co-Sponsorship
  - i. Breakfast and lunch is served.
  - ii. Speakers are local and brought in from outside the University.
  - iii. UPAC funding is being used for other costs, but UPAC can’t cover food.
  - iv. There is a conference fee; it doesn’t cover the cost of food.
  - v. Is there an effort to extend the invitation to non-scientists?
    - 1. Yes, diverse speakers, including an artist. The keynote from last year was from NASA.

- vi. They do a good job at reaching out; it's a great opportunity for networking.
  - vii. There is a motion to vote via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded.
  - viii. The bill passes.
- c. Bill 66-19: Spring GPSA Theater Day
- i. Based on timing and content, we selected *Once*. Broadway musical was by far the most popular option.
  - ii. There will still be a pre-event social; trying for soup and salad.
  - iii. The original price is \$47; proposed to subsidize to \$30.
  - iv. There is a \$2 online ticketing fee, but you will be able to pick your seat.
  - v. You can purchase one student ticket, and then as many youth and adult tickets as you would like at the group discount.
  - vi. Spent about \$1000 on the first Theatre Day
  - vii. There is a motion to vote via roll call. The motion is seconded.
  - viii. The bill passes (see Addendum II – Roll Call Vote).
- d. Bill 66-21: Headshot Photography Session
- i. The photography session will be held in HUB 134, 11am – 2pm on November 15 and 16.
  - ii. The cost is \$280 for the room and \$700 for the photographer.
  - iii. The professional development committee will be advertising through social media and email to departments
  - iv. Why not use a department photographer, or someone from Penn State?
    - 1. The committee contacted a graduate student who specializes in photography and her schedule did not allow for it.
    - 2. Committee also contacted the Photography Club of Penn State and got no response.
    - 3. Oftentimes there are copyright issues with using a Penn State photographer (the photo is only supposed to be used on the Penn State website).
  - v. Will there be wardrobe guidelines?
    - 1. There will be guidelines sent out in the email.
  - vi. Why not extend the hours?
    - 1. There wasn't a block of time longer than three hours, and we wanted to keep the hours consistent across the two days.
  - vii. This will be popular – it was full last time.
    - 1. The committee will consider an online sign-up for times.
  - viii. There is a motion to approve the bill via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded.
  - ix. The bill passes.
- e. Bill 66-22: Committee Chair Discretionary Spending
- i. Providing discretionary spending on food would enable committee chairs to encourage attendance both inside and outside GPSA
  - ii. How is this not spending money on us? These meetings are not publicized.
    - 1. There is trouble convincing people to come to committee meetings.
  - iii. Aren't delegate meetings required anyway? Do we need to bribe delegates?

1. It is not a bribe, but a nice gesture.
- iv. How would you advertise the standing committees? Would this replace the town halls?
- v. When you're saying that people aren't attending, is this just student affairs?
  1. The bill sponsor took a random sample of committee chairs.
- vi. Is this money coming out of your show cause budget?
  1. No, this would be unallocated funding.
- vii. Discussion
  1. Why do you need \$12/person?
    - a. That's the ceiling, not the floor.
  2. If any committee or subcommittee chairs are having attendance issues, please let the Exec board know.
  3. People who are outside the committee are not coming to these committees.
  4. Maybe we should consider ways to increase attendance that do not cost money first.
  5. We should try to publicize the meetings – maybe the bill should focus more on that?
  6. There's a concern that people will eat food but not commit the time.
  7. We spend a laughable amount of money on food for ourselves.
- viii. Motion to table the bill. The bill is seconded.

## **IX. Reports**

- a. Speaker of the Assembly (Lily Hill)
  - i. Nothing to report.
- b. Internal Development (Jordan Morris)
  - i. Nothing to report.
- c. Student Affairs (James Fan)
  - i. Professional Development (Erica Schwalm)
    1. The committee is scheduling head shots and will continue working on spring boot camp.
  - ii. Community Service (Austin Barrett)
    1. At the blood drive on Monday (October 31), over 100 people participated!
    2. If you have anything to drop off for the Thanksgiving basket drive, give it Austin or Brittany. If you have money, please put it in the community service mailbox in the GPSA office.
    3. Community Service committee is looking to become involved in the festival of Trees. GPSA would pay \$100 to adopt a tree, and then the tree goes to a needy family. There will be ornaments that are representative of all our fields/departments.
  - iii. Programming (Brian Conway)
    1. Ticket sales will begin the week of November 13<sup>th</sup>.
    2. Tailgate this Saturday; it is being catered by Wegmans.

- 3. Financial literacy workshops are a success – the third one is already full. The committee is looking to put together a series of workshops on more specific topics.
- iv. Diversity (Kylar Sherman-Wilkins)
  - 1. The committee is meeting Friday at 2pm.
  - 2. There is an All In Event on Tuesday, from 7:30-8:45.
- d. Advocacy (Brianna Pragg)
  - i. The committee is in favor of a task force on the issues of a smoke-free campus and we would like to have representation on that task force.
    - 1. Departments and programs – continue to ask how your constituents feel about this issue.
    - 2. IDGP asked for feedback from their grad student council.
  - ii. We still need a healthcare subcommittee chair.
- e. Liaisons
  - i. Nothing to report.
- f. Judiciary (Michael Kramer)
  - i. Nothing to report
- g. Board of Trustees (Allie Goldstein)
  - i. Please consider attending a Board of Trustees meeting!
  - ii. Thursday is all day committee meetings
  - iii. The public meeting on Friday
  - iv. Attend the Board of the Trustees townhall on November 15.
- h. Advisor (Dr. Phillip Burlingame)
  - i. Nothing to report.

**X. Comments for the Good of the Order**

- a. It was very touching to hear from Penn State Grad School alumni and learn about what they've done after graduate school.
- b. Go see *Once*.
- c. Vote next Tuesday!
- d. Welcome to the new delegates!

**XI. Adjournment**

- a. The meeting is adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Whitesell

## Addendum I. Roll Call Attendance

P = present

A = absent

E = excused

PR = proxy

Office	Name	Attendance
<b>Executive Board</b>		
<b>President</b>	Kevin Horne	P
<b>Vice President</b>	Marina Cotarelo	P
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sidharth Agrawal	L
<b>Secretary</b>	Anne Whitesell	P
<b>Faculty Senator</b>	Vacant	
<b>Graduate Council</b>		
<b>Graduate Council</b>	Brianne Pragg	P
<b>Graduate Council</b>	Morteza Karimzadeh	A
<b>Graduate Council</b>	Alison Franklin	E
<b>Graduate Council</b>	Carol Rogers-Shaw	A
<b>Graduate Council</b>	Shahrzad Jamshidi	E
<b>Judiciary</b>		
<b>Chief Justice</b>	Jeremy R. Johnson	A
<b>Associate Justice</b>	Jesse Scott	A
<b>Associate Justice</b>	Michael Kramer	P
<b>Assembly</b>		
<b>Agricultural Sciences</b>	Cameron Stephens	P
<b>Dickinson School of Law</b>	Fallon Dungan	E
<b>Dickinson School of Law</b>	Jordan D. Morris	A
<b>Dickinson School of Law</b>	McKenzie Mitchell	P
<b>Earth and Mineral Sciences</b>	Michael Crontin	P
<b>Earth and Mineral Sciences</b>	Gerald Knapp	P
<b>Eberly College of Science</b>	William Wright	A
<b>Eberly College of Science</b>	Brian Conway	P
<b>Eberly College of Science</b>	Erica Schwalm	L
<b>Education</b>	Xulu Zhang	A

<b>Education</b>	Christine Mosich	A
<b>Education</b>	Jinhee Choi	A
<b>Engineering</b>	John McKay	P
<b>Engineering</b>	Matt Krott	P
<b>Engineering</b>	Shen-li Pei	P
<b>Health and Human Development</b>	Austin Barrett	P
<b>Health and Human Development</b>	Samuel Masters	A
<b>Information Sciences and Technology</b>	Anthony Pinter	E/PR
<b>Inter-Collegiate Degree Program</b>	Brittany Banik	P
<b>Inter-Collegiate Degree Program</b>	David Dopfel	P
<b>Inter-Collegiate Degree Program</b>	Lilian Hill	P
<b>School of International Affairs</b>	Jennifer Gibbs	P
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	Kevin Reuning	E/PR
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	Robert Zuchowski	P
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	Kyler Sherman-Wilkins	P
<b>Smeal College of Business</b>	Steven Di Grazia	E
<b>Smeal College of Business</b>	James Fan	L
<b>Smeal College of Business</b>	Nicholas Lin	P
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	Mohammad Whaba	P
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	Katharine Grills	E/PR
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	Sonny Arora	P
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	William Dusch	P

## Addendum II. Roll Call Voting

Y = Yea      N = nay      A = abstain      --- = not present

Office	Name	Bill 66-19
<b>Assembly</b>		
Agricultural Sciences	Cameron Stephens	Y
Dickinson School of Law	Fallon Dungan	---
Dickinson School of Law	Jordan D. Morris	---
Dickinson School of Law	McKenzie Mitchell	Y
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Michael Crontin	Y
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Gerald Knapp	Y
Eberly College of Science	William Wright	---
Eberly College of Science	Brian Conway	Y
Eberly College of Science	Erica Schwalm	Y
Education	Xulu Zhang	---
Education	Christine Mosich	---
Education	Jinhee Choi	---
Engineering	John McKay	Y
Engineering	Matt Krott	Y
Engineering	Shen-li Pei	Y
Health and Human Development	Austin Barrett	Y
Health and Human Development	Samuel Masters	---
Information Sciences and Technology	Anthony Pinter	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Brittany Banik	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Lilian Hill	Y
School of International Affairs	Jennifer Gibbs	Y



<b>Liberal Arts</b>	Kevin Reuning	Y
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	Robert Zuchowski	Y
<b>Liberal Arts</b>	Kyler Sherman-Wilkins	Y
<b>Smeal College of Business</b>	Steven Di Grazia	---
<b>Smeal College of Business</b>	James Fan	Y
<b>Smeal College of Business</b>	Nicholas Lin	Y
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	Mohammad Whaba	Y
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	Katharine Grills	Y
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	Sonny Arora	Y
<b>At-Large Delegate</b>	William Dusch	Y