



Graduate and Professional Student Association

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

GPSA Assembly Meeting | Wednesday, March 29, 2017 | 6:00pm | 134 HUB Robeson Center

I. Call to Order

- a. The meeting is called to order by the Executive Vice President at 6:06 p.m.

II. Roll Call Attendance – See Addendum I

III. Adoption of the Agenda

- a. There is a motion to amend the agenda to add “Old Business” following “New Business.” The motion is seconded.
- b. There is a motion to move Resolution #11-13 to “Old Business” and rename “Revised Resolution #11-11.” As a result, also renumber Resolution #66-16 to #66-13.
- c. Hearing no objections, the amended agenda is approved.

IV. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

- a. Hearing no objections to the meeting minutes, the past meeting minutes are approved.

V. Open Student Forum

- a. There are no comments.

VI. Special Presentation – Michael F. Vederame, PhD and Yvonne Gaudelius PhD, Task Force on the Future of Online Education and the role of World Campus

- a. How can we leverage what we have learned from World Campus to integrate into the whole University?
- b. The taskforce has been meeting with all kinds of groups (currently up to 26).
- c. “One Penn State 2025”
- d. Two examples:
 - i. Increase (decrease barriers to) mobility
 - ii. Establish a lifelong connection
- e. Question:
 - i. MIT offers a lot of material online for free. Would this encompass something similar?
 1. Part of the public land grant mission of the University includes giving back to the public.
 - ii. How are you going to get faculty buy-in?
 1. It may not include everyone in the beginning.
 - iii. Is the plan to keep courses both online and in person?
 1. It is important to keep the community that comes from being on campus.
 - iv. This feels focused on undergraduate education. How would this incorporate graduate education?
 1. What are the essential elements of a Penn State degree that we don’t want to lose?
 - v. How will this work with students transferring with community college credits?
 - vi. How would this incorporate the broader Penn State experience?

1. There are already some student organizations for World Campus students; they hired a Director of Student Affairs last year.

VII. Executive Officer Reports

- a. President (Kevin Horne)
 - i. [BugPAC](#), while completely separate from GPSA, is running four candidates with student interests in mind.
 - ii. Student fee board approved allocations for Center for Women Students, Student Legal Services, BJC ticket subsidies, Center for Performing Arts, and Student Farm club.
 - iii. Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Week was last week.
 - iv. Student Board of Trustee interviews are winding down.
 - v. GPSA purchased 1,000 S books last year. Next year's are finished and we can buy 900 for \$1,000.
 - vi. GSAS had a meeting, to be discussed later.
 - vii. Capital Day was last week; it was great.
 - viii. Thank you.
 - ix. Awards
 1. Burlingame Advocate for the Arts: Brittany Banik and Austin Barrett
 2. Delegate of the Year: Brian Conway
 3. George Atherton Award for Service to Penn State: Steve DeGrazia
 4. Kenneth Martin Award for Service to GPSA: Mohammad Wahba
- b. Vice President (Marina Cotarelo)
 - i. Grad Leader roundtable went very well.
 - ii. Register to vote if you live in the Borough.
 - iii. Thank you.
- c. Treasurer (Sidharth Agrawal)
 - i. We have \$15,000 left.
 - ii. Faculty Senate & student life met last Tuesday and has come up with 10 recommendations. They are also interested in conducting a time management survey.
 - iii. Library is interested in developing resources for undergraduate research
 - iv. Thank you.
- d. Secretary (Anne Whitesell)
 - i. Get Newswire announcements to me by 6pm on Sunday.
 - ii. Thank you.
- e. Faculty Senate Report (Kevin Reuning)
 - i. See email.
- f. Graduate Council (Brienne Pragg)
 - i. Nothing to report.

VIII. New Business

- a. Bill 66-38: March for Science Bus Funding
 - i. WE ARE for Science was created post-election to keep science in the community.
 - ii. There have been a number of outreach events; the next one is a bus trip down to DC for the March for Science.
 - iii. Sustainability Institute, Eberly College is also providing funding.
 - iv. The students are contributing \$10 per person as a commitment.

- v. Why have you not registered as a student organization?
 - 1. We want to include other members of the community, so we are hoping to register as a non-profit.
 - vi. How are you insuring ideological diversity? At a similar march held in Washington, for example, pro-life groups were not allowed to participate.
 - 1. We have tried to advertise widely. No one will be turned away.
 - vii. How can you assure us that our funding will be used for students?
 - viii. We were asked to contribute to funding to a similar event but provided less funding. Should this be treated differently?
 - ix. Motion to approve via roll call. The motion is seconded.
 - x. See Addendum II for roll call vote. The bill passes.
- b. Bill 66-39: Co-sponsorship of the Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology Student Symposium
- i. Symposium for students to present posters and oral presentations.
 - ii. Last year GPSA also provided funding for breakfast, lunch, and coffee breaks.
 - iii. Anyone can attend; you can still submit abstracts.
 - iv. Last year, there were about 75 presentations.
 - v. Every printed material will have the sponsors listed with their logo.
 - vi. Motion to approve via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - vii. The bill passes.
- c. Bill 66-40: PRI's Graduate Student Methods Workshop in Mixed Methods Co-Sponsorship
- i. Every year the Population Research Institute hosts a workshop for quantitative methods.
 - ii. Mixed methods cut across departments within the College of the Liberal Arts, Health and Human Development, and IST.
 - iii. The sponsor is asking for funds to purchase Penn State mugs for speakers and notebooks/pens for those in attendance.
 - iv. Because this is a co-sponsorship, funds cannot be used for reimbursements.
 - v. Motion to increase the allocation to \$600 to allow for purchase of supplies locally.
 - vi. Motion to pass the bill via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - vii. The bill passes.
- d. Resolution 66-12: Opposing Anti-Student Bylaws Changes by the Graduate School Alumni Society (GSAS)
- i. These bylaws remove the voice of students from the decision-making process.
 - ii. The President of GSAS thought the group should have more deliberation and may reconsider this summer.
 - iii. Motion to approve resolution via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - iv. The resolution passes.
- e. Resolution 66-14: Resolution #66-14 Formation of Student Advocacy and Diversity Committee

- i. Several times the advocacy and diversity committees worked together throughout the year to draft legislation and resolution.
 - ii. The mission of the diversity committee is more in line with the advocacy committee than with the student affairs committee, which is focused primarily on programming.
 - iii. Motion to pass the resolution via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - iv. The resolution passes.
- f. Resolution 66-15: Continuation of Student Governor-Appointed Trustee
 - i. Governor Wolfe has not taken a firm stance as to whether he will continue the tradition of appointing a student trustee.
 - ii. UPUA passed a similar resolution last week.
 - iii. The presidents of all three student governments (GPSA, UPUA, and CCSG) have met with members of the Governor's staff and the Secretary of Education.
 - iv. Motion to pass the resolution via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
- g. Resolution 66-13: Constitution and Bylaws Amendments to Ensure Financial Responsibility
 - i. This resolution establishes an audit committee (member of exec board, member of Assembly, and Chief Justice).
 - ii. Any purchases over \$100 by the Treasurer would need to be approved by the adviser or GPSA president.
 - iii. Motion to amend the bill so that line 27 will read "Article X Section C shall include the following:"
 - iv. Motion to approve the resolution via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - v. The resolution passes.

IX. Old Business

- a. Revised Resolution 66-11: GPSA Bylaw Amendment to Increase Diversity
 - i. Motion to amend line 21
 - ii. Motion to amend the grammar of the last line of the proposed new language.
 - iii. If there are persistently non-filled seats, should we be trying to tweak it according to demographic variables?
 - 1. What is the hierarchy of goals – filling seats or diversity?
 - 2. The language of this resolution is not a mandate; it is a suggestion.
 - iv. Question for Kevin: How many people have you appointed? How many people have you turned down?
 - 1. Kevin has only turned down two people and has probably appointed about 20.
 - v. Motion to vote via roll call. There is an objection. The motion is rescinded.
 - vi. This resolution is acting as some sort of filter. We are no longer valuing people solely on intrinsic merits. We are all equal, but some are treated as more equal. I have a problem with that on philosophical grounds. This is going backwards for people in an enlightened society.
 - vii. To your point that we are restricting the people that can fill these positions, the idea of this resolution is encourage the President to go out and find these people. It

- encourages the President to increase participation from those who don't feel like they have a good relationship with GPSA.
- viii. Motion to vote via roll call. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - ix. See Addendum II for roll call vote. The resolution passes.

X. Reports

- a. Speaker of the Assembly (Brian Conway)
 - i. The grad student leader roundtable was a great success and it's going to be important to maintain these relationships.
 - ii. Thank you
- b. Internal Development (Vacant)
 - i. Nothing to report.
- c. Student Affairs (James Fan)
 - i. Professional Development (Christine Mosich)
 - 1. The last round of professional headshots is April 12 and 13.
 - 2. We had a meeting with representatives about IT services, so we are hoping to put together a workshop with them this semester to be continued next year.
 - ii. Community Service (Steven DiGrazia)
 - 1. Project Haiti has its final spaghetti dinner on Monday, April 3.
 - 2. Volunteer.psu.edu
 - 3. Friday Night Lights Out on April 14
 - 4. April 23 before the Blue & White game
 - 5. We will need more people to join the community service committee.
 - iii. Programming (Brian Conway)
 - 1. Ice skating at Pegula was last Saturday – the total number of skate rentals was 224 (plus those who brought their own).
 - 2. There was great attendance at the events and great diversity
 - iv. Diversity (Kyler Sherman-Wilkins)
 - 1. Pride Week was last week – there was good graduate student attendance at the Pride Parade.
 - 2. The survey is still a work in progress.
 - 3. Thank you
 - v. Grad Cup (David Dopfel)
 - 1. No inflatables this year because of possible grass damage.
 - 2. There are about 200 people participating, plus however many volunteers we get.
- d. Advocacy (Matt Krott)
 - i. People who are participating in Grad Cup will be able to provide feedback on what we've done well this year, what we should tackle next year.
 - ii. Make sure you vote in the Centre County primaries on May 16.
- e. Liaisons
 - i. Nothing to report.
- f. Judiciary (Jesse Scott)
 - i. Vote in GPSA elections.
 - ii. If there are any issues with voting, email gpsajudiciary@gmail.com

- iii. If you know someone who is interested in joining, have them contact Jesse. They could also (theoretically) coordinate a write-in campaign.
- iv. There will be a revised Constitution and by-laws posted to the website by the next Assembly meeting.
- v. Bring bills for things that are going to happen over summer at the next Assembly meeting!
- g. Board of Trustees (Allie Goldstein)
 - i. Vote in local elections, GPSA, and Board of Trustee elections.
 - ii. The next board meeting is May 4 and 5.
 - iii. Congratulations on a successful year.
- h. Advisor (Dr. Phillip Burlingame)
 - i. This Assembly has done a lot to establish the legitimacy of graduate student government.
 - ii. You have shown that you can make the lives of graduate students better.
 - iii. I am honored to have this new award named after me.

XI. Comments for the Good of the Order

- a. There are three new potential GPSA logos, to be discussed in the next Assembly.
- b. Thank you to Sid for putting up with us and all the purchase orders.
- c. To correct the record: No one was prohibited from marching in the Women's March on Washington. Pro-life groups were not invited to co-sponsor.

XII. Adjournment

- a. The meeting is adjourned at 7:54p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Whitesell

Addendum I. Roll Call Attendance

P = present

A = absent

E = excused

PR = proxy

L = late

Office	Name	Attendance
Executive Board		
President	Kevin Horne	P
Vice President	Marina Cotarelo	P
Treasurer	Sidharth Agrawal	P
Secretary	Anne Whitesell	P
Faculty Senator	Kevin Reuning	E
Graduate Council		
Graduate Council	Brianne Pragg	P
Graduate Council	Carol Rogers-Shaw	A
Graduate Council	Kevin Cloonan	E
Judiciary		
Chief Justice	Jesse Scott	P
Associate Justice	Michael Kramer	P
Assembly		
Agricultural Sciences	Cameron Stephens	P
Arts and Architecture	Miguel Campos	A
Dickinson School of Law	Mackenzie Mitchell	A
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Michael Cronin	P
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Gerald Knapp	P
Eberly College of Science	William Wright	A
Eberly College of Science	Brian Conway	P
Eberly College of Science	Erica Schwalm	P
Education	Xulu Zhang	A
Education	Christine Mosich	P
Engineering	Mohammad Wahba	P

Engineering	Matt Krott	P
Engineering	Shen-li Pei	P
Health and Human Development	Austin Barrett	P
Health and Human Development	Katharine Grills	E
Information Sciences and Technology	Anthony Pinter	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Brittany Banik	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	P
School of International Affairs	Jennifer Gibbs	L
Liberal Arts	Robert Zuchowski	P
Liberal Arts	Kyler Sherman-Wilkins	P
Smeal College of Business	Steven Di Grazia	P
Smeal College of Business	James Fan	L
Smeal College of Business	Nicolas Lien	P
At-Large Delegate	Sonny Arora	P
At-Large Delegate	William Dusch	E/PR

Addendum II. Roll Call Votes

Office	Name	Bill #66-38	Res #66-11
Assembly			
Agricultural Sciences	Cameron Stephens	Y	Y
Arts and Architecture	Miguel Campos	--	--
Dickinson School of Law	Mackenzie Mitchell	--	--
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Michael Cronin	A	A
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Gerald Knapp	Y	Y
Eberly College of Science	William Wright	--	
Eberly College of Science	Brian Conway	Y	Y
Eberly College of Science	Erica Schwalm	Y	Y
Education	Xulu Zhang	--	--
Education	Christine Mosich	Y	Y
Engineering	Mohammad Wahba	Y	Y
Engineering	Matt Krott	Y	Y
Engineering	Shen-li Pei	Y	Y
Health and Human Development	Austin Barrett	Y	Y
Health and Human Development	Katharine Grills	--	--
Information Sciences and Technology	Anthony Pinter	Y	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Brittany Banik	Y	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	Y	A
School of International Affairs	Jennifer Gibbs	Y	Y
Liberal Arts	Robert Zuchowski	Y	Y
Liberal Arts	Kyler Sherman-Wilkins	Y	Y

Smeal College of Business	Steven Di Grazia	Y	Y
Smeal College of Business	James Fan		
Smeal College of Business	Nicolas Lien	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate	Sonny Arora	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate	William Dusch	Y	Y