



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, April 26, 2017 | 6:00pm | 134 HUB Robeson Center

I. Call to Order

- a. The meeting is called to order by the Speaker of the Assembly at 6:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call Attendance – See Addendum I

III. Adoption of the Agenda

- a. Motion to amend the agenda to include Bill 67-08.
- b. Hearing no objections, the agenda is amended.

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: Dr. Philip Burlingame: Associate VP for Student Affairs and Advisor to GPSA

- a. Been at Penn state 18 years and advised GPSA
- b. Delegates struggle with “what is your role?”
 - i. Go outside your student organizations and really understand what issues the students are dealing with
 - ii. It’s not easy because you are busy with research
 - iii. Make efforts to discuss with students and find a way to help them
- c. GPSA has two ways to make improvements in campus life
 - i. Pass funding and resolutions (the formal way)
 - ii. Use influence as a delegate to make things happen
 - A. Executive board members and delegates are a good resource
 - iii. Reach out and get to know your fellow delegates
 - A. Connect socially and share ideas
 - iv. Make sure to join a committee
 - v. Hope all to attend the retreat and set planning for next year
 - vi. Hold exec board accountable, their primary function is to support the delegates
 - vii. Adam Christensen is here
 - A. Recommend by David Simms (Vice President for student affairs)
 - B. Advocate for student government
 - viii. Few concern regarding legitimacy
 - A. GPSA has no concern for legitimacy
 - B. GPSA continue to develop legitimacy throughout the university
 - C. GPSA has to show up to graduate council meetings and other meetings

- D. GPSA should be involved with important issue
- ix. I don't like to hear graduate students hearing what GPSA is doing
- x. Penn State administration is not a model
 - A. Old main is not a person
 - B. There are lots of moving parts, lots of allies and enemies
- xi. GPSA is a very important and value point for graduate students
- xii. It was an honor for me to advise GPSA
- xiii. Final thoughts
 - A. "Those who are happiest are those who do for others" quote
- xiv. Make appropriate commitment and give voice to those among you

VII. Executive Officer Reports

- a. President (Matt Krott)
 - i. I met with the dean of graduate school
 - A. Task force is currently developing a survey and they will distribute it in the fall
 - ii. Unionization
 - A. First hearing will be in early September in University Park, but not sure on details if it's an open or closed meeting
 - iii. Lionpath team
 - A. There will be a new user interface over the next couple of weeks
 - B. Done lots of testing with students
 - C. Thank Lionpath team for being receptive
 - iv. Student feed board
 - A. Approved allocation 57\$ for gym membership
 - B. Gym membership will be free for all
 - v. UPUA
 - A. They are going to have a borough council, tomorrow at 6:30 PM in the HUB
 - B. Night of remembrance at 8:00 PM
 - a. Remember all the Penn state students who have passed this year
 - b. Open to the public
 - vi. Fall meeting schedule
 - A. Meeting will be at 7 pm on Wednesday in 302 hub
 - B. Moving it back to 6 pm in the spring
 - a. Most people want it
 - C. We will have orientation in the fall before school starts
 - a. Explain where GPSA is as an organization
 - b. How to write and pass bills, and etc.
 - vii. Thank Dr. Burlingame for being advisor
 - A. Done a really good job
 - B. Be the ones driving this change and thank you for all your service to this organization
 - viii. Questions:

- A. Brian: Will they be collecting the 57\$ from all the students?
 - a. Answer: They will collect the money from all the students and this goes toward the gym membership and improving facilities and more staff.
 - B. Jesse Scott: Its 57\$ total and not 37\$ more in the structure.
- b. Erica (Treasurer)
- i. Budget is updated online, there is a budget summary page on the GPSA website that is available to the public
 - ii. Broken down based on event (Purchase orders that are open, etc.)
 - iii. We currently have \$6,250 unallocated
 - iv. \$2700 in registration fees that we are waiting to be put back in our account
 - v. About \$9000 left for this year and that might increase as certain events are closing out and are under budget.
 - vi. For today's bills, they can come out of this year's budget if they are before July 1st
 - vii. Questions:
 - a. Does it carry over to next year?
 - i. Answer: it will carry over if it's a little less than \$5000; anything over we have to give it back.
 - b. How much are we expecting to spend in today's bills?
 - i. Answer: Around \$7000.
- c. Nasr (Secretary)
- i. I'll be sending one last newswire before the semester ends
- d. Kevin
- i. Faculty senate met yesterday
 - ii. Most prevalent resolution that was passed was require bias website putting it on the syllabus, expect to have the link on the syllabus as well
 - iii. What PSU has done in reference to the recent death at the fraternity
 - iv. Changing rules within the faculty senate
 - v. Introducing a first year requirement
 - A. For well being and safety
 - vi. Grad council is more tailored toward graduate students
 - vii. Questions:
 - A. Can you explain a little bit more on reporting bias, give examples?
 - a. Answer: I'm not familiar with the website, allow students to report incidents of bias and have them investigated. It is not to report bias related to coursework but bias that have been in the Penn State community as a whole. There has been discussion to include Lionpath on the syllabus as well.

VIII. New Business

- a. Confirmation of Presidential Appointments
 - i. Matt:
 - A. Some of them are college representatives being appointed to open position
 - B. Sent an application to all interested students
 - a. Not much response, we are filling 4 out of 5 at large

- ii. All appointments will introduce themselves and tell us more about themselves and which committee would you like to join?
- iii. Huiniang "Helena" Wang
 - A. First year, came in august
 - B. MBA student, college of business
 - C. Smeal is a small group of people, they help each other
 - D. Community service
 - E. I wasn't here, I didn't run
- iv. Bruno Saconi
 - A. College of nursing, for the past years we have not being represented
 - B. From brazil
 - C. Health care committee and community service
 - D. I was not aware, I wasn't here
- v. Allie Amatuzzo
 - A. Law School
 - B. Not being representing for the past few years, want to bridge the gap
 - C. Student affairs and professional development (programming)
- vi. Chuck Deibel
 - A. Law School
 - B. Number of leadership positions
 - C. SIA incoming VP
 - D. We have a lot to offer to grow
 - E. Opportunities in law are endless
- vii. Jessie McLaughlin
 - A. Law School
 - B. Law school is isolated and school is very resources
 - C. Be a voice for their ideas (law school)
 - D. Community service and diversity
 - E. I was, same
- viii. Richard Neil
 - A. Law School and MBA (next year)
 - B. Interdisciplinary learning, help us prepare
 - C. Professional development
 - D. I was, wasn't aware of elections
 - E. Teach everyone Miranda rights
- ix. Ruimin Chen
 - A. Get more involved
 - B. Programming subcommittee
 - C. Attended many GPSA events
 - D. I wasn't present, I did run and lost
- x. Saratu Terreno

- A. Architecture Engineering PhD
 - B. Dept. head selection committee
 - C. I am a mom and international student
 - D. Diversity and advocacy
 - E. I wasn't present, I did run but not selected
- xi. Stephanie Winkler
- A. Second year PhD in IST
 - B. I already worked with my college
 - C. IST is an interdisciplinary field
 - D. Community & Programming
 - E. I wasn't, I didn't run, like to listen to the organization before joining
 - F. I can commit, I've actually changed my class schedule
- xii. Roman Jaramillo
- A. Second year chemistry
 - B. I also serve on a board
 - C. Represent minorities
 - D. Advocacy committee
 - E. I was present, didn't know about it
- xiii. Colleen Unroe
- A. I'm all about fighting men
 - B. Community organizing and advocacy
 - C. Interest in healthcare
 - D. Make sure people have access and improve caps
 - E. College of education have 2 year funding but I don't
 - F. I was present, I have health issues
- xiv. Abhinandan Bera
- A. I wasn't, I never done this before, I should do this
 - B. I can commit
- xv. Questions?
- A. Where you present at the last meetings? (Answers are written under each appointment)
 - B. Why are you being appointed?
 - C. To law student, how do you want to connect?
 - D. Are you able to commit 2-3 hours? Yes to all.
- xvi. Discussion
- A. Emily – liked the law students, connection they have
 - B. Alexander – are the committees divided evenly? yes
 - C. Matt – previous president only turned away 2 people, we should not turn away people
- xvii. Motion to approve via slate unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
- xviii. Slate is approved

- b. Confirmation of New GPSA Advisor: Dr. Adam Christensen
 - i. Director of student affairs assessment
 - A. Help provide data to work with student affairs to improve student services
 - ii. We do a lot of student surveys (more undergrad)
 - iii. Provide a voice for students
 - iv. I have a Degree in development psychology
 - v. Been here for the past 4 years in my current role
 - vi. I do value the student voice and student affairs
 - vii. Honored to be liaison and advisor for GPSA
 - viii. Help you all to continue the good work you've done
 - ix. Questions
 - A. What is the positive change you've seen?
 - a. Sexual and misconduct survey has been a big project for all students (undergrad and grad)
 - B. Is this your first time?
 - a. It is. I want to get more student contact and want an opportunity to advise a student group. I've reached out on how to be in touch with students
 - C. How do you see your role in legitimacy?
 - a. I do not shy away from the politics of this institution. I work with many faculty members and administrators. I'm looking forward to those challenges.
 - D. Where you involved in GPSA as a student here?
 - a. I was not, I was busy with family.
 - E. Are in involved with grad school itself?
 - a. Limited interaction. I have some contact and look forward to building and strengthening those connections.
 - x. Floor yielded to delegate for questions.
 - A. How will you catch up?
 - a. I will be attending events, working with exec boards, some background has been given to me
 - b. Getting to know you all
 - B. What do you like to do that's currently not done?
 - a. I don't know the work that is done, I have some background
 - b. There is a lot going with CAPS and usage of CAPS to student outcome and student success
 - xi. Discussion
 - A. Matt - he wants to be an advisor, he is not afraid of politics
 - B. Jesse – he is aware of some of success and growth and would like to continue
 - a. We came forth with our issues and he was not afraid to work with us
 - b. Positive attitude to get involved
 - C. Brain – providing very good perspective to our organization
 - a. His insight is valuable
 - D. Allie - He is very humble, he is a fast learner
 - E. Kevin - Get more control to grad student listserv

- F. Dr. Philip
 - a. He is thoughtful and intelligent
 - b. I'm leaving and hoping to observe the trajectory to continue
- xii. Motion to approve via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
- xiii. Vote approved by unanimous consent. Dr. Adam Christensen is confirmed to be GPSA advisor
- c. Bill 67-04: Funding for Cooking Program from College of HHD
 - i. We had this last semester, instructors from HHD teach cooking classes
 - ii. Will be given 12 recipes and get to cook 1 or 2
 - iii. Catered to personal needs
 - iv. Spot were filled very quickly, feedback was positive
 - v. Amount 35\$ and we subsidize 20\$, minimum of 36/40 students to attend
 - vi. Event lasts 2 hours
 - vii. The event will be between June 12-16
 - A. Most likely on a Friday
 - viii. Questions:
 - A. Where will the ingredients come from?
 - a. Locally, the theme was eat local this year
 - B. Was the prior event during the summer, do you expect to fill out?
 - a. No, it was during the semester, I believe a lot of PhD will be here
 - C. Is it possible to bring a speaker?
 - a. The lab may have capabilities, but I can talk to them.
 - D. How do you register?
 - a. You will have to go to the office and pay them
 - E. Where is the charge coming from?
 - a. I'm not in charge but the money is going toward ingredients and instructor fees, but \$15 is enough
 - F. What happens if there is not a good turnout?
 - a. I will have to contact them, a week prior to the event
 - G. When is the registration cutoff?
 - a. The week prior on Monday
 - ix. Discussion
 - A. It will come out of this year's budget and the amount will be set aside.
 - B. This is a good opportunity to have an event during the summer
 - x. Motion to approve via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - xi. Bill passes
- d. Bill 67-05: Centre County PAWS Visit
 - i. This is a guided tour for Centre county paws (animal shelter in town)
 - ii. At most 40 people on Sunday, lunch provided
 - iii. Online signup sheet will be provided

- iv. Had this in the past and is very successful
- v. Interaction with the animals
- vi. Turnout was almost 30
- vii. Questions:
 - A. What is the tour consisting of?
 - a. Tour of what the shelter and volunteers do, for both the cat and dog side
 - B. Plan for transportation?
 - a. No plan, we carpooled, asked people if they need a ride
- viii. Discussion
- ix. Motion to approve via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
- x. Bill passes
- e. Bill 67-06: Welcome Back Picnic
 - i. We will provided games and a mixer for grad students
 - ii. A lot of pizza is ordered, 150 people show up
 - iii. We rent out sunset park
 - iv. This is our opportunity to get grad involved and make an impression.
 - v. Questions:
 - A. Did you increase everything proportionally?
 - a. I did not, but I over budgeted for drinks last year.
 - B. Food allergy options?
 - a. May need to add 75\$ to tailor to that situation
 - C. What is the main way to advisement?
 - a. Full blast on newswire, Facebook, and NSO
 - D. Do you have recycled?
 - a. Yes, there are recycling bins at the park
 - vi. Discussion
 - A. Good to meet each other especially international students. It is within walking distance to campus. Alternate plan for weather (rain possibilities). The pavilion is covered. We can call off the morning of the event.
 - vii. Motion to amend the total amount to \$750 to include enough for food allergies via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - viii. Amendment passes
 - ix. Motion to approve via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - x. Bill passes
- f. Bill 67-07: Graduate Student Orientation Materials
 - i. Matt- I think orientation is important thing to do this year
 - A. We have a little bit of a publicity issue
 - B. Encourage delegates to go to orientation events, talking points are prepared
 - C. Gave new students GPSA goodies
 - a. Reusable shopping bags

- b. S-book
 - i. Positive feedback from previous semesters
 - ii. Offers different offices on campus information, different facilities
 - iii. It is your guide to state college
 - ii. Questions:
 - A. Do you have to have brochures?
 - a. We do not pay for those, its provided by center of performing arts
 - B. Is that the right number?
 - a. In the past this has been a reasonable amount to distribute
 - b. We overestimated because we plan on more outreach
 - C. How do we incentivize the students to join the listserv and Facebook page?
 - a. Collect email addresses at the orientation
 - D. Is it possible to divide by the goodies by college?
 - a. It's a good idea for stickers, but it's better to give other colleges if they run out
 - b. Bulk printing is cheaper for one logo
 - E. Can we push them to look up the s-book on GPSA website to save money?
 - a. Our website is not very trafficked
 - b. Printed s-book is more convenient
 - F. Do we have enough in our budget?
 - a. We can take it out of next year's budget
 - G. Is it possible to have a Penn state pride to boost outreach?
 - a. Yes, the funds will come out of our unrestricted funds.
 - H. What is the brochure?
 - a. The brochure outlines what GPSA does, different committees, and contact info
 - iii. Discussion
 - A. It is better to give out Penn State gear than to hand out s-book that no one will read. However, international students find the s-book very useful. Thoughts on printing less s-book for on demand but we can't order less than 1000. Is there any way to collect data on how useful the s-book is?
 - iv. Motion to amend the bill to add \$200 to at least include 3 prizes via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - v. Amendment passes
 - vi. Motion to approve the total amount to \$7200 and that will include a line for \$200 for multiple students and those funds will come out of unrestricted funds via roll call. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - vii. See Addendum II for roll call vote.
 - viii. Bill passes
- g. Bill 67-08: GPSA Communications Intern
 - i. In the past we have had a position that is called "office manager", hire position
 - ii. In charge of day-to-day operations, maintaining website and social media

- iii. Exec board is overloaded
 - A. Website is not updated in a few months
- iv. We need to get better at communicating and relating to the university
- v. Has potential to be a resource for committees
- vi. Questions:
 - A. How does the graduate unionization affect if we get graduate students in this position?
 - a. This will not receive a stipend from your department, this is a wage payroll. Penn State will hire them as student affairs
 - B. Does work study restrict applications?
 - a. Yes. The label “work-study” will restrict applicants.
 - C. Can international student work?
 - a. Yes, it is an on campus job, you work for student affairs.
 - D. Can we fire the student?
 - a. The president and the exec board are responsible to hire and fire.
 - b. However, the assembly can pass a resolution to do something.
 - E. Why was this position not offered last year?
 - a. The previous president thought he could do the office manager tasks himself
- vii. Discussion
 - A. This role can be used to unify the graduate students. This will make it easier on subcommittees. This person is expected to attend assembly meetings.
- viii. Motion to amend the remove “work-study” via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
- ix. Amendment passes
 - x. Motion to amend the change “intern” to “manager” via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - xi. Amendment passes
 - xii. Motion to approve bill via roll call. The motion is seconded; there are no objections.
 - xiii. See Addendum II for roll call vote.
 - xiv. Bill passes

IX. Reports

- a. Speaker of the Assembly – Brian Conway
 - i. Thank you for showing up to committee meetings last week
 - ii. Excited to work with different committees
- b. Committee
 - i. David Dopfel – Internal Development
 - A. Lots of work to do, encourage new delegates to join
 - ii. Gerry Knapp - Advocacy and diversity chair
 - A. Being more proactive this year rather than reactive
 - B. Reaching out to other organizations and bring back to GPSA
 - a. Unionization and sustainability issues
- iii. Sonny Arora - Student affairs

- A. Next week or beginning of next semester for subcommittee chairs
- c. Liaison
- d. Judiciary: Jesse Scott
 - i. We have 5 more positions open
 - ii. I'll be here during the summer if you have any questions
 - iii. If you're not meeting over the summer doesn't mean you don't work over the summer
 - iv. Go to the department orientations
 - v. Congratulate Michael Kramer for his last meeting
- e. Board of Trustees: Alie Goldstein
 - i. This is the last report I'll give
 - ii. Board of trustees is the corporate governing body of the university
 - iii. I've been on the board for 3 years
 - iv. Operating budget is approved at the meeting
 - v. New trustee are appointed at the meeting
 - vi. Next meeting is May 4-5
 - vii. Each trustee is broken down into committee
 - viii. Alumni trustee
 - A. If you have a degree from Penn state you can vote
- f. Advisor: Adam Christensen
 - i. Looking forward to working with you

X. Comments for the Good of the Order

- i. If you are interested in yoga, it is available at the health center
- ii. This Friday is Movin' on
- iii. Gym is free next semester

XI. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nasr Cheaib

Addendum I. Roll Call Attendance

P = present

A = absent

E = excused

PR = proxy

L = late

Office	Name	Attendance
Executive Board		
President	Matt Krott	P
Vice President	Brianne Pragg	E
Secretary	Nasr Cheaib	P
Treasurer	Erica Schwalm	P
Faculty Senator	Kevin Reuning	P
Graduate Council		
Graduate Council	Alexander Wilson-Heid	P
Graduate Council	August Jenkins	A
Graduate Council	Claire Kelling	P
Graduate Council	Ling Yang	A
Graduate Council	Mara Cloutier	E
Judiciary		
Associate Justice	Eric Flagg	P
Chief Justice	Jesse Scott	P
Associate Justice	Michael Kramer	P
Assembly		
Agricultural Sciences	Devon Carroll	P
Agricultural Sciences	Emily Erickson	P
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Joshua Bostwick	P
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Mikael Hiestand	P
Eberly College of Science	Alex Zhao	P
Eberly College of Science	Brian Conway	P
Eberly College of Science	Sonny Arora	P
Education	Carmen Vanderhoof	A
Education	Sonja Robinson	L
Engineering	Farnaz Tehranchi	P

Engineering	Jashwant Gunasekaran	P
Engineering	Shenli Pei	P
Health and Human Development	Abigail Keim	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Gerry Knapp	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Sailahari Ponnaluri	P
School of International Affairs	Abdulaziz "Aziz" Dahlawi	P
Liberal Arts	Austin "Nathan" Geiger	P
Liberal Arts	Sara Davis	P
Liberal Arts	Tori Thomas	P

Addendum II. Roll Call Votes

Office	Name	Bill #67-07	Bill #67-08
Assembly			
Agricultural Sciences	Devon Carroll	Y	Y
Agricultural Sciences	Emily Erickson	Y	Y
Art & Architecture	Abhinandan Bera	Y	Y
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Joshua Bostwick	Y	Y
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Mikael Hiestand	Y	Y
Eberly College of Science	Alex Zhao	Y	Y
Eberly College of Science	Brian Conway	Y	Y
Eberly College of Science	Sonny Arora	Y	Y
Education	Carmen Vanderhoof	-	-
Education	Colleen Unroe	Y	Y
Education	Sonja Robinson	Y	Y
Engineering	Farnaz Tehranchi	Y	Y
Engineering	Jashwant Gunasekaran	Y	Y
Engineering	Shenli Pei	Y	Y
Health and Human Development	Abigail Keim	Y	Y
Information Sciences and Technology	Stephanie Winkler	Y	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	Y	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Gerry Knapp	Y	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Sailahari Ponnaluri	Y	Y
Nursing	Bruno Saconi	Y	Y
School of International Affairs	Abdulaziz "Aziz" Dahlawi	Y	Y

Smeal College of Business	Huiniang "Helena" Wang	Y	Y
Schools of Law	Allie Amatuzzo	Y	Y
Schools of Law	Chuck Deibel	Y	Y
Schools of Law	Jessie McLaughlin	Y	Y
Liberal Arts	Austin "Nathan" Geiger	Y	Y
Liberal Arts	Sara Davis	Y	Y
Liberal Arts	Tori Thomas	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate (Law)	Richard Neal	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate (Science)	Roman Jaramillo	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate (Engineering)	Ruimin Chen	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate (Engineering)	Saratu Terreno	Y	Y