



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, February 15, 2017 | 6:00pm | 134 HUB Robeson Center

I. Call to Order

- a. The meeting is called to order by the Executive Vice President at 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call Attendance – See Addendum I

III. Adoption of the Agenda

- a. Hearing no objections, the agenda is approved as distributed.

IV. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

- a. Total available in the budget is \$22,000.
- b. Hearing no other objection to the revised minutes, the minutes are approved.

V. Open Student Forum

- a. There are no comments.

VI. Special Presentation – Terry O’Heron and Kate Domico, Canvas project co-chairs; Tony Anderson, Canvas project manager

- a. 12300 active sessions - 3200 is Angel and 9100 in Canvas
- b. Online access to ANGEL to end in October
- c. Students and faculty can make online requests for archived materials.
- d. No new ANGEL groups beginning in June. Currently, ANGEL group users are encouraged to use other platforms until a similar system is set up in Canvas.
- e. Canvas analytics – can we find out how many page views, downloads, log-ins?
 - i. Yes, it is on the People page.
- f. Canvas data is looking into providing tools for instructors to obtain IP addresses.
- g. Could you access the statistics by page, versus by student?
- h. The grading interface is nice and easy to use. Can you adjust notifications?
 - i. The students adjust how they receive notifications (under Profile).
- i. Is there a way for students to be forced to adjust their profile when they first sign in?
 - i. No; students can easily miss announcements if they do not have the appropriate settings.
- j. Can you create folders in the inbox?
 - i. Not currently.
- k. Could the equation builder be adjusted so it’s not mouse-dependent?

VII. Executive Officer Reports

- a. President (Kevin Horne)
 - i. It was great seeing so many of you at State of State and TedxPSU. Anthony’s speech should be up on YouTube soon.
 - ii. The Natatorium and the tennis courts are shared use with intercollegiate athletics – there is a master plan to renovate them.

- iii. The Borough Council is putting forth some restrictions on housing. We may need some support at future meetings.
- iv. Dr. Masi is interested in conducting a university-wide survey of professional development among graduate students.
- v. Elections are coming up very soon. Please reach out to those who may be interested in running.
- b. Vice President (Marina Cotarelo)
 - i. Nothing to report.
- c. Treasurer (Sidharth Agrawal)
 - i. Currently there is \$21,000 left.
 - ii. Given the bills lined up for today, if they are all approved there will be less than \$4,000 remaining.
- d. Secretary (Anne Whitesell)
 - i. Get Newswire announcements to me by 6pm on Sunday.
- e. Faculty Senate Report (Kevin Reuning)
 - i. Nothing to report.
- f. Graduate Council (Brienne Pragg)
 - i. The P and R distinction was brought up again. The GPSA resolution was brought up and met with blank stares.
 - ii. There will be a third category, primarily for faculty in Arts & Architecture.
 - iii. Question: What is the Graduate School push back on this?
 - 1. The policy is already in place and they can make exemptions if they need to.

VIII. New Business

- a. Bill 66-30: Great Debate Co-Sponsorship
 - i. The College Democrats and Republicans are asking us to contribute \$4,000, primarily to cover speaker honorarium.
 - ii. Negotiations are currently underway for the speakers.
 - iii. The total budget - \$53,500 - is a slight increase from last year. The year prior had a budget around \$75,000.
 - iv. This event will be held in the evening in the Thomas Building.
 - v. Have other political organizations been involved?
 - 1. We are looking for as many co-sponsors as possible.
 - 2. No invitation has officially been extended to the College Independents.
 - vi. Currently asking for \$8,000 on from UPUA and \$20,000 from UPAC.
 - vii. They are actively seeking a GPSA representative to be on the committee.
 - viii. How are the co-sponsors advertised?
 - 1. They are listed on every advertisement, both in print and online.
 - ix. Who moderates the debate?
 - 1. In the past, it has been someone from Schreyer, John Gastil from the McCourtney Institute.
 - x. Is \$4,000 too much?
 - 1. There is a recommendation to amend the bill to \$2,000.
 - 2. Do we want to scale based on the number of grad students who will attend?
 - 3. Should we base our contribution on how much UPUA gives?

- xi. Motion to amend the bill to \$2,000. The motion is seconded.
- xii. Motion to vote via roll call. The motion is seconded.
- xiii. See Addendum II for roll call vote. The bill passes.
- b. Bill 66-31: Funding for Cooking Program from College of HHD
 - i. This is a social event while also providing valuable skills. There will be 12 recipes prepared and at the end there will be a family-style bill
 - ii. The maximum number of participants is 40 students.
 - iii. This will take place in the Henderson building.
 - iv. What is the outreach plan? How will the tickets be distributed?
 - 1. Send out an advertisement in the Newswire with a Google form.
 - 2. If a student does not pay the \$10 ticket, the spot will be given to another student.
 - v. Amend the bill so that all HDD is replaced for HHD.
 - vi. Should we cap the number of GPSA delegates who can attend?
 - 1. Everyone on the GPSA list serv will see the advertisement at the same time.
 - 2. How about you just agree to show up if you sign up?
 - vii. Motion to pass the bill via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded.
 - viii. The bill passes.
- c. Bill 66-32: Diversity and Inclusion Survey
 - i. The Human Diversity subcommittee has created a survey to gather information about diversity and inclusion among graduate students.
 - ii. The subcommittee has worked with the Black Graduate Student Association and Coalition of LGBTQA Graduate Students.
 - iii. The subcommittee is offering two \$25 Visa gift cards as incentive to participate.
 - iv. How many responses has the Tobacco survey gotten?
 - 1. About 800, just from sending out through Newswire and social media.
 - v. What is the final product?
 - 1. We expect to work with the advocacy committee to create resolutions based on the results of the survey.
 - 2. We do not know what the problems are; we are trying to figure that out.
 - vi. Motion to pass the bill via unanimous consent. The motion is seconded.
 - vii. The bill passes.
- d. Bill 66-33: 2017 Grad Cup Funding
 - i. The Grad Cup is the most well attended event held by GPSA.
 - ii. The bill sponsors are asking for \$12,000 – a 50% increase from last year.
 - iii. Have you considered soliciting donations for water, snacks?
 - iv. How many people have attended?
 - 1. Two years ago, it was about 250. Last year, it was over 300 (maybe 320).
 - v. Why do you anticipate 100 more people will attend this year?
 - 1. We have more active delegates than in past years.
 - 2. We have better means of communicating.
 - vi. Why did you schedule it for Easter weekend?
 - 1. It was the only weekend available.
 - vii. What time does the event start and what time do the volunteers arrive?
 - 1. The event starts at 9 and volunteers arrived at 7:45.

- viii. Motion to amend the bill to specify that no money can be spent on subcommittee meetings. The motion is seconded.
- ix. Could we spend some unrestricted money on this?
 - x. Motion to amend the bill to \$10,000. The motion is seconded.
 - xi. Motion to vote on bill via roll call. The motion is seconded.
 - xii. See Addendum II for roll call vote. The bill passes.
- e. Resolution 66-10: GPSA Elections
 - i. GPSA will coordinate its election with UPUA to maximize advertisement.
 - ii. It is valuable to have delegates start in the spring so they can begin planning for the next year and aids in the transition.
 - iii. The new assembly will meet for the first time on April 12.
 - iv. How will we effectively promote the election?
 - 1. If you're leaving, find someone you think would be a good delegate and talk to them about submitting an intent to run.
 - 2. We will be advertising through the department administrative assistants, a possible university-wide email, and other channels that we know work.
 - v. Motion to approve via unanimous consent. There are no objections.
 - vi. The resolution passes.

Reports

- f. Speaker of the Assembly (Brian Conway)
 - i. Nothing to report.
- g. Internal Development (Vacant)
 - i. Nothing to report.
- h. Student Affairs (James Fan)
 - i. Professional Development (Christine Mosich)
 - 1. Professional head shots were very successful.
 - 2. We are having some trouble with attendance at the writing boot camps.
 - ii. Community Service (Brittany Banik)
 - 1. Blood drive this Friday at the NLI. Walk-ins are welcome.
 - iii. Programming (Brian Conway)
 - 1. The mixer will be moved back one week, to February 28.
 - 2. We have a couple other events in the works that should be announced at the next meeting.
 - iv. Diversity (Kyler Sherman-Wilkins)
 - 1. Nothing to report.
 - v. Grad Cup (James Fan)
 - 1. We passed a great bill and will be planning for the event now.
- i. Advocacy (Matt Krott)
 - i. The tobacco survey closes tomorrow, so make sure you have taken it.
 - ii. There has been an increase in the usage of services for international services as a result of the executive order.
 - iii. GPSA's resolution was well-received by the administration.
- j. Liaisons
 - i. Student Sustainability Advisory Council (Kyler Sherman-Wilkins):

1. He will be attending the first meeting on February 20 and will keep the assembly updated.
- k. Judiciary (Jesse Scott)
 - i. Nothing to report.
- l. Board of Trustees (Allie Goldstein)
 - i. There will be more to report at the next meeting.
- m. Advisor (Dr. Phillip Burlingame)
 - i. Nothing to report.

IX. Comments for the Good of the Order

- a. Event tomorrow with Nick Jones at 6pm concerning the executive order and the international community in general.
- b. If you are interested in being the grad student rep for the great debate, let Brian know.

X. Adjournment

- a. The meeting is adjourned at 7:52 p.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	P
Graduate Council		
Graduate Council	Brianne Pragg	P
Graduate Council	Carol Rogers-Shaw	A
Graduate Council	Kevin Cloonan	P
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	E
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Gerald Knapp	P
Eberly College of Science	William Wright	P
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/PR
Information Sciences and Technology	Anthony Pinter	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Brittany Banik	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	A
School of International Affairs	Jennifer Gibbs	P
Liberal Arts	Robert Zuchowski	P
Liberal Arts	Kyler Sherman-Wilkins	E/PR
Smeal College of Business	Steven Di Grazia	E
Smeal College of Business	James Fan	A
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 66-30	Bill 66-33
Agricultural Sciences	Cameron Stephens	Y	Y
Arts and Architecture	Miguel Campos	---	---
Dickinson School of Law	Mackenzie Mitchell	---	---
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Michael Cronin	---	---
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Gerald Knapp	Y	Y
Eberly College of Science	William Wright	Y	Y
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	A	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	Y	Y
Information Sciences and Technology	Anthony Pinter	Y	A
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Brittany Banik	Y	Y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	Y	Y
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	---	---
Smeal College of Business	James Fan	Y	Y
Smeal College of Business	Nicolas Lien	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate	Sonny Arora	Y	Y
At-Large Delegate	William Dusch	Y	Y