



To join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/273608591>

I. Call to Order (5:30pm)

- A. Approve Minutes (5:30pm)
 - 1. Minutes Approved

II. Guest Speakers (5:30 - 6:00pm)

- A. Judi McDonald, Chair, [WSU Faculty Senate](#)
 - 1. What GPSA and Faculty Senate have in common: teaching, research and service.
 - 2. Climate on campus: how to get faculty involved in issues pertaining to race, politics and other social issues.
 - 3. Graduate students are dealing mostly with freshmen in lower level classes – what should be done when things that are not okay are happening.
 - 4. What is the limit for “freedom of speech” in classrooms.
 - 5. Technology presents many opportunities in the classrooms. But we need to filter out what is necessary, what is working and what is not.
 - 6. Senate structure
 - a) State gives faculty senate control over curriculum and programs.
 - b) Departmental level: some issue regarding classes and academic programs is proposed to the dean’s office who then sends it to the faculty senate where a committee deals with that.
 - c) Another committee takes care of the faculty manual.
 - d) Research and arts committee: gets funding to try and support new faculty research grants.
 - e) Approval for centers institutes and laboratories grant applications.
 - f) Budget committee
 - 7. Senators questions:
 - a) Funding for the “drive to 25”
 - (1) Encourages the school the be big, but not necessarily good. Funding concerned is understandable and should be discussed openly.
 - b) Legislative and enforcement capacities of the faculty senate
 - (1) Power to approve or veto academic related things (new classes, new programs...)
 - (2) Not as much power to enforce
 - c) Program in the psych and counseling department that was shut down.
 - (1) Senate sent a strong letter because of this but couldn’t do anything about it



- d) Sudden drop in stipends in at least one department (mechanical engineering)
 - (1) For the affected graduate students: go to HR and check their contracts.
 - (2) Other senators intervened: apparently the department had the legal rights to do this
 - (3) Civil engineering was also affected. Students are under the impression that President Schultz is aware of and is okay with this.
- e) DACA issue
 - (1) The senate doesn't have good ideas yet and is open to suggestions.
- 8. More questions: email Judy at jmcdonald1@wsu.edu

III. Important Announcements (6:00 - 6:15pm)

- A. Openings For [University Committees](#)
 - 1. More vacancies need to be filled.
- B. Programming Events:
 - 1. [Bowling Night at Zeppoz](#)
 - a) October 20th, 2017, 7:00 -9:00pm
 - (1) Come early, parking will be limited
 - b) Halloween Party at Rico's Pub
 - (1) October 31st
 - (2) It will also be a costume party
 - c) Etsi Bravo Night in the works
 - d) GPSA UFit 4.0 in the works
- C. GPSA Affiliate Funding for Spring 2018
 - 1. Two things need to be completed:
 - a) [Semester Review Form](#)
 - b) Affiliate Funding Application
 - 2. Deadlines:
 - a) Semester Review: October 6, 2017 - November 3, 2017
 - b) Application: October 20, 2017 - November 3, 2017
 - 3. Affiliate Funding Refreshers:
 - a) Tuesday, October 24th, 2017, 5:00-6:00pm CUB 406
 - b) Wednesday, October 25th, 2017, 6:00-7:00pm CUB 310
 - c) Thursday, October 26th, 2017, 5:00-6:00pm CUB 406
- D. NAGPS National Conference Delegation
 - 1. November 1st to November 5th in Syracuse, NY
 - 2. 3 senators were selected to go.



- E. Call Congress Day
 - 1. Wednesday, October 25th, 9 am - 1 pm in CUB 308
 - 2. Spread the word. Come and go as convenient to you. Snacks and coffee will be provided.
- F. Trip to Vancouver Postponed
 - 1. Would Senators also like to attend?
 - 2. If interested, email Shane.
- G. Inviting International Programs to Speak at our Senate meeting
- H. Commission on Campus Climate
 - 1. Next meeting: October 13th at 12pm in CUB 206
- I. PDI Events
 - 1. **Leadership Workshop Series: Courageous Conversations: Building Agency and Transforming Your Life – One Conversation at a Time**
 - a) October 11 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
 - b) CUB L60 (Butch's Den)
 - 2. **Writing workshop Series: Critical Reading Strategies**
 - a) October 13 @ 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
 - b) CUB L60 (Butch's Den)
 - 3. **Financial Literacy Series: Budgets**
 - a) October 16 @ 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
 - b) CUB L60 (Butch's Den)
 - 4. **Women in Film, Literature, and the Arts Discussion Series: Contemporary Women Printmakers Exhibit**
 - a) October 17 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
 - b) Bundy Reading Room, Avery 111
 - 5. More events at: <https://gradschool.wsu.edu/pdi/events/list/>



IV. Open Floor (6:15 - 6:45pm)

- A. C Campus grant will not be happening, this affects graduate students with children. There is a need to reallocate funds for students who need assistance with the grant. Monthly fees include:
 - 1. Infants – \$800
 - 2. Toddlers – \$700

- B. Would GPSA support efforts for unionizing graduate students:
 - 1. Half of the graduate students (if on RAs) would not be eligible if that were to be done
 - 2. Health insurance and stipends would be really hurt. It would be very difficult to set up an effective union here.
 - 3. **Unionization reports are available**, but the analysis showed that this would be financially unviable.

- C. GPAWS – Graduate Pride Alliance at Washington State
 - 1. Social organization: queer inclusive community.
 - 2. Campus advocacy: increase awareness of the LGBTQ+ community.
 - 3. UndocuQueer conference this Saturday the 14th – need for volunteers
 - 4. Email will be forwarded.

- D. Stipend cuts
 - 1. In certain departments (engineering), cuts from 20% to 30% in students' TA-ships.
 - 2. RA stipends are dependent on the advisor.
 - 3. Will be in effect January 1st
 - 4. Department cuts are about \$500,000.
 - 5. President Schultz is aware, but it was not his decision. Departments made the decision.
 - 6. 45 minute meeting was done on Friday: 2 faculty were retiring and not being replaced (also part of the budget cut).
 - 7. Another meeting next week to discuss the issue.
 - 8. The budget deficit for each department was questioned.
 - 9. Why should the budget deficit affect students primarily?
 - 10. Judy McDonald intervened: faculty contracts are legally “stronger”, probably why cuts didn't affect them. The senate understand that the situation is not acceptable.
 - 11. International students are mostly affected by this, since they can't do any off work campus (no part time, no tutoring, etc.), and they get less in tax returns.**



12. Can anything (legally) be done in the future to prevent other departments from doing the same thing.
 - a) Grad school sets a minimum, anything else is set at the department level.
13. Senators and grad students are encouraged to advocate: talk to peers, how is this affecting them, talk to faculty and understand their point of view or opinion on this.
14. Questions that were asked (refer to slides).
- 15. Need for access to some sort of database to understand how department funding works and how stipends are being allocated.**
16. What action or direction can GPSA take going forward.
 - a) Suggestion: Write a letter to President Schultz explaining to gravity of the situation and explaining the effect of the sudden budget cut on the long run, especially in the middle of the fiscal year.
 - b) Suggestion: Pressure departments to alter the contracts to include more transparency in the duration of the offer, limits on potential cuts.
 - c) Suggestion: Since departments don't have control on the minimum stipends, maybe we could work with the graduate schools to increase that minimum.
 - d) Suggestion: Workshop for students to explain what their contracts are actually guaranteeing them.
 - e) Suggestion: Reach out to media outlets to put pressure on the university
 - (1) Response: talk to administrators involved here first, and if there is no reciprocation we can take it to the next level.
Students are requested to be patient for the time being.
17. The school's reputation will be negatively affected by what is happening, and this will not be in favor of the president's vision for the future of WSU (top 25).
 - a) Response from the Dean: there are short term goals and long term goals.
 - b) President Schultz: cuts in pay raises contradict his letter in July (allowing 1% raises for graduate students).**
 - c) Response from **Dr.[ASK SHANE THE NAME]** : increasing pay did not positively affect ranking, so decreasing pay should not affect the ranking.
18. Are graduate students state employees:



- a) Yes and No, but if we unionize we can get in a weird spot (we end up making less money).
- 19. Can we bring the president to GPSA to discuss this and other issues:
 - a) The president is really busy, and that is probably not possible.
 - b) Send emails with things students want to communicate, including personal stories (names will not be shared, everything is kept anonymous).

V. Old Business (6:45pm - 7:00pm)

- A. None

VI. New Business (7:00pm - 7:30pm)

A. Legislative Action Day Report - Josh Munroe, VPLA

- 1. Spoke on issues of research funding, student loans, Title IX, and DACA
- 2. September 28th and 29th: Office visits (list on slides).
- 3. September 30th and October 1st: NAGPS advocacy training.
- 4. Meeting was before the MME department stipend cuts, so issue was not brought up.
- 5. Research funding, student loans, Title IX and DACA were discussed.
- 6. What was learned:
 - a) AOTC vs. LLCHEA
 - b) It seems like there will be an HEA (Higher Education Act) renewal next year (should have been renewed 7 years ago).
 - c) Which DACA bill to support: 3 versions being discussed right now
- 7. Future outreach: international student concerns, and strong focus on HEA.

B. MME and Student Salaries

Discussed during open floor.

C. TEDX at WSU Pullman – Tiffany Alvarez

- 1. By the end of the month, decision to push forward or not. If so, potentially in Spring 2018.
- 2. Need for people who are involved or know someone who is involved with something at this level – contact gpsa.community@wsu.edu



D. Matlab on study center computers – costs \$2600.

1. Motion to spend the \$2600 on Matlab for the study center computers – motion passed

E. Survey For International Graduate Students

1. If students want to be involved in the process of creating the survey, email University Affairs at gpsa.university@wsu.edu

VII. Adjournment (7:32pm)



Appendix:

I. GPSA Executive Board & Director Reports

President's Report — Shane R. Reynolds

- 9/21: Attended first faculty senate meeting of the year.
 - Discussion centered around new faculty performance reviews.
- 9/25: Attended the candidate interview for VP Advance with Jason Wohlman
- 9/25: Attended Senate meeting
- 9/27 - 10/3: Legislative Advocacy in Washington DC.
 - Met with reps from both senators and four representatives from WA. Met with reps from AASCU and APLU.
 - Attended NAGPS legislative action days training. Learned an incredible amount about Title IX and DACA.
- 10/4: Attended emergency response training for the CUB.
- 10/4: Attended the Professional Development Advisory Council meeting. Got lots of feedback for the future of PDI.
- 10/5: Attended the first Campus Mental Health Collaborative meeting of the year.
- 10/5: Attended VCEA "State of the College" address by Dean Rezac.
 - Claims only TA's in MME will have stipends reduced starting in January.
 - This is contradicted by email correspondence from students.
- 10/5: Attended Executive board meeting.

Vice President's Report — Amir Gilmore

- 9/21: Attended Executive Board Meeting
- 9/22: Attended the Feast Dinner with the Museum of Art and the Alumni Association
- 9/25: Facilitated and attended Senate meeting
- 9/27: Attended the Study Center Grand Opening
- 9/29: Attended MME Meeting about reduction of student salaries
- 10/3: Attended Elson S. Floyd Advisory Council Meeting
- 10/3: Attended Campus Climate Forum
 - Asked question pertaining to International graduate students
 - How do we build bridges to help students talk about their concerns with WSU administrators
- 10/4: Attended emergency response training for the CUB.
- 10/4: Attended the Professional Development Advisory Council meeting
 - One point that I raised was creating curriculum for First Generation Students
- 10/4: Prepared materials for GPSA Affiliate Funding for Spring 2018 semester

VPLA's Report — Josh Munroe

- 9/26



- Completed itinerary/plans for DC trip
- 9/27
 - Flight from Pullman to Seattle to DC, last minute meeting prep
- 9/28
 - Meetings about grad-prof policy with:
 - Sen. Patty Murray's HELP Committee (Miguel Contreras and Mary Barry)
 - APLU (Hanan Saab and Craig Lindwarm)
 - AASCU (Barmak Nassirian)
- 9/29
 - Meetings about grad-prof policy with:
 - Rep. Newhouse's office (Scott Tollefson)
 - Rep. Jayapal's office (Anna Boyt)
 - Rep. Heck's office (David Martens)
 - Senator Cantwell's office (Sasha Bernhard and Michael Davisson)
 - Rep. McMorris Rodgers' office (Megan Perez)
 - Rep. Reichert's office (Zach Lilly)
 - Watched the first half of WSU-USC.
- 9/30
 - NAGPS LAD Training, Day 1
- 10/01
 - NAGPS LAD Training, Day 2
- 10/03
 - Return flights from DC to Pullman
- 10/04
 - Completed travel reimbursement
- 10/05
 - Thank-you emails to DC offices
 - Sent out signed Resolution 2017.5 to administration/political offices
- 10/06
 - Attended Women in STEM meeting
 - Attended survey planning meeting with the Grad School

Director of Professional Development Report – Jenn Johnson

- 9/21
 - Attended PDI Executive Committee meeting
 - Completed university committee reports for Women in STEM and PDAC
- 9/25
 - Attended Senate meeting
 - Updated budget documents
- 9/27
 - Planned and led PDI event: cheeky scientist
 - Attended GPSA study center grand opening
- 10/4
 - Met with new committee member



- Completed university committee reports for Women in STEM and PDAC

Director of Communications Report – Candace Chappelle

- 9/21
 - Met with Cheryl Ann Reed to discuss MM similar to the Friday Focus produced by the Graduate School
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 9/22
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 9/23
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter
- 9/25
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 9/26
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
- 9/27
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
- 9/28
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter
 - Modified GPSA Fb page to allow tags
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
- 9/29
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 09/30
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
- 10/01
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/02
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/02 MM
 - Met with Alex
 - regarding budget
 - Regarding NAGPS Conference
 - Completed “green” form for camera purchase and sent to Alex
- 10/03
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/04
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter

Director of Grants Report – Motahare Athariboroujny

- Made official decision for summer application period
- Sent email to all the applicant and notified them about the decisions



- Sent email to committee members and notified them of final decisions and process
- Worked with zoomgrants to categorize applicants based on their department and created an official decision report
- Worked with Alex to prepare the list of awardee for the travel coordinators and send an email to them and let them know about the reimbursement process
- Replied to a lot of emails (travel coordinators and students) to answer their questions about process or official decisions

Director of University Affairs Report – David Silva

- Working on Athletics issues and impact on students. Researching ways that students can better benefit from the publicity athletics provides for the university as a whole
- Researched UREC pricing options, discussed with Jing how best to bring up the situation with the URCE committee
 - Decided on first trying to find out more about the pricing structure and why there is no annual plan offered to full-time students. This is not specifically a graduate/professional student issue but likely applies to all students
- Added new University Committee members to the Committee Reporting system
- Prepping for meeting 10/6/17 about the Graduate Student Survey with Jennifer LeBeau

Director of Internal Affairs Report – Sanaz Jarolmasjed

Director of Programming Report – Brittany Wood

- Organized the GPSA Study Center Grand Opening. Interim Dean Lisa Gloss and Amir Gilmore cut the ribbon to officially open the Study Center. Dean Starratt of the Libraries was also present at the event.
 - ~100 folks in attendance
 - Distributed ~ 175 donuts
- Prepped Programming Committee meeting for 10-5-2017
- Ice cream social was a success with ~400 students in attendance.
 - only about 365 people answered the “How did you hear about this event” section. The number of students that marked Facebook down were 129, poster/flier- 75, email- 94, and other- 67.

Director of Strategic Planning & Scholarship – Jing Sun

- 9/25/17: create slack for strategic planning & scholarship
- 10/2/2017: meet with committee
 - Summarized content in committee folder
 - Discovered problems with research expo in spring 2017 and started to plan research expo spring 2018



- Discussed programs to keep strategic planning.

Director of Community Affairs – Tiffany Alvarez

- 9/26/17: attended pullman city council meeting
- 9/27/17: Emailed Johanna Panting and Jordan Frost RE mental health week events...
- 10/4/17: met with committee to debrief and get debriefed on Fall programming efforts
- Beginning to vet sponsorship opportunities for TedX (switzer, yoga sanctuary, alumni
- Emailed Dr. Anne Cox (from kinesiology) to vet her involvement in a Fall 2017 pre-finals wellness week (she studies yoga and leads mindfulness sessions on campus!)
- Vetting collaboration with food science club/ the peeps who put on “crimson table” for community kitchen events
- 10/5/17: met with programming committee to collaborate on yoga wellness week