



GPSA Senate Minutes
August 28, 2023, | In person |

To attend in person:

The CUB, 2nd floor, the junior ballroom.

To join via Zoom:

<https://wsu.zoom.us/j/91407917022?pwd=U1UyMEFBxWENreG5ScGEiN3B6O2YvZz09>

Meeting ID: 914 0791 7022

Passcode: 598325

GPSA Senate Attendance Form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/GSqts8TZjT>

GPSA Senate Absence Request Form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/YUiuuW1Pq1>

Issue response form

<https://forms.office.com/r/XD82BGiV5K>

If you want to add items to the agenda, please email the Executive Vice President by the Wednesday before Senate meetings. Minor edits to this agenda can also be suggested over email.

Pay close attention to the Guest Speaker. You are expected to engage in conversation and ask pertinent questions. Some prior research is encouraged so that questions and comments are well-informed.

Here's the agenda:

- 05:30 | Call to Order
 - ∠ Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes
 - <https://forms.office.com/r/MMqSQcqmj0>
 - **Marwa Aly:** I start with amending the orientation minutes till the second Senate meeting. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough time to share the minutes with you. So that's why we can't approve the minutes, because you didn't receive it. So I need someone to give a motion to amend the orientation minutes till the second Senate meeting.
 - **Senator:** Second
 - **Marwa Aly:** Thank you so much. So please use the form that shared through the agenda to vote on this one.
 - **Amend the orientation minutes till the second senate meeting**
 - **Yes: 38**
 - **No: 1**
 - **Abstain: 0**
 - **Marwa Aly:** So we reach you the majority, as you can see the numbers here. The motion has passed, and we amend the minutes for the orientation



meeting till the second Senate meeting.

☞ Approval of the Agenda

<https://forms.office.com/r/cbDYx7GV5e>

- **Marwa Aly:** Second, we have some changes proposed to our agenda today. So Dr. Tammy Barry, she is with us today and unfortunately she can't be here until her original session after discussing the budget. So we need to move her session before the budget. So I need someone to give a motion for the proposed the change.
- **Senator:** I motion to amend the agenda to move Dr. Tammy Barry before the budget plan.
- **Senator 2:** Second
- **Marwa Aly:** Thank you. Any discussion.
- **Marwa Aly:** Okay, please use the appropriate form to vote.
- **Vote on the agenda with proposed change(s)**
 - **Yes: 40**
 - **No: 0**
 - **Abstain: 1**
- **Marwa Aly:** So we have reached the majority. The motion has been approved. Will will have Dr. Tammy Barry session to the beginning.

• 05:45 | Guest speaker

☞ Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education

Please share as many questions as possible with our guest speakers using the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/EBg6uqh2Gz>

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** It's my pleasure to be here today, and I first want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend my neighborhoods dinner event tonight. Yeah, they're having a thing in my neighborhood back to school, and I have all these new neighbors, and I wanna meet them. So this is how we do that, because it's a rotating thing at Pullman. So thank you for letting me get away to do that. And secondly, I wanna thank you all for being willing to serve in the GPS and and in these leadership positions to advocate for graduate and professional students, and to do the hard work that I know comes with graduate students in it. It's very much appreciated. And I enjoy my connection with GPSA, myself and Matt



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Shaw, who's on the student affairs side. I'm on the Academic Affairs side. We co-advise the GPS and meet a lot with the executive board and it's just a pleasure to work with you, and to see all the wonderful things that you do throughout the year. So, even though I may not be here at every meeting. I definitely am hearing about all of your work all the time. So, I wanted just to cover a few little things. I don't have slides or anything, just a few little things that I wanted to open up with, and then really just take questions from all of you, cause I think that's the most important thing for me to hear, or what's on your mind. So, this is the Friday will be the end of my fourteenth month as the vice provost for graduate and professional student education. And that means I'm over the graduate school, but also very involved in professional education. And that's gonna take a bigger chunk of my time this academic year. I really had too much to do with graduate students last year to even start to think about that part. But it's been a whirlwind of a year, but I think we've accomplished a lot, and we have so much more to accomplish. And I really like working with not only you all, but graduate students in general as well as the programs. Who are all of our constituents to try to make everything run more smoothly for everyone. So there's a lot of changes we made that probably are more that are going to really make it the experience different for prospective students, because we have an entire new way to apply to graduate school at WSU. We're changing to GradCast, which is some of you may be familiar with if you applied to other schools that used it, but so far, we've piloted it with engineering, and then with the spring, 24 admissions, which was a smaller group. And it's going really really well. So, for fall 24 admissions which open up, September 8th, we will be having 100% of our programs, our students applying prospective students applying through grad cast. So we think that's gonna just make that experience more smooth really helpful to programs and hopefully continue to increase our applications and our quality of students that we're able to bring here. I also wanted to mention that graduate enrollments have been going down pretty steadily. For the last decade at WSU, and then, when we got to Covid that put some gas on it. I'm not gonna put up a whole lot of numbers. We'll save that for the upper administration. But I will just say that it was a concern of mine when I applied that we had decreasing numbers. I had been an associate dean for a couple of years before I was in this position, and it was something I tried really regularly, but didn't have a lot of authority to make a change on.

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Sorry. Yeah. And so what I wanted to do was Oh, am I muted? Yes, okay. You don't want to be muted. They they didn't see you. So the camera was, oh, the cameras off. Well, hello! I'm here. So so basically the...Now, I forgot what I was talking about. Oh, yes.



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- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Yes, graduate enrollment management. Thank you. I just got totally. This has been a long day. It's already felt like a week stuck into one day. So graduate enrollment management was something I really wanted to focus on. Thank you, Rose. And when I got into the job, but we made it a target right at the very beginning of the fall semester. And we did turn the ship on this. We're very happy. I we have been going down every year and in incoming students, applications, confirmations, and enrollments. And you know, that starts to really add up and we don't. And graduate education is way. Too much of importance at WSU to be in the decline. We, you know you are very important to us, and so we targeted it, and indeed we have turned this tied. So I had said, if we just broke even on 0, that it would be good enough. You can. I'll try to stay focused and then but we actually are improved a little bit. So we have more applications. We are as good as the undergraduate improvements. Do you need me to do something?
- **Staff:** No, I'm just waiting for it.
- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Okay, I would not quite there up, but I don't want to quote numbers, but they are up a little bit more than us, I'll just say. oh, up in our new students coming into the graduate program all of that is good. Hearing the undergraduate numbers is up good. All of that is really good information, because we need, we need to have people here, you know, to have the work of the university happening. So, I'm very happy with that. So, I just wanted to celebrate that for a moment, and it will continue to be a major focus as a graduate enrollment management. Now, our overall graduate student numbers will be down compared to last year because we graduated a huge class in May. I was there for all of them, and it was a lot of people, and our incoming class doesn't quite offset that. But we're turning, you know. There's always going to be a tell on total that's wagging a little behind on total enrollments when you're trying to improve year after year enrollments. But that's how it all starts. So, we're in good shape.
- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** The second thing I wanted to mention was that there were a different policies and procedures that I wanted to change when I first came in, just knowing about them. And I checked. I did a lot of you know, I don't wanna just come and make change for changes sake. I wanted to improve something for students and programs. Or, you know, students and or programs. And I also wanted to make sure I didn't oversee some downward downstream consequence that could possibly come up to be a problem if I made a change but in reviewing everything, we're very confident about the changes we've made so far, they're reflected in the 2324 policies and procedures which are on the graduate school website. You can link to them from the left-hand menu and some of them are also just business procedures. I'm gonna start with one of those. This isn't actually listed in the policies and procedures, but it had been the case that you had to have defended your dissertation or thesis. Well, not thesis, I'm gonna say, for PhD. Students for PhD students, you had to defend your dissertation, have your final exam of it and have it cleared by the graduate school to be able to walk in commencement of the semester. You are to graduate.
- Well. you would be out there, you know, walking with master students who didn't have their theses cleared or their projects cleared yet, or



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undergraduate students who prop a good number of them are walking, and they're still gonna have to come back and take a class that they didn't pass. In fact, in December we have commencement a week before finals you know, and no grades are due until 2, you know, even in May. Grades aren't due until after commencement and commencement is a wonderful celebration of all that you've accomplished, but it is a celebration. It is it is not the actual conferment of the degree. It is an important thing, but it's not something we should keep people from if they have a little blip in their timing. And so, I decided right away to make the Ph. D. Students the same way where we're not trying to make sure everything is dotted and crossed before you get to get the hood and get the degree Holder cause. That's all we actually give out on during graduation is the degree holder. The degree is getting conferred later, and really matters not. Even the degree you hang on your wall is what's on your transcript, and that won't clear until everything clears. So, you know. it's okay to have you participate. If something felt a little shy, and there was one case where a student, before I was even in my role, had shown up one thinking he was walking. He hadn't defended. He had to postpone his defense. His parents had come from another country to watch him. His major professor was there to hood him, and he was being told by the people holding the list that you know the event Coordinator. He was not on the list, and so he could not get in line, and I told him to get in line, and I'll go with the consequences and the consequences where we had to find another hood for the later ceremony because we use that hood. But we did, and everybody got to walk. And so, I wanted to make that just the policy. So just rest assured. If you end up being a little bit late on your defense and having to push it to interim, or even like you didn't get it done for May commencements. You're gonna have August commencement. You get to still walk in May. Even if you haven't defended because we're not gonna be that strict on something like that. That's one thing.

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Another thing that I wanted to change was how long students had between their preliminary exam and when they had to get their degree conferred. Some of you may not even be aware of this, because it's like this distant thing. And you're thinking there's no way after Prelims. I would be here more than 3 years. But actually, a lot of people are. And so the role of the policy is, if you are in graduate school, and defend your, you know. Have your preliminary exam. You have 3 years from that semester to graduate and have your degree conferred. So say you were to do your prelims or an exam in Fall 2023. You would have to graduate by December 2026. And now, paper, that sounds all reasonable until you're actually trying to do a dissertation and sometimes have pitfalls and things, and we would literally have hundreds of not making that deadline and needing an extension. And we do have a policy of extensions. We actually do a first, second, and third extension, because we know life happens and the extensions get increasingly more documented. You know, by the third extension there has to be a really clear timeline, and everybody's on board. But we decided to make that those extensions start after 4 years. So instead of after 3 years, we've extended it to 4. That's not to slow you down, but that because I don't think people are saying I'm gonna stay until I need an



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extension. I think you all are very motivated to get your dissertations done and graduate. It's so it's not trying to slow you down or keep you here longer. But in the event that you do have to stay longer, it just keeps you from having this weird paperwork and making you feel like you're delinquent somehow, when you're really not so that's one of the things we've changed.

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Another thing that we changed. And how many of you have done a thesis and turned it into the graduate school yet anybody you have. So, you had 5 days from your final exam or defense to get your final beautiful document turned in to ProQuest And that's a very short turnaround, especially if you're if you're a committee, does want something kind of Major Redone, right? And they're like you pass. But I want you to go analyze this whole bunch of data differently again and report it into these different tables that can be really, really hard for students to do. And so, it was 5 business days after your defense, like a week you had to turn it in, and we've doubled that to 10. So, you now have 2 weeks, which also, by the way, can always be extended all you have to do is ask, and we give lots of exceptions. As long as they're reasonable, there's some exceptions we can't give you really do have to have at least 20 h of dissertation credits to get a Ph.D.. That's a no brain, you know. That's a no stop. We can't move that backward. You really have to meet all your degree requirements to actually get the degree things like that. But other policies and procedures, usually there's ways to work out reasonable accommodations for people who have them so. And your programs should know that. And so, you don't hesitate to students or to tell other students when those situations arise you don't want them to rise it. It causes Angst to have to wait for approvals and things, but if they do arise, you should ask, what can we do to make it work out because the graduate schools here to serve you? We're not trying to stop you. We're trying to help you.
- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** So, there's some other things we've done, other things that would improve things or programs. We now are going to have a faculty of the graduate school instead of individual faculty in each program that can serve on committees. It's just gonna be an entire university system, wide faculty of the graduate school. That is being built right now. The programs are really excited about it. The faculty are excited about it, and what it means for you is less exceptions to have people on. Your committee opens the door for more interdisciplinary committees without having to do paperwork to do that. So, we're really excited about that. But the last thing I'll mention is the thing that Marwa set me up for was the ITA exam and the Internet international students. English language, proficiency requirements. So, the English language proficiency requirements is where we started, because that's our admission requirements to graduate school. We have made the scores a little less strict. Some of the scores across test weren't at the same level. so they weren't in concordance with one another like you had to have a higher TOEFL score than you did equivalent ISLET score that makes no sense. And so we got those all in concordance, and that adjusted some of the scores down, not harsher, but more lenient for students. We also realigned some of ours so that we weren't ever stricter than u dub cause.



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Why would we need to be? And we also added all these ways that you can meet English language proficiency for admission without having to take a test? There already was some of those there were certain English language English speaking countries you could be from, and then and then that would not require the test. We have greatly expanded that list. I've done a very good throw, like Look at all 197 sovereign nations, and figured out exactly who all could be on that list and really expanded that we did that in conjunction with international programs. And so that list is much, much longer than it used to be. We also made it where you know it used to be. If you had and a degree, if you were international student, but had a degree from the United States, Canada and UK. You didn't have to take the test, but we made it where, if you had a degree from any of those countries that we already said was, okay. You don't have to take the test. So, you can either be a citizen from those or a student from another country that's not on the list, but had a degree from one of those countries, and that meets our requirement. And we also, if you have we explicitly made it where, if you have your degree in any country that you're coming in with your bachelor's or a master's degree that was taught in English. then that meets the requirement, because if you can get a bachelors or masters a bachelor's degree in English, you should be able to get a master's or Ph.D.. In English. So, in the English language, you know, having it taught in that language. And so we tried to make it reasonable. It was kind of like. So, like, I want to say, stuck in the 90s because it all came about from a 1,991 Washington State law that we're gonna try to change. We're gonna try to get. That's gotta be on our legislative agenda Pal wherever you are because that law is old and weird, and it required us to have this test or standard. And we decided a standard is good enough. It doesn't have to necessarily be a test to teach. And so, it links to the ITA exam. So now the ITA exam, which I know some of you unfortunately had to teach take when you probably really didn't need to take it. But for your future graduate students, thanks to you all telling us. The ITA exam is now only required of people who don't meet the admissions requirements. If you're if we're saying you have the English language proficiency to be admitted, or going ahead and saying, that's good enough to teach and they would only be a student who is admitted provisionally, not meeting the ITA requirements. I mean not meeting the English language proficiency requirements that would have to take an ITA exam before they taught. And there is a little loophole there where programs can requested. If any student should. They have a concern, I mean, you know, and it's really just meant to see where the weaknesses and strengths and kind of, you know. Build on those strengths and ameliorate those weaknesses. So, it exam can always be requested of a program. But we've also changed it where it's into the colleges and the programs hands. And it's not this scary test that you go do it at international programs anymore. So everything about that seems better to me. I hope you all agree.

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** And then I wanted to comment on 2 of the things that Marwa told me 2 questions that came in on a form and someone to address those the best I can. Let's start with the second one. It was like. **what can you all do to make sure you're meeting all of your I'm**



paraphrasing here. But meeting all of your professional and educational requirements and like staying on track. I think that was the gist of the question. And I appreciate that question because I do think we want to embrace the idea that students need to take charge of their own education and not rely on someone telling you about deadlines or telling you about things you need to do. Because they're all because it's just you need. You need to have your own back. That's what I'm trying to say. You can always ask questions, but it's good for you to know. So we're trying to build out the graduate school website to be more to be easier to navigate, to have more information, but not more information, like data, Doc, to have more information where it's easy to find and then navigate to it. So it's already looks way different than it did last year. If you look at, it's much different look and feel and even content. But we're it's a work in progress. I mean, it's amazing how a big website like the graduate school's website. How much time it takes to edit it in a in a meaningful fashion. We do have a navigate your degree section. We're gonna up that game big time in in the fall. We're also adding some mentorship resources for your mentors. We're adding a lot of different things to give resources and tips for everybody so hopefully. That'll make them be better at telling you when things are due. But then you'll also be better able to track it. We also have the PDI program or the Professional development Initiative where a lot of professional work can happen, and we hope that our attendance has been really down on that since Covid. And we hope people are starting to kinda build back about that. And when it comes to those events a lot of them will be on zoom still, because that helps us need the entire system's needs. So it's easy to jump on those, and we hope you hope you'll take advantage of those, and those will be communicated very clearly and well in advance.

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** The other question, and if you ask that question that didn't answer it thoroughly. you can see, you know we're going to have a moment after for questions. **The other question was about the pack. We're calling it the Pack X, and how we do have pack 12 right now, but it's not gonna be in its form next year, for sure. And it was about how many? There are so many graduate students that are in sports. how this these changes are affecting them, and how they're being considered instead of all you ever hear about is football, although there are graduate students also in football.** and I can. I am not the Pack X person, but I do know, and if you haven't paid attention, there is a president, Kirk Shultz led and task force that's happening right now about our future in a conference. And they are trying to be very transparent about what they have. I can look and share the website with the committee members. I did not rank on being on that committee. You know, it's a lot of people, that is, they don't care about what the person over the graduate school has to say about that. So, but there's a lot of really great people on that committee, and I know, and it's led by you know our Pat Chan, our athletic director, and Kirk Schulz and it's in really good hands. I know things to haven't gone like we thought they might, but that hasn't been due to lack of work on our on our administrators parts they have really been putting in the time and effort to get the best situation for WSU that we can. So, everybody cares about this a



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lot because it does not just affect sports, but it just does affect everything about an institution when these kinds of shifts are happening. In ways you might not even anticipate. But that committee is a real like on it task force. I think they they were having a meeting last week where they were going to discuss, moving up their timeline even faster to get to some answers, and I think I would say Wsu is really taking a lead, and my perceptions is Tammy Barry's perception. But that Wsu is really taking a lead, and what's left of the of the Pat 12 to figure out what's next. And I really appreciate that from our leadership. So I say, just monitor that, but do know that they care about all the sports people are gonna talk a lot about football, because what drives people like UCLA and all of that to leave and go to some bigger conference or a conference they think has better TV thing. It's it's the football, I mean. The football's what dry I graduated from the University of Alabama bachelor's, masters, Ph.D., so you know, if you don't, if you know anything about college sports. That's a big one, and it's big because of football. But the other sports matter and they are being highly considered. I mean it that there it is not just about that. It's the football, that kind of moves these things. But all of the sports and all of the impact even on. You know, our academics eventually is being considered when weighing these considerations. And I'm just saying that as a bystander watching it happen, and someone who cares and listens and reads the reads what they put out there. But I'll share that link with Marla so that that can get out to all of you if you hadn't been able to track that because it is important for our institutions future. So any other questions.

Dr. Tammy Barry: yes.

- **Senator:** Yeah, so initially of how when you came on board. There was a decline in graduate enrollment. It's also amazing to see how you know in your time you've done some incredible job to help refest that trend but I'm just a bit curious. So based on your experience and what you've learned. **What do you think were some of the factors that were responsible for that decline?**
- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** For the decline, I mean the gas got put on it with Covid, I mean, when Covid happened and financial strain happened on people, the graduate school became more of a luxury for some people than it did. You know an option and I will say that the decline was much deeper for master's programs than for doctoral. So you ha! Those are very different kinds of programs. Both are extremely important. Both are, you know, necessary for the livelihood of the university. But doctoral programs. People may have more access to funding. And you know, a clear long-term career plan that requires the Ph. D. Masters students may have had off, and this happens still, they might think they might go get a master's, but then they have an opportunity. Arise, and we're in the workforce where they can. You know, bypass that 2 years out of the workforce and go ahead and get going. And so, it was more of the it was a steeper declining masters, but some decline also in doctoral. Some of that had to do also with something that's being addressed. not steep, but a small decline in tenure chat faculty, who would be taking students and funding students, especially doctoral students. If you're a doctoral student, you come to work with a faculty



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member on your dissertation and other research, and if they're not, if



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there's not as many of them, there's less students coming right? And there's other issues where we II don't wanna say we weren't getting the students. We just have lower applications overall. So, it wasn't like we had just as many applications but couldn't get them here. It was just a lower. Everything was kind of going down steadily. And actually, our applications were going down steeper than our actual admissions and enrollments, which shows that even in the in light of declining applications, we were able to maintain less of a dip in enrollment. But we still care about getting as many people interested in WSU as we can, so that your programs can be filled with the best of the best. Not saying that you're not that you are that, but we want, we want that that flow of really excellent application applicants to keep coming. So those are some of the reasons. There are probably a lot of reasons. Right? And some of those are we are trying to address as a graduate school. Some of those things get addressed through other avenues. That We're all working On but thank you. For that question.

- **Senator:** Hi Dr. Barry, thanks for all the explanations. My question is regarding PAC12, **Mentioned about the importance of transparency in football. Is there any document about how much universities investing on Pac 12 and the whole football stuff? And what is the outcome of these investments? So anything about sponsors?** I mean, not not. I mean direct outcomes, not indirect, that some students might enroll WSU because they like football. So I, personally, I assume it's hard to find that outcome right.
- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** And I can't speak to that. I appreciate the question and what I can. What I can do is go to people that might have that answer. I'm not even. I'm just a fan, but I'm not in any of these kinds of conversations. I'm not on athletic council. I'm not someone who I mean. When I told you what I did know I told you because I read the WSU insider, and I need that information, but I can see what I can find. I know one thing I wanted to mention, though, is none of the athletics debt or investment or outcomes is ever focused just on football. I mean, it's athletics as a whole. So that's how it's treated. As you know, athletics is an entity that's auxiliary to the university. It's not part of our, you know, academics. But it's treated as a whole. You know, in general, when we e even in Faculty Senate, when we talk about athletics and the cost and investments and the outcomes. It's always athletics as a whole. It's never picking on or singling out any given sport. But I'll try to see what I can find to share as a searcher of information, not as a knower of it or producer of it.
- **Marwa Aly:** We have a space for 2 questions.
- **Senator:** Oh, thank you, Dr. Barry. I had a question concerning our retention speaking so you so far you talked about recruitment and was wondering if you know your office or their plans to also keep students here after graduation, and cause. I imagine that the best you know Ambassador does for the WSU would be its own graduates.
- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Yes, that's a great question. And really, you made me think you're gonna ask one thing, someone, and answer what I thought you were. Gonna ask first is about retention of you all while you're going



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through the program. Because when we recruit students, we don't want them to come and and then leave. We want them to come and graduate. And that is true of all of our students, undergraduates included, but absolutely true of our graduate students. I mean, you guys are the best cream of the crop, you know, coming for graduate degrees advanced degrees post baccalaureate degrees. And when you get into these programs that are very difficult to get into. You should be getting out of them if you want to. You know, we have students leave for various reasons, you know personal or opportunities. And those, you know are gonna happen. But we don't want our students to come into programs and then not succeed because of something we could have done to help that. And so, I mentioned briefly that mentor section, we're adding to our website. And we're going to have a true Mentor Academy developed over this academic year to have, you know. very excellent identified mentors around the University help train other faculty in this mentorship, so that we have more consistency in in equity, but also just in excellence in mentorship across the University, which will help with retention, which also helps with graduate enrollment management right? All links together. Your question is great. I don't get to hire the faculty after that that falls in a whole different category of the Provost office. We have a senior vice provost who's over the faculty part of everything. But I do know we have a lot of WSU grads in our faculty, especially in our career, chat faculty, and we benefit from that in so many ways, because you are great ambassadors. And if you're working in scholarly work research teaching, you know the system really well, and you help, and you become really good mentors and guiders of other students, there's a particular one that I'm just working on my review of him for promotion and the things that he's been able to do, because he actually got his Ph. D. From WSU is really stellar, and that's just an anecdotal example. But we know that that's true. So, I appreciate the question. I wish I could hire everybody. But I don't have that authority. So, one last question?

- **Senator:** So from I'm graduating from a chemical engineering department. So, we're talking about. I was a side question about the compensation of a grad student at WSU. Will the WSU Grad student consider any support of, let's say, reducing the mandatory fee in the pay deduction for the graduate student cause. If you're looking at the any report salary for grad student on WSU official website. It's about 50 K, but we know majority of the compensation, we actually include the tuition that actually waived by the grad school and also, though we have, let's say, a 2.5% paycheck increase by I remember it's like September 20 sixth last year. But however, on the same time, we have about same rate, about 2.3% increase in the tuition fee of at Washington State University. And we're about about 18% average higher than the all the higher institution at Washington's University. So and today, I wouldn't really consider this is a yes or no question. I put you on the spot, but I would say, you know, this is a really what will say? Put a consideration for the W grad student that if we know we have some bargaining the Union at the WSU campus. But if the WSU Grad school can actually officially stand up and support the Union. I think it would ultimately better. I would say that just we in a recession guys. So yeah,



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everybody needs some extra cash in our in our hands to do, you know. So let's say, everyone, someone has family, someone have kids. We need to take care of everybody.

- **Dr. Tammy Barry:** Yeah, I so appreciate that question. And I had a lot of waving around a lot of the statistics there, and it covered assistantship stipends. It covered tuition. It covered fees and things like having families and healthcare and stuff like that. And all of those things are very important to the faculty and staff that are part that participate in graduate education. What I can say is that the that is being negotiate, anything that has anything to do with assistantship, wages, benefits, which includes tuition, waivers and fees and things like that, and working conditions has to be bargained now through The UAW and WSU case. I would. I knew I was gonna get a question about this. And that's fine. I wish I could tell you more about that. But the negotiations are happening now. But you, WSU case has a website that they try to share information out to students. And so I'll just mention that if you have questions about the university side. f you go to Hrs labor relations. They're the head director of labor relations. This name, Kendra Shea. I talked to her right before I walked up here, and she said I could tell anybody. I now have her cell phone number, too. That's just very handy but she told me that I can tell anybody here that they can write her directly. It's Kendra Shea, it's spelled SHEA, I think I'd never know. I just Kendra. But she's clearly on the human resource services, labor relations, that's all you have to Google. And you get straight to them. You can also just, you know, email them at that email. You don't have to even email Kendra directly, and any questions Graduate student. Well, I would say a graduate assistant, we're academic student and employee because this is only applicable to student employees, not all graduate students. Because we have, you know, a number of graduate students who aren't academic student employees. But if you're an academic student employee which includes graduate assistant, you can always ask questions directly to her about the university side. But honestly, right now we're just in negotiations. And so, until you hear more about ratifying that contract, when we finally get to it. There's not a lot anyone can say. And I appreciate you asking about the graduate school supporting the Union. I will tell you what I do support. I support making things as good as we can for graduate students, because I value graduate students very much. And if I was able to show you the letter of application that I put in for this position in April 2022, which was before the Union was ratified in December. I had that kind of stuff front and center. But now that there's a union, that's how I have to bargain, and I can't. I'm on that side. I'm on the I'm on the university side, cause I work for the university. Does that make sense? But no, I'm a friendly, friendly person on that side. So anyway, I do care very much about all of you. So thank you.

- 06:00 | New Business
 - ☞ Budget plan for 2023-2024
 - Operations \$201,710
 - Internal Affairs \$3000



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- Budget-Finance \$87,500
- Travel & Registration Grants \$80,000
- Professional Development Fund \$30,000
- Scholarship \$18,000
- Legislative Affairs \$16,000
- University and Student Affairs \$2,000
- Communications \$3,500
- Exec Board \$2,450
- Programming \$15,000
- Community Affairs \$12,000
- Total \$473,160
- \$10,000 is for a one time allocation for the WSU Food pantry.
- Budget plan/Proposal for 2023-2024
 - Next Meeting (9/11/23) will be the finalized budget, where GPSA Senators will vote on the approval. We will discuss and ask questions until the next meeting. The current budget is currently a proposed budget.
 - Operations:
 - Program Coordinator (0.75 Student Involvement) \$26726.00
 - Employee Benefits \$23,218.00
 - Graduate Assistants \$63,863.00
 - College Representatives \$25,600.00
 - Senators \$48,000.00
 - Summer Work for Chairs \$5,200.00
 - Office Assistants \$11,103.00
 - Total Budget \$203,710.00
 - Executive Board
 - Executive Board Supplies \$750.00
 - Executive Board Training \$1,700.00
 - Total Budget \$2,450.00
 - Advertising/Communication
 - Advertising/Promotions \$1,500.00
 - Communication \$2,000.00
 - Total Budget: \$3,500.00
 - Professional Development Fund
 - Programming, Memberships, and Services \$30,000.00
 - Total \$30,000.00
 - Programming
 - Fall Programming \$7,500.00



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- Spring Programming \$7,500.00
- Total \$15,000.00
- Internal University Affairs
 - Elections -SESRC Services \$2,750.00
 - MISC \$250.00
 - Total \$3,000
- Scholarships
 - Research Expo and Excellence Award \$18,000.00
 - Total \$18,000.00
- Legislative Affairs PG00009044
 - Misc. \$16,000.00
 - Total \$16,000.00
- **Questions Senator:** which budget was approved by the executive board?
- **Marwa Aly:** They approved the Budget request for 2023-2024. And it's our responsibility to allocate this number between these accounts. Okay, sure. So we had many, many meetings in order to get this numbers done. If no more question, we will move on to the budget.
 - Budget & Finance PG00009042
 - RSO Funding \$43,000.00
 - After School program \$30,450.00
 - WSU Childcare Family Activities - \$10,000.00
 - Senate Expenses (food & supplies) \$1,750.00
 - Senate Snacks for R&E Senators \$300.00
 - Programming for R&E Students \$1,000.00
 - Senator Orientation Dinner \$1,000.00
 - Total Budget \$87,500.00
 - Travel & Registration Grants PG00009049
 - Fall Travel \$30,000.00
 - Spring Travel \$30,000.00
 - Summer \$20,000.00
 - Total \$80,000.00
 - Community Affairs PG00009040
 - WSU Food Pantry (One Time) \$10,000.00
 - MISC. \$12,000.00
 - Total \$12,000.00
 - Total S&A Budget \$481,160.00
 - University Affairs 6601-0112
 - Survey and Polling \$2,000.00
 - Total \$2,000.00
 - Development 17A GF003516



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- 17A \$46,510.19
- Total Budget (S&A + 17A) \$527,670.19
- The allocation for the our RSO. Who get approved from lost Senate meeting in the spring for semester and the annual font. Okay, so for the semester, 8,300 for the annual phone, 25,980. So the total allocation is 34,280.
- Okay for the spring. which the application will open in October and the annual. The semester applicants like the RSOs, who receive the semester up like semester fund, can apply for the spring the rest of the 2,000, because the total allocation for the both semesters is 2,000 for the RSO. Who are applied for, or who got funded annually. They can apply for the rest of 2,500 as a total 200 in the spring.
- **Question Senator: So you mentioned like something about evening care?**
- **Marwa Aly:** So until last year GPSA had a collaboration with WSU Children Center to open evening care program. The evening care program opens to 3 days a week. 2 h per day, from, as I believe, 6 to 8 PM. And unfortunately, GPSA has to pay for the infrastructure. It wasn't like we pay for the service. But we pay for the infrastructure of the program. So, we pay 75,000 a year which sometimes was allocated to serve like 10 to 12 kids. you know. compare that to the after-school program and what we got feedback, what feedback we got from parents. We found that the after-school program was more applicable for parents than just childcare, especially because of the infrastructure costs that we had today.
- **Senator:** And what is the after-school pro like? What are the take your time?
- **Marwa Aly:** The after-school program is a program that serves kids 5 to 12 years old after their school in their school, so they don't have to go to any somewhere else. They will be served in their school right after the school till 6 pm. Or, as I, or, as I believe, 6, 30 pm. So, you have. If you have Kit, they just go automatically to this program, and you can take care of your research until 6. Does that make sense? And then we also have the summer camp with the Y. So this summer we funded up to 5 weeks bare kit, and up to 3 kids of our family. Actually, we used to serve up to 2 kids per family. But we serve it this year up to 3 kids and some families. They have 4 kids, and it was 2 families, and we serve at the 4 family, the 4 kids. So the parents can go to the reward through the summer from 7 no. From 7:45, till 5:30, where the school is not open.
- **Senator:** Just since we're spending so much money on this like, how? What percentage of graduate students like have children, you know, like, does it match our we had?



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- **Marwa Aly:** We had this survey, we done this survey. and if you look and the money here, so this one is not correct, it should be 32. So, we pay 32,000 for 3 programs, the full after school program, the spring after school program and the summer program camp and instead of 75,000 for full and summer, 3 days, 2 hours day. Any more questions? Ok, I will move on to travel (grants).
 - *Continues explaining each budget*
 - **Questions Senator: Il just want to. Oh, maybe might not be a question, maybe a kind of a clarification.** Is there any option? And the budget that's probably house infrastructural developments, for instance, the GPS and library, the it's almost it the I don't think there's a system there that works. So is there any?
 - **Marwa Aly:** Yes, so we will use operation fund in order to get the computers updated there. Okay, yes. We had this conversation in the Executive more board meeting.
 - **Senator 2 Question:** what happens when we get surplus, do we? I mean, did we get surplus last year? And if we do, what happens.
 - **Marwa Aly:** what was the question?
 - **Senator 2:** So if the amount allocated to a specific committee. Yeah, that's not the use that?
 - **Marwa Aly:** Oh, okay, the leftover amount.
 - **Senator 2:** Yeah.
 - **Marwa Aly:** So, any budget that wouldn't be used will return it to the SNA Committee again.
 - **Senator 3:** Yeah, I had a quick question on the after school program, which I think it's a very important program, but **How many like children can?**
 - **Marwa Aly:** That is a great question. So, I can tell from the summer camp. We had 32 kids. Yes, and I don't know how many kids will be registered for this fall, but according to the budget, we couldn't open the application for more than 12 kids. So, we will serve 12 wickets full 12 spring, and then there is to be for the summer. So it's first come first serve.
-
- 06:30 | 15-minute Dinner
 - 06:45 | New Business



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∠ Vote on new senators' applications

<https://forms.office.com/r/bUHxcglj1q>

- Senate Nominations
 - Jennifer Han:
Business
 - Samuel Odunsi:
Apparel, Merc,
Design, Textile
 - Bipin Neupane:
Department of
Horticulture
 - Suhina Deol: School
of Economics
Science
 - Sadikshya Poudel:
Crop and Soil
Science
 - Prabesh Khanal:
Fine Arts
 - Amir Ali
Shahmansouri:
Geology
 - Mugal Dahal: School
of Music
 - Mooyoung Kim:
Mathematics and
Statistics
 - Rebecca Gustine:
Educational
Leadership & Sport
Management
 - Oluwafemi Johnson
Sunday: Kinesiology
& Ed Psych
 - Oiewarya Bhowmik:
Biomedical Sciences
 - Kyra Parker:
College of
Veterinary Medicine
(Graduate)/Veterin
ary Science
 - Aditi Dahiya: Collee
of Veterinary
Science (DVM)



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- James Asare:
College of
Veterinary Medicine
(DVM)
- Charles Ugwu:
College of
Veterinary Medicine
(DVM)
- **Senator:** I motion to vote
on the new open senator
nominations.
- **Senator 2:** Second
 - Do you approve
with nominations
for Senators-at-
Large?
 - Yes: 45
 - No: 1
 - Abstain: 2
 - **Marwa Aly:** We
reached the
majority. The
motion has been
approved.
Congratulations to
the new senators.
- ∅ Special nomination committee for College Rep. Position
 - **Ashley Wells:** I just have some notes on my laptop regarding this, just so that everyone is on the same page about what I need for this special nomination committee. So I am putting together and appointing a committee to vote on the open college representative position that is currently in progress right now. The open application does close this Friday, September first, at 1159 pm. So, once the vote actually does close, that's when we're going to start proceedings for the special nomination committee. The committee will be chaired by myself and one Senator from each college is required as per the bylaws to be a part of the Special Nominations Committee. I need one senator and good standing from each college. If no senator from one particular college will serve. Then no replacement from any other college will be made for that particular Senate position on the Committee. Just everyone is aware the colleges are the college of business Carnes, cas communications education, the graduate school vce and vet med, so I believe that's So there's 8 colleges in total, I need at least 5 Senators from 5 of those colleges. No executive board member can serve on the committee except for myself, who is just chairing and we will review the applications and make a nomination through a majority vote. At the



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next regular meeting of the Senate. After the close of the application period, which will be Monday, September 11th. So wanted to see. Now, if anyone would like to volunteer to become apart of the committee.

- **Volunteers for Special Nominations**
 - Nazua Idris - CAS
 - Albert Jr. Nyarko - Comm
 - Oluwafemi Johnson Sunday College of Education
 - Menuka KC - electrical engineering

∅ GPSA committee choices for all the senators

https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_em8Lm9kwlyc1QVM

- Use the barcode/website link to choose your committee you wish to be apart of by Wednesday (8/30/23) by 5 pm.

∅ Vote to establish Special Committee on Food Security

<https://forms.office.com/r/DjjzZM2SzV>

- **Madison Hönig:** Hello, everyone. It's Madison from community affairs. I just had a quick announcement for everyone. So community affairs will be participating in the Fifth annual race for campus safety or the Lauren McCluskey race, which is a community event. And all graduate students can register for free so if you go on, their website will be sending emails and ads with all the stuff. But if you go on their website or Google Pullman annual race for campus safety and then you hit register, and you enter in this code: wsugradschool23. That will deduct the payment. So you won't have to pay anything. And so I just wanted to let everyone know it's in about a month. It's on September 30, 2023.
- **Madison Hönig:** The second announcement, is that you are. If you are interested in joining the Food Security Committee, which we will vote to establish, please email, me Gpsa.community@wsu.edu. Thank you.
- **Marwa Aly:** So I need to hear a motion to to establish the Special Committee on



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Food security.

- **GPSA Senator:** I motion to establish a special committee on food security.
- **Senator 2:** Second
- **Question Senator:** Can you elaborate on what this committee will do?
- **Madison Hönig:** Okay? So, the Food Security Committee? So, this is a special committee. And that's a technical term to mean that it's not a committee that's in our bylaws. So, this means that it has to be established every year. So that's why we're voting to establish it, because it's not in our bylaws. But our plan is to add that into the bylaws. So, the main objective of this committee is, we need to plan a referendum campaign to get a fee passed so that graduate students can have permanent access to the food pantry. So that's going to be the main initiative. On the other hand, the other activities that we do is that we are going to be sending out food boxes to the rec centers. That's something that we do. We try to do it in the fall, and in the spring we are gonna organize food drives for the cougar, food, pantry and then we also try to address any like legislative issues. So, we attend meetings where they discuss the budget and how all of that is utilized. And we're gonna must do a lot of policy writing in order to ensure that when this referendum passes that graduate students can have say over the budget put into place some transparency measures and things like that. So that is the plan. And then, hopefully, if Ashley allows it. We will add the Food Security Committee officially into the bylaws to always be chaired by the community



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affairs Committee till hopefully, we don't have food security issues as grad students anymore.

- **Question Senator 2:** So if this committee's formed, would you guys be willing to work with other departments that may do food drives now?
- **Madison Hönig:** Yes
- **Question Senator 3:** So. You mentioned that the you want the graduate student to have continuous access to the food pantry. Do we not have that sorry? But I mean, I have. Let me just add the flow up because I know that we've budgeted to add 10k. To that. And you mentioned that you want a fee deducted, which I am assuming is going to be part of our fees that we pay. But is that better than adding the 10 k. Which one is more? If if that is going to deduct more from the total graduate students, then I think the 10 K solves the issue right?
- **Madison Hönig:** We essentially are giving them money to say, please don't kick us out because they are funding us eating there. Basically. So the 10 K is contingent on SNA allowing us to do that. But there's no guarantee that that would happen. So. A fee would actually ensure that a hundred percent of that money would go straight to the food pantry and would also give us. I guess, like jurisdiction to oversee the food pantry and also have more money for them to have more stable food access right now. So if we were to collect the fee, it would be more than the 10,000. So that's why we would want that.
- **Senator Rebecca Gustine:** How do we go about joining the Committee on Food Security? And does it fulfill the



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committee requirements?

- **Marwa Aly:** So for joining this committee, please reach out to Madison.
- **Madison Hönig:** No, it is completely optional. But we would love your input.
- **Establish Special Committee on Food Security:**
 - **Yes: 42**
 - **No: 2**
 - **Abstain: 1**
- So according to the numbers we reach you, the majority and the motion has passed. We approve to establish the Food Security Committee.
- ∅ Vote to appoint Madison Hönig as Chair of the Special Committee on Food Security <https://forms.office.com/r/KFPbvZJtLu>
 - Senator 1: I motion to appoint Madison Hönig as Chair of the Special Committee on Food Security.
 - Senator 2: Second
 - **Establish Madison Hönig as Chair of the Special Committee on Food Security**
 - **Yes: 44**
 - **No: 1**
 - **Abstain: 1**
- 07:20 | 10-min Open discussion
 - **Tathagata Pal:** So the Legislative Affairs Committee is doing a survey to fix the legislative agenda for GPSA. So GPSA, this is this year is planning to advocate at the State Federal and State level. Please complete the following survey and spread the survey to members of your department: https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_80UHZC2gqakZy8S
 - Complete by September 8th, 2023



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- **Jeremy Boutin:** GPSA Welcome Week is taking place.
 - Tomorrow (8/29/23) we have an ice cream social at Ferdinand's between 12 and 3
 - Wednesday we have our welcome back barbecue, which is right on the top of the library. Just a stone's throw that way. It is between 11 and 2.
 - We have our terracotta pottery day on Thursday. There's 2 classes 9 to 12 in the morning which still has availability. And there's a class 5 to 8. Thank you. All who signed up it actually just got maxed out.
 - And we also have a restaurant Friday this Friday at Mila. Bangladesh cuisine. All you have to do is show up. Show your student Id, and get a \$10 discount on your meal.
 - Events for September includes GPSA Coffee Hour, Bowling night, band-book club.
- **Rose Maleki:** All GPSA Senators needs to be on a GPSA Committee.
 - GPSA Committees
 - Student and University Affairs
 - Programming
 - University Committees
 - Driver's Safety Committee
 - Employee Excellence Award Committee
 - Student Feedback Committee
 - University Conduct Board
 - AND MORE!
- **Sajjad Uddin Mahmud:** Professional Development Initiative
 - Congrats! You're a TA. Now What? Will take place Sept 7, 2023; 11:30 am to 1:00 PM Zoom
 - Please visit the Grad School PDI website or email gpsa.pd@wsu.edu for any questions.
 - Tell your friends, other grad students, or lab mates.
 - Formatting Your Thesis or Dissertation
 - September 20, 2023; 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
 - Please visit the Grad School PDI website or email gpsa.pd@wsu.edu for any questions.
 - Tell your friends, other grad students, or lab mates.



GPSA Senate orientation Agenda
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- Ajay Barman: I am the President, and also the chair for our Executive Board as presented. Our Executive board member will be available in our office. Cop 3 0 8 c. To meet with you. If you have any question regarding programming events regarding Award and scholarship, just look at the chart and see what time they are available. Come into our office and meet with them.
 - To see office hours, please view GPSA website and go to OUR TEAMS.
- 07:30 | Adjournment
 -