



To join via [Zoom](#)

[GPSA Senate Absence Request Form](#)

[GPSA Senate Attendance Spreadsheet](#)

If you would like 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 is the agenda:

- 5:30 | Call to Order
  - Approval of Senate Meeting #1 Minutes
    - Approved as written
  - Approval of Senate Meeting #2 Agenda
    - Approved as written
- 5:31 | Announcements
  - [GPSA Town Hall](#)
    - Date: Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>
    - Senates share the announcements to their departments
    - Send your questions in advance:  
[https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1IgOt3ARwQ8NwHj](https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1IgOt3ARwQ8NwHj)
    - Town Hall is live stream on [YouTube](#)
  - PDI Updates (Anika VanDeen)
    - [You're a Teaching Assistant: Congratulations! Now What?](#)
      - Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 2020, 1 PM-2:30 PM
    - [The Post-Pandemic Job Search Blueprint For PhDs & MScs](#)
      - Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 2020, 12 PM-2 PM
    - [Professional Headshot Photoshoot](#)
      - Sept. 22<sup>th</sup> 2020, 12 PM-1 PM
      - Due to Pandemic, it is outside the CUB, from 12 to 1 pm.
      - Social distancing and wearing mask
  - Programming Updates (Rachel Wong)
    - [Bingo Night](#): September 18<sup>th</sup>, registration is still open
  - Open Committees (Sam)
    - Anyone can apply



- [Remind students of your department that positions are available](#)
- RSO Deadlines and Upcoming Training
  - September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am
  - Second meeting will be schedule soon
  - Deadline for fall application will be coming soon
  - Deadline for affiliate funding November 13<sup>th</sup>
- Python Working Group – Jordan Culp (Jordon Culp)
  - Python is every Friday
  - Code sharing and introducing packages
  - The Working group is via Zoom, sign up to get the link
  - Contact info: [Jordan.culp@wsu.edu](mailto:Jordan.culp@wsu.edu)
  - Link for Python: <https://lists.wsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/cougpython>
  - Link for R: <https://cereo.wsu.edu/r-working-group/>
- Travel Grant of 2020-2021 (Arian Karimitar)
  - Senates share this to their units  
<https://gpsa.wsu.edu/funding/travel-registration-grants/>
  - Policies: <https://gpsa.wsu.edu/funding/travel-registration-grants/travel-registration-grant-policy/>
- Graduate Student Social Media – Mark Batcheler
  - Concerns of the students who are getting ready to graduate in the pandemic
  - Reaching out to potential employer through Twitter
  - Recommend to Graduate School repost the grad students’ posts to recognize them
    - James Dalton suggested that GPSA can do it on behalf of graduate school
    - Graduate school post on Twitter,
    - Jenn: It is a big thing to be done by GPSA but graduate students can tag the Graduate School and GPSA in their posts on Twitter
- 6:00 | Guest Speaker – [Jill Creighton, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs & Dean of Students](#)
  - [Emergency Student Funding](#)
  - Senates are student before our college and department, and we need to feel better in pandemic
  - Supporting department for graduate students:
    - Housing and Residence life
    - Academic misconduct
    - Office of Dean of Students: Place that you can go if you need help. Budget is narrow due to pandemic, but they help in emergency cases. They support all identity of student. This office has been



- open during COVID-19, but it is not open during suspended operations due to smoky weather.
  - Cougar Health Services
  - University Recreation
  - Multicultural Student Services (MSS)
- 6:20-6:30 | Dialogue with Dr. Creighton
  - Q1: COVID testing: Two ways for testing and both are free by showing your Cougar Card
    - 1- Walk to Army National Guard stations (It was closed for the smoky weather)
    - 2- Cougar Health Services (Pullman Regional Hospital)
    - 3- Pullman and extension center student can contact the office to get the same support as the Pullman students
    - 4- Family members: Free testing is only available for the enrolled students. The family members should go to the hospital for checkup
  - WHAT WSU CAN DO THIS SEMESTER TO MAKE EASIER STUDENTS LIFE?
    - Wi-Fi improvement
    - Library pickup
    - Raise stipends
    - Coin shortage for the laundry machines
    - Improve access to Flu vaccinations for REC students
    - Reduced housing rate
    - Flu shot start on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> at Cougar Health Services
    -

[This is where senators should be prepared to ask questions of our guest speaker. They have taken time out to reach out to us and want to hear from you. Having no questions or comments shows that we have no feedback to provide. That is seldom the case!

The best way to prepare is to 1) reach out to your constituents: Ask, “What would you want to say to the Director of CHS.” 2) Do some research: Not a lot, but poke around the website and make sure you know a thing or two. 3) Listen actively: If you aren’t actively listening to the guest speaker, are you best serving the student body?]

- 6:30-6:40 Open Floor
  - In small groups, with senators from your college, discuss the following question: What are the most important issues going on in your Colleges?  
CAHNRS:
    - Summary in the main meeting:
      - Inefficient Stipend for students that is not adjusted based on the increased cost of living over the time



- In addition to stipends, finding roommate in Pullman is difficult (Roommate of the people who have left and cannot come to Pullman have hard time to pay for house)
- Evening childcare center information is not accessible (Sam said more information will be available soon)
- VET-MED: Not access to affordable health care. Current out of pocket is very high
- CAS: Need extensions for the Graduate School deadlines since they work relied on field work and during pandemic they have hard time to catch up
- CAS: Health care insurance is big issue. Stipend is low, but the Mandatory fees are increasing but the stipend are still low
- VCEA: Students with masters are getting paid based on step 42 and during the pandemic they have hard times. Graduate students of master and PhD degree are not getting paid equally
- Students Housing issues during COVID: before COVID, roommate should notice about leaving 3 months in advance but in COVID, the rule has change and they can leave instantaneously but roommate have 30 days to replace the place otherwise they will be charged double
- 6:30 - 6:45 | New Business
  - Legislative Affairs (We will vote on the Legislative Agenda). **Please be sure to read before the Senate Meeting! A copy of this Agenda is attached along with the agenda!**
    - James: If you are not funded by advisor, you need to pay for health insurance by yourself
    - Ashutosh Kumar: In some departments, the new students are getting paid higher (300\$ more) than old students. What we are looking for is to increase stipend for everyone.
    - James: would putting an equitable minimum stipend is what you are looking for?
    - Ashutosh Kumar: Yes! At least. It is about fairness.
    - Behanz: Some departments increased stipend and others did not
    - James: Stipend and healthcare are the majority of what we will talking for. Essentially, what we try to do is to make sure everybody is paid, at least, enough to live, but we are not stopping people for paying more.
    - Behanz: Right! We are looking to balance it.
    - James: If anyone has experience within the department of not having enough high stipend. I can always use these stories and narratives for advocating. So far, everyone I talk to in the administration seems to be on board with this.
    - Zara: How would you like the stories?



- James: Written narrative would be great to be emailed to me! Stuff that would not mind other people to see. I know personal narrative helps a lot. I can go to a meeting and say students have these issues, but if I have these narratives, they humanize a little bit.
- Zara: You like something like this is our stipend and this our housing cost, groceries, etc.
- James: Right! Like this is how much I make and this is how much I take home. This is how much after groceries, health insurance, food, paying for internet to take courses online, etc. Basically, detailing why this is an important issue.
- Gurdeep Singh: I think one more to add to your legislative agenda is the city level. City, State, and Federal if it is possible. Only then we can raise issues over rent. Some properties are within WSU. Others are private, which is controlled by the city, not WSU. The rent increases 5% every year.
- James: I would have an amendment. I would add the zip code. So, whatever area you live in, the stipend increases.
- Motion moved to postpone the voting on the legislative agenda until we can add city edits. The motion seconded
- Sam: The vote to delay the legislative agenda was passed and it will be rescheduled next week.
- GPSA Budget: Voting on GPSA Budget is September 28 Senate Meeting
- 7:00 | Miscellaneous items
  - Prepare questions for the GPSA town HALL :  
[https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1IgOt3ARwQ8NwHj](https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1IgOt3ARwQ8NwHj)
- 7:10 PM | Adjournment



**GPSA Executive Board Reports:**

**The lists below are not meant to be comprehensive. If you need clarification or have any questions, please contact the corresponding individual.**

**President's Report – Jenn Johnson**

- **Tasks Completed**
  - Designated GPSA Committee members
  - Planned and led GPSA Executive Board Meetings
  - Created agendas for meetings with WSU Administration
  - Planned first GPSA Town Hall
- **Meetings Attended**
  - GPSA Senate
  - Weekly GPSA Exec Board meetings
  - Town Gown Committee Meeting
  - Met with R7E senator to discuss current issues/concerns
  - Monthly GPSA budget meeting
  - SHAC meeting
  - GPSA Travel Grants & Student Involvement meeting
  - Athletics Council
  - Cougs Cancel COVID
  - Healthy Cougs Campaign
  - Monthly GPSA & AVP meeting
  - Met with Dean Gloss to discuss G/P student concerns
  - SGC meeting
  - Presented at Horticulture RSO meeting
  - College Hill Matters meeting
  - Met with President Schulz, Provost Chilton, VP Mary Joe, and AVP of Finance Matt
  - Sat down with Governor Inslee to discuss GPSA experience during COVID
  - Attended WSU Town Hall
  - Met with GPSA Community Affairs Committee

**Vice President's Report – Samantha Edgerton**

- **Tasks Completed**
  - Planned and finalized RSO Training with Chloe
  - Created agendas for Senate meetings 1 & 2
  - Drafted slides for Senate meeting #1
  - Facilitated Senate meeting #1
  - Finalized Senate meeting minutes and emailed to Senators
  - Chaired first Budget Committee meeting
- **Meetings Attended**
  - Weekly GPSA Exec Board Meeting
  - Cougs Canel COVID
  - Monthly GPSA/AVP Meeting
  - Met with Dean Gloss and GPSA Execs



- Met with President Schulz, Provost Chilton, VP Mary Jo Gonzalez, and AVP of Finance Matt Skinner
- GPSA Budget meeting
- GPSA and Children's Center meeting
- SHAC meeting
- RSO Training prep meeting

#### **Vice President of Legislative Affairs Report – James Dalton**

- **Tasks Completed**
  - Set up GPSA Town Hall on Youtube
  - Set up GPSA Leg Affairs Teams Account and uploaded documents
  - Finalized GPSA Legislative Agenda
  - Set up GPSA Legislative Committee Meeting times for semester
  - Edited and coordinated GPSA Exec Headshots and Reshoots
  - Set up meeting with Legislative Liasons across WSU System
- **Meetings Attended**
  - GPSA Senate
  - Weekly GPSA Exec Board Meeting
  - Cougs Cancel COVID
  - Monthly GPSA/AVP Meeting
  - Met with Dean Gloss and GPSA Execs
  - Met with President Shulz, Provost Chilton, VP Mary Joe, and AVP of Finance Matt
  - WSU Town Hall
  - GPSA Legislative Affairs Committee Weekly Meeting
  - Cougs Vote
  - WSU Veterans Task Force

#### **Chair of Awards and Scholarships – Rabayet Sadnan**

#### **Chair of Communications Report – Adnan Mohamed**

- **August 2020**
  - Updated the GPSA website
  - Worked on, submitted, and approval is in progress for August 31, 2020, GPSA Monday Minutes
  - Worked and made social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
  - Contacted Communications Committee members
  - Contacted GPSA Senators for CAHNRS
  - Attended Executive Board meetings (August 18/19/20/25) and took minutes (August 25)
  - Attended GPSA Senate Meeting Orientation (August 25) and took Senate Minutes
  - Attended GPSA Senate Meeting (August 31) and took Senate Minutes
- **September 2020**
  - Attended Executive Board meetings (Sept 1 and 8) and took minutes
  - Updated Travel Grants website page
  - Updated executive board and senator website page
  - Updated committees' website page



- Posted events on social media
- Added contact information of Communications Committee members
- Worked with CAHNRS Senators to share the GPSA work with our constituents.
- Worked on, submitted, and approval is in progress for September 21, 2020, GPSA Monday Minutes

### **Chair of Community Affairs – VACANT**

### **Chair of Internal Affairs Report – Mikala Meize**

- Tasks Completed
  - Open application and regular nomination forms
  - Met with Member(s) about Bylaw concerns/suggestions
- Meetings Attended
  - 8/25: Exec board meeting
  - 8/31: Senate
  - 9/1: Exec board meeting
  - 9/8: Exec board meeting
  - 9/8: WSU Police Department Advisory Board Retreat
  - 9/11: Internal Affairs Committee meeting

### **Chair of Programming Report – Rachel Wong**

- Meetings:
  - 8/27 Programming Committee Meeting
  - 9/1 Exec Board Meeting
  - 9/3 ASWSU & GPSA Restaurant Week Planning Meeting
  - 9/3 Programming Committee Meeting
  - 9/8 Exec Board Meeting
  - 9/9 Bingo Night Planning Meeting
  - 9/10 Photo Contest Planning Meeting
  - 9/11 Bingo Night
- Tasks:
  - Ordered and picked up gift cards for Bingo Night winners
  - Organized fall events

### **Chair of Professional Development Report – Anika VanDeen**

- Tasks:
  - Sent out committee emails to welcome senators and to arrange a meeting time
  - Submitted performance agreement for Jerika Heinze
  - Submitted IRI and budget information for University Communications email and photographer
  - Working on getting speakers gifts done and sent via university mail (need to reach out to Brian or TaMisha about this)
  - Professional Headshot Photoshoot has to be moved to a different location-working on that. Also working on submitting a plan for proper social distancing measures.





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- Meetings:
  - 8/25, 9/1, and 9/8: Exec Board Meeting
  - 8/28: Commission on the Status of Women Fall retreat
  - 8/31 Senate meeting
  - 9/1:PDI Event: Graduate Student Prestigious Fellowship Workshop
  - 9/9: PDI Event: Graduate Time Management Workshop
  - 8/26 and 9/2: PDI Weekly Exec Meetings

#### **Chair of Travel Grants Report – Arian Karimitar**

- Tasks:
  - Reviewed the August applications
  - Provided new document for travel funding
  - Updated GPSA website – Travel Grant
  - Updated Zoomgrant
  - Requested and finalized flyer for the new structure of funding
  - Respond to emails about new policies and changes in funding
  - Prepare the agenda of the first committee meeting
- Meetings:
  - 8/25, 9/1, and 9/8: Exec Board Meeting
  - 8/28: Meeting with GPSA advisors (Brian Shuffield, Chloe Campbell, & TaMisha Greathouse) for finalizing the new structure of the Travel Grant Committee

#### **Chair of University and Student Affairs Report – Anastasia Vishnevskaya**

- Chaired first University and Student Affairs meeting
- Searched for university-wide committee representatives
- Created committee workspace in Teams