



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
March 04, 2024, | in-person | 5:30 PM

To attend in person:

The CUB, 2nd floor, the junior ballroom.

To join via Zoom:

<https://wsu.zoom.us/j/91407917022?pwd=U1UyMFBxWENreG5ScGFiN3B6O2YvZz09>

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.

Here's the agenda:

- 05:30 | Call to Order
 - Approval of Last Meeting` Minutes
<https://forms.office.com/r/MMqSQcqmj0>
 - **Hannah Martin:** I motion to approve the 2/05/2024 meeting minutes.
 - **Andrew Sutherland:** Second
 - Motion of 2/05/2024 meeting minter:
 - Yes: 32
 - No: 0
 - Abstain: 0
 - **Marwa Aly:** We have reached a majority and the motion passes.
 - Approval of the Agenda
<https://forms.office.com/r/cbDYx7GV5e>
 - **Hannah Martin:** I motion to approve the 3/04/2024 meeting agenda.
 - **Nazua Idris:** Second
 - **Ashely Wells:** I would like to motion to extend the GPSA Senate Meeting to 8 Pm.



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- **Madison Hönig:** Second
- Motion of 3/04/2024 meeting agenda:
 - Yes: 42
 - No: 4
 - Abstain: 1
- **Marwa Aly:** We have reached a majority and the motion passes.
- 05:35 | Guest speakers
 - **WSU Transportation Advisor Group:** Ashley Wells (GPSA TAG Representative and Transportation Services <https://forms.office.com/r/BSz7cDUM39>)
 - **Ashley Wells:** So, before we get into the different parts of the presentation and the and the proposal, I thought that I would take a moment to break down what the transportation Advisory group actually is. So, TAG for short, is a task force base within WSU that reviews and discusses the University's transportation system. And this task force provides an open review process to deal with issues related to transportation issues that primarily affect students with different transportation needs on Pullman's Campus and TAG is made up of many different students, staff and transportation representatives on campus, including ASWSU, GPSA, The Residents Hall Association, students with disabilities alliance in the access center, commuter students, Greek community finance and administration as well as transportation services alright and starting off with some really exciting news that I did mention in my email to you all. I am just repeating what I indicated in my earlier email that after much deliberation, TAG is excitedly moving forward with pushing for and supporting a central bus hub on campus where Flag Lane is, and money has already been put aside for this endeavor, and the goal is to have this central hub up and running for the beginning of fall, 2020 for a semester. So this is the Flag Lane, multimodal bus hub. It is being introduced to the Transit Advisory Group and it has been discussed during a recent Stadium way study led by transport group and WSU facilities. Currently an underutilized space on campus, and, as mentioned, there has been some money put aside for this already. Transportation services has committed up to 400 k. To this endeavor, and really, exciting, that we are looking to open this up in fall of 2024, which is this year. So, in terms of safety and benefits, this bus hub will become the new central point for all buses on campus making, transferring from one bus to another safer and easier, especially in the winter months, and this hub will be covered to protect from the rain and snow. So again, this will be to discontinue the north fare drop off, increasing pedestrian safety along WSU's busiest corridor. Providing a central location for WSU students to access local and regional transit services, and it will greatly improve access to and from the city



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of Pullman and WSU's campus. So, the student transit fee proposal is that Tag is recommending moving away from the exciting announcement, getting into the proposals that tag is recommending a 5% increase in the student transit fee. And the goal is to minimize upcoming reductions in service levels due to a decrease in enrollment that has led to a reduction in STF. Revenue and S&A allocation and note that there has not been any STF. Increases in the last 4 years, and the cost for transit service continues to rise sharply since 2020. So again, to reiterate from that prior email that I sent to you all. We used to have a 5% transit fee increase every single year, and this crease increase only stopped initially due to Covid and has not been reimplemented since. So what we are proposing today is to just re-go back to that earlier proposal of increasing again to 5, just to keep up with all of the costs that have been happening since Covid started. yeah. So just to start off with financial background. The current STF is \$36.08 cents per semester. A 5% increase would be \$1 and 80 cents for a total of \$37.88 cents per semester and tag, will also be requesting an increase in the S&A allocation.

- **Chris Boyan:** I just want to say that not only GPSA, but the entire student body is very well represented on the Transit Advisory Group this year. I can't remember having a better group of students to work with attendance has been near perfect in our meetings, and that has been not the case in the past. So, you guys should be proud of Ashley and the others who are serving on that committee. This is a student transit program, and I was going to show you a little bit of the financials here. This column here is the actual what we have this year in fiscal year 24. We have some money from student transit fee, a little over a million. We were allocated \$490,172 from S&A for this year, and then transportation services throw in 100,000 every year and so our total revenue for this year is 1.686 million, that is right about where our contract is with Pullman transit. So, we forecast it fairly well for this year. And it's always a little bit of a crapshoot to try to figure out exactly how much we're going to get transit fee. And with the S&A allocation and all that is. So, we did pretty good for next year. We're assuming that we're going to get this 5%. I hope that's not offensive to anybody. But we're just trying to show you the numbers. If we do get the 5%, we get a little bump in student transit fee. So we just are not assuming that we're going to get more of an S&A allocation, even though we're asking for more. So that's still to be determined. The S&A meeting is tomorrow night and we'll continue to put in our 100,000. So we're hoping that we could have an increase over last year to 1.7 million dollars. I want to say that not only have we not gotten that 5% increase in the 4 years, but enrollment has is on a downward trend. So, because there's fewer students, there's fewer students paying into the pot and we have a reduction in the amount of revenue that we're able to put into the student transit program. As you know, we contract out with Pullman transit and they're the ones that



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provide service before Covid in our heyday of transit when there was more money around, the contract was almost worth 2.3 million. So we're about \$500,000 off of what we normally would have to give to Pullman transit. So, this is one of the reasons why we're seeing a decrease in service over the last couple of years. So, this is one of the reasons why we're seeing a decrease in service over the last couple of years. Okay, good the last major increase was in 2,017 and 2,018, when all the students voted to go ahead and increase the fee by \$5, and that's when the stipulation was put in that every year the transit fee could be increased by 5% as long as ASWSU and GPS. A sentence voted with a two-thirds majority. That's very important, that two-thirds vote for this **first couple of years after that \$5 increase. The Senate's voted for that, and then Covid hit. And since Covid has said, it's been 4 years. So, we have 4 years with 0 increase** and rising inflation. And that's never been. That's not a very good recipe. Here's a little graph here for you. So, the red line the red line represents what we have actually received in student transit fee money over the last 4 years. So, 1.3 down to 1 point 1.1 over the last 4 years. No, no increase in the transit fee, but the downward trend is because of enrollment. Fewer students. The line is going to go down and also, we wanted to show you if we would have got that 5 over the last 4 years. The line would be flat, so we would not have increased our revenue, but we would at least been able to sort of remain the same, even though inflation has been a problem over the last 3 and 4 years. So that's kind of an important graph there and we want to try to make this go back so we can get better transit service over the years. So, this is a short presentation. We want to have some time for some discussion or some questions. The transit Advisory group is recommending a 5% increase in the student transit fee. If approved, your transit fee would go up \$1.80 cents per semester and that's our presentation.

- **Ashley Wells:** Before we open it up to questions. I do want to say 2 quick points, the first being that I, being the tag representative for GPSA am happy and excited about this multimodal bus hub that we're going to be having. I really do think that it shows transportation services, just commitment to students, undergraduates, and graduate students. I think that it's going to be something that's going to really help to just strengthen, you know, transportation in general, making it a lot easier for students who take that bus from campus in apartment land and vice versa. So, I think that that's really important to just make sure that we are highlighting and thinking about the fact that transportation services is, you know, extending out their hand and trying to make some really important changes. So that's just one thing. The other thing that I do just want to mention, not necessarily to sway anything. But just I think it's important for us to take that into account, that as WSU has decided to vote for this proposal, and they have already passed it. So that's also just something, I think, is important for us to keep in mind.



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- **Madison Hönig:** When do we expect this Flag Lane Multi-Modal Hub to be implemented?
- **Chris Boyan:** Phase one really just widens these driveways. Sorry, standing in front of the screen so that the buses can make the turn in and out of Flag Lane safely. I'm the oldest one in here, and when I was here in the Eighties going to school here that used to be a road, you could drive through Flag Lane. and it wasn't a very safe road, so they decided to adjust the driveway so the traffic can go in there. But we want to use it and so, the \$400,000 that we're committing is going to realign those driveways. So that's phase one and that should happen for next August we should have buses pulling in there and dropping and picking up our students there instead of across from Beasley. The next phase is to try to find some money for shelters, and maybe restrooms, and whatever amenities we can put in there, and that's still to be determined. But we are going to be able to have the driveways there, and we'll probably add a spin bike and scooter corral there as well.
- **Arpita Sinha:** So I think you already touched upon that question. It was about the shelter that you mentioned. So if this is approved, will the shelter be a part of this increase? Or will that be a different kind of increase?
- **Chris Boyan:** The 5% increase for the student transit fee has nothing to do with the Flag Lane shelter. They're 2 different things. The Flag Lane multimodal center is funded separately the 5% increase will go towards bus service only. So, it's the contract goes to the contract with Pullman transit so that we can provide transit service for the student transit program.
- **Ksenia Pereverzeva:** Are we able to opt-out of paying these fees if we commute to campus?
- **Chris Boyan:** Yeah, we get that question pretty much every year. The student transit fee is technically classified as a voluntary mandatory fee. The students volunteered to make the fee mandatory. So you're you as students. Not you, It's the previous student body voted this fee in just like you have a the Rec Fee. You don't pay Chinook, you guys didn't vote for Chinook, but the undergrads did. So, there's no there's no getting out of paying the fee because the students voted it in.
- **Desmond Aboagye:** Why is this an AI location remaining the same? Karina request increment on that front? Why must the students pay for the increment? And then, second question, is that so? Over the years when Covid heads and students weren't on campus, we still paid for these bad services, and your graph kind of showed how the amount of money was, but we did not use the bad services during this time, because we were not on campus. What happened with the money. Did it go back somewhere that we can bring back and use for it going forward?
- **Chris Boyan:** Thank you for the question. Let me answer the second part



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first. During Covid we still had a contract with Pullman transit, and you're right. There were not very many students here, but there were some students here and there continued to be bus service even during the Covid years. Part of what happened with that was the Sn. A portion of the Covid money was partially refunded to students. So, you should you got you got a small refund. I can't remember what it was. It was not as much as you probably wanted. So that's how that worked out. The reason we're not as we're not as we're assuming the S&A portion stays the same. But we're requesting 5-65. So we are requesting \$75,000 more. If we get that, this number becomes, and then you pass. Then we have 1.775 to go towards the contract. So We didn't want to over assume. We. We were trying to be as conservative as possible in our assumptions, but if we get 75,000 more from S&A that would be great. I'm not very hopeful for that. I know that the S&A Committee has challenges of their own because of enrollment. So we feel more comfortable, leaving that at the same amount anywhere between that and 5-65 that we are, that we request would be great.

- **Desmond Aboagye:** So the 5% increment, is that to address inflation? Also, could you clarify where this 5% is coming from, when the fees increase \$1.80?
- **Chris Boyan:** A 5% increase would add \$1 and 80 cents to the student transit fee that you pay each semester. So right now, you're paying 3608 per semester, a 5% increase would be \$36.08 plus a dollar 80 would be \$37.88.
- **Desmond Aboagye:** What has necessitated the need for a 5 increments every year? Is it? Is it your assumption that is going to adjust inflation? Or why do we have to increase it? 5 every year?
- **Chris Boyan:** Well, the when the students voted to pass it to have the ability to increase at 5% they wanted to have some say in that. So it's not an automatic increase. It requires Senate's approval and the reason that that was built in is because every year things cost more. So we contract with Pullman transit. They hire professional drivers. Their drivers are a union under a union contract, and they negotiate contracts, and I don't know if a union's ever negotiated a lower wage. I think, as you guys know, you want a higher wage which you guys pulled off this last year, which is great fuel, goes up in cost. Maintenance on the buses they must buy new buses. So, it's in a very simplest terms. If you want to go buy a cup of coffee, it's going to cost you a little bit more every year. If you want to ride the bus, it's going to cost you a little bit more every year.
- **Jack Green:** If we do the 5% increase, does that mean there will be more buses on the route?
- **Chris Boyan:** There was a day when all the buses ran in half hour loops. It was great. You could rely on it, and then it went to 45, and that's where we



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are kind of with the blue route right now. I wish I could say, yes. You pay a dollar 80 more, and it's going to magically put a bunch more buses on. The answer is, it's really not going to. Because, as I mentioned earlier before, Covid, our contract with Pullman transit was 2.3 million dollars. We're way away from that. And Pullman transit is trying their very best to keep the service going as best they can, but because there's less funding for them to operate their entire system. We've seen cuts in service. So this 5% is, I would. I would hope this 5% increase would help keep things the same, and not make it worse. But I can't. I can't guarantee that, because we don't know how much funding we have for bus yet this year. Now, if you want more buses and you want to make it great. Next year we can put a new vote to the student bodies, and you can increase the fee by 510-15-\$2025 a semester, whatever you want to do, and we could add a whole lot more service that way. But it takes more than a dollar 80, a semester to do that.

- **Dylan Oats:** So for the first year academic year we're requesting 5 increase. But the following years that accumulates on.
- **Chris Boyan:** you're voting on 5% for next year. So that'll be just next year, if approved. You'll pay \$37.88 per semester next year. If we want to do another 5 for the following year we got to come back and ask you again. So it's 5 for one year only, I see, but it will remain the same. It won't go back down.
- **Dylan Oats:** What are the negative impacts if this does not pass? What are potential impacts for future years?
- **Chris Boyan:** I would have a hard time saying that the whole transit system is going to go bust but we would see reductions in service. Gabby, how many buses do we have on the express right now, including the loop bus? So there's 4 buses that go to apartment land right now. 3 that go to apartment land, and one that circulates campus prior to Covid. There was 6, so we've already seen a reduction in bus, and if we fail to get additional funding or can't keep up with the rising costs. Something has to be cut. and I don't know what that looks like right now. But you know, maybe the blue route is an hour and a half instead of 45 min which would suck.
- **Augustine Attah:** Where did the buses go?
- **Chris Boyan:** We did not operate those buses, Pullman Transit operates those buses and we lost those addition buses due to less staffing.
- **Hannah Martin:** I motion to voting on the 5% (\$1.80) increase in student transit fees.
- **Madison Hönig:** Second.
- **Hannah Martin:** I was on the 2017 2018 ASWSU. Senate. That approved the 5%. So yes, Ben, here. I will be voting. Yes, on this, and I would



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encourage other senators to vote. Yes, on this as well. There are several students, myself included, who obviously take the buses. I don't know if anybody's looked at how much a parking pass cost. It is insane. And next year we are losing the that big green 3 lot on South side in front of Cleveland cause that's now an engineering building. So, there's going to be even less parking on campus next year. So, I think it's important that we have the buses. And it's not as if the ask is one astronomical, but also it's just to keep up current services because of things out of tags hands. So, I will be voting. Yes, I have voted. Yes, every time I've had a vote on tag related items because I think it's important. And I think a lot of students, including disabled students use the service. And that's important.

- **Abbas Mammadov:** I think as a student organization, our primary job is to reduce costs for students, and I feel bad about this situation overall situation that we have another proposal, another presentation that we have to pay more for something gets worse every year. So, students who have been here for some years they can understand what I'm saying so the number of available routes has significantly decreased. Many buses stop. They have become basically useless. We used to have connections from the Martin stadium to apartment land places like it just gets worse and worse every year. I think the transportation agency has already implemented some financial cuts. So, what would motivate me to pay more, for this service is increase in efficiency of the service. Not like decrease every year. So that's my call to everyone. I think we need to be mindful and the GPSA is not just people voting here, but many graduate and professional students who have different financial obligations. So, I would personally like to see initiatives. Where would we pay less as students, not like increasing fees without like seeing any improvement in the service.
- **Chris Boyan:** May I say one thing to address that? That's a that's an excellent comment. We call that fee fatigue when people pay more and don't get more, and we understand that. If you the Transit advisory group at the beginning of the year. Seriously considered putting a new vote to the students to really increase this fee, to make a big difference, but felt in this current environment that that was not a very good thing to do. So, they're going for the minimum of the 5. But that might happen in future years. Next year or the year later.
- **Desmond Aboagye:** So, this might probably be all related off, especially with this topic, but I remember we discussed, possibly joining all the routes so that the buzz goes all the way from apartment. Now and then all of a compass, and I don't know what happened with that discussion, and maybe Ashley could answer that a little bit more. But that was really a good suggestion, and I don't know what is the situation with that, please?
- **Ashley Wells:** Yeah, no, thank you for this question. And I did put some of



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the contents to this answer in that email that I sent out to you all. We did propose that combined loop for campus and apartment land within tag, and unfortunately it did not pass. I do believe that it lost 3 to 4. It was close, it was very close, but unfortunately it just did not pass, and because of that we are not able to move forward and continue to push it forward and propose it to hire up.

- **Desmond Aboagye:** But what do you mean? It did not pass. Is it not our decision, our students? This is, if this is, if this services for us and we are paying for it. Should be hours to decide right? Not the Transportation Service Board, or anything like that. What? So what? What do you mean? It did not pass.
- **Ashley Wells:** Yeah. Yeah. So, within TAG. Again, the Transportation Advisory group. It is a collaboration of many different representatives. So myself within GPSA, ASWSU, transportation services, disability services, there are a lot of different representatives within tag, and we are the body that goes forward votes on different initiatives and different issues and then from there. If something passes within this group then we're able to go and propose it, or we must put it down. So, within transportation Advisory group. Specifically, it did not pass very narrowly.
- **Desmond Aboagye:** Can you share what was some of the concerns? What is the reason why that did not pass?
- **Ashley Wells:** I could get into it. It would take a very long time, and you know I know that we're starting to run out of time. But some of the general reasons were there, there! There was just a lot of different opposing opinions on whether it'd would be the right time, whether it would be feasible, whether it would be good for people who did not live in apartment land. That was one of the bigger things that were brought up so many different reasons back and forth again. It did not pass narrowly. And again, I do think that this new multimodal hub that we are creating and that is being put forth would help to solve a lot of the issues that that combined loop was put forward. For in the first place, so while it's not perfect, and while it may not be the thing that we initially were hoping for. I do think that this hub will be a great way for all of us to come together into at least alleviate some of those initial issues.
- **Andrew Sutherland:** One big thing I want to make a point about is while we are increasing. If we do vote on this and increase the fees by 5% or \$1 and 80 cents, technically speaking, graduate students and the universe and undergraduate students is saving money in the long run public transportation has been shown to save people on their personal accounts a great deal, where, if we don't pass. A graduate students would who choose to commute by driving would have to pay for gas, must pay for parking tickets, or even parking. Permits, which tends to be more expensive over the long run, and



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while we might be perceiving right now that we are receiving lower quality, and that is mainly due to the lack of fees increases going over time through an increase. We can see a slow and yes, a slow progression of improvement of quality. As we kind of were seeing with the chart there. If we had that kind of consistency of fee increases while we might perceive it as the same quality over time. We are ultimately investing more into services that would benefit graduate students.

- **Chris Boyan:** Can I just make a couple of points Pullman transit is an excellent transit system in city of Pullman, still the most efficient in the State of Washington. So yes, it's not as good as it once was still good. Number 2. If we didn't have a student transit fee, and you just wanted to go out and buy a bus pass for a year. It's \$300. You're paying \$36.08 times to 72, some 72 something per year. Less than a third of what an annual bus pass would cost if you were to buy it directly from Pullman Transit.
- **Madison Hönig:** So, I think I would like to urge the Senate to really consider this proposal, because this comes every single year. And yes, we pay too many fees. I think what we need to really consider is how we prioritize those fees. Transportation is a key issue for graduate students. It is every single year and it's necessary for a lot of graduate students to actually do their jobs. And if we are talking about reducing those fees that did happen, and a lot of people in this room made that happen. Case made sure that the building fee is actually going to be waived. And I think if I'm correct, it might be a hundred \$20 that is being waived. So, A dollar and 80 cents in the grand scheme of things is still going to be less than what we've been paying this year. So that work is being done to reduce fees and I think you know, we have to keep pushing. But transportation is not something that I think needs to be cut. Especially for the people that I represent, and as an international student, and someone who doesn't have a car and can't just buy a car in the Us. Transportation is super important for me being able to do my job as a grad student.
- **Amir Hossein Moadab:** So, in 2,021 I participated at the Senate meeting when we had the same proposal, and it didn't pass because of I I'm not sure maybe 3 or 4% I wasn't Senator, so I didn't have the right to vote. But I want to tell you that during those days we had gray and crimson lanes, which was so useful, and we could manage to change the lanes between campus and gray or crimson. It wasn't like a long route. To get to the campus, and I think if at that time this proposal could get accepted, we could have a better chance to get to the campus, so I vote in favor of this motion, and I kindly ask other ones to do so, because we don't know. What we lose. For now, and \$1.80 cents is nothing compared to \$60 of tickets. As Andrew said, Thank you.
- **Do you approve a 5% (\$1.80) increase in student transit fees?**



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- **Yes: 50**
 - **No: 10**
 - **Abstain: 0**
 - **Marwa Aly:** We have reached a 2/3rd majority and the motion has passed.
- 06:15 | New Business
 - Bylaw Revisions
 - <https://forms.office.com/r/KFPbvZJtLu>
 - **Ashley Wells:** Okay, so we've gone over this quite a few times. I'm not going to go and present everything again. I will just let everyone know that the Internal Affairs Committee did meet between the last time that we had our Senate meeting, and today to go over one specific proposal that a Senator brought up. We talked it over and we decided to not add it to the list of bylaw changes that we had already proposed. So today we will be voting on the bylaws, as we originally presented them to all of you. So with that being said, I sent out the document. We talked about it all throughout the last Senate meeting. Does anyone have any questions before we get started.
 - **Golrokh (Rose) Maleki:** I'm the chair of university affairs and as you know, we send our representatives to all those university committees and I have never seen that we exclude people because of the services that they are providing for our community for our students. When I was reading Article 2, section 5, that we are excluding chair of travel, grant and awards, and a scholarship from applying for any of those awards. I really think we have 3,500 graduate students, and we are only excluding 2 of them. while when you think about it, even the members of of that committee knows who is working on whose application or this is a small community. You know, I know who is working in a travel grant, for example, it is. If we want to go that way, we can easily talk to people and say or find a way to be granted it if you want to. I mean, if it's not practiced equitably. So, we're we come from different backgrounds, and we have different perspectives. I really want to know why we are excluding our chairs when they are our graduate students, when they are paying fees, when they are part of GPS. A. When they are our scholars. How can I exclude, for example, Augustine, from travel grants when we found a way to be, and with. Dr. Barry! We had a meeting, and we found a way to include them. But change the process so that they can benefit from what they are doing, they can benefit from the service that they are offering other people. So, they are doing some service that they cannot use themselves in other university committees. This is mostly what they do in. In some they do not even detect the names. They just keep everything there because they know who is working on what? So, they don't have to do that. And in some others, they just cannot vote on their specific things that they benefit from. So, I can. Still, if I am in the committee, and someone nominates me. For example, in that committee I have II won't be excluded, but I cannot vote on that specific thing and I also want to mention that when we talked about it on our executive board, Madison mentioned. A way that we can. Consider incentives for those chairs, so that although they are not part of this practice, but they are benefiting in a way.



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- **Ashley Wells:** So I'm going to answer first. I'm going to start by saying that. Yes, this is something that we spoke about in many, many executive board meetings. And in those conversations. Obviously this was a very contentious topic, a lot of going back and forth right when I decided to take this topic to my commit, it was very clear to me that in no way personally, but also within the committee, that this would be an equitable decision to make to allow travel, grant, chair, and also Awards and Scholarship chair to be able to be the chair of that actual committee and still be able to receive an award. It's just something that didn't make sense in terms of a conflict of interest. And GPS A in terms of us technically getting in trouble also, potentially, even in Washington State law. That's something that we talked a lot about as well, me and the president of GPSA, right? So, there's a lot of reasons why this was discussed a lot of reasons why my committee decided to vote for this in terms of not allowing this to happen and that is the general answer to that part of the question.
- **Andrew Sutherland:** Mara, can you remind the Senate the benefits that representatives receive in their positions?
- **Marwa Aly:** So there is no tuition waiver for the committee chairs, but it's a scholarship, and it's 17 from the GPSA President stipend for one year.
- **Andrew Sutherland:** In GPSA, We have individuals who volunteer through an act of service and through the ideas and values of active service. There is a bit of self-sacrifice. But we're also seeing that leaders also still receive some sort of benefits specifically through this type of scholarship. While I understand the perceptions about shares not being able to receive tuition, or these travel grants or awards, they are still benefiting, and in a financial way that can still benefit them, that can go to travels. At the same time. Because of this idea of so of service. They are ultimately still providing a service. And we don't want a possibility of potential bias within committees due to the recognition that the chair is seeking out some sort of monetary a fund through the use of travel or awards, because it will make GPSA look bad in that sense.
- **Augustine Attah:** So, when ICA made that change, I pretty much like to kid like that was okay, right? Because, as we know, this is a like a vote terrorism thing. But now Amir is the scholarship chair, and they both comedies are designed in a way where you can't even take money for yourself. you know, my company is also heavily backed by the finance team so much like if II proved something, it has to go through the student involvement finance team, and they're fantastic at investigating these things. Now, all the chairs here are entitled, not entitled, but are eligible for at least \$4,000 travel grant in a fiscal year right as a chair. I cannot access that right now, which is okay. Right? Personally, I have no problem with this, but I'm saying that there may be a chair after me. That may not be okay with this right? And finally, I would add that right now we have kind of like reviewed our process, that there is no longer subjectivity. So, I cannot even give myself a high score. You know everybody gets a fair chance if you submit documents, so I'm not going to give myself the highest score, just so I could make more money.
- **Amir Hossein Moadab:** So just again, we had a long run for this but so let me clarify something here. I was strongly opposing this. Because I believe



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that it strictly violates the rules the general rules of WSU regarding discrimination in conducting research. And the reason is, let me give you a background. I'm sure that Augustine has the same experience. We as chairs beside of all those procedures we are too busy to kind of participate in. Let's say research exposition because I have to manage many things. And even my community members know that they received my emails at 4 am. And we don't have time to work specifically for ourselves. So, adding, this doesn't make any benefits for me. I mean not including this. Doesn't make any benefit for me, because I don't have time to participate in research expo while I'm performing as the coordinator, but what I'm fighting for. Is that? What if the other chair the next chair asks me? Amir? You were the chair of awards and a scholarship? Why didn't you say anything about this discrimination, and I believe that people should have the same. Right to get the resources. During our committee I had access. To apply for dissertation grants, and I followed the same procedure that I followed for the other ones, and no one of my committee members realized that I sent my applications to them. So, it went through the fair procedure as the special committee set. So, I think this one could be better designed for next chairs as we did for dissertation grants. Anyway, this was the only one that I was app opposing to, and I think, we should not kind of consider any discrimination.

- **Hannah Martin:** I motion on the Bylaws changes presented by IAC.
- **Jeremy Boutin:** Second
- **Niyi Ogunkoya:** My concern is above the chairs of the grants and scholarship, and all of those. But I am thinking and I would, that we all get critical in such a way that these folks would not be sidelined in a place where they work so hard to help other people. and by that I am of the opinion that we should find a way to accommodate them and by that I mean that if they have conferences and research trips, and all of those to attend to there should be another. That's my first opinion, another internal what they call committee to look at their proposals, so they can also benefit from what they are helping other people to benefit from. That's the first. The second is. we may decide here to remove all other benefits accrued to that office, so much so that whoever becomes the chair of that committee can benefit directly by sending in his or application into that, and by that would be fair enough so much that whoever becomes the chair in the future we have a pedestal to work on, and by that we won't have these people sidelined from where they are working so hard to help other people. Well, that's my opinion.
- **Amir Hossein Moadab:** Just wanted to mention that we had this special committee, including, 3, I think, 3 chairs, and Dr. Tammy Barry, to deal with this issue, and it handled so easy. And everywhere everyone we're satisfied so we could do that. That's why I'm trying to say this, and besides, of that, I should remind you that the scholarship that chairs are receiving are not for sacrificing other things. These scholarships are for the job that they are doing.



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So, it's better not to just mix up these things together.

- **Andrew Sutherland:** Yeah, the big thing to me. And personally, I want to make this point. I personally believe no representative should apply for any of these, because we are in a position of power in many ways. But that's my personal belief. That's not on the bylaws. And at the same time, while right now these chair, our chairs could apply for these applications, I do find that element of power being a kind of major element that could play a role not just now, not now, but possibly in the future. If we're going to be using hypotheticals throughout this discussion as well as as I kind of made the point about. We, we, as representatives, also receive benefits in other types of capacities as well such as with the scholarship. While I understand the general sentiment, I also somewhat disagree with certain elements and perceptions around how it might be perceived as unfair for the chairs, especially as we look at our positions as a voluntary service. If chairs ultimately find that this is unfair, and while they're in the position they have the right to resign and then apply for these types of applications.

- **Desmond Aboagye:** Yeah. I was just going to say, probably like what he's saying. I mean, the office itself is just one year. So, if you want to apply, you could just apply the following year. Know that when you pick up this committee, Chip, you are not going to be able to apply. I you cannot be a prosecutor and a judge in your own court, you know it doesn't. It doesn't work like. I don't think that itself talks well about GPSA.

- **Marwa Aly:** So before I open the floor for voting. I want to remind you that that changes also include the RSO. Funding to be semester funding in a seat of annual funding which will wisely keep using the money from GPSA and add more benefits for all. RSO's I open the floor for the for the voting, so please use the appropriate form for that.

- **Do you approve the Bylaws changes presented by IAC?**

- **Yes: 38**
- **No: 8**
- **Abstain: 2**

- **Marwa Aly:** We have reached a 2/3rds majority and the motion has passed.

Environmental Sustainability Alliance Divestment.

<https://forms.office.com/r/eUhQbc8gpD>

- **Marwa Aly:** Next. in our previous meeting we had the environmental sustainability aliens they come to here and they present their proposal. They share their proposal through the email with all of you and today we need voting to know if you would like to support them or not. So, can I hear the motion.
- **Augustine Attah:** I motion to vote on the environmental sustainability alliance investment.



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- **Hannah Martin:** Second.
 - **Do you support the Environmental Sustainability Alliance Divestment?**
 - **Yes: 38**
 - **No: 7**
 - **Abstain: 1**
 - **Marwa Aly:** The motion has passed and GPSA will support the Environmental Sustainability Alliance Divestment?
- Election Debate
- **Ashley Wells:** o my wonderful committee is going to be helping me out tonight. So we have Hannah here who is going to be our main moderator. She's going to be going around. Answer giving out the microphone facilitating discussion. So she is going to take it from here, and if my timer could come up here and help me out, that would also be fantastic and we're going to get started. Okay? So just as a small note before we really get started. So for everyone who is running to be President, Vice President or Vice President of Legislative Affairs. They are going to have 5 min to give their speech. We are going to give a 30 s call out, when you have 30 seconds left to go same thing for people who are running to be college representatives. They are going to have 3 min to give their speech. So again, 30 seconds, once you have 30 seconds left, we're going to give a little up. So, look over at us over there to the left-hand side, and you'll be able to see us. Okay, pretty straightforward. Are there any questions before we get started?
 - **Hannah Martin:** Welcome to the GPS! A debate! Whoop! Look! I'm your moderator, Hannah. Thank you. Thank you. and we will hear first from our Presidential candidates. We will, we will hear from our Presidential candidates. Here we go.
 - **Ajay Barman:** Good evening, everyone. Thank you to the Internal Affair Committee chair for allowing me to address to the Senate. I am Ajay Barman, running for the Graduate and Professional Student Association President in the General election of 2024. It was an honor to serve as the GPS. President for the academic year 2,023-24, and your support. I want to continue advocating for the graduate and professional students. Last year we were all worked together side by side for our students on financial, academic and social aspects we advocated for them at university, local, state, and Federal level. We even had we even had the courage to initiate our fundraising goal. For this year we all played a crucial part in making things happen last year we did it together. So instead of going to detailing about last year. Please allow me to explain my vision for the next year's GPSA. For the next year I have 5 major projects for the GPSA. That will have a direct, positive impact on our graduate and professional student. First. I want to start with Federal and State funds after reaching a bargaining agreement with the coalition of academic student employees popularly known as WSU CASE. Our University is working to receive State funds to cover the expenses. **GPSA has already started working with WSU Government Relation Office to receive 2.5 million dollars from the State in the future. We are determined to work closely with WSU case and the WSU Government Relation Office to**



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advocate more for the graduate and professional students as we organized Coug there the capital at Olympia to advocate for higher education. It's my topmost priority to organize an additional event only for graduate and professional students, because I realized that the priority of our students get diluted when we combine our interest with undergraduate. Please note, we plan to host an additional cook day at the capital, and we are not replacing the existing cougar at the capital that we always host with undergraduates. Now let's talk about the second most important issue. We will continue to advocate for basic needs at the University State and including the Mental Health food security, affordable housing and childcare. This is a long battle, uphill battle, but there is no time to take a break from this major issue. We all did it together last year. GPS will continue to support the food pantry, and no matter what we will ensure that graduate and professional student will have the access to the food pantry, and we will fight for it. The third part on my to do list is most significant, especially this year, because we are heading towards us. Presidential election GPS. A. As a leading advocacy organization will do everything to keep our campus diverse, inclusive, and equitable to everyone. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are our topmost priorities, and we will continue advocating for them, regardless of the political scenario. We will strongly advocate for marginalized student community, including persons of color and our LGBTQ community our next priority towards the 42 registered student organizations we sponsored last year. RSO. Play a crucial role in youth like uniting our student-based on their country of origin. Their department college shared interest in sports, maybe religion, and the list goes on and on. They actively work to promote marginalized student community. So, GPS have vowed to support everyone, regardless of any adverse situation. As we learned from the past year, we will work on strengthening our bond and communication with, so we are aware that GPS have failed. Significant budget cards from the S&A committee in last several years improving our connection with RSO. Will help us understand their financial needs in a better way, and we will be able to maximize our utility of our budget not only as a financial source, but we also need to work with RSOs to figure out who is to help each other, so that our graduate and professional student ultimately benefit. Finally, it's my request to all of you that we should work together next year to organize an even bigger and successful fundraising reception for our graduate and professional student money is tight. So, this is the correct time to start working together tonight. All of you are here because you care. You are advocating because you care. You are passionate because you care so ultimately. This is democracy, these all things are my vision. But we have to work together collectively and together we will decide what we will actually finalize for our next year. So, if you have any question, I would be happy to answer them.

- **Hannah Martin:** So now we are going to move on to Vice President.
- **Marwa Aly:** Thank you everyone. Thank you for having me here today as a candidate for the position of Vice President of GPSA. My name is Marwa Aly, and I don't know how to start. I feel I'm in a very hard exam. but I hope to do better. I would like to say that I was pleased to work as a VP for the GPSA, and I am passionate about continuing serving the GPSA and the



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graduate body at WSU. I care about them, and I feel that we all are family. We all are together, and as Ajay mentioned, we all can make a change by working as a team as we are supposed to be, and we used to be all the issues that the candidate for the President. The present candidate mentioned is my priority as well, so I won't. I wouldn't like to repeat them, but I would like to mention that as a candidate for the VP position. I promise to keep all the activities because as a VP I should be the budget chair. So, I present the request for the S&A Committee, which will be tomorrow. So hopefully, we can get as much as we did last year, or it's this current year. I tried my best to keep all the activities. So, my job actually is to support all the chairs with the budget that they need. So, no cut in the activities, no cut in the budget as much as I could and hopefully, we can do that next year to keep all the activities and also initiate more programs to support GPSA's students and families together. So what? What I can say is that my experiences as strengths, my capabilities to manage responsibilities, and track my weakness. I was a graduate student's voice for critical decisions, for students' health and living situations. I am very pleased to initiate the after-school program for graduate students with YMCA last year, and this year with the WSU Children Center, even though we still have another option for families, which is reimbursement. Also, I am honored to serve the RSOs. When I started working with GPSA to fund around 16 RSOs. Now we have reached 42 RSOs. So, I did reach out to all RSOs as much as I could at WSU and let them know that there is a fund available for them at GPSA, and we got a lot of applications. So now we have reached 42 RSOs, and hopefully, we can reach more and more. There are a lot on the list still there. So, I want to thank you for giving me time to speak to you all and listen to me, and I hope you find me a good fit for this position. Thank you.

- **Jack Green:** so, this question is for Marwa. So, I just think that there's been a pretty big lack of transparency from the Executive Board this year for the Senate. As a Senator, and I'm sure that a lot of us can attest. It just feels like we've been in the dark all year, and so I want to know if you were re-elected. How would you improve this? Because. yeah, I think I think that's it. I just would like to see more transparency from the Executive Board for the Senator, and how would you do that better than your opponent?
- **Marwa Aly:** Thank you so much for your question. So, working with senators is the best thing in my life. Okay? So, I hear the Senators all the time and if I get elected for next year, I would work on hearing them more, having like office hours for them as I have this year. But next year I can have more of office hours. Also, we can activate the question form like, if any Senator have any issue, anytime, they can just reach out to me because I am the chair of the Senator, and if I get elected, I should be the chair for them. So, I am the. I am the person who should be responsible for giving them all the information and making GPSA transparent for them. Right? So, working together, we can, we can make that happen.
- **Charles Ugwu:** Thank you so much to you both for your service over the past one year. I think you guys did an excellent job and appreciate it. My question for you both is what is the one biggest lesson that you guys each have learned



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over the course of your service? For the past one year that you think will be very helpful for you if you get reelected in taking GPS to even greater height.

- **Ajay Barman:** I think this year we took the initiative to take our student voice to the Federal level, and this year we were able to send one, our Vice President of legislative affair to the Washington, DC. To advocate for the student, and we want to continue that in the future as well, and we also want to make it bigger if our budget. Allows us and partnering with many student organizations. For example, ASWSU Right now we have great partnership with our WSU CASE, and we want to build more connection with other student organizations so that we can cover a more dynamic area for the upcoming year and oh, the biggest takeaway from being in this position, and from my experience I want to encourage everyone, and you are the student leader. So encourage your fellow student as well to be the leader. I was afraid to join GPS. A. Because I was not the most extroverted person to advocate for someone else, because I was already an introverted person. But if you encourage someone to join GPSA. This is the learning opportunity for us which will help us in the future and be and become like a great leader for the future. So even though someone feeling like they are not a leader quality at this moment. But GPSA will provide all the techniques and all the training and all the opportunity to flourish them as a future leader. So, you are the leader. Now help your fellow. Friends, as well.
- **Marwa Aly:** thank you for your question. So, I would say, reaching out so this year, GPSA reach it out to many, many students more than the last year, and I would continue to reach out to more students, to new students learn like, give them the experience about leadership pass to them all the information that they can benefit from in. I'm sorry in every life aspect. Learn, give them the opportunity to learn that they are not students only. They are also people. and GPSA cares about them as a students and people. So, reaching out second is leadership. So, I would add to that that taking a position at GPSA taught me a lot about leadership. Now I know something that I didn't, you know before. and that is a great opportunity. I would encourage everyone to take this opportunity. because it's helpful and impactful as well.
- **'Niyi Ogunkoya: Thank you. 2 of you for your service over the year.** But I am concerned. especially while Ajay. Was speaking I was listening for specific things that you did, but unfortunately, probably I missed it. I wanted you to be specific enough and tell us what you will do. Because I recall sending personal emails to you without response. And I think we are in a generation where any time when people send mails to you, you want to respond to them, I mean, come to think of it, if I send a mail to you, and you do not respond and how would you treat me if I come to meet you in person? Obviously you likely will not want to respond to me, so I am worried, not for me, though, but for other people who have encountered or who have experienced such a thing. What do you think you want to do differently, that people will feel your impact? Because I think that in the concluding year I did not and so are many people didn't feel your impact. What do you want to do differently?
- **Ajay Barman:** Thank you for the question and for the reply to the email. I apologize because if I ever didn't reply to your email, so what I do when



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someone reached out to me about specific question, if it's related to trouble Grant. I send it to Augustine. If it's related to communication, I forward the email to Andrew and that's the thing I have been doing throughout this throughout the year. But I can understand. When I forward the email, it might seem like I didn't reply to the person because they didn't get any reply unless until the chair contacting with them. So along with forwarding the email to the chair, I will make sure to reply to the person who initially contact with me and as a President's role, what President did in the organization that is really tricky because President can only work when the President have really supported team with him. and this year for our travel grant for our programming, for our award and scholarship. So, I didn't do anything. I just managed and facilitated whatever assistance they need from a President. But all the work is from the from the committee chair, and the work of for all the Senator as a President. I just manage and give them the opportunity, and if they ever need any help if they face any difficulty, try to connect with them with the right person so that we can solve it. So A role as a President will only be a successful when all the committee member and all the Senator is working perfectly. So this year. All the achievement that we did. It's not the achievement of mine. It's the achievement of all the chairs and the senators so kudos to you and for the future for the upcoming year. If any committee chair or any senator needs some any kind of help, or any facing any kind of difficulty. Please feel free to reach out to me. I have designated office hour at GPS. Office feels free to come to my office over, feel free to reach out to me with your email, and I will make sure I will get back to you within one day. So that is a promise from me.

- **Arpita Sinha:** Hi, everyone! I'll be real quick and try to sum up my question. I have 2 questions. One is in the recent past I have noticed that. We have been receiving the agenda and meeting minutes earlier that day when we have the Senate or something, and if I remember correctly, pulling out the bylaws. And since a lot of the emails that I receive, it's us as per the bylaws, and as per the bylaws, which is great. But it please remind me if I'm not wrong, but it has to be one business days prior and it and it has to be within 5 days. The minute meetings has to go to everyone. As a senator I'm designated to reach out to the con constituencies. So if I'm late, it kind of you know it's a chain process. So please correct me. If the information is wrong, I'll be more than happy to take that second is, I did hear about a lot of visions coming up, which is great. One question I have is while we have the visions. Do we also have, like the planning for the funding that we were thinking of because the COUG day? If I understood that correctly, we are also hosting a separate COUG day for the graduate students. Right? And do we have the funds to do that? Because I think this here itself, like, you know, we kind of spoke about how much like, you know, we needed to have money allotted for the for like lunch and dinner, and you know there shouldn't be. People shouldn't be spending money from their pocket. That's unfair. So please correct me for any of the any of the things that I mentioned is a misinformation that I'm quoting. But these are the 2 things as of now. It comes to my mind, and I would really like them to respond to that and thank you everyone else for all the lovely questions.



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Those were also very useful, and all the very best to everyone else. Thank you.

- **Marwa Aly:** Thank you, Arpita, for the question, so I will answer the first question. It's about the agenda and the minutes, so I will start with the minutes. I have to wait until the communication it shares. Share with me the minutes and yeah.
- **Andrew Sutherland:** yeah, I'm perfectly fine with addressing this, I get overloaded a bit with working a second job, while also trying to keep track of the minutes in certain capacities, I start to get overwhelmed, and in certain ways, I lose track of my time in that capacity. So that is my fault on that hard. But if we also look at the GPSA website for the year 2023, through 2024 after the GPSA approves the meeting minutes from the previous meeting I upload them to the website in a very detailed full transcript form. So, I would like to just make that point. I understand that we should try to get our meeting minutes as quickly as possible. However, in certain capacities that could be incredibly difficult, especially in the case of other obligations.
- **Arpita Sinha:** Does that mean that we are? We are not, keeping by the bylaws, or is that an exception that we are talking about?
- **Andrew Sutherland:** Yeah, based on that perspective, I am not keeping up with that section of the bylaws.
- **Hannah Martin:** Do you have a question for the candidate?
- **Andrew Sutherland: Through the past year I have. While I've been keeping trying to keep notes. I felt that** our GPSA meetings for Senates has been had an atmosphere that was less than collaborative, and in certain cases certain Senators have been talked down to as if they're not adults. Which, in my view, has ultimately led to a lack of motivation from Senators to be involved. And if we look starting at 8 A. M. Tonight, we'll notice. There's a lot of gaps within different colleges of people not wanting to run for Senate as President and Vice President, you to one of your unrequired by law for work or unrequired requirements as leaders is to maintain a sense of morale within GPSA. How are you 2 going to improve to make sure that there is a continued sense of morale, unity as well as a sense, an environment and atmosphere of collaboration.
- **Ajay Barman:** So, I would say, equity is the issue. So, everyone needs to know that we all same, we all graduate students. We all learn from each other's, we all on the same page together, and we need to work as a team. Second, respect. So, we also need to know that everyone needs to respect each other. Even if there are some mistakes. That's okay, we can also mistake with our respect. And was our unity. Yeah. And I want to add that communication is the key and the interpersonal our connection, and how we are communicating with each other and just being mindful to each other And maybe there are some areas that I also need to work with And the most important thing is this is our chance to learn, and we all are student. We are here because we are student, and the student. Time is our opportunity to learn. So, the mistake we did this year. Let's put our effort that we will not repeat our mistakes. The same mistake next year, and maybe we can improve ourselves like for me, for you or for everyone collectively. We will work



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together next year, so that so that we will not repeating our mistake, and we are going towards improving ourselves.

- **Jeremy Boutin:** I don't have a question. I do have a comment that I do want to bring up just to echo Andrew's point because it is nice to say that we will listen to our students. Listen to our Senators. It's the action that shows, especially this year, when members of our institution, the MPS and Plant Path RSO. Came to our Senate meeting to voice concerns and in my opinion they were. Talk down, too. they were told. If you don't like what I am doing, you can run for vice President next year and in my opinion, the quality when we interact to our students is what is lacking and what I personally would like to see next year and you know these are the opportunities that we should be nourishing, and we should be encouraging our students to come and voice their concerns. So I would be remiss if I didn't bring up this example and I would encourage an improvement for next year. So thank you.
- **Marwa Aly:** Thank you. But I will, I would promise to make change, because, as you mentioned you would like to see that students have the chance to come, designate and present their issues right, and that happened and they came to the meeting, and they have the chance to raised up their concern, and they asked it all the questions and all their concern at taken care of. So, if I did mess up with this sentence. So that's my fault, and I apologize for it. But I didn't mean to be mean for anyone. You know. I just wanted to clarify that this is the challenges for the position. It's not something from me. It's something from out of my, It's out of my hand. But I am happy that we were able to adjust to these concerns, and we made the changes altogether today to the by-laws. And we are able to like again addressing their concern is, and yeah, they get the fund that they need everyone. I believe they got what they need. So I will add to that that I learned it from GPSA that voices make it changes and I love this sentence. Your voices is the power to make any change. So please keep in mind your voice.
- **Senator:** I just want to ask a very simple question. The or the other is like the other part of our niece. Question, You mentioned 5 visions for 24-25 session. I didn't get to hear about your, are there any ongoing or things, or probably agenda? You did not, or you think you cannot accomplish for this? 23-24, that you think you might want to. you know. Bring forward! Are they on do I say? Carry forward project or agenda for 2324 that you think you want to move forward to 2025, or you accomplish everything these Session and you have the new vision. or 2024-2025.
- **Ajay Barman: Thank you for the question.** So there will be. Carry forward a vision from last year. So this year we organized our coup de at the capital with partnering with our undergraduate students, and there were 10 graduate students. We went to our State capital. We met with the legislature. We talked about higher education. But we also feel the need that our graduate students should have a separate day at the capital so that we can meet with the legislature, and we can advocate specifically for the graduate and professional student. Unfortunately, this year that didn't happen. Marwa is a representative of all the graduate student in Washington State in an organization called



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Washington Student Association. So we were planning that we will organize partnering with University of Washington, Eastern Washington University, and the other universities within Washington State, and together all the graduate students. We will go to our State capital and meet with the legislature. Unfortunately, that didn't happen. But that is our priority for the next year that we will make that happen. We go as a united coup with the undergraduate student, but we want to go as a graduate and professional student partnering with other universities. So that would be my topmost priority, even though I remember, or Pita mentioned what would be the funding scenario for that. So, this year for the S. And a committee funding, we increase the Legislative Affairs committee asking price like more. We are asking for more money, because last year we did accomplish many things, and that would be our vision for the next year. So, tomorrow is our deliberation in a Senate committee and hope for the best. We will get the money to do our to do these activities and would do you want to add anything.

- **Marwa Aly:** So, my priority is the transparent. because I feel now that I miss something this year which I need to work on. I don't like to Miss Stuff, especially with the people that I am working with so transparency.
- **Ashley Wells:** We will be now moving on the Vice President of Legislative Affairs and will begin with Tathagata Pal.
- **Tathagata Pal:** Thank you. Everyone. I hope all of you can hear me. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to talk today. Good evening, everyone my name is, I go back, PAL, and I'm a fifth Ph. Student in the Department of Physics Astronomy in WSU Pullman. First, I'm extremely sorry that I'm not able to be there with you all in person this evening. So, as you have heard from Ashley. I'm running for the position of GPSA Vice President of Legislative Affairs, I was elected the VPLA. For the last academic year, 230-24 as well since I took up this position. May 2,023. I have done my best to do justice to this position, and make your voices heard at the city State and Federal levels in terms of legislative affairs. In October 2,023 GPSA was able to send. Like I was a chair at that point of time, so I was able to meet with the Congress delegations in Washington, DC. And advocated for better immigration reforms for our international students, childcare support and provide more research funding. I also work as a GPS and lobby for graduate and professional students, specific like problems that are very specific to professional students are regarding housing and childcare. And I'm also happy to say that, like we have hold of a great group at the capital and we had a great time there meeting with and just making our voice heard at the city level. GPSA LAC. Has been active regarding better transportation for student and just to say, I would not have been able to make all of this happen without the strong support of our LSC team. So, guys, please let's have a big shout out to all our LSC committee members. We have James, Charles Shah, Arpita and Syria. All of them did a great, excellent job. Thank you so much, guys for your support. We also worked as a team throughout the academic year and had



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a coalition with other groups like SW. The Washington Student Session, and the national session for graduate and professional students. As you may know, advocacy work is like a marathon, another sprint. I'll be able to continue this advocacy work on behalf of all of you. If elected as the VPLA for 24-25 academic. Here I have already been talking with some of the State legislators to bring forward a least session during the next history session in regard to better childcare support in the State. I'll be able to keep working during the interim and bring forward these sessions during the next place with the budget here. If I'm in this position also. I wanted to mention that I'll be running for the graduate student representative position in the Washington student session. So that that way I'll be able to organize like a whole State wide lobby day, where all the graduate and professional students from all the other different universities will be able to come down to Olympia and talk with well, with specific issues that are only very important for other guys and professional students and also I want to mention this that we might be planning to do it online. So, there's not much of like, not like food or lodging costs associated with it. So, it's still at a very nascent planning stage. But I'm really hopeful that we'll all be able to pull this off together if we work together. So I really appreciate all of your support from the selection for me. Please reach out to me if you have any question, and as always go, folks. Thank you so much.

- **Hannah Martin:** Any questions for Pal? No? Now we will hear about next nominations.
- **Ashley Wells:** Now we will be moving on to the College of Arts and Sciences. We have two candidates: Madison Hönig and Nazua Idris. We will begin with Madison.
- **Madison Hönig: I'm sure you've seen me at these Senate meetings. And I'm going to be talking a little bit about why I decided to run again.**
You've seen me quite a few times at these Senate meetings. I feel like I'm pretty vocal and asking you to talk about food security. That's definitely been me this year, but I think you might not know the story of why I decided to join GPSA. So, prior to you. Having this position, I served as the anthropology Senator for GPSA, which is my department and then I decided to go into community affairs. I started graduate school in 2020, and I had to move to Pullman completely by myself. I'm from Montreal, which is like the French part of Canada. So, I started taking classes by myself. I was eating my meals by myself. I was figuring out how to be a graduate student by myself. and I realized that what I was looking for was community. So I decided to join GPSA. When I was a kid my parents used to tell me something that they posted in my room be the change that you want to see in the world and so, I've taken that to heart to always kind of approach the things that I don't like, and that affect people unfairly, and try to do something about it. So, joining community affairs felt like a good challenge. It was kind of a weird committee. We kind of bridged a gap between programming a little bit, a little bit of advocacy work, little bit of legislative affairs, little bit of university affairs sometimes. So being in this position meant that I could really do what I



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wanted to do and figure out what the priorities were. As you all know, one of those things was food security, and that was something that I am passionate about. So, we did a lot of stuff this year with my Food Security Committee and my Community Affairs committee. We had a annual can drive which we're hoping to continue in the future, and we raised over 1.5 tons of food that was donated to the Community Action Center and the cougar food pantry. We secured \$5,000 from Cas and \$5,000 from the graduate school, which was directly donated to the cougar food pantry, and something that I'm proud about is the referendum which we will talk about later and pending the outcome of that I think that food security is one of the issues that impacts graduate students the most. But things are changing now that we've passed our contracts. Things might look a little bit different. So I'm hoping that next year we can take community affairs and my position as a college representative and kind of expand on some of the connections that we've made, working with different community partners, working with different committees in GPSA and making sure that no student goes hungry and that we can be better students because we are not hungry.

- **Hannah Martin:** Any questions for Madison? No? Now we will hear about Nazua.
- **Nazua Idris:** I'm a Ph. D. Candidate in English, as you have heard that I'm running for the college reposition for the College of arts and sciences. So I have been working as a Senator for the last couple of years, and for me as well. GPS has been the place where I connect with other people collaborate with other people. So, GPS has become a second family to me because I'm also an international student from Bangladesh and I also had a hard time transitioning into this country when I came here. And I was like only was working within my department and GPSA was the first platform for me when I kind of came out of my department and connected with other people, so I strongly believe that GPSA does really great work to support all the people, especially like people like me, who are extremely introvert to come out of their comfort zone. And, you know, collaborate with people advocate for people. So, I want to continue that legacy of love that I received from GPS a. And all the people that I have worked here and through GPSA, all the people outside within WSU, and in the community. And as a senator I have been working with several university committees, and obviously GPS committees. For example, I work with PDI. I'm also part of that wonderful Food Security Committee, and I also worked with Graduate Studies Committee and Research and Arts Committee, and I just got appointed as a member of the WSU. Hearing boards, and I'm excited to represent the people from the College of Arts and Sciences. In all these capacities and I have been passionately advocating for the support for supporting the first and graduate students and I know that some of you already attended ISPR-headed and initiative through the Center for arson Humanities, where I work as a graduate assistant. So in addition to working toward food security, mental health support through my position as a college representative, I would love to do something to make the



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support for the first generation student as something permanent that like, whether I'm a GPSA at the center or not, it doesn't matter like it continues, and it grows into a bigger program. And I really look forward to working with you all. Thank you so much.

- **Hannah Martin:** Any questions for Nazua? No? We will move on.
- **Ashley Wells:** We will move on Representative College of Communication with Andrew Sutherland.
- **Andrew Sutherland:** **Hi! There! My name is Andrew Sutherland. I am seeking the non. I am seeking the nomination and running for the Murrow College of Communication as your representative. For the past year I served as a communication director, and as Arpita kind of point out, I haven't been able to get those meeting minutes out in a timely manner.** However, now learning from this one year of experience. I wish to continue with this and try to figure out more streamlined manners for communication, to become more effective for GPSA and as well as expand other types of resources for graduate students. I specifically have 3 general goals in mind. The first one is expanding services, promoting graduate students, and streamlining communication. First, my first big goal is expanding on resources as a land Grant institution. One of our 3 goals are providing education, research, and service to the state and the nation. One of the things I think GPSA does amazingly is providing those research opportunities for graduate students and service opportunities. But I personally think we are lacking when it comes to education services. And this is not just an issue for GPS a. This is an issue within the university, and in university systems where graduate students aren't provided in certain capacities, resources to grow as educators. So, one of my goals is, and responsibility as a communication director is to operate the GPSA website. And what? And through that, I want to try to create a way with the help of PDI, of opportunities to help graduate students become more effective. Pragmatic educators, whether providing resources or certain types of training. The second big goal for me is ultimately, what did I say originally? Oh, promoting graduate students! For this past year myself and my committee have been trying to work through certain types of levels, working with different student organizations to try to figure out new ways, to promote graduate students, whether promoting them through Cable 8, KUGR, or the Daily Evergreen and in certain capacities it was difficult, and I don't want this vision to die. So, what my goal is to continue on with this. For example, this Friday with my hope I'll be able. I'll be begin training for Hr. Or with the Hr. Program at KUGR and try to record graduate students in their experiences, and finally finding new streamlined ways to communicate more effectively. Specifically, one goal in mind is to try to find ways to live stream. These types of meetings, as well as trying to find more direct ways to promote senators and have them become more leaders through communication within their department. Again, my name is Andrew Sutherland, and I hope and look forward to working with you all next year.



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- **Hannah Martin:** Any questions for Andrew? No? Now we will move on.
- **Ashley Wells:** We will move on Representative of College Representative for the College of Veterinary Medicine with Augustine Attah.
- **Augustine Attah:** Currently I have the privilege of serving as the Red 4 Connors and past months I've had the privilege of working with fantastic senators to improve the welfare of grad and professional students. What I do as a rep is to listen to the senators, and then take that concerns to admin like I've met with associate Deans, and we're planning on another visit to see the Dean and another reason for this basic is to show our support as grad students and professionals to the Admin right cause. We need to work with them. We're not working against them. However, the highlight of being the rep for counters is working with a Connors grad student, who was being harassed by the adviser, and the spoke with me, and I was able to stand as a witness during a compliance and civil rights investigation, and I think that advisor is bit penalized as we as we speak, but I've decided to now become the rep for CBM. Because I would like to replicate or even do better for my own college. I think that the concerns and issues of CBM are more relatable. For example, counters has research extension centers. I don't even know where we notched is, you know. But the concerns of CBM are also different. I would like to bring both staff and students together. I think we don't really connect. You know, all the programs that doing their own thing. I would like to be a breach, you know, and finally, I would like to be the college group for CBM because it allows me to hopefully continue my role as a director of the Travel Grants. I've had wonderful, wonderful time so far, working again with the Travel Grants Committee, and we have approved so far close to \$50,000 to students And we also simplified the review process and made these funds easily accessible to students. So, I hope to continue doing this and looking forward to working with you as well. Thank you.
- **Hannah Martin:** Any questions for Augustine?
- **Madison Hönig:** Okay, my question to you, Augustine, so typically, the travel grants really is focused on kind of processing all of those applications and directly helping students, But one thing is that I would really be interested in hearing your perspective on is kind of the advocacy item, on trying to see where the university could potentially provide departmental funds to students. So that we're not kind of relying on graduate students to kind of support each other. To do this kind of travel that's necessary for our jobs. How do you propose to address that?
- **Augustine Attah:** Well, interestingly, there's nothing I can do as a chair to act, you know. Kind of inspired that. Unfortunately, and I don't have that much power, you know. I wish I did. But I'm just. You know, someone who is given the responsibility to manage a budget and make sure that we spread that you know thoroughly throughout, you know, fiscal year. Right? We have a budget that has to last for a for an entire year, and that is what I have to do. Some departments, unfortunately. Well, fortunately, unfortunately, they have more funding than others. CVM, for example, is one of the, you know. I think. Well,



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find, you know, funded programs and part of my job as the kind of rep. Also talk to the Dean to say, hey, how? How are students going to be supported, mob? But that's what I can do right, because I operate in that capacity. I can't go to cast. I didn't say, Hey, you guys have to fund your, you know they're going to be like, who is this guy, you know, hey? You know. Who do you think you are? You know so? I wish I could advocate for that, but I'm only confined to college reposition, and being the chair of ground, which is basically a glorified manager position.

- **Aruntapan Dash:** So, I'm a student at mechanical engineering department. Can you hear me, guys? Okay, perfect. So, I'm glad that we set up the fund for the travel grants and everything with all these things that the budget going down and everything. So, I have a question regarding when it comes to non-academia, for example, the university is setting up a lot of trips to industries. However, neither your department is funding those trips, nor any of your funding agencies funding those trips. So happened is, they are also very important in terms of learning. So how is GPS A is going to help are why GPSA is not trying to fund those trips for the graduate students?
- **Augustine Attah:** don't know how much time, how much time do we have, you know, to answer that. But industrial travels are. My company treats it depends. Yeah, I work with that applicant. Right? If you're getting paid at an industrial travel. Well, I think it's unfair for you to be applying for a travel grant, right? But then there's certain things we take into consideration. For example, I, are you paying for registration? Right? If you're not paying for registration, then, as a company is hard for me to say, you know, like I mean come myself on the committee is how to like us to put into perspective. If you know, like you're just driving somewhere to have fun. you know, now. So what we've done is to follow the set, you know. Bylaws and the set bylaws is that for travels that you just talked about there is need for an invitation letter, for example, there is need for a registration, because that tells us that you're not just going on a trip to Hawaii, and they're wanting us to pay for it, you know, and then you need to show receipts right? And then they have to be legible right? Because, like, I'm not going to call you back and then be like, Oh, what were you trying to say, here, you know, we make decisions, you know. We're confined to a timeline. And like I mentioned earlier when I spoke, we also work with the finance team that we need to give time, you know, to so again I in my during my time, I or I encourage, you know, applicants to reach out to me. You can even finish your application packet. Send it to me. I will go through it. If there's something missing, I'll say, hey? Something's missing, and then send it back to you. I've done that a couple times, and I hope to continue doing that.
- **Shah Alam:** I'm a Senator from Arts and Science College. So you are doing great job in terms of travel, grant, share. So what you're learning in your current term that you want to improve the next year, like, there are a lot of things in terms of review and communicating with the applicants what you're learning that you want to improve next year?



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- **Augustine Attah:** Well, there are people who reach out to me and think that I'm a full-time staff. You know enough real like they email me and then ask me things. You know that I pretty much would have to ask my own department's travel manager, right? And it's challenging, trying to convince, you know. Finance managers from other departments, you know. That, hey? I'm also a grad student. Okay, I've got my own research where I've got mice to attend to, but, what I really want to improve that I've had some, you know, like rough patches where, you know, like there is no comedy. I feel like I'm not being heard, you know. Some applicants would go over me and then report me to the advisors, and then I'm like, you're trying to bully me here, you know. But you know this is this is this is what the bylaw says. Right? So, I'm hoping to. What I've taken from this is, the stakes are high, you know, like the travel Grants has like 80,000 that we manage right. And there's so many people who want to get like a share right? I'm hoping that I would be more patient next tenure, and then understand that some people genuinely may not know what they're doing right. It's II see, like someone saying that even I'm like. How are you? A grad student, you know. No, for real, for real like you, you have that like, how did how did you make it this far? But then I don't say that. Okay, cause that will not be good. Right? So, what I do is, I'm like, I kind of like breath in and breath out. And I'm like, okay, this is the first time, please. Okay. And I worked with them, right? And that's something I started, you know, like you know, recently. And I say, hey, send me your package if I see something missing and I encourage that. And I encourage other senators. We can't do this without senators. Senators tell. You know their folks. You can. I could. I'm allowed to give you all the information you need to succeed to have a successful application, but I'm also allowed to decline an application after the deadline. My hands are tied after the deadline right, but before that we will help you get a perfect application in wonderful thank you so much. We do have to move on for time, but I'm sure he would be happy to ask you your question.
- **Hannah Martin:** Thank you and we will move on.
- **Ashley Wells:** We will be moving on to College Representative for the College of Education with Golrokh (Rose) Maleki.
- **Golrokh (Rose) Maleki:** I had the privilege of being their representative of College of Education for the past 2 years. My hope is to see more people being willing to be our representative and this is what I emphasize. Most of the time, because when it is true that representative can still meet with the chair and and the Dean. But when we are from the same college. We are living with those challenges every day, and we have the epistemic privilege. We know what is happening, and we can address them in a better way. I really feel proud to be working with senators and cohorts and people from my college who well, really welcoming towards me my fund of knowledge as well as I'm welcoming towards them, and I always try to be an active listener when I'm talking to the challenges they may have in in our college, and what I learned from being the chair of university efforts and representative of College of Education is that if



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we give voice to people. We expect them to be grateful for what we gave them and we want them to appreciate our efforts. What we did for them. But the true power is to help them come to voice, so that we have not done anything for them but empowering them and making them able to being the status of making decisions and being more active in in what they are doing. I really hope I can bring more people from college of education to advocate for state level, or for the basic needs, or what we are dealing with all the time, just coming out of our comfort zone caring about ourselves and each other at the same time. I will be glad to answer your questions, if any.

- **Hannah Martin:** Any questions for Rose?
- **Oluwafemi Johnson Sunday:** I think the question is not just for you, I think should be for all the college representatives. There's something I know they called mismatch already in a scenario where you have your goals for the college, for instance. And now but you I'm not seeing directly to you now. But I just want to see how you have been doing that you've been doing a fantastic job with you, have? Your goals? Alright. Then there are challenges students are having. So how do you? Or how have you been able to navigate that aligning your priority or your goals to solving that question? I've been hearing a lot of things people are talking about yet. But be, be specific like, oh, this is the major problem. The students are having our experience in my college, and this is what I've been able to do. This is what we intend to do, you know, in future. So, think that that it helps us to really know. Okay, this is worthy. I'm a senator in our college of education as well. But I just want to see how you have been able to do that where we have about 5 departments or 6 under, you know, we have kinesiology. We have educational psychology. We have sport, man and all that. So? How have you been able to do that? Ensuring that the challenges? The goals are line, you know. solving up a major epistemic problem? If you mentioned.
- **Golrokh (Rose) Maleki:** Unfortunately, I cannot say I have been perfect in solving all the problems because college of education is historically underrepresented and so it is located **right in a place that having access to here or coming to Senate meeting is a bit.** I don't know it. It needs more culture, so that we can bring from college of education there, but as someone who is involved in different committees and and start talking to people and make friends. And so I have those connections. I always listen to what their concerns are. For example, if they have problems, about the teacher in in their school, I don't think that. Okay, I'm the chair of University Affairs. It's not in my job description, I think how I can help it and so, either by reaching out to Dr. Maxville at the school district, or by writing to the Senators when we did not have 2 nurses in in our school, and it was the, you know, the concern of some of my constituents that time by writing to Senators and receiving emails from them that they have been thinking about it, and they like people to advocate for it and record what their stories are. I really think we cannot change the culture overnight, but even one person better every day is a still progressive. Lots of people from college of education did not apply for travel.



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Grant or other dissertation grants because they thought they wouldn't receive it, or they were not aware of what the process was. But now I can see that more and more people with what our chair made possible it is more accessible, and I can easily talk about it and encourage them to apply for it and work with the chair, and I receive good feedback from them. It means, at least by working together. It's not only me because I cannot do anything. If Augustine does not help me, or other chairs cannot support me in a way we call it college representatives. But honestly, we should be working with each other closely to say to claim that we are representing other people, and I'm sure that this is an ongoing learning process, and we will go on together.

- **Ashley Wells:** We will be moving on to our final candidate with College Representative for the Voiland College of Engineering & Architecture with Sajjad Uddin Mahmud.
- **Sajjad Uddin Mahmud: So my name is Sajjid Mahmud. And I'm a 30 year, Phd, student of Electrical Computer Science Department. And I'm also currently the college representative for violent College of Engineering Architecture, and also the chair of the Professional Development Initiative Committee.** So I have. I joined GPS a. Since I started my graduate school here at WSU in January 2,022, I first joined as a senator at large at the Budget Committee, then elected for the Senator at the PDI. And now I'm the chair of the PDI. As a college representative in the in this current year. I'm have. I had a lot of meetings with our Deans to improve. The life of the graduates and professional students under our college, for example. We talked about the stipend increase. Unfortunately, that didn't go well because of the WSU. Cases going on but we I still tried my best to like, do something within my department, and with my college we also work. We also work on the increase of the library books for our college of engineering Architecture. We also communicated about having a common room for the engineering students inside our building which is not there. Currently. So, I have been. If I got elected again, I will try to keep all this works to be done with the Deans and the College Administration. As a current PDI chair. We have 8 events in the fall in the last fall, and we have currently 14 events going on for the spring semester. We also, thanks to my amazing team members, we also organize. New events in person events, and give away 181 Grammarly subscription this year, and we try to increase that more. And we also offered virtual Ph.D. For all the graduation and professional students in the WSU for free, and also, oh, we, the one of the biggest challenges a as a PDI chair that I face this year is the to increase the in-person event, participation. And for that we are trying to think new events. Trying to at attract the students. With new initiative, for example, maybe a referendum or something if they participate in the events, and we also, or try to collaborate with other committees. For example. PDI, this year, 30 s. Contributed \$2,000 to the GPS Research Expo, and interested to contribute more to the GPS Programming Committee for a de stressing event at the end of the semester. So if I got elected and I'll continue to do this type of work more. Thank you for your vote on time.



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- **Hannah Martin:** Thank you and we will move on to Ashley.
- **Ashley Wells:** Alright, everyone. Thank you so much. I just want to make a quick note that we do have 3 empty ballots for college of Representatives, that is, college of business, the graduate school and College of Agriculture, human and natural resources. Karnes so just wanted to let everyone know why we're stopping here and that is it. That's it for the debate. Thank you.
- Referendum and In-Person Polling Event
 - **Madison Hönig:** All senators please send the email template to your constituents and everyone please spread amongst all graduate students. There will also be in-person voting on Friday in the GPSA office from 8am-12pm.
- Announcements:
 - **Jeremy Boutine:** thank you so much, Marwa, quick. I know it is a very long night, but the programming committee and I have been working tirelessly to put on amazing events this month this Friday is our sexual health awareness drag Bingo, one of the biggest events we plan this entire year we're allowing up to 200 students. So, it should be exciting. We'll have local drag Queen Talent from Tabby Cat, Moscow. We also have a rock-climbing event and a free, full moon. Sound bath event later in the month. So, thank you so much. If you have any questions, feel free to shoot me an email. Thank you so much.
 - **Ashley Wells:** Hi, I'm so sorry. Literally 2-seconds just want to make a really quick announcement that the ballot is going to be opening hopefully in 60 s. If it does not, do not panic, I will be troubleshooting all night. But just so, you know, hopefully, everyone is going to receive an email very soon that the ballots are open. So thank you.
- 07:30 | Adjournment



GPSA Executive Board Reports

If you need clarification or have any questions, please get in touch with the corresponding individual.

President and Executive Board Chair– Ajay Barman; presgpsa@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- Plan and conduct executive board meetings
- Plan and conduct executive team meetings

Meeting attended:

- Weekly GPSA executive team meeting
- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- Weekly Cougar Lobby meeting with ASWSU
- Meeting with S&A Fees committee.
- Bi-weekly SGC steering committee meeting
- Faculty senate meeting
- Weekly PDI committee meeting
- Student Government Council meeting online
- GIESO general assembly meeting

Executive Vice President and Budget Chair– Marwa Aly; vpgpsa@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- Facilitate purchases.
- Prepare Senate agenda.
- Send out decision letters for RSOs' extra funds.
- Childcare reimbursement for Fall.
- Start the After-school program for Spring with WSU Children Center.
- Finalize the S&A request and the slides.

Meeting Attended

- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- Weekly GPSA executive team meeting
- SGC meeting.
- Weekly GPSA Budget committee meetings
- CUB advisory board



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Vice President of Legislative Affairs and Chair of Legislative Affairs– Tathagata Pal;
gpsa.vpla@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- The GPSA legislative liaison in Olympia, Pal, is advocating for graduate and professional students' specific issues like housing, childcare, and mental health support.
- Arranged Cougar day with total of 85 participants (10 graduate students) with a total of 95 meetings with legislators.

Meeting Attended:

- Weekly GPSA executive team meeting
- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- Weekly SGC Legislative affairs committee meeting
- Bi-weekly SGC steering committee meeting
- Meeting with legislators in Olympia
- Weekly check in meetings with WSA
- Weekly meeting with WSU Government Relations Office

Chair of Internal Affairs– Ashley Wells; gpsa.internal@wsu.edu

Tasks Completed:

- Presented and reviewed Bylaws Edit feedback from the Senate
- Planned and sold tables/tickets for GPSA Fundraising Reception
- Prepared applications, election ballots, and the Candidate debates for the GPSA General Election
- Prepared for Transportation Advisory Group proposal to senate
- Prepared for Transportation Advisory Group proposal to S&A committee

Meeting attended:

- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- Transportation Advisory Group Meeting
- University Parking and Transportation Taskforce Meeting
- Chaired multiple Fundraising Committee Meetings
- Meeting with College of Vet Med Dean



Chair of Professional Development Initiative- ; gpsa.pd@wsu.edu

Tasks Completed (in coordination with PDI GA):

- Organized GPSA-PDI events: “Finding funding: how the Office of Research works”, “Professional headshots photoshoot”, “Writing the conclusion of a research article”, and keynote events: “Formatting your thesis/dissertation”.

Meeting attended:

- Weekly GPSA executive meeting
- Weekly PDI executive meeting

Chair Programming- Jeremy Boutin; gpsa.programming@wsu.edu

Tasks Completed:

- Complete necessary paperwork after **Restaurant Friday’s: O-Ramen (2/2/24), Game Night @ Palouse Games (2/7/24), Ex Throwing (2/13/24), Mindful Yoga Class (2/20/24), and Restaurant Friday’s: Rico’s (3/1/24)**
 - Collect attendee list/receipts and submit to Student Involvement.
- **Prepare for Drag Queen Bingo (3/8/24), Climbing Event (3/18/24), and Full Moon Sound Bath (3/25/24).**
 - Create flyers, purchase request forms and promotional materials.
- Coordinate with the Chair of Communications for advertisement of future events.
- Coordinate with the Vice President and GPSA Advisor in monitoring the use of funds designated for graduate and professional student programming purposes, update budget when necessary.
- Contact and meet with committee members to plan remaining Spring events.

Meeting attended:

- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- Numerous planning meetings for spring events with necessary participants.
- Programming Committee Meeting.

Chair of University Affairs- Golrokh (Rose) Maleki; gpsa.university@wsu.edu

Meeting attended:

- Executive Board Meeting
- University Affairs Meeting



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
March 04, 2024, | in-person | 5:30 PM

Chair of Community Affairs-; gpsa.community@wsu.edu

Tasks Completed:

- Met with Internal Affairs Chair, Ashley Wells to coordinate in person polling station
- Met with Communications Chair to finalize Referendum informational materials
- Met with Community Affairs Committee to finalize Spring programming
- Ordered materials for in person polling station.
- Met with Programming Committee to support Drag Bingo Event
- Emailing with Pullman Parks and Recreation for Earth Day Park Cleanup
- Emailing with Phoenix Conservancy for Seed Cleaning Event

Meeting attended:

- Attended Cougar Food Pantry Advisory Board
- Attended Bi-weekly GPSA Executive Board Meetings
- Attended College Hill Matters Meeting
- Chaired meeting with Food Security Committee
- Chaired meeting with Community Affairs Committee

Chair of Travel Grants-Augustine Triumph Attah ; gpsa.grants@wsu.edu

Tasks Completed:

- Completed Spring 1 applications
- Sent out emails to applicants

Meetings attended:

- Student Media Board
- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting

Chair of Communication – Andrew Sutherland; gpsa.communications@wsu.edu :

Tasks Completed:

- Setting up HR meeting with KUGR for radio training to start a graduate student focus show.
- Develop communication and program material for GPSA Fundraising Event.
- Developed communication material for GPSA Election and Food Pantry Referendum.
- Updated Travel Grant Webpage on the GPSA Website
- Developing a Mental Health Resources Webpage on the GPSA Website



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Meeting attended:

- Meeting with Community Affairs Director
- Meeting with Internal Affairs
- Meeting with Chair of Travel Grants
- Weekly GPSA Executive board meeting