



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

I. Call to Order (5:30pm)

A. Approve Minutes (5:30pm)

1. Minutes approved – with one comment to fix “agenda” to “minutes” in the title

II. Guest Speakers (5:30 - 6:20pm)

A. Sharyl Kammerzell & Deborah Herlocker, Office of International Programs

1. Location: Bryan Hall (clock-tower building) + international center in the CUB
2. Role: advises international students, faculty and scholars with things related primarily to immigration and visas – also advisory to “all sorts of things” (finances, housing, academics...)
3. Trying to be a “one stop shop” to international students on campus
4. Deals with:
 - a) OPT (Optional Practical Training) and CPT (Curricular Practical Training)
 - b) Issues involving plagiarism are dealt with, especially when it comes to the definition of plagiarism and cheating from different countries.
5. Getting involved with financial issues of students, especially after the recent stipend cuts.
6. Orientation: usually before the fall semester (including health and wellness, cultural adjustment).
7. Open advising every Monday and Friday where students can come in with any questions (personal, academic, professional...) + available by appointment
8. Presentations on employment authorizations for international students to be aware that opportunities are available, even if some obstacles might be in the way.
9. More to be done:
 - a) Expanding what can be done during orientation, improving contact with the departments, increasing international presence on campus.
 - b) Peer mentoring (usually available for undergraduates) is gradually being incorporated, for incoming students who have questions before moving, on arrival and during their program.
 - c) Increasing programming events (through the international center) that are tailored to graduate students
 - d) Looking to develop some presentations of resources (maybe tailored to STEM majors - who seem to have more issues in their research)



10. Questions:

- a) Why is the CPT and OPT process “slow”? → applications are thoroughly reviewed – recommendations are sent out to the government – processing time from there can take up to 3 months
- b) Concerns for funding opportunities: is there a list of available resources? → the reality is that external funding is not usually available, might be in extreme emergencies. Funding is usually limited to assistantships, family help, from their governments and “occasional charity”.
- c) Email involving events programmed by the international office will be sent through GPSA
- d) Advice to individuals who face discrimination or face hardships in their program → International students can come to the international office, and the best help possible will be given.
- e) Students that apply for OPT or CPT sometimes get informed of some mistake that has been made, but only after it is too late. Any suggestions on what can be done to minimize mistakes →
 - (1) Sometimes applications are lost in USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services).
 - (2) Some delays are due to advisors not being familiar with the processes, especially when stating how the CPT is relevant to the student’s area of study and/or dissertation research.
 - (3) The office is doing the best they can to minimize mistakes so that application processes are smoothly handled.
 - (4) Piece of advice: talk to the people in the international office when you have any question; they probably know the best answer.

B. Dr. Kathleen MacKay, Interim Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

1. The office offers a variety of services. It is mainly a support office: issues at the graduate level are usually more complicated and different than at the undergraduate level. The DoS (Dean of Students) office offers help when students don’t know where to go. The office is a safe place for problem solving (academic, personal...): students will be rerouted to the appropriate resources.
2. AWARE network: where teachers/TAs/professors report students that they are worried about. In some cases, reports are sent about graduate students, when someone is worried about them.



3. Temporary emergency loans: twice per academic career - maximum of \$500 each time - has to be paid back by the end of the year.
4. Curtesy notices: the office will send out those to the faculty in case of emergency when a student cannot perform an academic duty, and they are personally not available to report the absence themselves (for example, in case of a car accident)
5. Questions
 - a) Ideas for preventative measures (to prevent issues from happening at the academic level) → GPSA is a great resource. A “dissertation support group” might be a good idea to keep students on track. The office is more of a problem solver and tells students where to go when they have an issue.

III. Important Announcements (6:20 - 6:30pm)

- A. Openings For [University Committees](#)
- B. R Working Group
 1. Wednesdays 12-1 pm
PACCAR 202/305
<https://cereo.wsu.edu/r-working-group/>
- C. National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)
 1. For anyone that wants to write socially or challenge to write their story
 - a) [Link](#)
- D. Budget Committee Will be Reviewing Affiliate Funding applications
 1. Decisions will be able on 11/27
 2. Senate will vote on and approve allocations over \$1,000
- E. Cougar Day at the Capitol
 1. Application will go live on November 9th, and run through the 26th.
 2. Hang up the flyers that are at the senate meeting!
- F. CCE (Center for Civic Engagement) Free Speech Panel Recap
 1. To learn more: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOU_T4xIgn8 (video starts at 15:55)
- G. CAPS and Clinical Psych Students:
 1. Clinical psych students CAN receive services at CAPS (following certain protocols to prevent conflict of interest). Shane’s understanding is that it applies to everybody excluding practicum students.
 2. Practicum students still cannot – they are working on an affordable outside referral protocol. We should hopefully know more by the next meeting.
- H. Trip to Vancouver
 1. November 11th-12th



- I. Presenters for Spring 2018
 - 1. Who should we invite?
 - a) Send requests to vpgpsa@wsu.edu
 - J. Mary Jo Gonzales Coming to Senate
 - 1. Coming 11/27
 - K. PDI Events
 - 1. More events at: <https://gradschool.wsu.edu/pdi/events/list/>
 - L. Congratulations to Jenn Johnson in recognition of serving as NAGPS Director of Administration!
 - M. Congratulations to our WSU GPSA for winning the NAGPS Western Region Member of the Year!
- IV. Open Floor (6:30 - 7:00pm)**
- A. If you have colleagues/constituents that have something to say, please invite them to speak during open floor.
 - 1. Public comment:
 - a) Gabriella Ramos , Editor-in-chief of The Daily Evergreen: a big portion of the reporting is leaned towards undergraduates, and the people in charge are aware. Graduate students are completely welcome to write for the newspaper – hiring columnists and reporters. Those who are interested are urged to contact the newspaper on editor@dailyevergreen.com . Letters to the editors are accepted, and guest columns are available.
 - 2. Resource for mental health issues for graduate students: graduate insurance covers 100% of the “Better Help” service. It is a qualitative intake (career services, international issues...). More information of the Health and Wellness website → student insurance → additional benefits → Better help.
- V. Old Business (7:00pm - 7:15pm)**
- A. Student Salaries and Budget Update
 - 1. GPSA had a follow up with the Daily Evergreen and took a phone call from the Spokesman. A lot of articles are being written about it. GPSA will be following up with Dean Rezac in December.
 - B. GPSA International Grad-Prof Student Survey Update
 - 1. 55 completed surveys – 20 in progress. We need more in order to generalize the results.
- VI. New Business (7:15pm - 7:30pm)**
- A. Brief Presentation on UREC Summer Fee from Jing Sun
 - 1. \$93 mandatory fee is for students who are not taking summer classes – other plans are available who are taking summer classes.



2. Fee helps cover maintenance and utilities during the summer
3. Membership categories are available on the website

B. Tax and Jobs Act

1. Terrible impact on us especially
 - a) Deduction issues with dependents
 - b) Loan interest deduction could be taken away
 - c) Stipends and tuition waivers could be subject to taxes
2. GPSA will be on top of this issue, and will be in touch with people who are concerned in this.
3. Registered voters are urged to get the relevant information to call the offices in DC and let them know that they cannot support this plan.
4. This Wednesday 11/8, Shane will be interviewed by the Daily Evergreen and he is requesting someone who is not a GPSA member to participate in the interview.

C. University Affairs Update

1. Please fill out the forms properly if you are sitting on a university committee.

VII. Adjournment (7:30pm)



Appendix:

GPSA Executive Board & Director Reports

October 19, 2017—November 1, 2017

President's Report — Shane R. Reynolds

- 10/19
 - Attended driver safety committee meeting. Discussed upcoming messaging strategy for thanksgiving break and Christmas break.
 - Attended President Schulz Crimson Coat Ceremony.
- 10/20
 - Met with VP Mary Jo Gonzales.
 - Discussed grad student stipend cuts,
 - Sexual assault letter. A meeting is (supposed to be) planned for early November. No further word on the meeting.
 - Discussed HWS back a SHAC group grad focused and health insurance for all grads and professionals.
 - Met with Dean Gloss regarding grad stipends. She informed us once again that she has been against them from the start.
 - Attended the Athletics Council.
 - President Schulz was there and gave us an overview of the AD search and asked for input
 - We discussed the current state of the Athletics budget and the plan to become solvent by 2021.
- 10/23
 - Met with the student regent Alyssa Norris. Discussed grad student needs and her advocating on our behalf.
- 10/24
 - Met with the daily evergreen to discuss stipend cuts in preparation for their article.
 - Booked room, made poster, and distributed poster for GPSA's trip to Vancouver.
 - Presented at the Provost's All-Chairs meeting and gave an overview of GPSA to all department chairs across campus.
- 10/26
 - Attended meeting to reexamine the policies and procedures regarding alcohol at on-campus events for RSOs.
 - Met with Candace (Director of Comm) to discuss budget and past budget reconciliations.
 - Worked on budget reconciliations.
 - Executive board meeting
- 10/30
 - Worked on communication for the work we have been doing behind the scenes advocating against stipend cuts.
- 11/1
 - Finalized letter on stipend cuts and distributed.
 - Attended to menial office stuff.

Vice President's Report — Amir Gilmore



- 10/19
 - Attended Crimson Coat ceremony
- 10/20
 - Monthly meeting with Mary Jo Gonzales
 - Stipend discussion
 - Sexual violence/recruitment letter discussion
 - Attended GPSA Bowling Night
 - GPSA Exec meeting with Grad School interim dean, Lisa Gloss
 - Stipend discussion
- 10/23
 - Met with the student regent Alyssa Norris. Discussed grad student needs and her advocating on our behalf.
 - Attended and facilitated Senator Meeting #5
- 10/24
 - Facilitated Affiliate Funding Refresher
- 10/25
 - Met with the daily evergreen to discuss stipend cuts in preparation for their article.
 - Facilitated Affiliate Funding Refresher
 - Attended Research & Arts Committee Meeting
- 10/26
 - Facilitated Budget Committee Meeting
 - Facilitated Affiliate Funding Refresher
- 10/31
 - Attended GPSA Halloween Night at Rico's

VPLA's Report — Josh Munroe

- 10/19
 - Attended Crimson Coat ceremony
- 10/20
 - Monthly meeting with Mary Jo Gonzales
 - Stipend discussion
 - Sexual violence/recruitment letter discussion
 - GPSA Exec meeting with Grad School interim dean, Lisa Gloss
 - Stipend discussion
- 10/23
 - Called legislative offices in preparation for Call Congress Day
 - Meeting with Ben Calabretta at CCE
 - Preparation for Free Speech on Campus panel
- 10/24
 - Legislative committee meeting
 - Finalized details of Call Congress Day
 - Discussed application plans for Coug Day at the Capitol
 - Laid out rudimentary details of the unionization report schedule
- 10/25
 - Call Congress Day!
 - Not a lot of attendees/participants, but a positive atmosphere!
 - Interview w/ the Daily Evergreen
 - Student stipends as the issue
 - NAGPS western regional board phone call



- 10/26
 - Determined the location of the next regional conference: Boulder, CO
 - WSA Liaison call
 - Free Speech panel put on by the CCE
 - Meeting with the Director of Internal Affairs
- 11/01
 - WSA call on sexual assault prevention and education
 - Two options going forward (WSU has already chosen out of necessity)
 - Prep for larger call next Wednesday, 11/08
 - Worked on Cougar Day application
 - Also worked out budgetary details and logistics

Director of Professional Development Report – Jenn Johnson

- 10/23
 - Attended senate meeting
 - Updated PDI budget to reflect current charges
 - Answered student emails
- 10/26
 - Sent email to committee
 - Attended executive board meeting
 - Purchased supplies for upcoming events
- 10/27
 - Set-up, led, and cleaned-up PDI event: Publishing Pipeline
 - Worked on PDI budget
- 11/1
 - Worked on PD budget
 - Sent emails to committee members about upcoming events and committee meetings

Director of Communications Report – Candace Chappelle

- 10/19
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter
 - Attended Executive Board Meeting
- 10/20
 - Took pictures for Programming Event
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/21
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/22
 - Posted Bowling pictures on Facebook
- 10/23
 - Attended Senate Meeting
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/24
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/30 MM
- 10/25
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/30 MM
- 10/26



- posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/30 MM
- 10/27
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/30 MM
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 11/13 MM
- 10/28
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/29
 - generated content to post on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/30
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 10/30 MM
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 11/13 MM
 - posted media content on Facebook and Twitter
- 10/31
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 11/13 MM
- 11/01
 - Post Rico's night photos on websites
 - Travel to Syracuse, New York for National NAGPS Conference
 - Worked with Steve Nakata regarding the 11/13 MM

Director of Grants Report – Motahare Athariboroujeny

- Prepared a report for summer application period awards
- Prepared agenda (based on my committee feedbacks) for our committee meeting
- Contacted zoomgrants people regarding some basic changes for spring period
- Attended the LEAD award committee meeting
- Worked on Grants budget

Director of University Affairs Report – David Silva

- 10/23
 - Presented GPSA International Student Survey to Senate inviting senators to review the survey for clarity and provide recommendations
- 10/24-10/26
 - Addressed the concerns presented by senators about the survey. All were addressed and edits were made to the survey including adding questions about whether or not students discuss their concerns with peers, editing phrasing of residency questions, and providing more opportunity for open ended responses.
- 10/25
 - Tasked the University Affairs committee with brainstorming questions to include in the Graduate Student Census Survey
 - Attended and promoted Call Congress Day
- 10/27
 - Distributed the International Student Survey to senators so they can start soliciting responses and sharing widely
 - Worked with Director of Communication on scheduling for social media posts promoting the survey
- 10/30



- Reviewed prior GPSA census surveys and Graduate School surveys to cut duplicate questions. These will be addressed in the next meeting with the Graduate School
- 10/31
 - Attended the GPSA Halloween Party at Ricos. A good time was had by all.
- 11/02
 - Pestered people to fill out University Committee Reports so that a full review of topics and concerns can be presented to senators.

Director of Strategic Planning & Scholarship – Jing Sun

- 10/23
 - Worked with Ruiyin and Kunle regarding planning Research Exposition Spring 2018
 - Edit the rewards categories
 - Edit the abstract submission guideline
- 10/28
 - Worked on Budget plan for Research Exposition Spring 2018
- 10/30
 - Skyped Mehrzad for making up the committee meeting on 10/18
- 11/1
 - Committee meeting
 - Discussed the abstract submission guideline, rewards categories, and budget plan of Research Exposition Spring 2018
 - Discussed the plans for editing GPSA strategic plan and identified problems in current draft
 - Scheduled meeting with Ana from WSU foundation
 - Discuss the collaboration with WSU academic showcase
 - 2pm on November 9th

Director of Community Affairs – Tiffany Alvarez

- No report. Please see Director.

Director of Internal Affairs Report – Sanaz Jarolmasjed

- Created subcommittees to work more efficiently
- Prepared agenda for 2018 general election
- Met with GPSA VPLA to discuss committee updates
- Reviewed a Ph.D. plan and a new course for graduate studies committee meeting on 10/24/2017

Director of Programming Report – Brittany Wood

- Organized the GPSA Happy Hour @ Ricos (10/31/2017)
 - Awarded > \$50 in cougar cash to costume winners
 - Awarded GPSA Swag to trivia winners
 - Awarded free fries to first 15 people in attendance
- 10/23/2017: Attended S & A meeting
 - Training for new members
 - Listened to 3 student groups (Children's Center, Coalition for Women Students, ?) ask for funds
 - Will deliberate on the requests November 6.