



To join via [Zoom](#)

[GPSA Senate Absence Request Form](#)

[GPSA Senate Attendance Spreadsheet](#)

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

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

Here is the agenda:

- 5:30 | Call to Order
 - Approval of Senate Meeting #3 Minutes
 - Approved as written
 - Approval of Senate Meeting #4 Agenda
 - Approved as written
- 5:31 | Announcements
 - Call for Photos
 - Social Media Photo Request
 - Photos of graduate and professional students wearing masks.
 - Short statement why you wear a mask
 - Will be used to create a short video for sharing in social media for showing the support.
 - Send here: gpsa.internal@wsu.edu



Call for photos for social media

"I wear a mask to keep the Cougar community safe!"

- We are putting together a short clip for social media showing why graduate students support the statewide COVID-19 measures.
- To participate in this project, please send a photo of yourself in a mask to gpsa.internal@wsu.edu with a short statement about why you wear a mask.
 - Send pictures with a typed statement or take a picture with the statement showing in the photo.
 - No need to include your name or any other personal information.

- PDI Updates
 - [Writing Workshop Series: Goal Setting and Project Management](#)
 - October 14 @ 1:00-3:00 pm
 - [Navigating Health Care for Graduate Students](#)
 - October 19 @ 12:00-1:00 pm
 - [Leadership Workshop Series: Courageous Conversations: Building Agency and Transforming Your Life- One Conversation at a Time](#)
 - October 21 @ 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
 - [Work and Wellness Discussion Series: Outliers](#)
 - October 26 @, 12:00-1:00 pm
- Programming Updates
 - [GPSA Presents our first Virtual Cooking and Dining event](#)
 - October 23 @ 6:30 pm -8 pm
- Community Affairs Updates
 - [Community Engagement](#)
 - [Community Affairs Spotlight](#)
 - Opportunities to highlight students' research dedicated to serve the community. If you know anyone whose research has an impact on the community, feel free to nominate them
- [GPSA Sponsorships](#)
 - Does your organization, club, or group want to provide a service or program which supports graduate and professional students at WSU? GPSA has



funding available to sponsor events that promote the interests of GPSA graduate and professional student members. Find out more at [GPSA Sponsorships](#)

- [Get Involved with the Community](#)
- [Get involved with GPSA!](#)
- Open University Committees
 - Anyone can apply
 - [Remind students in your department that positions are available](#)
 - It is greatly beneficial to have grad/prof student voices on these committees!
- Travel Grants
 - Fall applications October 2 – November 1
 - Funding opportunities

Travel Grant

- ❑ Open Fall (2) applications: 10/02/20 - 11/01/20
- ❑ Funding Opportunities for In-person & Virtual Events:
 - ✓ *The Conference Travel grant*
 - ✓ *Wetlab/Workshop Travel Grant*
 - ✓ *Professional & Career Development Travel Grant*
 - ✓ *Internship, Preceptorship & Intercampus Travel Grant*

- Graduate Student Concerns
 - No official announcement for GPSA Meetings; next semester to be virtual or in person
 - Spring break is cancelled to limit student travel and COVID-19 spread.
 - The Spring break is replaced with a day off each month
 - Behnaz Molaei: No access to Cougsync
 - Jenn: In summer, an email was sent to download files from Cougsync. However, it is not working. They will be replaced Cougsync in Spring 2021.
 - Gurdeep Singh: Blackboard will be taken away next semester and they will switch to Canvas.



- 6:00 | Guest Speakers - Dr. [Stephen Bischoff](#), Director, Multicultural Student Services
- 6:15-6:20 | Dialogue with Dr. Bischoff
- 6:20 | Guest Speakers – [Dr. Kate Hellmann](#), Director, International Student and Scholar Services, Scholarly Assistant Professor, Office of International Programs; [Cody Tornow](#), Lead International Student Advisor

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

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

- **Dr. [Stephen Bischoff](#), Director, Multicultural Student Services**
 - [Office of Outreach and Education](#)
 - Sandte Stanley: Is there any dedicated place like a club where students of color would meet?
 - Sandte Stanley: Is there little focus in the program on the graduate students with a lack of faculty member of color to speak to graduate students of color about how to navigate academia and tackle issues (e.g., lack of mentorship) facing graduate students of color?
 - Dr. Bischoff: Although it is undergraduate students who are the predominant focus, we want to have a partnership with graduate students. We are working to figure out how to address race, class, and gender issues in our space. We are making an effort to create a sustainable relationship with this organization because students are involved with GPSA to serve and this is a top area of your work. We appreciate that. I think it is so critical to figure out ways to support students and that is what you are working for as well.
 - Sam: The recent executive order targeting critical race theory has encouraged some college and universities to begin rolling back their diversity programs. I would like to know that WSU is not engaging in this sort of practice, and can you state that it won’t be so?
 - Dr. Bischoff: Some institutions and states are countering that. A lot of the executive order stems from a misperception of what the training is and what the training



goals entail. The executive order focuses more on terminology. WSU will not be following those other universities; we remain committed to diversity and inclusion.

- Dr. Bischoff: I would like to get feedback on what helped each one of you feel more supported in the campus on this journey as a graduate student.
- Reanne: Do students have access to outreach education?
- Dr. Bischoff: Yes
- [Dr. Kate Hellmann](#),
 - [International Emergency Fund application](#)
 - [Learning Resource Center in our office](#)
 - [How you write your representative](#)
 - [Make a difference. Submit your comments and let your voice be heard](#)
- [Cody Tornow](#)
 - Comment how much that will affect you: [Speak Out Against the Proposal to End Duration of Status](#)
 - I-94: As long as you maintain your student status, you are allowed to stay.
- Email ip.intlservices@wsu.edu, [Cody Tornow](#), or [Dr. Kate Hellmann](#), to make an appointment and be advised on your situation
- 6:40-6:50 Open Floor
 - Breakout Rooms – Discuss goals for working groups.
 - Ahmed Medhat: It is better to have a minimum stipend rather than all students be paid the same. That might address the issue that students might be paid less if we want to have a fair pay. It seems the best approach is minimum stipend.
 - After discussion Senators will have time to voice their responses. It seems acceptable.
 - Demi Deng: Is stipend level determined by individual departments, college, or the school?
 - Anika: The university set the steps and the department is the one that offers you the stipend at a certain step.
 - After discussion Senators will have time to voice their responses.
 - Housing - Chair: Community Affairs
 - Community – affordable housing, current options/ issues
 - University – WSU grad housing, current options, issues



- Healthcare - Chair: Internal Affairs
 - Community – accessible healthcare
 - University – mental health issues/ access; insurance plan
 - State – affordable and accessible to dependents
 - Mikala: Health care for dependence. Advocate for students who have families

- Stipends - Chair: University Affairs
 - University – minimum stipend level
 - Arian: Coverage of health care and low stipend amount. Students pay for the housing rent although they are abroad.
 - Gurdeep Singh: Graduate students who are teaching classes still get paid less even though they are assigned for more responsibilities.
 - Behnaz: I will share Prosser example with the GPSA including information about transportation
 - James: we need to create a plan for working groups including information about what the health care covers and how to access that.
 - Reanne: I am confused about what we are doing. It sounds like everyone brought up ideas about the issues. Are these ideas the main focus of the working groups?
 - Sam: We are giving the Senate the opportunity to speak to narrow focus on issues and provide feedback for the working groups. It is an opportunity for everyone to have their voices heard. So, we can utilize this information as we move forward.
 - Is the [Qualtrics link](#) survey for the college representatives and senators to fill out or share with constituents?
 - Jenn: We are going with both. I like everyone to fill out the application and share it with your departments to work on those issues.

- 6:50 - 7:00 | New Business
 - [RSO Spring Application Period](#)
 - Opened until November 10

- 7:00 | Miscellaneous items
 - Check-Out Question**
 1. Would be nice to sit in the small groups with our departments for a longer period of time.
 2. Add another breakout room to gather more ideas about the GPSA plans. Senators cooperate more on this way.



3. Maybe send links (like surveys) with agenda - helpful for writing up emails to constituents.
4. Longer breakout room times. Also, inclusion of some fun engagement activities
5. More opportunities to engage with senators outside of the college and committee.
6. Polls to gauge interest/ideas/etc.
7. I think we should focus on ways to engage more people within the senate and ensure they get a chance to speak. We started out very well by using the hand raising function and then that kind of died out. The chat is very lively, but it is easy to lose information when there is a lot of back and forth. When we meet in breakout rooms they are for a short period of time and by the time we finish our intros and getting to know who is all in its almost time to leave. Maybe make them larger working times...
8. Maintain open conversations during breakout. But also define some outcomes for breakout rooms.
9. Utilize the chat function more for questions.
10. Polls
11. I cannot think of anything
12. Using Polls- get better idea of where everyone stands
13. Have a way to answer questions possibly get more of a consensus by using excel rows or polls
14. Can we get access to the PPT? I know we get the minutes, but sometimes I think sending a slide or two in my email recaps would be handy. Or am I missing the email where we get access to those?
15. Our break-out rooms are not consistently putting same people in the room. Someone always gets kicked out or get mismatched.
16. Use polls, maybe someone can send an email with links shared in the chat by guest speakers
17. No idea.
18. Polls
19. Allow early submission of questions to guest speaker to allow them to prepare for answering our questions.
20. Create a Discord for instance for Senators to share ideas outside of our bi-weekly meeting
21. Google Doc with links put in the chat- they tend to get lost with the conversation.
22. More breakout rooms for increasing interactions
23. I think the 2-hour time frame is a little tough. If we could structure this so that we do some things asynchronously or include additional breaks or something to that effect, that'd be wonderful. Zoom burn out is real!
24. Making the zoom link embedded within the outlook calendar invite, setting to mute participants upon entry, more detailed minute-taking, asking speakers to



provide a visual to refer to during talks, speedier turn-around of minutes after meetings, overview of objectives of meetings at start, generally more guidance to senators about how they should be communicating with their senators, more communication between senators and their respective college reps.

25. Seems like we need more support in helping people understand what they need to accomplish in the break-out groups
26. More interactions with different people (breakout rooms for people from the same college/ same country/ same year/ same committee...)
27. More polls
28. Use polls/share the general ideas of discussions in break rooms and links used in slides by the agenda
29. Better planning to have questions that will be discussed and links to all documents ahead of time. I still have issues accessing the google docs and the zoom meeting.
30. Maybe we could add some general question/fun moment, i mean a little form of good distraction.
31. You may explore polls/ breakout room
32. Use poll.
33. More polls
34. The utilization of the breakout room is nice b/c it gives us a chance to connect with our specific team member and just to touch base without necessarily having a whole separate Zoom meeting.
35. Less breakout rooms; more polls
36. Consistently provide links that are embedded in the slides via chat.
37. Attach the topics/ Qs during break room discussion period since we failed to the Qs from main room
38. Polls
39. Maybe more breakout rooms
40. We can use more breakout rooms and polls
41. Chat gets lost and utilize polling.
42. Maybe utilize polls
43. More breakout rooms
44. Use polls
45. Polls will be good idea
46. Use polls and more break out rooms to increase interaction with other people.
47. Post a summary of goals and important/relevant info in the chat before sending us to break out rooms (this way we can all still see it in the rooms). I think it would be good to review the break-out room prompts or ask if there are questions prior to sending everyone/allow more time; the breakout rooms have helped, but we lose a lot of time reviewing what we are doing/goal of the discussion, or background info. A brief info/task/goal summary would really help us be more efficient. (Maybe it's similar when you walk into a different room and forget what you went for, but the description is usually quick and



we are trying to process what we are supposed to be doing while moving into a group, and it tends to lead to confusion and lost time)

48. No questions

- 7:15 | Adjournment

GPSA Executive Board Reports

GPSA Executive Board Reports September 27th – October 9th, 2020

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

President's Report – Jenn Johnson

- Tasks Completed
 - Finalized GPSA Working Groups around stipends, housing, and healthcare
 - Helped build Coug COVID kits
 - Met with various students during GPSA office hours
- Meetings Attended
 - Attended Monthly Student Government Council meeting
 - Attended biweekly meetings with GOSA Exec Team and Advisor TaMisha
 - Met with S&A Fee groups to discuss structure and allocations
 - Attended GPSA Senate meeting
 - Attended SGC Speaker Series: Provost Chilton, Cougs Vote, Online Success
 - Led GPSA Executive Board meeting
 - Met with AVPS to discuss GPSA topics and concerns
 - Attended WSU Town Hall
 - Attended Cougs Vote meeting
 - Met with CCE to discuss partnership with GPSA and community affairs
 - Met with Dean Borjesson of Vet Med to talk about GPSA and representatives
 - Met with WSU Children's Center to discuss weekly newsletters and learning kits
 - Led GPSA Community Affairs Committee meeting
 - Met with WSU Administration to discuss GPSA topics and concerns: President Schulz, VP Gonzales, Provost Chilton, VP Stacy Pearson
 - Attended WSU Rural Healthcare and WSU Extension discussion
 - Attended Faculty Senate
 - Attended CUB Advisory Board meeting
 - Attended S&A Fee Committee training

Vice President's Report – Samantha Edgerton

- Tasks Completed
- Conducted second and third RSO Trainings with Chloe Campbell
- Created agenda for Senate meeting #4



- Facilitated Senate meeting #3
- Finalized Senate meeting minutes and emailed to Senators
- Chaired third Budget Committee meeting
- Answered GPSA inquiries
- Reviewed and approved PCard Authorizations and ETR requests
- Created Teams account for SA GPSA Budget Committee
- Meetings Attended
 - Attended SGC Speaker Series: Discussion with Provost Chilton and Vice-Provost Mary Wack
 - Biweekly meetings with GPSA Exec Team and Advisor
 - Weekly GPSA Executive Board Meetings
 - Met with AVPS to discuss GPSA topics and concerns
 - Met with WSU Children's Center to discuss weekly newsletters and learning kits
 - Attended Faculty Senate
 - Attended SGC Monthly Meeting

Vice President of Legislative Affairs Report – James Dalton

- Tasks Completed
 - Worked on GPSA Working groups and Met with GPSA President
 - Met with students during GPSA Office Hours
 - GPSA Legislative Agenda
 - NAGPS Fall LAD funding request
 - WSA legislative Agenda Proposal
 - Worked on Graduate Student Bill of Rights
 - Created legislative plan of action
 - Set up meeting with International Student Programs about graduate student issues
- Meetings Attended
 - Student Government Council Meetings
 - Biweekly Meetings with GPSA Exec Team and Advisor
 - GPSA Senate Meeting
 - Monthly Student Affairs AVP Meeting
 - Attended WSU Town Hall
 - Attended Cougs Vote Meeting
 - Met with CCE regarding GPSA involvement in Cougs Vote Campaign
 - Monthly meeting with President Shulz, VP Gonzales, Provost Chilton, and VP Pearson
 - Led Weekly GPSA Legislative Meetings
 - Weekly GPSA Executive Board Meetings
 - Attended WA Graduate Student Legislative Liaison Meeting
 - Attended WSA legislative proposal review committee
 - Attended WSU Student Veterans Task Force Meeting
 - Attended WSU Student Veterans Task Force Subcommittee meeting
 - Attended S&A Fee Committee Training

Chair of Awards and Scholarships – Rabayet Sadnan



- **Tasks Completed**
 - Finalized dissertation grant forms and rubrics
 - Finalized Research Expo and Excellence award's forms
 - Talked with senators from business college for their updates
- **Meetings Attended**
 - 9/28: Senate
 - 9/29: Exec board meeting
 - 10/6: Exec board meeting
 - 10/7: Meeting with Paolo about Qualtrics forms
 - 10/8: A&S Committee Meeting

Chair of Communications Report – Adnan Mohamed

- Attended Executive Board meetings (Sept 29, Oct 5) and took minutes
- Worked on GPSA Monday Minutes, submitted, and approval is in progress for October 19, 2020
- Updated GPSA website
- Posted on Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram)
- Worked with GPSA CAHNRS Senators to share GPSA work and resources with CAHNRS students
- Attended GPSA Senate Meeting (September 28, and October 12) and took Senate Minutes

Temporary Chair of Community Affairs – VACANT

-

Chair of Internal Affairs Report – Mikala Meize

- **Tasks Completed**
 - Mask project ad(s)
 - IAC form revision
 - Updated vacancies and nomination forms
 - Reached out to College admin to make introductions
- **Meetings Attended**
 - 9/28: Senate
 - 9/29: Exec board meeting
 - 10/6: Met with Murrow College of Communication Dean
 - 10/6: Exec board meeting
 -

Chair of Programming Report – Rachel Wong

- **Meetings:**
 - 9/28: Senate
 - 9/29: Exec board meeting
 - 9/30: Restaurant week planning meeting
 - 9/30: Student media board meeting
 - 10/14: Virtual Dining event meeting
- **Tasks:**



- Mindfulness session 1

Chair of Professional Development Report – Anika VanDeen

- Tasks:
 - Set up teams chat with committee
 - Delegating some events to committee members: providing them with info for event
 - Email coordination with speakers of events for PDI
- Meetings:
 - 9/28: Senate
 - 9/29: Exec board meeting
 - 9/30: PDI Weekly Meeting
 - 9/29: PDI Event: Academic Integrity for graduate students
 - 10/6: Exec Board Report
 - 10/7: PDI Event: Writing Lock-in I
 - 10/9: PDI Event: Symposium for supporting graduate students as teachers

Chair of Travel Grants Report – Arian Karimitar

- Tasks:
 - Responding travel grant emails
 - Preparing the step by step instruction to review an application for Travel Grant committee members 2020-2021
 - Assigned and reviewed September (Fall 1) applications
 - Announce the September awardees to: awardees, GPSA Fiscal technician
- Meetings:
 - 9/28: Senate
 - 9/28: Second meeting of the Travel Grant Committee
 - 9/29: Exec board meeting
 - 10/6: Exec board meeting

Chair of University and Student Affairs Report – Anastasia Vishnevskaya

- Meetings:
 - 9/28: Senate
 - 9/29: Exec Board
 - 9/30: Research & Arts Committee
 - 10/6: Exec Board
- Tasks:
 - Census Data Archive: SESRC communication finalized, former chairs (pending), moving on with the committee tasks (updated agenda).
 - WSU Committee updates
 - Updates WSU Committees' representation