



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

To join via Zoom:

<https://wsu.zoom.us/j/91407917022?pwd=U1UyMFBxWENreG5ScGFiN3B6Q2YvZz09>

Meeting ID: 914 0791 7022

Passcode: 598325

GPSA Senate Attendance Form:

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

GPSA Senate Absence Request Form:

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

Issue response form

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

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

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

Here's the agenda:

- 05:30 | Call to Order
 - Approval of Last Meeting` Minutes
<https://forms.office.com/r/MMqSQcqmj0>
 - Sarah Gruntmeir:** I motion for the approval of the September 25th, 2023, meeting.
 - Hannah Martian:** Second
 - Do you approve of the 9/25/2023 meeting minutes?**
 - Yes: 47**
 - No: 0**
 - Abstain: 0**
 - Marwa Aly:** Voting is done and the motion carries.
 - Approval of the Agenda
<https://forms.office.com/r/cbDYx7GV5e>
 - Nazua Idris:** I motion for the approval of the October 9th, 2023, agenda.



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

- Jeremy Boutin:** Second
- Do you approve of the 10/09/2023 meeting agenda?**
 - Yes: 49**
 - No: 0**
 - Abstain: 0**
- Marwa Aly:** Since we reached a majority, the motion carried.
- 05:45 | Guest speaker
 - Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs, and Associate Vices Chancellor. Please share as many questions as possible with our guest speakers using the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/EBg6uqh2Gz>
 - Marwa Aly:** I think once we approve the agenda that any change must go through up floating. So, what about that? I can't take the voting on the screen, so I need someone to give motion.
 - Andrew Sutherland:** I motion to table the guest speakers from the student affairs until later of the meeting.
 - Augustine Attah:** Second
 - Marwa Aly:** Please vote by raising your hand.
 - Vote Count by Hand Raise:**
 - Yes: 49**
 - No: 0**
 - Abstain: 0**
- 06:15 | New Business
 - Update from the GPSA Legislative Affairs Committee
 - Arpita Sinha:** Hi, so I am going to give. I'm one of the committee members of Legislative Affairs. PAL, unfortunately, could not be present in the meeting today, so I will be presenting the update on the behalf of the committee. However, I highly encourage to reach out to him. If you have any questions, he's very prompt, and he'll be more than happy to answer your questions. So here are the few updates. So, legislation the SGC. And WSU. State legislative agenda has been submitted. The 3 GPS. A proposal for SGC. Have been accepted, which is a great news. GPSA proposal for WSU. WSU. Is pending, which will be going on twenty-first of October. In the coming weekend. Nathan will be meeting the Congress delegation on sixteenth and seventeenth to discuss the GPS. A Federal level agenda. So, this seems like pretty, but positive for us, Marva, can we go to our next slide, please. So here are the few things we have. I think in the beginning of the semester, when we started with our agenda PAL kind of discussed few of the things that we wanted to go ahead with. Here are the brief updates of what has been in the progress. And this is quite huge for us. So first and foremost, we have Federal legislative agenda. We'll be all of these. The priority issues are funding for core program and research, which includes



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

advocating for continued federal funding for all the core programs and research areas in WSU. This includes health sciences, energy agriculture among all others. Then we must continue support for the international students. So, we have 17 nearly 17% of current graduate and professional students that are international students. So, this is an excellent platform to advocate for that. So, what we are advocating this year would be to allow extended on campus job during regular semesters. Also allow F. 2 visa holders to work legally in U.S.A. Which would support there, which would help them support their families better. Also, we have the College Transparency Act, which includes graduate students, specific data which immediately contribute to overall. Well, being of the graduate and professional students in the country. GPSA. Is in support of the FARM. And in this regard urges the Congress to help pass the bill. We have the State legislative agenda, which includes affordable housing solution. 27. Approximately so. We have these numbers which hopefully will help us to substantiate our negotiations better? So, 27% of the WSU GPS. A twenty-two survey responded, have mentioned that if they face problems with affordable housing GPSA is proposing to point a cap on the increment of the rent teacher by housing authority. This will also help offset the demand and supply problem of this prevailing student housing. WSU. System. Then we have mental health wellbeing. We have time and again talked about this. How important this is so according to a recent study, involving a survey of 3,500 graduate students at 12 public institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are few of the numbers. We have 67% of survey respondents scored low on wellbeing factor 32% had symptoms of PTSD 35% and moderate to higher level of depression, and 33% at moderate to high level of anxiety. So, all these things together make a very, very important case for supporting the mental health. Well-being, then, we have affordable parking solution. So, WSU imposes some par parking permits rate for both full time employees and students. The GPS is advocating to the State and urging the State to mandate all the universities, to have separate parking lot for students. These lots would be priced at lower value, keeping in mind the financial hardships of the WSU graduate and professional students. We also have the childcare support. The WCC program from the State of Washington have few requirements that restrict many graduate and professional students to get help from the program. Since 12% of WSU graduate and professional students need childcare support. So, it all encompasses to some important key issues and going back to the transportation, the parking one. We have received an email regarding the transportation survey. I highly encourage all of you guys to take that survey cause more data. We have. It helps us better to fight for these cases. It gives us a number, and it helps us better fight for these ones. So yeah, these are the ones we which we have been working on. You can shoot questions now to me or to PAL. He's really prompt in responding.

- GPSA Travel grant: Proposal to adjust reimbursement caps.
 - **Augustine Attah:** Hi, everyone. I'm Augustin. I'm the chair for GPS travel Grant committee, and I'm here to give a proposal to our main reimbursement caps. So last month I and the Senators involved with the Travel Grant Committee voted to remove personal questions from all our travel grant



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

processes. So, if you've all participated in seeking reimbursements in the past. You notice that we've got number of questions. Such as you know. Number 8. Question 8 that asks you to provide an explanation of how you know your attendance at the conference benefit your professional development? So, questions like this, amongst others, have been voted to be removed? And some of the reasons we as a committee, came up with this is because of the subjective evolution process. So, the Travel Grant committee is made up of students. And so, we're not professionals at evaluating applications. Especially from all that departments the review process is also very long and tedious and if you've ever, you know, applied for one of these reimbursements, you'd confirm this and we've also at least. Personally, I've talked with some applicants or some students who were turned off or turned away from a client, because they, you know, felt that their process was very complicated. And there was also low accessibility to travel. Grant and I'll get in this grant and so we remove these questions, and we think that some of the benefits include simple application process for all applicants. So, we expect that more people would apply. Now, there's also increased accessibility to travel grants. So, there are, you know, like little to no excuse, more excuses to not apply anymore. And we've also eliminated subjectivity in our review process. And then finally, applicants will get their decisions at quick out response time next slide, please, Marwa. Alright. So, our new proposal reimbursement caps as follows, so the GPS travel grants manages several processes. There's a conference, presentation professional care, development, workshop, internship, and inter-campus. So started from the bottom. We have decided to keep they caps, for they lost 3 the same rates but make alterations to the caps for the conference presentation. So, the old cap for applicants who have gone for domestic conference or some training? Was it? Was it 1,000, or it's still a thousand. And the old cup for international travels is 1,500. But we're proposing that we decrease the tab for domestic travel to \$800, and the new cap for international travels to 1,200. And we myself and the executive team decided or arrived at these caps. Based on historical maximum reimbursements that students received and so these were not arbitrary, really, or arbitrarily derived. So, to also give an idea of what applicants will be receiving. I came up with this illustration. So, applicants would be reviewed solely based on the ability to provide the requested documents, such as receipts for the expenditures and evaluation form from their advisor and spend authorization. And all this need to be turned in at a or in a timely manner. Right? So, talking about removing most of the Hodges so, for example, we're retaining the advice. So, evaluation form. So, we have a maximum important score of 5. And it's one conference. Been, you know. Ha! The most important, so to speak. So, the maximum score an applicant can get from one of, you know. Based on the advisor. Evaluation form is a 15 and then, if such an applicant went for an in-person oral presentation, they get the maximum 15 points, and if they are the first unprecedented author, they get the maximum 15 point. So altogether this is 45 points, so 100. So, if this were to be a domestic travel. They get a hundred 800 dollars. If this were to be an international travel, they get 1,200 dollars. So again, historically, these are the amount that the maximum amount people get. So, we are not in any way you know, drastically, you know, decreasing the amount here. So, a caveat to removing huddlers, as you can imagine, is



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

overwhelming number of applications. So, we envisage that we get to have so many applications, perhaps even more than a funding cap for us this session. And so, to do that we came up with fail safe, so to, so to speak. So, if we get applications more than 20, we will decrease the maximum reimbursement to 70 and or even less. Right? So, the Travel Brand Committee retains their authority to make amendments, if you know as the need arises alternatively, we may also prioritize travels. We hope that it doesn't come to this, but if you know, push comes to shove. We may have to prioritize international travel, national, over regional, and regional over state travels. Right? So, this is all I have concerning this amendment, and if you have any questions or concerns, you can contact me. he's in the email gpsa.grants@wsu.edu. Thank you very much. If you have any questions right now, I can also take those.

- Arpita Sinha:** Are there any caps to how many times a student can apply during their academic serving?
- Augustine Attah:** In a finical year, there are different caps when it comes to travel.
- Arpita Sinha:** Was there any amount that was capped before? Because at times, when you must do 2 or 3 conference in a year, and there are departments which has 0 funding otherwise. That's why I was probably asking. But I can follow up with you in an email.
- Augustine Attah:** The short answer is that we have always had caps.
- Di Mu:** Does the member of the presentation matter?
- Augustine Attah:** That is part of our evaluation questions, but we are planning on removing that as well. Mainly because if you are having multiple presentation, the overall cost is the same in comparison to 1 presentation or workshop.
- Adam Sun:** Why do we prioritize international conference compared to national conference?
- Augustine Attah:** I agree. Thank you. For that reason, that we prioritize international conference. Yeah. Thanks. So, the mind you, this is templated. You know we're not; you know acting on any of these yet. Like I mentioned earlier. We hope that we don't get to do this. This. This are like fail, save, you know, you know, things really go bad, and we have, like so many applications that exceed, you know, budget and I did the map. I did you know the predictions? And if we have more than 20 people going for, you know, international conferences, and they are deemed to have 100%. We will go broke, you know. That's like almost all the money we have. For, you know. Say, fall going for just one month. You know, we don't want that. And the reason we've come up with, you know, doing the recapping is so that more students can get funded so.
- Adam Sun:** Let's say you'll have like 20 available applicants. And let's say. if like, you know. Cause if you would do this way, we basically, it's really depending on it. The number of applicants for, let's say, international or national conferences really depends on the year of the of the application process. Right? Yes, let's say, maybe one year we'll have more. Let's say, amount these like a set number of applicants. We have more international conferences over national



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

conferences. Is that mean that, you know, like there will be lower chances for the National Conference to be funded.

- **Augustine Attah:** Well, so not nothing is cabin stone and what we've designed now is based on historical data. And so, I can tell you now, evidently, that this is what is going to happen. And this is not end. Again, there are decisions that I'm I may have to make as a chair, and this is also we might be subjective. But there are also, like, you know, conferences that are held here that are international. Right? So, I and the committee will look at the applications critically, and then decide but these are right. Like you said in a in a certain you know, application period, they might be fewer international conferences than there is national you know, travel. So, in that case, that this may not be an issue, right? And there also all the rubrics. So, all you know, deciding factors that I know I am not going to share with the Senate at this moment. I mean, maybe may not, because I think that the Travel Grant Committee still needs, you know, to retain some certain level of privacy. After all, this is still a competition. And it's also a supplemental funding for conferences are not a major phone funding.
- **Shah Allam:** Yeah. So just kind of like 2 points, one, the national and international. My kind of like request is to, you know, make some analysis on historical data. How many applicants we get for national and how many applicants we get for international. And if you know application number is high for national. I think we can go for nationalist priority list first, then internationals at the second. Is one of my questions. Is that so? If I correctly remember the previous condition of travel, grant was like 4,000 for International for Academic year and 2 2,000, maybe for National Conference. That was the, you know, Academic Year Camp. I don't know what you're thinking about that cap. Also, the 800, which is 200 degrees of the current cap. I would like to request consider the current inflation situations because travel is expensive right now than earlier. So, I would like to request to consider all these situations in making the changes.
- **Augustine Attah:** Those are very good points and ideally, I would love to give, you know, all like to be part of a situation where people get even more but as a Senate, you would all agree that we work with budgets. And that the budget dictates, you know, the numbers we come up with. And this is also a drastic change, you know, if you know, since many years, you know that we've been running the travel grant team.
- **Shah Allam:** Just a quick point. I know some department is specifically from a college of person science that don't provide. You know, yearly budget for the Conference. They only provide once a whole, their graduate education life. So, I think this should be taken into consider in, you know, making changes.
- **Augustine Attah:** Yeah, I totally agree, but that would not be fair to everybody. So, we are a committee, for all the students are not specific departments and, like I mentioned earlier. This is supplemental. Okay, we're not taking over from, you know, from departments, you know, to fund their students, right? We are here to elevate some burden, you know financial burden, as students might be facing. Alright. But I would love, you know, if we can increase this, or probably have a meeting again with the executive team. If you know there's need to increase this, if all like. Is this provision for the budget for us to increase this, I'll be more than happy to support that.



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

06:06 | Guest speaker

- Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs, and Associate Vices Chancellor. Please share as many questions as possible with our guest speakers using the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/EBg6uqh2Gz>
- **Ellen Taylor:** Yeah, let me start by saying, Linda is left WSU. So, she is not here tonight and took a job somewhere else. So, she's been gone since the end of September, which is only like a week and a half. But and Shawn was choice traveling, so I don't believe he is here. Jenna, Joel and Kim and I are all here. At least a couple of us need to leave at 6 50. We were told that to be here sort of you know 5, 45 to 6, 15. And so several of us had made alternative plans. So, I you know I don't know what questions got submitted, and then so I think we will do our best to answer what you may have. Before we must start peeling off, probably between 6, 15 and 6 30.
- **Marwa Aly:** Is there an emergency fund? Who is eligible and who are those who are illeligible?
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** Okay, okay, so yeah, let me let me touch on a few of those questions. And I'll do my best. And I can want to offer my email. And I can do a Sony side meeting as well. Our emergency funding. We do have different allocation options, meaning like different foundation accounts. And grant funded emergency funding support resources for fundamental needs. We've worked very diff very hard and a lot of good deep ways last year with to streamline and shorten the process about emergency, funding and access and application. It is a coordination with Student Financial Services (SFS) as well as some of the grants and the emergency funds have. no occurs about. What is that criteria to meet, to be able to have access to use those funds for resources on. There is a website. And, Kim, I'm going to ask if you don't mind looking if you're at your laptop. There is a link right to our emergency funds that explains all of this. The application criteria, the process in general terms, and sometimes often what we will help folks understand to meet their expectations is it's not. We were able to write a check for a need at that moment. That's not how it works, but what happens is through the application process. We work with student financial services. Again, we look at what those pool of funds is a case manager, Lori, in our office, and the Dean student's office oversees all the entire process, and we're happy to come back, and we could probably do a whole like presentation to you all. If that's helpful as well. When it comes to the question about request, why do we need why this individual need to share the information that they do. That's where we're working with SFS to be L and looking at the need and the and the fund itself to see if it needs it.



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

Cause our goal is to get you as men as much as possible. Now you'll also see on that website. There is a limit to an ask by year, right like. And it's all in there because we would run out of funds in probably a month, if the true need was ever met by every single student who asks right? So, the emergency funds certainly can't maximize every single ask to the penny. But in essence the hope is we can bridge a little bit of that. Ask to the extent that we have the funds. It meets criteria. And we're working with student financial services based on the through each student case, which is very, very different from each other. So, I hope that helps a little bit in kind of a big picture. But in terms of the micro kind of questions and details we're happy to come back kind of give a presentation as well as if you want to look at the link to our website, because our goal is to be as open and understanding of the process. So, students, so if you have feedback about what we put out there, we would love to hear that so it could be helpful.

- **Marwa Aly:** But regarding the like paying bills, and the name is not the student's name. It's for the kids. Is it okay to share these bills?
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** None of the emergency funds cannot go to a university bill of any account.
- **Marwa Aly:** What about paying hospital bills?
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** You know II cut out just a little bit. I'm not sure I heard the whole question. I do want to make sure I do mention none of the emergency funds can go to a university bill just for what it's worth. It can't go to a student account to pay tuition to pay housing or anything like that for on campus.
- **Marwa Aly:** What about paying bills for hospital bills?
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** Yeah. That that could meet based on like I said, working with SFS and looking at need. It just depends on every case. That's why we have case management. And so, we're going to want to work with in everyone see what's going on and see what full of funds they are able to meet the criteria for, and then, but asking for dependents on a hospital bill. The need must go to the student, right? And so, if by chance, not knowing the case for sure, if it was a case where it was a student dependents bill. I'd have to. I'd have to know a little bit more and check into that for clarity, but happy to follow up with anyone who needs that.
- **Marwa Aly:** How long it makes to apply for emergency like how long it takes from the application, submitting the application to receiving the font.
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** I mean, it depends. I would say, at a minimum. 2 weeks would be probably one of the fastest 10 business days, but really



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

depends. It could take longer than that. If there's like some back and forth that SFS needs or right now, for instance, we don't have the funds from yet for emergency funding. And so that's one of the pools that we haven't been able to start dispersing and go to. And so that's kind of an so we've had folks that qualify former foster your things like that. But we can't. We don't have the funds yet. So, some of those students might be waiting, and that's out of our hands and out of our control now. But we're working on it.

- **Ellen Taylor:** I'm sort of seeing the comment. 2 weeks is long. We wanted to. And I that's not so much a question as a comment. You know, the team in the office Dean is students, the care managers working with student financial services. They do the very best that they can. And there's just there are processes when we are giving away money. One of the things that you must recognize is that is, as a state institution. There are all kinds of Laws and State policies that have bearing on when and where and how we are able to disperse funds cause once they're in, whether they come from a grant or come from a don a donor fund. Whatever it is, they're considered state dollars. And so, there's lots of processes that we must go through, because it is state dollars that we are then allocating to students in these emergency grants, and so on. So. And I see Jenna has her hand up so she may have something else to say. But I just want to sort of remind people as state agency things take a while. If we were a private institution thing might go a little faster. I don't know because I've never worked at a private institution. But I've worked at 3 public institutions, and you know it's just the nature of the beast of being part of a public institution where those publicly owned dollars are just. There's lots of eyes we have to Dot and t's we must cross to be able to give them to the student. I see Kim must head out. So that's one of the people that we're losing. I think Jenna and Joel and I can stay for a few moments. And, Jenna, you have your hand up, so you may have more to say beyond what I just said.
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** I do. I do. One of the protests, I would just add, is, and what can delay is the money has to be disturbed to a bank account and sometimes the students don't have direct deposit with student accounts. That'll make a difference right? And it's one of the things we try and work with the student as soon as they apply as Hey, if you haven't already activated this, do that. That will only delay. A get cutting a check will only add days to this to the whole system of the process. But we're happy to walk through the workflow. It is intricate. It's very thought out, and we were able to shorten what it used to be. We're always looking for refinement. And there's a lot of hands in it to make it low.
- **Menuki KC:** If in case there is situation to use emergency fund, does



**GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM**

this affect student status in future like for job/ residency?

- **Ellen Taylor:** This is more of an emergency grant, and it does not affect student's statue in their future.
- **Goroka (Rose) Maleki:** my question is, did we receive what we read in the paper about that. Receive 600. sorry. 600, almost \$700,000 to address a student's basic needs. So, we read that Wu received it. and then we heard that we haven't received it yet. My question is, did we receive that money to address housing and food, insecurity or not, and my request is after we fill out the form for that financial assistance. It takes some time to hear back from the financial office that, so all the funds related to you know, Covid related phones have been distributed. and that this application you are not eligible to apply for further Federal or whatever, and we send this application to the Dean of the to the office of Dean of the students. And so, this is the way that our students are informed. My request is to change that message in a way that it doesn't. It doesn't mean you're not eligible to apply. We are not sure if we can receive it or not. If that form can take students to different offices, then it's not clear if they need to follow up with the Dean of the students, or how, long after they receive that message, they need to reach out to the office of the Dean to follow up with them.
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** Thank you so much. That is great feedback. I appreciate it, and I'll work with Lori. It is a centralized process. So, the student doesn't need to go to other areas. That's what we're doing in terms of representing the needs of the student. Through that application process. SFS gets the same application as it says. Like, it's a smart application process. But I can work with Lori. What I hear. If I if I heard you right, is once you sent once you apply. I in essence, we'd hope that you receive, you know, a verification that the applications been received. But you're wondering what a standard expectation of response would be and follow up. Is that being that kind of what you're asking?
- **Goroka (Rose) Maleki:** Actually, because, you know, the first message that we receive says that we received it, but all the font has been distributed, and you are not eligible for any further for any further Federal fund. But we may have something available at the office of Dean of the Students. And we encourage you, you know. So, the wording, the message it is sharing is not like we are taking care of you. It's like we distributed everything, and you are not eligible for it, because this is what you read first, that everything is gone. We don't have it, and you're not eligible. And now we send it to another office. I just want to see how we can communicate it better, especially with international students who are linguistically diverse.



**GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM**

- **Ellen Taylor:** It sounds like this, its Jenna. If I may jump in here. I mean, it sounds like what we need to go back. It sounds like that. If the if the application that goes in that the feedback, the immediate response auto response, probably from the student financial services has been sort of like still harkening back to the Covid funds, which are, in fact, long gone. They they're so long gone. It sounds like the feedback is, maybe we can change, and we'll work with our partners in student financial services. We they're not. They're not in student affairs, so we don't have direct control of what their messaging is, but we can absolutely work with them and talk about how we can make sure that that first message that goes out. That auto message is not starting with "hey?" We've already spent Covid dollars by now. Nobody's asking for Covid dollars that you know. It wouldn't think, you know. So, I think that's where we're trying to get and so I think that's that question. And then and then I'm thinking about your first question, Rose. You asked about you read in the WSU insider about obtaining about WSU getting a certain amount of money. First, I want to emphasize that money is spread across the WSU system. So, it's not Pullman specific that shared among all the WSU campuses and the vast majority of our graduate professional students are, in fact, Pullman, campus or affiliated with the Pullman campus, although not everyone. I realize that. So that's one thing is that that's distributed. And I think there's and this has been a confusion. That's happened. There are 2 state sources of funds. And I think the story you read is about a new pilot program that, we just received. And I'm going to put received in quotes very much on purpose. We have been allocated those funds for the new pilot program, and that's what that story and the WSU insider was about. We have, in fact, not yet received those funds. So, the WSU insider story was saying, hey, WSU is, going to get some money. They didn't bother to say we're still waiting for it to get dispersed from the State, and so we've secured the Grants. But we haven't received the dollars yet, and so we can't then turn around and dispersed them to students until we get them from the State. And there are 2 different sources from the State. There's more than one, and it just gets confusing. There's more than one sort of basic needs or fundamental needs sort of allocations of dollars. And that more recent one that the story that I think someone just posted that came out back in August, I guess, was talking about securing these, but we haven't received them yet. So, one is out of a House bill. One is a Senate bill, and the pilot one that we have not yet received the money for is for free and reduced. there's like a control group, and it's got all kinds of things around. It is very much focused on food security. So more about that to come. But that's what that confusion was, Rose, when they said, we've received it. We're going to receive it. But the language that



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

they use, you know. I think, was confusing in the article.

- **Madison Honig:** So, looking over the article that was shared by Rose. A lot of the food security funding that was secured went to is going to supporting undergraduate students with dining dollars. A lot of graduate students don't really access the dining halls. So, we were really hoping to see some initiatives to support the cougar food pantry I'd love if you could speak to that a little bit more and what we can do to alternatively support the cougar food pantry, seeing as the access and needs of graduate students continues to increase year after year, and semester after semester.
- **Dr. Jenna Hyatt:** Yup, so that thank you for bringing that up. So that Pilot is basically we were chosen from for the State of Washington only 2 institutions were chosen. We were chosen for the east side of the mountains, and then there's a West Side school that's piloting for a 3 year. Grant what it is to identify. How could we move from a K through 12 programs for free reduced lunch to a post-secondary higher Ed institution type program. And so, our when we put in the grant, we came up with a program and a plan to say, here's what we think we can do. We want to test it out. And so that's why it's saying it goes to. And it's going to basically bridge the gap of what most students needing fundamental needs. And there'll be a control group. To be able to say, like, okay, this group had a bridge of the lowest number of meals. We're going to bridge that we're going to move that to a higher level. And we're going to see. And they have some courses and some financial literacy and some nutrition literacy things to do. And so, it's very. It's a lot more to it. And my suggestion causes your questions are all so helpful and good and I would just ask if maybe we come back, and I bring some of my team from the Dean's office, and we can present in a very uniform way emergency funding we can present about these grants and these. What sources we have, and I think in a much more informed. Instance way if that's even possible. Just want to offer that because we're happy to do that.
- **Ellen Taylor:** Well, what I what I was going to say, we have 2 follow ups. I believe I think our 2 follow ups are one. II want to make sure you are hearing. You know Jenna's in invitation to have especially her team, and I'm certainly happy to join, and others can but come back and have a dedicated time to do a presentation about the various elements of emergency grants, you know, support for fundamental needs. What all that territory looks like. Cause, then we could be prepared with some slides that will sort of map out the different, the different programs and the different options, and so on. rather than trying to a little bit on the fly. Answer the questions. The other follow up action that we have is



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

that we will reach out to our colleagues in student financial services. You can see with that rose. Thanks for putting that in there. It says, sincerely, student financial services. We can work with them to talk about. it, it, revising that and making sure that it is a little more welcoming, and that it doesn't. That it's it gives a student receiving it a little bit clearer sense of what's going to happen next, and what you know, and all of that, so we can work with them to try to alter the language on that, and then seeing in a sort of suggestion for Joel, Joel, are you still here? Do you want to? Real quick. Try to answer something about if I'm not quite sure I'm understanding it. If Rec grad students. yeah, the Rec students are we're technically Pullman based students. But we're in like Prosser, Wenatchee, Mount Vernon research and extension centers got it. Sorry. I don't know why that didn't register for me.

- **Joel Schwarzkopf:** Yeah. And I might have you send me an email after. The fact is, just Joel.S@wsu.edu Eligibility can be kind of nuanced. And so, I hate to just give a blanket. Yes, on the surface, I'm going to say, you know, probably. Yes. If you have Pullman listed as your home campus and haven't been assessed the health fee. I'll just connect you with Amy Chadwick, our assistant director for operations and she can pull you up in my WSU. And just confirm that. And if you do have Pullman listed as your home campus and you're taking 4 credit courses, you should be able to opt back in for the health fee which it would let you be eligible for all the services at cougar health. Not just the telehealth or telemental health.

□ 07:20 | 10-min Open discussion

- **Jeremy Boutin:** Hi, everyone. I just wanted to say first, thank you to everyone that came to our restaurant Friday at Porch Light Pizza last Friday. We sold all 50 of our tickets within the first 2 h we were originally scheduled from 4 to 8, but we sold all our tickets by 60'clock, so, it was a very successful event. It was great to see everyone there. I just wanted to give a gentle reminder that we have 4 other events this month. We have our Banned book club this Thursday in the GPS. A lounge. So, make sure you stop by for some free coffee snacks and some good conversation. We'll be discussing the book gender. Queer that was recently banned in the State of Washington. Don't feel like you must read the entire book before coming. It's just going to be an open discussion kind of discussing the general themes of banned books. And why this book was banned. Aside from that, the following week we have our indoor volleyball competition. I would suggest, grab a group of friends, create a team, create a fun team name, and give me a quick email. We'll be giving away prizes for the first and second team as well as the team



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

with the best name. Also, if you can't get a team ready, feel free to just stop by we're going to be putting together last-minute teams, if need be and then at the end of the month, we're going to have 2 Halloween themed events. We're going to be having a Halloween themed full Moon sound bath the Saturday before Halloween. So that's October 20 eighth. And right afterwards on the same day. We're going to be having a Halloween party at Etsy Bravo! And if you have any questions I can take them now, or feel free to give me an email at GPSA programming afterwards, in case you know any questions pop up. But that's all I got. Thank you.

- **Arpita Sinha:** Hi, Jeremy, these are excellent set of events upcoming events. So, thank you for doing this. You and your committee. I have a question. It's not like anything to do with a personal thing, but I was just wondering. I'm guessing. October twelfth is a Wednesday, which is between 11 and one is quite a busy time. So, is there a way we could consider doing it towards a little later part of the day? Or is it for some specific reason you guys have selected this time.
- **Jeremy Boutin:** So, October twelfth is this Thursday? We pick this time mainly trying to get as many students involved. I know it is kind of busy, but we found historically, if it was a little bit later in the day students became a little checked out, so they would leave campus. We kind of found having free coffee and snacks during that middle portion of the day. Seems like the sweet spot. It wasn't too early, wasn't too late. So, this was just, you know, based on historical data, what we generated. But I would love to if we continue this event, we could reconsider dates and times and then also trying to leave it open to a 2 h time slot. So, people can kind of come and go as they're available to. But yeah, I do agree, trying to lock down a decent day and time for to accommodate as many graduate students can be difficult. But I do appreciate the feedback.
- **Hannah Martian:** I just wanted to say I went to the restaurant Friday on Friday, and it was wonderful. These are like some of my favorite events because one free food. But then also we can support local businesses, which I think is important. So, I just want to say, I love these events, and I can't wait to see what you guys do next.
- **Jeremy Boutin:** Thank you so much, Hannah, and we are completely open for suggestions as well.
- one of the things my committee and I have been trying to work on is really looking at historical data from years past, and seeing what worked what didn't work and trying to really make our budget stretch, to really accommodate successful events. So, having positive feedback like this, is it beyond warms my heart. So, thank you so much.
- **Sajjad Uddin Mahmud:** Hello, everyone. Good evening. So, from PDI,



GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM

we have our next event, which is tomorrow professional headshot, headshot photoshoot event. All you need to do is to show up between 3 to 5 pm. At CUB 204, and you will get your photos captured. But I think it takes 2 or 3 weeks to get processed and send out to everyone could. Could you go to the next slide, please? So, and the next event, which is a Zotero trainer, and that is our in person, even also it will be available on zoom. So, the if you want to. Join in person, you're more than welcome to join on October eighteenth, which is Wednesday at one Pm. L. 60. So, this training will be provided by Lauren or English librarian. I would love to see all of you in person, and please tell see your friends and customs to join this for this evening. Next slide, please. I also want to highlight that PDI give a lot of resources. You all already know that. But about the grammar subscription that we distributed in the beginning of the semester, however, we also have another resources called first PhD is basically focused for the PhD students who wants to build their carrier in nonacademic path. So, there are a lot of resources. For example, resume cover letters, experience, sharing personal stories and video trainings and everything in this website. So, all you need to do is just do go to PDI website, search for institutional membership, and under that you get the versatile PhD, and then you just have to register the versatile PhD account with your WSU Email, Id and password and you can explore it. So, it's free for every gadget students I would encourage everyone to at least explore the same next slide, please. and find another thing is that if you missed any events or if you want to explore the previous PDI event that happened this year or the previous year. It's also available in our PDI website. So, you just have to go to PDI recordings, library and log in your id and password, and just have to request us which recordings you want to explore, and we'll send that to you. And finally, there is a link deem workshop going on October 11, organized by graduate society of women and engineers. Feel free to register and join that event. They also have a photo shoot. So yeah, I believe the linking is a very necessary tool for us to learn. So, if you think that this is useful, for you feel free to join. Thank you so much. If you have any question, you can ask me, or you can Email, PDI, GPS, thank you.

- **Marwa Aly:** Anyone would like if anyone would like to share any thoughts, ideas, suggestions.
- **Ajay Barman:** Hi, everyone I just want to highlight after long year. Our GPS. A. Is sending our legislative Affair Committee chair, and our Vice President of legislative affair to Washington, DC to advocate for the graduate student in the Federal level. So, it was like a huge success. And we did lots of work to make it happen. SO, yeah, like, II want to high highlight that that's like one of the co accomplishments that we did this



**GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM**

year and kudos to our VPLA, who is not present today, unfortunately, but he will be going to Washington, DC. On Thursday.

07:30 | Adjournmen



**GPSA Senate Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2023, | online | 5:30 PM**