**Graduate and Professional Student Association**

The Pennsylvania State University 315 HUB-Robeson Center University Park, PA 16802 Email: [gpsaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gpsaoffice@gmail.com)

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| GPSA 69th Assembly Meeting | Wednesday, September 18,  2019 | 6:00 pm | 134 HUB |

**Action Items**

* + All delegates in your college please send an email to there respective colleges Associate Dean of Graduate education so people can know how you are and that you are a resource
  + The graduate picnic is tomorrow Please spread the word
  + If you have been allocated money please spend that money by the time you were allocate
  + Still seeking students to be on the student advisory board for child care
  + PSU Votes is next week if interested in volunteering talk to Charles

**Legislation Passed**

* + Bill 69-08: 2019 Winter Gala

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order - 6:01 PM -Charles Tierney
2. Roll Call – Addendum I
3. Adoption of the Agenda - Motion to give Star Sharp Faculty Senate Report- Motion adopted and seconded
4. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes from 9/4 - Motion Approved
5. Open Student Forum
6. Special Presentations— Jim Leous, Research Computing and Cyberinfrastructure Committee

**1. We help research computing and provide expertise for researchers**

a. Most of the interest from grad students is non-existent

b. We won’t some of your volunteers to be on some of our committees and boards

c. We are going to have emerging trends (I.E. 4G and 5G)

d. Life Cycle of research such as managing the grant and getting funding’s

e. Devising the institute for high performance competing

f. If we can get your input on these committees that would be great

g. If you are passionate about Technology and advancing research here at PSU then you should join these committees

h. The working groups meet about 2-3 times a semester for about an hour to an hour in a half.

i. We are looking for people who use the system casually and primarily

Please contact [ROG1@psu.edu](mailto:ROG1@psu.edu) if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Please visit [cyberinfrastructure@psu.edu](mailto:cyberinfrastructure@psu.edu)

1. Executive Officer Reports
   1. President—Claire Kelling

1. Grad Apartments Rates were approved and raised by 2%

2. Some Grad apartment rates are about more than 50% of the stipend and we are working with senior administrators about these rates

3. A long conversation about mental health was had on the AASL committee for the BOT

4. We discussed the stipend equity report which has not been released but we still working on it

5. Met with the new faculty chair of grad council.

6. I would like all of the delegates in your college to send an email to your Associate Dean for Graduate education so people can know how you are and that you are a resource

7. The graduate picnic is tomorrow Please spread the word

8. Canvas advisory group has asked us for a liaison. If interested please reach out to me or Charles

* 1. Vice President—Charles Tierney

1. Sits on legal and compliance Committee for the Board of Trustees

2. We talked about the major legal issues, liquor license and the law school.

3. They are reviewing the tenure procedures in the university. Charles will Look into that more

4. PSU votes steering committee link is in the slack for those who want to volunteer

5. You will be helping with other student groups as well for PSU Votes Week

6. Still seeking students to be on the student advisory board for child care

7. Policy for letters of recommendation – is being explored what it would look like

8. If you have concerns about student health please contact Charles

* 1. Treasurer—Alex Zhao

1. If you have been allocated money please spend that money by the time you were allocated

2. Any reimbursements please contact Alex

* 1. Secretary—Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie

1. The Newswire will be coming out on Monday’s ow instead of the Scheduled Wednesday’s
2. If your email is not on the list serve please let me know
   1. Faculty Senate— Star Sharp
3. If you are doing anything for international travel for research please follow the correct procedures
4. We talked about Willard Building Construction- One year ahead
5. If you are teaching this semester please go to the Holliday religious calendar the school offers to respect students’ religious holidays so a big exam won’t be assigned.
6. Undergrad applications are up 4%
7. Development is doing well with massive improvement with there One Billion Dollar Fund Raising Mark
8. 3rd year of no tuition increase
9. DACA - Students are going to be judged on a different scale
10. Late Fees - 1.5% every month for late fees on Bursar accounts has now changed to 1.8% at the end of the year.
11. Poor culture of safety in the Labs. We are in the red/ There have been a number of audits and we need to be safe.
12. A Class attendance policy was voted on
13. April 17th in the HUB if you want to be a judge for undergrad research
14. If you feel like athletes are being abused there is a committee for that if you wish to serve on

* 1. Brianne Pragg – Faculty Senator

1. Working on a Marshall military withdraw policy where military students can partially withdraw
2. Class cancellation policy- trying to get more clarity when their class is cancelled

* 1. Alexander Wilson-Heid – Graduate Council

1. Alumni society exploration workshop- Thursday October 10th at the Nittany Lion inn
2. 2 topics are comparing job offers and what to do after them Career Help for graduate students
3. a Potential development course for grad students has been discussed
4. Working on the exit survey for Penn State Grad Students
5. looking into how much its going got cost and shorting the survey. Hoping to pilot the program
6. International students’ surveys are upcoming to figure how to include them better here at PSU

* 1. Katie Warczak - Graduate Council (Courses and programming Committee)

1. Wanted to review the international students should be exempt from the TOEFL requirement

2. Residency requirement about research about Master’s Degree students are in the works

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1. New Business
   1. New Delegate Confirmations

1. Aaron Rill - Wants to get involved and represent the college of education to give them a voice

2. Yasha Duggal - Wants to join programming to give new ideas as she did at Emory

3. Grace Usher - Has experience in the department level of Chemistry and wants the same with G GPSA.

4. Aaron ,Yasha and Grace is interested in programming

5. Grace is open to all committees

6. Argha is extremely happy about the programming committee

7. Claire - All 3 has experience in student government and I interviewed all of them and they seem excited

8. Motion made the be approved by unanimous consent for confirmation of New Delegates

* 1. Bill 69-08: 2019 Winter Gala

**Tickets Discussion**

1. Dec 7th date set For the Winter Gala

2. Considering to charge students $15 for 200 tickets

3. Total budget is $ 10,683

4. Different from last year as we print 50 less tickets

5. Terry Torres-Cruz We almost sold out at 200 which is why we increased it to 250

6. Came close to selling all of them last year

7. Tickets on Sale probably till mid-October and will likely be sold out of the GPSA office

**Food Discussion**

1. Menu for food is not set in stone yet but if people can look at the menu and let Argha know what they prefer

2. Brianne - look into a menu that is more dietary needs

3. Nittany Lion Inn is already booked for us.

4. Nick- Should this be tabled because of the menu -

5. Alex Zhao- the menu is a suggestion, we are just placing the menu because of our allocation funds but can always be changed

6. Motion made by Alex Zhao to admit the Dinner budget from $9,204 to $10,000

7. Motion Seconded

8. A question was asked “Is there a way for us to send menu options to people?”

9. Terry Torres-Cruz – “we can approve other dinner options even if this is not what we want”

10. Vote Passes to admit Dinner Budget 23-0 - Addendum II

1. Reports
   1. Speaker of the Assembly – Terry Torres Cruz

1. Please attend Committee meetings

2. Please attend Welcome back panic tomorrow

* 1. Committees
     1. Advocacy and Human Diversity – Amanda Burton

1. Discussed events Advocacy and Human Diversity can host

2. Process in drafting the GRE requirement so Claire can bring it up to the Dean of the grad school

* + 1. Professional Development – Rob Griggs

1. Writing workshop is on going

2. The headshots Bill and the budget will be discussed tomorrow

3. Headshots bill will be presented by Jon Young in October

4. If the bill does not get funded we will then get cancel the event

5. Talked to Sarah Ades - About feedback for programs by the grad school that are attended very at very low rates

6. Certification training, Schyers is doing that program now for those that are interested

7. Feasibility at NC State university is successful looking to bring that to PSU

8. Happy Valley Improv is looking at workshops to help us better

9. Linguistics Department is looking to help improve communication within Grad students and need us to help with promotion

10. Resume and CV workshop will happen in October please help promote

11. Please reach out to [griggsrf@psu.edu](mailto:griggsrf@psu.edu) if you have any comments or concerns

* + 1. Programming – Arghajeet Saha

1. Tomorrow is the Welcome Back Picnic please come if possible

2. Next Event will be the tailgating Event

3. we are looking at different dates

4. Food and Pizza should get there between 4:30-4:45

* + 1. Community Service – Trevor Bero

1. PSU Votes is next week if interested in volunteering talk to Charles

2. Trying to get involved with the homeless shelter here in State College

3. Looking at Friday lights nights out and research unplugged for service projects

4. Met with Melissa Wolf about the PSU vs MSU Blood challenge

5. Asked GPSA sponsor the Day of the Blood Drive

* + 1. Internal Development – David Dopfel

1. Mandy Burton: Will be connecting people about the event summary form

2. Form can be found in Box

3. If you are interested in working in internal Development please let David know (dxd5322@psu.edu)

* 1. Liaisons

**Mandy Burton (Library working group committee)**

1. New catalog system

2. Changes to the libraries open House

3. Website Feedback

**Alex Wilson-Heid (Faculty Senate)**

1. Drafting policy for emails after school

2. Keeping your email address after you graduate

3. Email access about Emeriti faculty

4. Mass surveys through Penn State about email access

**Transportation (Alex Zhao and Charles Tierney)**

1. Scooters and Skateboards rides will be fined by due to State Law

2. You Might have to take a class if found on these types of transportation

3. These Tickets will not stop students from Scooters and skate boards -Alex Z.

4. Trying Reduce the cost of Ride Pass

5. Mobile Parking App to help you pay for parking on campus

Judiciary—The Honorable Nick Dietrich

1. Did not Call new delegates vote for Bill

* + 1. Student Trustee – Bryan Culler

1. Introduces Himself

2. Introduce the board of Trustees and its role

3. Bryan Culler “I have to represent the student prospective not the student voice”

4. Trying to understand all Students prospective and issues

5. Bryan expanded on In state Tuition Freeze

6. Bryan is on student life and Academic affairs committees on the board. “Not trying to lead Commonwealth students out in the cold” -B.C.

7. Governances and long range - Looking within Diversity in the board and the university

8. Student leadership meeting - discussed the wellness center

9. Voter Registration - if you want to be involved please don’t be afraid to reach out to Bryan

10. Student poverty - Nurses driving to clinics and grad school housing going up. Just keeping people aware of what’s going and that these issues needs to be address

11. “Board and student relations is something I’m trying to improve” -B.C.

12. [buc377@psu.edu](mailto:buc377@psu.edu) - would love to hear what’s going on with anything of what’s going on

13. There is no clear definition of Diversity on the board – B.C.

14. Committed to Diversity in the board – B.C.

* 1. Advisor—Adam Christensen

1. There has been a number if pedestrian accidents with the scooters. Please watch out

1. Comments for the Good of the Order

1. If you come in late please put that in the advance sheet

2. The Microphones are for accessibility.

1. Adjournment - Meeting adjured at 7:47PM

President – Claire Kelling | [cek32@psu.edu](mailto:cek32@psu.edu) Treasurer – Alex Zhao | [yazhao@psu.edu](mailto:yazhao@psu.edu)

Vice President – Charles Tierney | [cjt47@psu.edu](mailto:cjt47@psu.edu) Secretary – Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie | [dsw5180@psu.edu](mailto:dsw5180@psu.edu) Advisor – Adam Christensen, Ph.D. | [aec187@psu.edu](mailto:aec187@psu.edu) Speaker – Terry Torres Cruz | [tjt33@psu.edu](mailto:tjt33@psu.edu)

**Addendum I- Roll Call Attendance**

P = Present A= Absent E= Excused L= Late PR= Proxy

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Office** | **Name** | **9/18/2019** |
| **Executive Board** |  |  |
| President | Claire Kelling | P |
| Vice President | Charles Tierney | P |
| Secretary | Darius Williams-McKenzie | P |
| Treasurer | Alex Zhao | P |
| Faculty Senator | Brianne Pragg | P |
| Faculty Senator (Appointed) | Star Sharp | P |
| **Judiciary** |  |  |
| Chief Justice | Nick Dietrich | P |
| Associate Justice | Michelle Massey | P |
| Associate Justice | Lisa Cumming | A |
| **Graduate Council** |  |  |
| Graduate Council | Baily Thomas (Engineering) | E |
| Graduate Council | Arghajeet Saha (Ag. Sci.) | P |
| Graduate Council | Alexander Wilson-Heid (IGDP) | P |
| Graduate Council | Catherine Okafor (Education) | P |
| Graduate Council | Katie Warczak (Liberal Arts) | P |
| **Assembly** |  |  |
| Agricultural Sciences | Mandy Burton | P |
| Agricultural Sciences | Terry Torres Cruz | P |
| Art & Architecture | Melissa Leaym-Fernandez | E |
| Communications | Litzy Galarza | P |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences | VACANT |  |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences | VACANT |  |
| Eberly College of Science | Santina Cruz | P |
| Eberly College of Science | Yasha Duggal | P |
| Eberly College of Science | Grace Usher | P |
| Education | Azaria Cunningham | E |
| Education | Rob Griggs | P |
| Education | Aaron Rill | P |
| Engineering | Bahman Sheikh | P |
| Engineering | Min Gyung Yu | P |
| Engineering | Jon Young | P |
| Engineering | Hannah Nolte | P |
| Engineering | Zafar Anwar | P |
| Health and Human Development | So Young Park | E |
| Health and Human Development | VACANT |  |
| Information Sciences and Technology | Richard Caneba | L |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | Steven Baksa | P |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | David Dopfel | L |
| Liberal Arts | Trevor Bero | P |
| Liberal Arts | VACANT |  |
| Liberal Arts | VACANT |  |
| Nursing | VACANT |  |
| School of International Affairs | Rufina Roy | P |
| School of Law | Bailey Cole | A |
| School of Law | VACANT |  |
| School of Law | VACANT |  |
| Smeal College of Business | Jasper Cannon | E |
| At-Large Delegate | Divyasree Pai (Engineering) | P |
| At-Large Delegate |  |  |
| At-Large Delegate |  |  |
| At-Large Delegate |  |  |
| At-Large Delegate |  |  |
|  | Number of voters in Assembly: | 23 |

**Addendum II – Roll Call Votes**

Y= Yes. N= No A = Abstain

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| **Communications** | **Name** | **69-08** |
| **Communications** |  |  |
| President | Claire Kelling |  |
| Vice President | Charles Tierney |  |
| Secretary | Darius Williams-McKenzie |  |
| Treasurer | Alex Zhao |  |
| Faculty Senator | Brianne Pragg |  |
| **Judiciary** |  |  |
| Associate Justice | Nick Dietrich |  |
| Associate Justice | Ellen Hill |  |
| Associate Justice | Erick Jenkins |  |
| **Graduate Council** |  |  |
| Graduate Council | Baily Thomas (Engineering) |  |
| Graduate Council | Argha Saha (Ag. Sci.) | Y |
| Graduate Council | Alexander Wilson-Heid (IGDP) | Y |
| Graduate Council | Catherine Okafor (Education) | Y |
| Graduate Council | Katie Warczak (Liberal Arts) | Y |
| **Assembly** |  |  |
| Agricultural Sciences | Mandy Burton | Y |
| Agricultural Sciences | Terry Torres Cruz | Y |
| Art & Architecture | Melissa Leaym-Fernandez |  |
| Communications | Litzy Galarza | Y |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences | VACANT |  |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences | VACANT |  |
| Eberly College of Science | Santina Cruz | Y |
| Eberly College of Science | Grace Usher | Y |
| Eberly College of Science | Yasha Duggal | Y |
| Education | Azaria Cunningham |  |
| Education | Rob Griggs | Y |
| Education | Aaron Rill | Y |
| Engineering | Bahman Sheikh | Y |
| Engineering | Min Gyung Yu | Y |
| Engineering | Jon Young | Y |
| Engineering | Hannah Nolte | Y |
| Engineering | Zafar Anwar | Y |
| Health and Human Development | So Young Park |  |
| Health and Human Development | VACANT |  |
| Information Sciences and Technology | Richard Caneba | Y |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | Steven Baksa | Y |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | David Dopfel |  |
| Liberal Arts | Trevor Bero | Y |
| Liberal Arts | VACANT |  |
| Liberal Arts | VACANT |  |
| Nursing | VACANT |  |
| School of International Affairs | Rufina Roy | Y |
| Schools of Law | Bailey Cole |  |
| Schools of Law | VACANT |  |
| Schools of Law | VACANT |  |
| Smeal College of Business | Jasper Cannon |  |
| At-Large Delegate | Divyasree Pai (Engineering) | Y |
| At-Large Delegate |  |  |
|  | Number of voters in Assembly: | 22 |