## Graduate and Professional Student Association

The Pennsylvania State University  
315 HUB-Robeson Center  
University Park, PA 16802  
Email: gspaoffice@gmail.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPSA 69th Assembly Meeting</th>
<th>Wednesday, October 30, 2019</th>
<th>6:00 pm</th>
<th>134 HUB</th>
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</table>

### Action Items:
- Please Get out and Vote on Tuesday
- If you are planning an event or need reimbursement please contact Alex Zhao
- Survey for graduate students organizations in the Slack. Please Fill that out and send to all friends

### Legislation Passed:
- Bill 69-13: Town Hall
- Resolution 69-04: Statement on the GRE Requirement

### Agenda

I. Call to Order - 6:02pm  
II. Roll Call  
III. Adoption of the Agenda - Motion to approve new agenda  
IV. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes from 10/16 - Approved and seconded  
V. Open Student Forum  
VI. Special Presentations— Cheryl Zeljak, Student Parent Child Care Subsidy  
   - Helps fund Child care for Penn State student Parents  
   - One in four college students have children  
   - Child Care tuition is affordable if it doesn’t exceed 10% of the family’s income  
   - Child Care program is Funded by a grant and student fees  
   - Open not to just UP but all campuses  
   - Can cover up to 75% of the child care center of choice  
   - Supports Qualifying low-income students  
   - Must be considered Full time and must be degree seeking  
   - Priority is given to first generation, military students  
   - Work Waiver for international students  
   - Must commit to one volunteer hour for the day care for funding eligibility  
   - Most of the recipients are graduate students  
   - 2018-19 school year 99 students received funding

President – Claire Kelling | [eck32@psu.edu](mailto:eck32@psu.edu)  
Vice President – Charles Tierney | [cjt47@psu.edu](mailto:cjt47@psu.edu)  
Advisor – Adam Christensen, Ph.D. | [acc187@psu.edu](mailto:acc187@psu.edu)  
Treasurer – Alex Zhao | [yazhao@psu.edu](mailto:yazhao@psu.edu)  
Secretary – Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie | [dsw5180@psu.edu](mailto:dsw5180@psu.edu)  
Speaker – Terry Torres Cruz | [tjt33@psu.edu](mailto:tjt33@psu.edu)
- 3 child care centers here at Penn State - University Park
- Bright Horizons manages all Penn State Day Cares Across the Commonwealth
- Will you expand to other Branch campuses at Penn State: Yes We are willing to help centers in other Commonwealth campuses as long as it's a Star 2 campus rated center
- World Campus Students are not eligible for funding because they do not pay the student fee
- Funds do roll over if all funds aren't used except Student Fee funds

VII. Executive Officer Reports
a. President—Claire Kelling
   - Proxies – Please have a proxy if you are not able to attend, even if it is an excused absence. If there are enough people absent, we will not have quorum and we cannot vote.
   - You are a voting member after you get confirmed for those who are immediately confirmed
   - Meeting with Dean Youken - She is back from sick leave, she is excited about the Leave of Absence policy.
   - She appreciated our benchmarking efforts
   - Spoke with Damon Sims about Special Mission Campuses such as Great Valley and Dickinson Law. These special mission campus don’t have representation at all. We are looking into that.
   - We are also working to have a better stipend equity report, the current methodology and results sections are very brief.

b. Vice President—Charles Tierney
   - Attending the PSU Votes round table and steering committee
   - Election Day is on Tuesday. Please get out and Vote
   - Trying to Increase Voter Turnout
   - Trying to put info-structure in place for voting
   - Perry Dripps will be our next speaker for assembly
   - Fallon Frank will be reached out to about December 4th speaking

c. Treasurer—Alex Zhao
   - Planning an event or reimbursement please let me know

d. Secretary—Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie
   - I will be asking around to see if the minutes reflect what you have said

e. Faculty Senate—Star Sharp (Proxy Brianne Pragg)
   - Education committee- Voted to move a long a partial military policy - This is to help partially withdraw from classes for military students
   - Corrected grades policy - You can only change a grade for a class within in year.
   - Academic conduct action that can happen then your grade can be changed for good or bad
   - Forensic report - How to educate faculty about choosing textbooks ahead of time. Because it effects students and buying books
   - How to Education faculty about open and educational resources
   - We want to change the class attendee policy - A Policy for students to vote if they miss a class
   - If you miss a class for religious observance - working on a policy for that
   - Policy to protect faculty for letters of recommendation and protect from FERPA
   - Vote in December about Alumni Emails and keeping your PSU Email. After you graduate
   - Nicholas Jones - talks about the budget and recruiting students
VIII. New Business

a. Confirmation to New Delegates
   - Katy Gerace - Very involved in her department and materials research. Leads tours for prospective students. Organizes open house events. Wants to be apart of outreach
   - Samantha Staskiewicz. (EMS) - wants to be in Programming
   - Emily Lesher - interested in J-board. Interested in professional Development
   - Frank Ross (Smeal) - Interested in Internal Development
   - Statements: Steven: Katie Had classes with her and outreach in materials research and passion
   - Claire: Emily got involved in GPSA as a non voting member but loves the organization and wants to help
   - Samantha: Wants to help international students
   - Katie- want to get involved with outreach
   - Frank- worked as an RA and brings a rare skill for internal development
   - Question: Kshitij- Will there be 3 EMS Delegates? Answer: 2 EMS 1 At-large
   - Approved by Unanimous Consent

b. Bill 69-13: Town Hall
   - Proposed date for a town Hall on Dec 9th
   - Trying to find new ways to hear from Grad Students
   - Potential issues -Student health insurance, vacation time, etc
   - We want to have food that will draw people in
   - We want to tackle more issues for GPSA than what we are doing now
   - Town hall can be used from feedback, new issues and getting to know your delegates
   - Hannah Nolte: How are we planning to advertise: A: Need you to communicate with your college and would be encouraged to attended
   - Steven: Ask Attendees to submit questions in advance?
   - A: Thanks a great idea I think we can get the GPSA office to do this
   - Catherine: Facilitator for this? How will this go?
   - A: I’m (Claire) happy to facilitate it or if anyone else wants to
   - AWH: This is a great idea but we need people to show up. We want this town hall so students can make sure that they are affiliated with GPSA
   - Claire: Please make sure people attend and send to all organizations
   - Catherine: Will we be having a contact person for student organizations in the google form?
   - Claire: I want to form a connection with every organization possible
   - Motion Made and approved by Unanimous consent

c. Resolution 69-04: Statement on the GRE Requirement
   - People get penalized when they don’t take the GRE’s here
   - Over the years the GRE has proven to be sexes, racists and target low social economic people

President – Claire Kelling | ek32@psu.edu
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Secretary – Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie | dsw5180@psu.edu
Speaker – Terry Torres Cruz | tj333@psu.edu
• We want to abolish the GRE and have the Grad school focus on Essays, CD’s and extracurricular activities
• No University has completely dropped the GRE
• Question: Who is the point of Contact for GRE:
• Claire: The graduate school doesn’t require the GRE but the program level does
• Argha: Was there discussion for TOEFL exam?
• Mandy: That wasn’t looked at in this bill but we will look at that in future ones.
• The graduate school said they are willing to work on holistic review.
• Discussion: Brianne: I would move to change the suggested title and point 4.
Motion made and seconded and change
• Instead of other criteria: Nix special criteria and use “other criteria and conduct a wholistic review of applicants”
• Claire: Those 3 things were listed in several documents for minorities students
• Brianne: Including but not limited to support what Claire says
• Motion made and seconded
• Katy Gerace (question): What would it look like for those with DOD or NSF who requires GRE scores for scholarships?
• Mandy (Answer): We can’t control what other people require us to do. We are most specific with PSU
• Litzy: You can still apply for other GRE scholarships
• Hannah N (Question): What kind of push back will we get?
• Mandy: The GRE just predicts your first year in grad school but nothing after that such as completion of degree or what you will do after
• Katie W: Trends towards getting rid of the GRE requirements are happening. Brown University and Princeton are getting rid of these slowely for PHD program as well as Michigan. So this isn’t random this is a trend
• Motion made and seconded and approved
• Amendment passes
• Motion Made and approved by Unanimous consent

IX. Reports
a. Speaker of the Assembly – Terry Torres Cruz
• Congratulations the committees keep doing well
• Writing boot camp is doing well
• Congratulations to the committees. They have been doing a good job. Programming had successful pottery events last week. Thanks to Yasha for her work organizing them. Professional Development has been holding a successful Writing bootcamp and Advocacy and Diversity has worked very hard on the GRE resolution presented today. We want the committees to keep doing well.
• Reminder to committee chairs to hold their biweekly meetings regularly and for the delegates to please attend them.
• Please attend committee meetings

b. Committees
i. Advocacy and Human Diversity – Amanda Burton
• Finished big project now doing another one
• Diversity and inclusion is coming up and we want to present that in Dec.4th
• Constitution and by law changes maybe coming soon

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ii. Professional Development – Rob Griggs (Jon Young Proxy)
   - Met 2 weeks Oct. 17th
   - 3rd week of writing boot camp is great
   - Next Wednesday and Thursday for profession headshots will be in this room sign up please
   - Will have a zoom meeting about discussing events
   - Spring boot camp we will also discuss

iii. Programming – Arghajeet Saha
   - Met with Nittany Lion Inn for Winter Gala
   - We will have many food option and you can look in slack for the food options
   - We have not still received emails from TEDx about helping them with funding even with communication
   - Talked about a Tailgate but we may change to bowling and we can actually book a slot
   - Hopefully next assembly we can present a bill
   - Claire (Question): Tailgate funds won’t be used but Bowling would be a new bill correct?
     - Argha (Answer): Yes

iv. Community Service – Trevor Bero
   - We meet at 10AM on Monday on weeks that don’t have GPSA meetings
   - Currently in the process of figuring out with charity to work with towards the Winter Gala. If you have a charity you want us to donate to please let us know
   - Blood drive will be a week towards tomorrow
   - There are 2 ways to register blood. Email Me (Trevor - tjb86@psu.edu) or set up an account for Red Cross

v. Internal Development – David Dopfel
   - If you have organized an event and I haven’t send you email form please message me on slack
   - Continuing to edit the governing doc and the delegate handbook
   - Please take a look at it.

c. Liaisons
   Alex Z. (Library and IT)
   - University talked about IT cost reduction
   - Penn State will enter in a G Suite
   - Purpose of it is that students is using Google drive a lot
   - Box, One drive and office 365 are not going away
   - Meeting about this next month
   - Hannah N. (Question) - Google has a rule if you run research through them that google can own some it what going to happening with that?
     - Alex (Answer): Ill Ask

Litzy (Gadi - Graduate Alliance for Diversity and Inclusion in the College of the Liberal Arts)
   - Met with the Dean of the college of Liberal arts
   - Trying to figure out what more grad students can do with there degree other than academia
   - How can Gadi help with your professional development
   - Mental health, On beds person, Diversity and inclusion dean was mention about grad students
• Meeting is Every 3rd Thursday from 6-7:30

d. Judiciary—The Honorable Nick Dietrich
  • Constitution and Bi-laws are now updated on the website from the faculty senator discussion

e. Student Trustee – Bryan Culler

f. Advisor—Adam Christensen -N/A

X. Comments for the Good of the Order
  • Claire: 2 people away from a full assembly and they are from Law. If you know some students please get in touch with me.

XI. Adjournment -7:38 PM

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Appendix I

U = Unexcused Absence    E = Excused Absence    P = Present    L = Late

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<thead>
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<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Divyasree (DIVYA) Pai (Engineering, Indian Grad Student Assocation)</td>
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