Graduate and Professional Student Association

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

GPSA 69th Assembly Meeting	Wednesday, January 29, 2020	6:00 pm | 108 Wartik

Actions Items

- Setting up a meeting with the borough council rep
- If you have ideas for co-Sponsor ship put that forward

Legislation Passed

- Bill 69-18: GPSA Group Fitness Classes
- Bill 69-19: Bike Safety Event
- Bill 69-20: CERS Co-Sponsorship

Agenda

I. Call to Order -6:01PM
II. Roll Call
III. Adoption of the Agenda - Motion made a seconded
IV. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes from 12/4/2019 -Motion Made and Seconded
V. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes from 1/15/2020 - Motion made and seconded
VI. Open Student Forum
VII. Special Presentations— Natasha Gates, Student Insurance Advocate

- Student Insurance advocate- New Position, Not many positions Like this
- Understands Health Insurance and it's barriers to health care
- Here to reduces the Barriers for health care
- Learning a lot about the state of PA, leadership and staff, student and family needs
- Developing Educational resources, Referral systems, relationships anomie for this system
- There is no mandate for students except college of medicine student
- There is a mandate for international students
- There is 3 subsets of insurance: Private insurances, student health ins. Plan-ship and the uninsured
- My main role is for uninsured and private insurance
- Focus areas : What is health insurance, how does insurance work in America, What happens when you seek medical services and getting to know your insurance.
- When students seek health care off campus Penn State has no control over that
- Question: Katie- Are you our advocate for grad student insurance

- A: Not Typically
- Question Claire: Medical Leave - Any thoughts on how medical leave and how your insurance effects that
- A: Your insurance wants you to enroll in 4 or more credits, There is some topics we are discing, If you are in that predicament contact me
- Steven: Can you ask how the premier is calculated
- Penn State doesn't make money from the insurance. If the premium pay in is higher then the utilization then the cost will go lower and vice versa
- Steven: What does the University does to drive the cost down?
- A: That one is a little one outside my skill

VIII. Executive Officer Reports

a. President—Claire Kelling

- We will now introduce the live stream to GPSA
- Last meeting of the year in Wartik
- Clarify Housing and food insecurity
- I've receive a lot of emails about this task force
- The dean of the colleges sent out emails for nominations for the food insecurity
- The best way to go about having a borough rep is to collaborate with UPUA
- Setting up a meeting with the borough council rep
- Spoke to borough council and they said it will probably pass
- Theater days films will be the Color Purple and Hong Kong
- You can still buy tickets at discounted rates
- People were excited about about presentation to the student fee board
- GRE resolution and can we share that, It's on our website. Please Share
- Use of P-card usage by show of hands in assembly: 7 people have used, 7 people hasn't used and 2 people don't know if they can use it
- Grad students are having trouble with departmental P-cards
- Mentoring programs with the PRCC and BGSA is coming up soon
- Dickinson Law has decide they don't want a seat at GPSA
- Going to re think process
- Steering committee has a great discussion last week
- Performance by STEP Africa Friday in Eisenhower, Also if you want lunch with them please contact me

b. Vice President—Charles Tierney

- Shuttle service for the law school
- We got a survey from the law school and I have sent that to the director of transportation
- Upcoming speakers- Barry Bram will talk about off campus housing and the census
- Damon Sims will also be speaking
- We have an idea of the next 4 assemblies
- Looking at Sonia Luca Hernandez for Climate change, New head of Global Programs, Student disabilities services and something related to voting.
- Primary will be April 28th
- You need to register again if your address has changed
- Please register to vote by April 18th
- Mandy- the state of PA runs a website to check your status of voter registration
- Charles - If you want to register to vote on a form I can help with that
- Mandy: Are we helping vote for the primaries?
- A: I can check into that and get back to you
-

c. Treasurer—Alex Zhao

- If you have ideas for co-Sponsor ship put that forward
- We have $23,000 left for this year
- AWH: That will include for Grad Cup
- A: Yes it does include for it. $6,000

d. Secretary—Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie

- Please Place Info in the NewsWire

e. Faculty Senate—Star Sharp

- Meeting was 4 hours
- President and provost talked about a report about the lack of Diversity in Penn State faculty Gary King in the college of HHD
- Discussion about All In and the re thinking of it and it's campaign
- Discussion about transparency and lack of transparency of African-American Staff
- Food and housing insecurity - Food and housing scholarships
- No Mention of Graduate housing and food affordability
- Big Searches - Dean College of Science,
- Looking for materials? An issue to think about as we search for new librarians
- Affordable materials- text book cost and materials not being used
- PSU Go app is doing well
- Construction is going on still
- Sachett is getting an addition in 2023
- Brianne - World Campus students will now get a faculty senate seat
- Student Life will have a legislation about FERPA
- If you want a letter of recommendation you must waive FERPA
- You have to waive FERPA for every Job Application
- This is for the protection of the University
- Is there a way to add or remove school for FERPA
- The register is working on getting a better system for this
- You must get these waivers from the registers office
- Faculty members should be having you do this as well
- Make sure everyone send our there census paper
- If you live on campus the University will have the data already and you don't have to fill it out
- Census day is April 1st and if you don't fill it out a numerator will come and find you
- 6-8PM in the HUB Feb. 19 to see the Second Lady of PA speak
- Went to the insurance policy board meeting and is looking at leave of absence that was talked about in the town hall

f. Graduate Council—Alexander Wilson-Heid

- Committee on Committee on procedure meetings
- GPSA will Go up in Graduate Council agenda
- We will be redistribute the grad position in academic standards
- Should the library have a non voting member come to grad council meeting
- Next Meeting is Feb 12th

IX. New Business

a. Bill 69-18: GPSA Group Fitness Classes

- Advocacy and Diversity is looking to have group fitness classes for grad students
- 2 classes in Feb, March and April
- Will include 2 yoga, kickboxing and Zumba classes
- Expenses is $55 per instruction over 6 classes which is $330 total
- Question: Can you change the days?
- A: Yes we can I just have Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays

- Melanie: For the Law school Thursday will not work
- Claire: Most days won't work but if its Tuesday, and Wednesday you will be fine
- Steven: Would you need to RSPV or is it first come first serve?
- A: You can RSVP, but you can just walk in as well with your PSU ID
- AWH- I think this is a good event, Once every week is great and this is great to find community
- Claire: This is a lot of bang for your buck. This is a great idea
- Brianne: We cannot exclude undergrads, Also White Building has these everyday and access to the gym
- Star- Are we able to schedule this now for the fall for the next group if students
- Alex Z. - Better for the next assembly to pass budget for the fall about this event
- Katie W- Is it possible to label "Grad Student" for these events?
- A: Yes it is.
- Motion to approve by vote - Motion made and Carried and approved

b. Bill 69-19: Bike Safety Event

- There are many students ride who Bike to campus
- Many students can't afford a Bike helmets
- Very important to wear bike helmet
- We will be partnering with Bike Safety and UPUA towards 50 bike helmets
- This is great to promote bike safety on campus
- 38 helmets for $50 = $1,900
- Alex Z. - What are we paying for?
- A: Claire we are splitting this 50/50 with UPUA
- Addilson- Could this be expanded to people who don't use bikes such as motorcycles and scooters?
- A: There is no Motorcycles. But scooters and skateboards are not allowed on campus
- Q: Are we taking names and emails for students who by helmets?
- A: We can look into it
- Claire: My undergrad does this event every year so this was the inspiration for the number
- Mandy - Can we get a poster for this event?
- A: Yes we can look into that
- Roll call Vote, Passes -30-0

c. Bill 69-20: CERS Co-Sponsorship

- Asking for money towards food for funding for the College of Engineering Symposium 2020
- A great way to get the kinks out for presenting research
- This a great way to get your feet wet in presenting
- $1,750 for the food.
- Key speaker coming down from NASA
- VP for research at Penn State will also be speaking
- Is this only for College of Engineering students?
- No, but our advertising mainly towards College of Engineering
- Q: So any student can attend the lunch?
- A: Yes.
- Will you have Vegan options at the lunch?
- I'm not sure, we just take options presented to us
- They do have those options
- Star- What are doing to make sure women come
- A: We reach out to everybody
- Hannah- I got this email as well.

- BRianne - Dietary restrictions for this option should be considered because we hold other collaborations to the same standard
- Alex Z - It need to says “accommodations for dietary restrictions” in the bill.
- Motion toy Roll call - Passes Unanimously

X. Reports

a. Speaker of the Assembly – Terry Torres Cruz -N/A

b. Committees

i. Advocacy and Diversity – Amanda Burton

- Wants to collect students mental data and dates for graduation
- Currently researching how to deal with student who turn down internships
- Ally events which is wear we would have it somewhere fun
- Any idea for speakers please let us know

ii. Professional Development – Rob Griggs

- We are hoping to meet early next week
- Doing headshots again
- Working on getting the writing boot camp
- Looking at doing a financial workshop
- If you are interested in financial literacy program in the future
- Litzy: My friends were mad that it wasn’t enough spots for the writing boot camp, how can we improve that?
- A: We look at your recent writing and how many times you’ve been. If you then meet all the criteria we then go to first come first serve
- We Just have to finalize the dates for the library

iii. Programming – Arghajeet Saha

- Grad Cup rolling for April 25th

iv. Community Outreach – Trevor Bero

- Setting up a research unplugged event
- Set up, a meeting between community and student organizations to help each other out
- Friday Night Lights Out day is to help save energy
- Would GPSA be interested in advertising for the red cross?
- AWH- Could we just send it to the newswire

v. Internal Development – David Dopfel

- Finish the news letter
- Newsletter is about 3 pages
- If it’s something you don’t like let us know
- Probably gonna send that out through the mass graduate and professional student email
- If you have any feedback please look at it and let us know
- If you haven’t used it at all let us know as well
- If you did events together please make sure you read the entire news letter

c. Liaisons

- David D. - (Campus Rec) meeting last week. - Renovated Room 12
- Pretty new if you like to have a workout space not by undergrads that’s a good option
- Lots of equipment in the gym
- Alex Z- Library and info services and Technology
- Trying to use the EMS platform for better communication

d. Judiciary—The Honorable Nick Dietrich

- Constitution and by laws now on the websites
- Moving closer for elections
- Emily is handling the intent to run form that will open Feb 25 you can submit and March 25th

it will close
- We are prepared to run the elections
- What ever voting method you are interested in please let internal development know
- If you want to change the voting method we would have to change the constitution voting and we need to this the next meeting if you feel strongly about this

e. Student Trustee – Bryan Culler

f. Advisor—Adam Christensen -
- Please Fill put the Climate Survey
- You Won't be identified

XI. Comments for the Good of the Order
- Alex Z. - CATA Go Service is now Live
- The price is the same as CATA bus
- This is for Students who live in Bellfonte
- You need an app called Trans logged in the app store

XII. InAdjournment - 7:52PM

President – Claire Kelling | cek32@psu.edu
Vice President – Charles Tierney | cjt47@psu.edu
Advisor – Adam Christensen, Ph.D. | aec187@psu.edu
Treasurer – Alex Zhao | yazhao@psu.edu
Secretary – Fuzzy Williams-McKenzie | dsw5180@psu.edu
Speaker – Terry Torres Cruz | tjt33@psu.edu

Appendix- I

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

Office	Name	1/29/2020
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	E
Associate Justice	Emily Lesher	P
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	A
Communications	Litzy Galarza	P
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Kshitij (Shi-dish) Dawar	P
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Samantha Staskiewicz	P
Eberly College of Science	Santina Cruz	P
Eberly College of Science	Yasha Duggal	P
Eberly College of Science	Alyssa Bienvenu	P
Education	Azaria Cunningham	E
Education	Rob Griggs	E
Education		
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	A
Health and Human Development	Nicole Strock	P
Information Sciences and Technology	Richard Caneba	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Steven Baksa	P
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	P
Liberal Arts	Trevor Bero	P
Liberal Arts	Chloe McGuire	P
Liberal Arts	Diego Hernandez	E
Nursing	Sanga Jung	L
School of International Affairs	Rufina Roy	A
School of Law	Alberto Hernandez Franks	A
School of Law	Melanie Ouma	P
School of Law	Emma Robertson	P
Smeal College of Business	Frank Ross	P
At-Large Delegate	Divyasree (DIVYA) Pai (Engineering, Indian Grad Student Assocation)	E
At-Large Delegate	Adilson González M. (Comm, LGBTQA Coalition)	P
At-Large Delegate	Katy Gerace (IGDP)	P

At-Large Delegate	Renato Guadamuz (Engineering, LAGRASA)	P
At-Large Delegate	Iman (EEMAHN) Said (CLA, BGSA)	A

Appendix II

U= Unexcused Absence E= Excused Absence A= Abstain Y= Yes N= No

Graduate Council	Name	Bill: 69-19	Bill:69-20
Graduate Council	Baily Thomas (Engineering)		
Graduate Council	Arghajeet Saha (Ag. Sci.)	y	y
Graduate Council	Alexander Wilson-Heid (IGDP)	y	y
Graduate Council	Catherine Okafor (Education)	y	y
Graduate Council	Katie Warczak (Liberal Arts)	y	y
Assembly			
Agricultural Sciences	Mandy Burton	y	y
Agricultural Sciences	Terry Torres Cruz	y	y
Art & Architecture	Melissa Leaym-Fernandez	e	e
Communications	Litzy Galarza	y	y
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Kshitij (Shi-dish) Dawar	y	y
Earth and Mineral Sciences	Samantha Staskiewicz	y	y
Eberly College of Science	Santina Cruz	y	y
Eberly College of Science	Yasha Duggal	y	y
Eberly College of Science	Alyssa Bienvenu	y	y
Education	Azaria Cunningham	e	e
Education	Rob Griggs	e	e

Education			
Engineering	Bahman Sheikh	y	y
Engineering	Min Gyung Yu	y	y
Engineering	Jon Young	y	y
Engineering	Hannah Nolte	y	y
Engineering	Zafar Anwar	y	y
Health and Human Development	So Young Park	e	e
Health and Human Development	Nicole Strock	y	y
Information Sciences and Technology	Richard Caneba	y	y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	Steven Baksa	y	y
Inter-Collegiate Degree Program	David Dopfel	y	y
Liberal Arts	Trevor Bero	y	y
Liberal Arts	Chloe McGuire	y	y
Liberal Arts	Diego Hernandez	e	e
Nursing	Sanga Jung	y	y
School of International Affairs	Rufina Roy	e	e
School of Law	Alberto Hernandez Franks	e	e
School of Law	Melanie Ouma	y	y
School of Law	Emma Robertson	y	y
Smeal College of Business	Frank Ross	y	y

At-Large Delegate	Divyasree (DIVYA) Pai (Engineering, Indian Grad Student Assocation)	e	e
At-Large Delegate	Adilson González M. (Comm, LGBTQA Coalition)	y	y
At-Large Delegate	Katy Gerace (IGDP)	y	y
At-Large Delegate	Renato Guadamuz (Engineering, LAGRASA)	y	y
At-Large Delegate	Iman Said (CLA, BGSA)	e	e