Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,

Graduate Student Leader Round Tables
Funding to provide food for graduate leader meetings
(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

Nature of the Situation:

One of the missions of GPSA is to ensure proper representation of its constituents across the university. For this reason, it is important to maintain an open dialogue with Penn State’s graduate and professional student communities regarding issues facing graduate students. Last year, GPSA sponsored a graduate student leader round table to hear from leaders of student organizations aimed towards graduate students or with significant graduate student membership.

This year, the Advocacy and Diversity Committee hopes to continue that tradition of getting diverse views on graduate life and issues facing graduate and professional students. Preliminary surveys of the organizations show interest from seven different organizations, including the Iranian Student Association at Penn State, Graduate Women in Science, and the Coalition of LGBTQA Graduate Students.

A series of round table events will involve discussion of topics relevant to graduate students and graduate student organizations, in order to foster better connections between GPSA and other active student organizations. We propose to hold a working lunch where a specific topic will be discussed over lunch in an approximately hour-long meeting. Some possible topics are advertisement strategies for university services to students, graduate student involvement in
student organizations, and accessibility of resources for LGBTQA and minority graduate students. The proposed schedule, subject to change based on student organization availability and interest in topics, is:

Week of September 25-30th: Discussion on getting graduate students involved and event funding
Week of October 23-27th: Discussion on resources for minority students and LGBTQA
Week of November 27 – Dec. 1: Topic to be determined

**Recommended Course of Action:**

The Graduate and Professional Student Association authorizes the Advocacy and Diversity Committee to purchase the following items for three Graduate Student Round Tables during the months of September, October, and November.

Catered lunches for on-campus dining: $1150
( maximum $15 per person, with expected 20-25 people at each event)
Room reservations: $100
( only needed if reservation conflict requires moving from Nittany Lion Inn)

Total budget allocation: $1250.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gerald Knapp**
Delegate, Intercollegiate Graduate Degree Programs

**Tori Thomas**
Delegate, College of Liberal Arts

President _____________________________ Affirm Veto

The Graduate and Professional Student Association