Bill # 67- 30

The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)
The Pennsylvania State University

of the 67th Assembly
February 14th, 2018

Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT PANEL
Funding for Auditorium Reservation and Refreshments
(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

Nature of the Situation:

Sustainability is a very broad and relevant issue for many graduate and professional students, but also for the university and its core values. Contextualizing sustainability at the local level is as important as focusing on global efforts. The university has sold 43.5 acres of land formerly used for farming on Whitehall Road to be developed by Toll Brothers into luxury apartments for Penn State students. Community members have protested this sale and challenged this decision in court. The court decision allowed the sale to proceed.

Rather than taking a side, we propose GPSA sponsor a moderated expert panel (scheduled Thursday, March 1st, 6pm-8pm in the Flex Theater, 132 HUB) to discuss this Toll Brothers project as a springboard to addressing future sustainable urban development on campus and the surrounding municipalities. The panel will include a moderator and four experts from diverse areas who will discuss the issue from different perspectives (water resources, ecology, architecture, engineering, geology, etc.), followed by questions from the audience. The moderator will provide prompting questions, keep track of time and make sure that the discussion is productive.
The event will be advertised to Penn State students and staff and to the State College community. Members from both Ferguson and State College Borough Council will be invited to attend.

**Recommended Course of Action:**

GPSA authorizes funding to cover costs for reserving the Flex Theater (132 HUB) and for serving refreshments after the expert panel to keep the conversations going in a more informal manner.

- Flex Theater reservation: $178
- Audio/Visual Equipment: $300
- Locally Sourced Catering by Webster’s: $300

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Total: $778

Respectfully submitted,

**Carmen Vanderhoof,**
Delegate, College of Education

**Brian Conway**
Delegate, Eberly College of Science

**Nathan Geiger**
Delegate, Liberal Arts

**Saratu Terreno**
Delegate, At-Large

**Roman Jaramillo**
Delegate, At-Large

President _____________________________

Affirm
Veto

The Graduate and Professional Student Association