of the 69th Assembly
April 1, 2020

Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,

Funding of Takeout Meals from Local Restaurants

Funding of takeout meals from local restaurants to support graduate/professional students and local businesses affected by COVID-19
(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

Nature of the Situation:

The precautions taken by Penn State in response to COVID-19, commonly known as the novel coronavirus, are necessary for public health on our campuses and in our communities. However, many graduate and professional students have returned to or remained on campus for family, research, and assistantship responsibilities. Many graduate and professional students are impacted by food insecurity with unpredicted expenses relating to COVID-19. Additionally, many local businesses in State College are suffering due to the lack of business and the food service industry has been hit particularly hard by social distancing measures.

Recommended Course of Action:

The Graduate and Professional Student Association authorizes the Executive Board to organize and sponsor one or more takeout days in partnership with local restaurants. GPSA will collaborate with local businesses to create events for takeout or delivery orders for students. Each order will be limited to $40 per takeout order, inclusive of a 20% tip ($33.33 in food/non-alcoholic drink and a $6.67 tip); the student will be responsible for the rest of the cost of the order. A plethora of
dietary restrictions will be accommodated for in the choice of local restaurants. The details of charging the cost to GPSA will be arranged by the Executive Board.

GPSA will organize virtual discussions during each takeout day for graduate and professional students to build community and to combat feelings of isolation. We also hope to organize a takeout day during a future town hall focused on graduate and professional students and COVID-19 hosted by the Graduate School or university administration.

Total requested: $4,000

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Kelling
President, GPSA

Amanda Burton
Delegate, College of Agricultural Sciences

The Graduate and Professional Student Association