

Executive Report

From the Office of *External Affairs*

Date: 8/18/2014



Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- *Underwater Dreams* film screening
 - Friday, September 26 from 6-10pm at ASU Tempe, MU Arizona Ballroom 221
- Developing voter guide and website in collaboration with USGs
- Facilitation voter registration/education efforts in collaboration with *I'm a Key Voter*, *Campus Vote* and *Associated Students of Arizona (ASA)*

Action Required

- The reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
 - Call your member of Congress and educate them about the needs of graduate students and the importance of reducing student loan debt.
 - GPSA is asking for the following:
 1. That graduate students not be left out when developing solutions to policy questions that impact grant and loan aid availability.
 2. That programs like Public Service Loan Forgiveness, Federal Work-Study and Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need must be maintained to provide graduate students with options that minimize their debt burden upon degree completion.
 3. That graduate students with financial need be eligible for the same benefits that other students with financial need are also eligible.
 4. And that access to lower interest rates and in-school interest subsidies on federal student loans be made accessible to graduate students.
- The ASU early polling location is open to anyone registered to vote in Maricopa County. Park in the Fulton Center Garage and get a 1 hour validation from the poll workers. Be sure to bring your state ID or Driver's License. View a full list of candidates in a voter guide (<http://azvotes.azcentral.com/build.do>). You can vote for the primary now through August 22!
 - WHEN: Monday-Thursday 10am-6pm and Friday 10am-5pm
 - WHERE: Palo Verde West Hub #151, 430 E. University Dr., Tempe, AZ 85281

External Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Members Present: N/A

Members Absent: N/A

Date & Time of Next Committee Meeting: TBD

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- Met with *I'm a Key Voter*, *Campus Vote* and ASA representatives on an ongoing basis to discuss collaboration on voter registration/education efforts
 - Week of Welcome events
 - Classroom visits
- Collaborating with USG presidents to create voter registration/education website
- Collaborating with USG presidents to develop a voter guide
 - GPSA will take the lead on developing education-focused questions that will be sent out to gubernatorial and Superintendent of Public Instruction candidates
- The Office of External Affairs is in the process of coordinating a gubernatorial candidate debate on campus
 - Date contingent upon candidate availability after the primary election
- Coordinating the film screening of *Underwater Dreams* (September) and *Inequality for All* (October)
- Collaborating with USGs to host the on-campus polling location during mid-term elections
- Developing new program aimed at informing the Arizona general public about the current state of the state of Arizona and presenting predictions for its future based on facts and trends supported by scientific research and empirical findings
 - Collaborating with ASU Changemaker