

GPSA 2014-2015 Advocacy Agenda

I. Financial Aid & Funding

- Advocate for:
 - Improved research funding opportunities
 - Affordable student loan rates
 - More affordable and accessible childcare options
 - Increased options for affordable on-campus and near-campus housing for graduate students with and without families
 - Competitive pay and fair working conditions
 - Awareness of the impact of state/national budget cuts to higher education and the total cost of attendance for individual students
- Collaborate with the ASU administration and the Arizona Board of Regents to:
 - Develop innovative ways to distribute financial aid
 - Increase access to financial aid
 - Encourage increases in student services, particularly when tuition is increased
- Oppose:
 - Changes to national, state, or local funding, programs, or services that would negatively impact and/or limit academic and professional opportunities for graduate students
 - Any university or affiliate efforts to add, amend, or remove fees without consulting GPSA and the graduate and professional students at-large first

II. Access & Opportunities

- Support efforts to:
 - Foster inclusive environments where diversity and social justice initiatives are welcomed and encouraged
 - Make student services, as well as other components of the ASU student experience, more accessible to students of all cultural groups on and off campus
 - Improve support services for international students
 - Reform immigration and other legislation that allows international students and DREAMers to go through the immigration system in a more efficient manner
- Collaborate with GPSA committees and programs to:
 - Create and implement new programs that support research and professional development opportunities
 - Support initiatives and legislation regarding open access to research and educational resources

III. Campus & Community Engagement

- Promote ongoing efforts to:
 - Register and educate student voters
 - Provide a safe campus for ASU students
 - Encourage graduate student mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health
 - Engage students in community service and involvement
- Collaborate with:
 - Graduate and undergraduate student governments at other universities in AZ and across the nation to address social issues relevant to college students
 - Statewide advocacy groups that support students in Arizona
 - Student advocacy groups in their support of graduate and professional students