

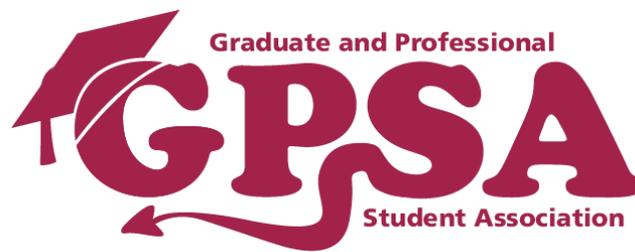
**GPSA
Vice President of External Affairs
Summer 2013 Report**

EA Office Operations

- Hired a new Director of Legislative Affairs, Adam Monroe.
- Trained and regularly met with both EA Directors.
- Participated in a hearing hosted by the Assembly Operations committee regarding Director stipends and responsibilities.
- Drafted an External Affairs action plan 13-14 with the support of the two EA Directors.
- Renamed the Advocacy Updates to Gradvocacy Update. Reorganized the structure of such updates and divided sections among EA Directors and VP of EA.
- Assisted the Office of the President in finding a new email distribution system, NationBuilder, and helped negotiate its rate. This new system allows us to track our open rate and the impact of our messaging and marketing.
- Obtained access to LOLA, (Legislation OnLine Arizona), which would allow the Office of EA to track proposed state legislation.
- Met several times with USG's (Undergraduate Student Governments) Vice President's of Policy to discuss common policy priorities.
- GPSA advocacy tables were present at all Graduate Student Welcomes this year.

GPSA Advocacy Network

- This new program is a transition from the Gradvocacy Student Unity Network. This program is now open to any graduate/professional student at ASU.
- The program will be managed by the Office of External Affairs.
- The program allows graduate students to become involved in GPSA's advocacy projects.
- Students in the program will receive ongoing advocacy and leadership training.
- Students in the program will also be able to apply what they learn to develop and support EA's programs and events.
- Outstanding students may be sponsored to travel to Washington, DC to lobby on behalf of GPSA in the spring.
- Over 40 students have already signed up for the network.



Student Loan Interest Rates

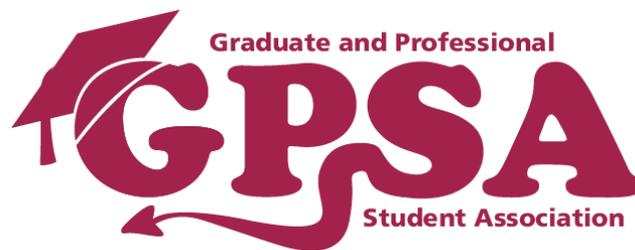
- Conducted online organizing to raise awareness about the interest rate increase and to encourage graduate students to contact their members of Congress and ask them to deal with the issue of student debt.
- Appeared on CNN Latino in June speaking about the issue of student loan interest rates and how it affects AZ students.
- Advocated against HR.1911 before it passed in the House of Representatives.
- Joined the #DropThatDebt campaign supported by Congresswoman Sinema's office.
- Advocated against the Senate's version of HR 1911, which passed in the Senate 81-18 in August.
- Joined NAGPS's campaign against the Senate version of HR 1911.
- Worked with ASASU's policy team to draft a letter opposing the student loan interest rate increase and HR 1911, which was eventually signed by the Council of Presidents and delivered to all members of Congress.
- Communicated with several offices of Congress regarding student debt.

Open Access

- Met with ASU Libraries's Anali Perry (who specializes on Open Access) to continue our partnership in advocating for open access and raising awareness on the issue at ASU.
- Anali will write a regular section on the Gradvocacy Updates named UNLOCKED which will focus on how Open Access impact graduate students and how students can take action.
- Several proposals regarding the implementation of the President's directive supporting public access to research will be considered in the fall. GPSA will continue to track.

Immigration

- Traveled to Washington, DC in May to make connections and lobby on behalf of GPSA on immigration reform.
- Witnessed one week of the Senate Judiciary Committee markup meetings on the Senate's comprehensive immigration reform bill, S.744.
- Joined and collaborated with groups such as the United We Dream Network, FWD.us, the March for Innovation, and the Alliance 4 Citizenship. Participated in several calls and meetings with these groups.



- Conducted online organizing encouraging ASU graduate students to take action and contact their members of Congress to support immigration reform.
- Assisted ASASU's policy team in drafting a letter in support of immigration reform that was eventually signed by the Council of Presidents and delivered to all federal elected officials.
- Communicated with several office of Congress regarding immigration reform.
- Attended closed door round table with Congressman Salmon and attended his town hall in Mesa in August.

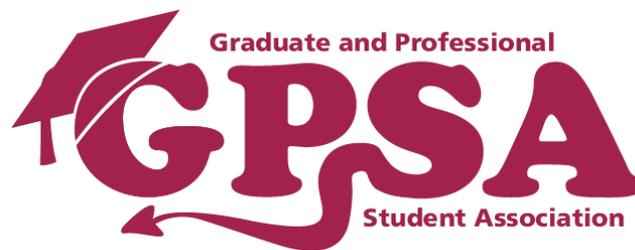
NAGPS

- Participated in Legislative Concerns Committee during the summer.
- Provided information and assistance regarding immigration to NAGPS's Director of Legislative Affairs.
- Assisted in forming a partnership between NAGPS and FWD.us.
- Assisted in drafting NAGPS's campaign to support immigration reform in the Senate in June.
- Will travel to Legislative Action Days (LAD) in mid September.
- Currently coordinating a breakout session on immigration and how to implement campus based campaigns for graduate students attending LAD.

Director Reports:

Director of Legislative Affairs

- Summer Business
 - monitoring legislation, learning about the AZ legislature, ABoR, and political climate
 - establishing non-profit relationships
 - started separate Leg. Affairs Google account
 - building relevant mailing list subscriptions
 - better contact continuity with administrators, legislators, and non-profits whenever the next Director is hired
 - establish and pass training documents and other useful data with the account
- Arizona Board of Regents (ABoR)
 - attended meeting in Flagstaff with President Fisk on 6/13-14
 - will attend next meeting (also in Flagstaff and with President Fisk) on 9/26-27
- AZ HB 2305
 - "Voter suppression bill" changes voting law in Arizona

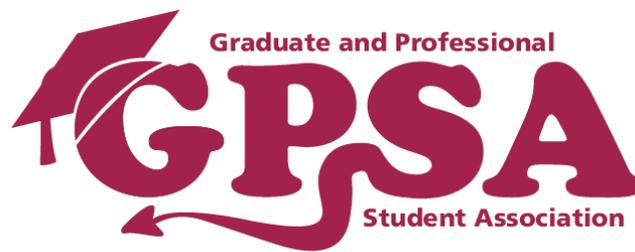


- raises number of signatures required for 3rd party candidate hopefuls to be put on the ballot
- changes early voter registration list purging rules
- criminalizes delivering someone else's early voting ballot
- began signature collection effort to put this issue to a referendum
 - I have the petition for referendum right here! If you are registered to vote in Arizona, please come talk to me during a break or after the meeting and consider signing.
 - If you are not registered to vote in Arizona but just haven't gotten around to it yet, refer to German's point about linking voter registration to the office of EA.
- Arizona Students' Association (ASA)
 - began 2013-2014 year on the Board of Directors, accepted Chair position
 - solicited feedback from current board members for possible new organizational structures for the Association
 - attended/Chaired several meetings of the Board over the summer as the restructure begins
 - ASA vs. ABoR lawsuit was dismissed earlier this summer, now an appeal is being filed by ASA
 - next in-person meeting of the Board 9/27-28
- National Association of Graduate-Professional Students / Legislative Action Days
 - will travel to Washington, D.C. with President Fisk and Vice President Cadenas for this event (9/14-17)

Director of Student Advocacy

Health and Wellness Report 8-20

This summer we have been busy making connections. GPSA has been missing from some of the important health and wellness conversations that have been taking place around campus. We're excited to be collaborating with ASU Health and Wellness, the Well Devils, HCSAC, the Counseling Centers, and other organizations to create a sense of community around these issues. Over the summer we have made some really great contacts, advocating for graduate students' unique health and wellness needs. We have been involved in advocating for more comprehensive mental health training for TAs and have worked closely with the TA Development training facilitators to make important changes. We are looking forward to broadening these efforts to create a standardized, university-wide training and will be meeting with Dean Cook and some seminal figures shortly. There are lots of other projects we are invested in such as providing graduate



students with a community supported agriculture box pick-up here on campus and trying to advocate for unique resources to be offered to graduate students at the Sun Devil Fitness Complex. In the next few weeks, we will be tabling at the expos that are celebrating the expansion of the Sun Devil Fitness Complex. We are promoting their Commit to be Fit 8-week program that provides a free wellness package to a selected group of students on each of the four campuses. We have worked to ensure that several graduate students make the list at each campus location so that graduate students can be represented as well. Again, we are hoping to create connections with these organizations and GPSA as we can be mutually supportive of one another.

This year, we are hoping to also focus on health and wellness initiatives that can encourage graduate students to living a healthy lifestyle. In October we will be drawing attention to Breast Cancer Awareness month by having several events that provide resources and information to students about cancer in general. We will be sending out emails to recruit volunteers for tabling. Additionally, each week we will highlight one member of the ASU community that is a cancer survivor. To top the month off, we will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Strides Against Cancer Walk on October 26th and will market this event as a contest between graduate student organizations to register as many participants as possible. In the spring, we will be joining several other groups on campus for week-long health and wellness fairs and activities.

We are really excited about the work that is possible in collaboration with other organizations on campus this year. We would love for you to be involved in these efforts. Feel free to contact Pauline Venieris for more information.

Sincerely,
German Cadenas
VP of External Affairs

Adam Monroe
Director of Legislative Affairs

Pauline Venieris
Director of Student Advocacy