

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

National Advocacy

- GPSA's President, Vice President of External Affairs, and Director of Legislative Affairs traveled to DC to attend NAGPS's Legislative Action Days (LAD).
- At the LAD, GPSA representatives attended a day-long training that focused on research and development funding.
- Vice President of External Affairs co-facilitated a session on immigration reform and how to run campus campaigns with a Regional organizer from FWD.us.
- GPSA representatives attended legislative visits on capitol hill on Monday 9/16 to lobby to increase the level of funding of research and development in the U.S., to lower the graduate student loan interest rate, to increase open access to education resources, and to support immigration reform.
- GPSA representatives were able to attend meetings with the offices of both AZ Senators and all Congressmen/women's offices in ASU districts.

GPSA Advocacy Network

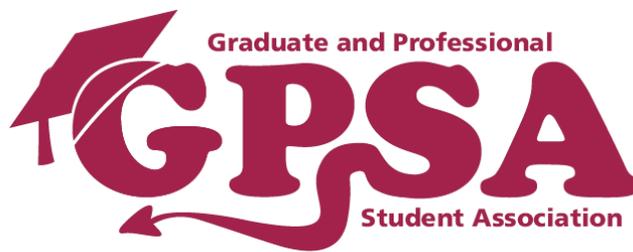
- Around 60 students have signed up for the Network.
- First meeting will be held on Saturday 9/21 at noon at the Tempe campus.
- 20 students are confirmed to attend this first meeting.

GPSA Gradvocacy Updates and Action Alerts

- Gradvocacy Updates are regular newsletters emailed to all graduate students at ASU to educate them about issues that might impact them and how to take action on those issues.
- August Gradvocacy Update obtained excellent reception, 3386 emails were opened and 251 people clicked on links to education provided on the Update.
- An action alert promoting FWD.us's Day of Action was also received successfully, with 3754 emails opened and 211 clicking on the link provided.

Voter Registration

- Students can now register to vote through GPSA's website gpsa.asu.edu under the "Advocacy" tab.



Director Reports:

Director of Legislative Affairs

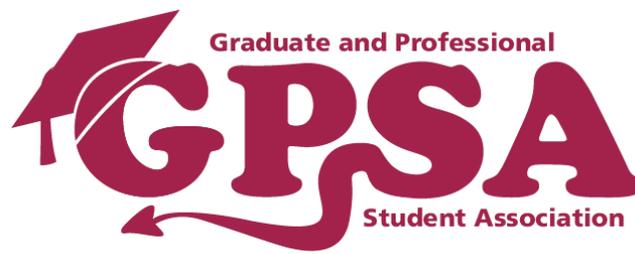
- National Voter Registration Day is September 24th
 - I will be speaking in a joint press conference with Protecting Arizona Families nonprofit in my capacity as ASA's chair of the board.
 - I have written an op ed about the importance of voting to appear in the state press on the day itself.
- Arizona Board of Regents (ABoR)
 - President Fisk and I will be attending their next meeting in Flagstaff on 9/27.
- AZ HB 2305
 - >146,000 signatures have been collected and turned in (86,000 were required, so this was clearly an important issue to the voters), so it will be on the ballot in Nov. 2014, and pre-2305 voting law will be upheld until then. Thank you for your support!
- Arizona Students' Association (ASA)
 - Launched new voter registration campaign
 - registration target of 20,000 students in time for the next election
 - 1 statewide organizer, 4 campus organizers, and 24 part-time student organizers
 - Constitutional development is ongoing (thanks to Tyler Dowden from NAU and our very own Megan Fisk and Tej Reddy) with a target completion of the September board meeting
 - Tej Reddy has accepted a board member position as ASU's appointed graduate student
 - Joined NAGPS earlier this week
 - The main text of the appeal vs. ABoR has yet to be filed
 - Next in-person meeting of the Board 9/28
- National Association of Graduate-Professional Students / Legislative Action Days
 - see German's report

Director of Student Advocacy

Health and Wellness Report 9-18

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is coming up for the entire month of October! Please stay tuned for the following events:

- Weekly newsletter with resources, cancer facts, and interviews with survivors in our



graduate student community

- Tabling events with the American Cancer Society to help spread the word about prevention, healthy living, screening, treatment, and other resources - volunteers will be needed for these
- Strides Again Cancer Walk on October 26th - we're registering a big GPSA group (so join!) but also holding a contest for the Graduate Student Organization that can register the greatest number of participants for the walk
- Working in conjunction with ASU Health and Wellness, HCSAC, and the Well Devils to put together a cancer event for Wellness Wednesdays
- Stay tuned for more information about all of these exciting events!

Register for the statewide **“Healthy Communities: Focus on Mental Health”** conversation on Sept 25th

- Arizona community members will participate in a statewide conversation on September 25 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. in six locations throughout the state
- Sponsored by Project Civil Discourse (www.projectcivildiscourse.org), a statewide collaboration among organizations committed to civic engagement and constructive public dialogue.
- This event is a response to President Obama's call for a national dialogue on mental health. It provides a unique opportunity for hundreds of community members to engage in a public discourse about pressing topics related to mental health in the context of creating healthy communities.
- Email Pauline Venieris for more details about any of this or to get involved with Health and Wellness initiatives!

Sincerely,
German Cadenas
VP of External Affairs

Adam Monroe
Director of Legislative Affairs

Pauline Venieris
Director of Student Advocacy