

**Arizona State University**  
**Graduate and Professional Student Association**  
**Ten Year Strategic Plan**

## **Advocacy**

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**The New American University:** *Mission and goals of the New American University call for accessibility to education, reducing the total cost of earning a degree, maintaining competitiveness, and increased collaboration; demonstrating American leadership in academic excellence and accessibility. GPSA's advocacy agenda is set to support the University in accomplishing these goals.*

**Arizona Board of Regents:** *GPSA plays a critical role to ABOR's mission of increasing the prominence of the system's research enterprise, which contributes to the state's knowledge economy.*

### University

- Monitor TA/RA stipends to ensure equality between disciplines and that the living wage is being met, as well as increasing summer funding opportunities.
- Have semester meetings with Faculty Senate and Staff council presidents to discuss shared agenda
- Ensure program quality through tracking alumni
- Encourage a learning environment that promotes diversity

### State

- Lead efforts for state based financial aid
- Have the Arizona Financial Aid Trust distribute funds to graduate students

### Federal

- Reinstate equality in student loan interest rates for undergraduates and graduates
- Add other issues, or point to advocacy agenda here

## **Support**

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**The New American University:** *The model of the New American University centers around becoming a leading global center for scholarship discovery and development. Increased support is necessary to the recruitment, retention and growth of a scholarly graduate population.*

**Arizona Board of Regents:** *Much like the university's mission, ABOR wants to increase educational attainment.*

- Relentlessly and rigorously fund outstanding students' research
- Increase professional development experiences available for all students
- Equitable distribution of GPSA funds among Master and PhD students, as well as by College
- Educate graduate students regarding the services available to them via outreach from the GPSA VPPD office, among other mechanisms.

- Facilitate the development of new graduate student organizations and outreach with undergraduate organizations that could cater to graduate students
- Childcare “Flexible scheduling” is desired to allow students with children to drop off their kids at a safe place while attending classes.
- Creation of international student fee board to provide oversight

## Unity

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***The New American University:*** Enhancing the University’s local impact and social embeddedness is integral to the New American University model. This includes creating linkages and partnerships with local, regional and national entities, as well as creating unity within the University. Communication and outreach to the student population will promote the advocacy, support and unity efforts that uphold the goals and missions of the University.

***Arizona Board of Regents:*** To connect the work and service of the universities with the communities to improve the quality of life in Arizona

## Graduate Students

- Develop concrete, sustainable plan for communicating with constituents that utilizes salesforce, nationbuilder, or other technology
- Provide funds for assembly members to host constituent meetings OR pay assembly members a set amount each semester (like \$500.00) if they attend so many constituent meetings
- Establish “GPSA Associates” that meet with GPSA execs and assembly for half a day like the 3rd Saturday of the new semester and learn about all our services and the university resources and then just ask that they tell members of their departments
- Development of an ASU 101 type class for graduate students or online/wiki overview or one pager on what you need to know about ASU as a graduate student

## Community Partners

- Allow funding support for research centers and colleges to bring in speakers for graduate-students-only events
- Have a prominent role in other organizations, like Changemaker, to increase GPSA’s visibility in community service projects.
- Develop grant program in conjunction with an external organization or extend criteria of existing programs to favor community engagement, such as sharing findings with the research community
- Create a GPSA Alumni chapter and encourage members to join

## GPSA Future Structure

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***The New American University:*** ASU aims to enroll 100,000 online and distance education students, increase retention and become a global center for interdisciplinary

*research by 2020, the structure and services of GPSA must continue to evolve to meet the demands of a growing student body.*

**Arizona Board of Regents:** *To produce the required knowledge economy 20,000 graduate students need to be enrolled each semester.*

- To accommodate the increase of students at each location, campus and/or college councils should be established that meet regularly with EOSS and College Deans at each location to provide services for constituents. This would be a more inclusive to students outside of GPSA who want local improvements made. Outreach directors and assembly members should host the meetings.
- Create Liaison positions to each student Coalition, Changemaker, PAB, Student Alumni Association, and other bigger student organizations. The liaison would report to the VPPD
- Create transitional documents and update them on a yearly basis
- Continue to evaluate the role of online-fee paying students in GPSA's structure