

## Executive Report

From the Office of *External Affairs*

Date: 9/10/2014



### Upcoming Events & Deadlines

1. Voter registration/ education tabling: September 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 22, and 29, from 10am-2:30pm at ASU Tempe, outside of the Memorial Union
2. External Affairs committee meeting: Monday, September 15, 2014 from 12-2pm
3. National Voter Registration Day tabling: September 23, from 10am-2:30pm
4. Arizona Board of Regents Meeting: September 24-25, Flagstaff, AZ
5. Secretary of State Forum: Thursday, September 25 from 6:30-8pm at ASU Tempe, Pima Auditorium, Memorial Union
6. *Underwater Dreams* film screening: Friday, September 26 from 7-10pm, ASU Tempe, MU Arizona Ballroom
7. *Inequality for All* film screening: Tuesday, September 30 from 6-9pm, location TBD
8. ASU voter website and voter guide development: TBD
9. State Superintendent of Public Instruction forum: TBD
10. Congressional Representatives forum: TBD

### Action Required

- Student and Family Tax Simplification Act (H.R. 3393)
  - Call your member of congress and tell them how the proposed bill would negatively impact our nation's graduate and professional students and their families who benefit under the current law.
    - The bill eliminates the Lifetime Learning Credit and the tax deduction for tuition and fees, which would terminate the tax assistance to all graduate and professional students and lifetime learners. Eliminating this aid would increase the financial burden on graduate and professional students and lifetime learners.
- 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.
- Register to Vote
    - <https://servicearizona.com/webapp/evoter/selectLanguage>
    - The ASU early polling location: Palo Verde West Hub #151, 430 E. University Dr. Tempe, AZ 85281
    - 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.
      - Mon-Thur 10am-6pm and Friday 10am-5pm

### External Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Adam Monroe, Bryson Jones, Jordan Hughes, Joshua Watson, Katie Brown,

Members Absent: Shikha Rawat, Mustafa Demir, Yashwanth Nanda Kuma

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
  - Tabling
  - 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 State Superintendent of Public Instruction candidate debate on campus
  - Date contingent upon candidate availability after the primary election
- Coordinating the film screening of *Underwater Dreams* (9/26) and *Inequality for All* (9/30)
- 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