

August 2014 Report

From the Office of the GPSA President

Date: 9/15/2014



Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- A stipend increase that will ensure all ASU graduate teaching and research assistants earn a stipend that is proportionate to the living wage in the Phoenix metropolitan area will go into effect on September 15, 2014. The minimum stipend will be \$14,900, which equates to 75% (9 months) of the yearly living wage in Phoenix.
- A new university ad-hoc committee is being formed. The International Student Services Committee will unite undergraduate and graduate students with staff to collaboratively find solutions to concerns raised by international students.

Action Required

- We are looking for graduate students to serve on various university boards and committees. This service counts as service to GPSA. Please spread the word and have students apply at <https://eoss.asu.edu/studentgov/committees>.
- Please send any social media content related to GPSA or graduate education to GPSA Director of Communications Kimberly Roland kimberlyroland@gmail.com

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Members Present: GPSA Assembly President Andrew Waldron, VP of Internal Affairs Kerrie Wilkins, VP of External Affairs Jesus Cisneros, VP of Professional Development Pauline Venieris, and President German Cadenas. Executive Committee met on a weekly basis throughout August and the first part of September. The meeting on 9/12 was open to all GPSA Directors.

Members Absent: none.

The Executive Committee debriefed the start of the semester events and marketing kick off. Effectiveness was assessed and discussions were facilitated to improve performance on future events. Discussions about team cohesion were facilitated. The EC discussed volunteer management as well as upcoming events and programs.

Date & Time of Next Committee Meeting: The Executive Committee will continue to meet on a regular basis throughout the fall 14 semester. The Committee will convene on Fridays at 12pm whenever there is not an Assembly Meeting scheduled. The Executive Committee will meet with all GPSA Directors once a month.

Executive Report

- Attended weekly meetings with ASASU Council of Presidents to discuss various university-wide initiatives. <https://eoss.asu.edu/studentgov?destination=studentgov>
- Coordinated communications training for GPSA and Office of Graduate Education provided by the Provost's office.
- Attended several meetings with the Office of Graduate Education, Dean of Student Services, Vice President of Educational Outreach and Student Services (EOSS) as well as with the University's President to discuss GPSA priorities and projects of relevance to ASU graduate students.
- Negotiated new email delivery system with NationBuilder. This system affords GPSA its newsletter and mass email capabilities.
- Coordinated administrative procedures meeting for GPSA executives.
- Investigated opportunities to extend representation and services to ASU Online graduate students.
- Represented graduate students in Sexual Violence Task Force and co-chairing graduate students work group within the Task Force.
- Director of Communications: created Instagram and have been promoting and posting to it. Reactivated Twitter and have been interacting with students on it. Updates to Facebook. Created Hootsuite and integrated social media platforms, Working on a committee for the Needs Assessment Report, constructing Strategic Communications Plan, Scheduling a time for press release and social media training.
- IT Director: Attended communications meeting about using newsletter more effectively. Has been maintaining website and GRADAD. Changed frequency of approvals for GRADAD to increase signal to noise ratio.
- Director of International Student Concerns: Will be focusing on service improvements and CPT. Met with engineering students and their advisor to discuss CPT issues. Will continue discussions with International Students and Scholars Center (ISSC). Holding first meeting of the International Students Committee.
- Campus Outreach Directors: Working in team along with Debra Crusoe (Graduate Education) to organize the inventory for the Graduate Student Centers to make sure each of them is well equipped with all the materials needed for a good performance, in the same way, we are planning the activities in all four campuses according to the working budget. I have also been organizing the storage room at the GSC so all GPSA material is accessible. Campus Outreach Directors and Debra have been holding office hours at the GSCs.