



**ASU Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)  
Academic Year 2015-2016 Strategic Recommendations  
German Cadenas, 2014-15 President  
4/14/2015**

- To continue monitoring the implementation of the baseline pay increase for all graduate TAs, RAs, GAs to livable wage for Phoenix metro area based on the [Athletics Fee agreement](#). To design a plan to monitor this implementation in response to future changes in the livable wage in the area in collaboration with Vice Provost for Graduate Education. To agree on measurable objectives for increases in RA wages.
- To continue to advocate with and on behalf of international graduate students' support services. International students make up 25% of the graduate student body. To continue the GPSA Director of International Student Concerns Director position, the GPSA International Student Concerns Committee, and the ASASU/EOSS International Student Concerns Committee. To continue using these vehicles and GPSA's voice on the ASASU Council of Presidents to increase support services related to CPT and internship/job placements for international students.
- To use data from the [GPSA 2013-14 Needs Assessment Study](#) to work in partnership with administrators, policymakers, and other stakeholders to measure improvements in the following areas: financial support, student loan debt, childcare support, health services, professional development, and community building.
- To work in collaboration with interested stakeholders in the university, and in consultation with the University Office of Evaluation and Educational Effectiveness (UOEED), to conduct a new needs assessment study. To continue conducting these studies every other year in order to measure improvement.
- To continue to work in collaboration with the Sexual Violence Prevention Task-Force and continue to support a cultural change around violence and wellness at ASU based on the [recommendation and charge from the Task Force](#).
- To continue to dedicate a wellness leadership position to a) liase between GPSA and wellness related entities (i.e., Health Services, Counseling Services, ABOR Student Health Insurance Committee, Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force, Movement for Violence Prevention, Sun Devil Fitness Center), b) advocate for

graduate student concerns related to wellness, and c) lead wellness-related programming (i.e., GPSA WellFest).

- To develop online based professional development programming in order to reach a larger cross-section of the graduate student body at all locations with professional development opportunities. GPSA's supported pilot online professional development program conducted in the spring 2015 by the ASU Online Master's program in Global Technology Development may be used as a model for scale and department/program specificity. To collaborate with Office of Graduate Education and Career Services to develop similar programming. ASU graduate students requested such online access to professional development opportunities based on GPSA's needs assessment study.
- To dedicate a leadership position to continue GPSA's Awaken Arizona concept to interface with the community and create positive movement on education in the state. To partner with community organizations (i.e., Expect More AZ, Arizona Students' Association) to support cultural change around education in Arizona and prevent future policies that compromise Arizona's quality of education and future development (i.e., State budget cuts to education).
- To continue to advocate at all systemic levels (i.e., institutional, ABOR, State, and federal) about the burden and negative impact of student loan debt on graduate students.
- To send delegation of graduate students to visit with Arizona's representatives in Congress at least once each semester. To develop relationships with the local offices of elected officials to meet more frequently regarding graduate student policy concerns.
- To continue to participate in the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS).
- To continue collaborating with ASU's Office of Government Relations on State level legislative priorities prior and during the next Arizona legislative session.
- To continue developing strategic collaborations and partnerships with ASU's entities (i.e., Office of Graduate Education, undergraduate Student Government, Entrepreneurship+Innovation, ASU Libraries) to enhance the value of GPSA to the institution.
- To continue GPSA's innovation grant, GradChallenge, in partnership with ASU's Office of Entrepreneurship + Innovation.
- To continue collaborating with ASU Family Services on developing the Sun Devil Child Care Financial Support program. To continue to contribute financially to this pilot project, and to ensure representation of graduate students in the program's oversight board.

- To continue to collaborate with Office of Graduate Education on oversight of the four Graduate Student Centers and active outreach to graduate student organizations (GSOs).
- To continue to host GPSA's "signature events" such as the welcome socials, graduate student socials throughout the year, Grad Picnic, Graduate Student Leadership Summit, Master's Students Town Hall, and end of the year Awards' Ceremony. To host Leadership Summit and Town Hall during the fall semester, instead of the spring.
- To develop collaborations between Assembly and ASU's College/Schools to create or expand existing student advisory committees in order to elevate the graduate student voice as related to departments, programs, courses, and policy changes.
- To ensure participation of graduate student leaders in Athletics Operations Board and [EOSS/ASASU boards and committees](#).
- To continue to represent the interest of ASU graduate students at [Arizona Board of Regents \(ABOR\) meetings](#), as well as in meetings with ASU, NAU, and UA undergraduate and graduate student leaders.
- To continue to use metric capable email delivery system (i.e., NationBuilder) to distribute Gradstu newsletter and to track GPSA's reach and readership. To continue to work with Provost's Office and Office of Graduate Education on refreshing our graduate student contact lists on a semester basis.
- To adopt new grant management system that enables seamless and centric oversight and management of all GPSA's grant and award programs.