The Graduate and Professional Student Association, or GPSA, is the student government at Arizona State University that works to support, advocate for, and foster community among over 12,000 graduate students. GPSA serves and represents all students across the four metropolitan campuses of ASU.

As the president of GPSA, I’m honored to lead such an amazing team that includes 5 exec members, 21 directors, 43 assembly members, 6 members of our supreme court, and hundreds of volunteers. Our team has worked to put on social and professional development events across all four campuses; advocate for graduate student needs at the university, state, and national levels; engage students from all 16 schools; run research and
Continued on the next page...
grant programs that award nearly half a million dollars; honor outstanding graduate researchers, teachers, and leaders; and elevate student voices on topics such as wellness, faculty mentorship, and financial well-being. I’m so thankful for an amazing team and for the opportunity to serve such an impressive and inspiring student body.

As a fourth year PhD candidate in the School of Sustainability, I became involved in GPSA three years ago as a volunteer because I wanted to foster a greater community among graduate students, elevate the voices of students, and give back to ASU through service. Initially, the idea of running for GPSA President had never crossed my mind. But once I got involved, I quickly became empowered to advocate for myself and for my fellow graduate students. I found a community of friends who encouraged me and pushed me. And I was challenged, strengthened, and humbled as a leader as I’ve engaged with students to hear their concerns, ideas, and personal stories. I’m grateful for the GPSA leaders who came before me, many of whom encouraged me to run for president a year ago, and I’m humbled by all of the students who’ve believed in me and supported me.

This has been an incredible year, and it has been an honor and a joy to serve as your GPSA president.

Sincerely,
Leah Jones
GPSA President 2019-2020
Led the GPSA executive team in creating the 2019-2020 GPSA goals: to support diversity and inclusion, to empower graduate students to advocate for themselves, to enhance GPSA governmental structures, to support holistic wellness, and to work towards financial well-being.

Conducted monthly meetings with ASU leadership, including: Assistant Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Joanne Vogel; Dean of the Graduate College, Dr. Alfredo Artiles; and Vice President of Student Services, Dr. James Rund.

Attended quarterly meetings with the graduate program directors and coordinators to share updates from GPSA and learn about the academic support happening in various departments. Conducted a panel on graduate student wellness to highlight the student experience.

Represented graduate students at monthly Faculty Senate meetings, at monthly Sun Devil Athletics Board meetings, and at quarterly University Council Meetings hosted by President Michael Crow.

Delivered speeches at numerous university events including the Graduate Welcome, International Student Welcome, TA Orientation, and Commencement.

Oversaw the $1.1 million budget of GPSA.

Established a crisis fund for graduate students that included $150,000 from GPSA and benefited more than 70 students.
Ensured that the stipends for RA and TA positions would be increased to match the Living Wage for Maricopa County.

Advocated for many of the major concerns of graduate students, including:
- Mental health support specific to the graduate student experience
- Increased scholarships open to international masters’ students
- Further support for graduate student parents
- Resources to improve faculty mentorship
- Enhanced student experiences for students of color

Communicated to the GPSA team and to the graduate student body of over 12,000 students about the university response to COVID-19 and about resources available to support students.
A bill was created and passed to officially add the Wellness committee as a standing committee in GPSA!

At our first hike, twenty students hiked South Mountain in the fall semester. We also collaborated with the Hiking Club at ASU’s Thunderbird School of Global Management to organize a Leap Day Hike. 50 graduate students attended and had a fun, physically active day hiking a trail at the Superstition Mountains!

We started up ‘Real Talk,’ support circle sessions held bi-weekly during the spring semester. The mission of this support circle was to provide graduate students from diverse backgrounds with a safe space to destress by building a sense of community and belonging through reflection and leaning on peers for support, and a more fulfilling graduate student experience.

We updated the Wellness page on the GPSA website to include the four pillars of wellness (mental, physical, financial, and social). For each pillar, we included helpful tips, as well as relevant campus resources for graduate students.

At the end of the spring semester, we coordinated graduate student chat groups, as well as fun virtual social hours to help students stay connected with their peers during social distancing.
Hosted International Students’ Welcome Fall 2019 in Gammage in partnership with the Graduate College. Discussed the resources and opportunities within GPSA and led a panel discussion of returning graduate students to the more than 1500 students in attendance.

Organized the “International Leaders Meeting” attended by 12 presidents and board members of 8 international student organizations.

Hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner event specifically for international students to learn about the cultural importance of this day. More than 60 students enjoyed the event.

Partnered with Professional Development on Grad Chat to discuss student concerns and provide them with job search advice.

Collaborated with ISSC to host several Coffee & Conversation hours, where we promoted GPSA resources.

Hosted a “Grad Students’ Finals Boost” at the end of the fall semester with more than 100 graduate students in attendance. The event encouraged graduate students to take healthy measures that will boost their general well-being as they write their final papers and exams.

Tabled at CIS International Nights in fall 2019 to promote GPSA to international students.
The PR team worked together to create student-driven communications that promoted the mission and resources of GPSA. Our highlights include: developing a strong student-centric voice, regularly sending out event emails in addition to monthly newsletters, creating a robust elections promotional campaign, instituting and increasing the use of Live videos across social media platforms, and creating a new GPSA logo.

**OVERALL PR STRATEGY**

The PR team worked together to create student-driven communications that promoted the mission and resources of GPSA. Our highlights include: developing a strong student-centric voice, regularly sending out event emails in addition to monthly newsletters, creating a robust elections promotional campaign, instituting and increasing the use of Live videos across social media platforms, and creating a new GPSA logo.

**NEWSLETTERS**

**Director: Wei Xu**

1. Averaged 22,825 subscribers out of 40,428 contacts
2. 30% of subscribers often open the email we sent.
3. The average open rate of emails is 44.72%.
4. The average click rate of links in emails is 2.1%.
5. The average click to open ratio is 3.75%.
6. The average open rate of Industry standard is 23.42% and the click rate is 2.09% (till December 2019)

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Director: Denise Delgado**

- 92 published posts July 1 to April 20
- 995 followers
- gained 422 followers
- 3.2K engagements (2.9K likes and 304 comments)
- averaged 7,020 impressions
- averaged 175 profile visits
- averaged over 50 website clicks

- 258 posts July 1 to April 20
- 3.3K fans (people who liked the Facebook Page)
- gained 381 fans since August 1.
- received a total of 1.6K engagements
- received 1.4K reactions, 173 shares, and 69 comments

- 281 tweets published from July 1 to April 20
- 1,302 followers on Twitter @ASUGPSA
- gained 137 followers since August 1, 2019
- received a total of 912 engagements (571 clicks, 266 likes, 69 retweets, 6 replies)

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The team updated the GPSA homepage to feature large programming, such as GPSA elections. The team added a feedback form to the website. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the GPSA website averaged 8,400 views each month.

**Director of Print Marketing: Rachel Moss**
OUTREACH

**DOWNTOWN**  
*Director: Fatima Hafsa*

> Hosted a popular fall welcome at the Churchill. We were joined by students from all schools at downtown.  
> Partnered with ASU counselling services for monthly grad chats.  
> Collaborated with USG-Downtown and the ASU police department to host Donuts with Dutch.  
> Participated in an Etiquette Dinner hosted by Career Professional Development Services.  
> Hosted information sessions on travel and research grants.  
> Biggest achievement was engagement with Downtown offices.

**WEST**  
*Director: Mohammed Alhassan*

> Hosted a fall welcome in collaboration with the writing center and counseling services.  
> Partnered with USG-West and Career Services to hold a graduate student panel for undergraduate students.  
> Initiated “West Personality of the Month” to highlight the achievements of grad students at the West campus.  
> Piloted the West-to-West (W2W) mentorship program, which seeks to foster inclusion and support among grad students.

**POLYTECHNIC**  
*Director: Raj Dandamudi*

> Hosted a Fall and Spring Welcome for grad students  
> Organized Grad-chats in collaboration with the Polytechnic School dean and the GPSA Professional Development team.  
> Tabled at The Club-Hub in Fall 2019.  
> Organized and hosted the Indian festival of colors, Holi, in collaboration with EOSS and the Indian Student Association.  
> Met with the Dean of Students’ office to organize and get updates on events across campus.  
> Provided helpful resources based on students’ requests that were brought attention in the Grad chats regarding discrimination.
JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
Director: Paisley M. Benaza

JUSTICE FRAMEWORK AND EQUITY-MINDED LEADERSHIP
Our committee commits to consider and support the unique needs of its community, including but not limited to: students of color, international students, LGBTQIA+ students, students with disabilities, military veterans, students who are first-generation college students, survivors of trauma, and students from underrepresented religious and socioeconomic backgrounds.
We are currently reviewing ASU student demographics, purchasing multicultural lounge resource center furnishings and office equipment, and mental health research for marginalized student populations.

FALL 2019 THEME: GRADSGIVING
Our Fall 2019 “GRADSGIVING” event was co-hosted by all committee members and featured a Thanksgiving menu buffet, group photo area, children’s play area, and culturally responsive programming featuring “The People’s Supper” interactive round table discussion luncheon and town hall discussion in the spirit of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion aimed to advance access and opportunities for our ASU Graduate and Professional Student community.

ILEARN TO THRIVE BRANDING AND EVENT SUPPLIES
Supplies went to all GSO’s including a 10 ft x 8 ft custom ASU Learn to Thrive Banner, The People’s Supper Discussion Set, Wordart “centerpiece” decorations, and more

SPRING 2020 THEME: Y(OUR) STORY
Hosted Y(OUR) STORY by Spirit of Service Scholars on Saturday January 18, 2020. We also hosted Courageous Narrative Storytelling: Tree of Life Workshop by Paisley M. Benaza. There was also a ASU Learn to Thrive group photo booth area.
- Narrative journal raffle
- GPSA Resource table
- Post-it Note Inspiration Display Easel

SOUTHWEST HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM 2020
Experience: Identity, Society, and Culture
Friday February 21, 2020 at 10:30am
Y(OUR) STORY: Cultural Context and Competency
In this interactive session, a cross-disciplinary panel of ASU graduate students from masters and doctoral programs focus on justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion because culture and context matters. Cultural competency is a necessity in our globalized world. Our panelists will reflect on their personal stories through critical lenses so participants can be better informed to adapt and be receptive of other cultures.
INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Vice President: Sierra Ferguson

TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED FOR THE YEAR: TRAVEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel Grant Program</th>
<th>Number of Eligible Applicants</th>
<th>Number of Students Funded</th>
<th>Annual Budget Allocated</th>
<th>Amount Awarded Per Category</th>
<th>Annual Budget Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>$371,500</td>
<td>$357,326</td>
<td>$14,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$49,634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career Development</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>$29,485</td>
<td>-$10,979</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>$6,600</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td>$9,894</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>$446,500</td>
<td>$452,939</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 Several students were unable to use their funding due to personal reasons or they were not accepted for the event. Thus, the funding actually spent will not exceed the budget
2 As of the preparation of the report 4/24/20 with the amount spent subtracted from the budget

TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED FOR THE YEAR: RESEARCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Grant Program</th>
<th>Number of Eligible Applications</th>
<th>Number of Students Funded</th>
<th>Annual Budget Allocated</th>
<th>Amount Awarded Per Category</th>
<th>Annual Budget Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Research Support Program</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$112,651</td>
<td>$7,349</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jumpstart</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$9,900</td>
<td>$5,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics Research</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$22,891</td>
<td>$17,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>$145,443</td>
<td>$29,558</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Summer JumpStart grants are being awarded as of publication

GRANT REVIEWERS

A. Trained student volunteers
B. Review 3-10 applications per month, depending on application volume
C. Every application is assigned to 5 reviewers
D. Number of Travel Grant Reviewers: 83
E. Number of Research Grant Reviewers: 66
Summer Semester Deadlines (all applications due by 11:59 PM AZ time on day of deadline):

**TRAVEL**  
*Director of Travel: Paige Price*

1. Individual, Group, and Out-of-State Internship and Career Development Grants - Deadlines are on the 1st of the month, two months prior to departure
   a. August Travel deadlines: May 1st & June 1st
   b. September Travel deadlines: June 1st & July 1st
   c. October Travel deadlines: July 1st & August 1st
2. Local Internship and Career Development: Summer Semester – July 1

**RESEARCH**  
*Director of Research: Neelakshi Tiwari*

1. GRSP (Graduate research support program): Fall Semester – August 1
2. Jumpstart: Fall Semester – August 1

**EVENTS**

A. Information Sessions – The VP and Directors presented information at each ASU campus about the travel and research grants that GPSA offers to graduate students.
B. Research Symposium – Awardees of GPSA’s Research Grant programs were invited to present a poster at Change the World, but event was cancelled due to COVID-19.
C. Reviewer Social – Event honoring the students that volunteer their time to review travel, research, and awards applications throughout the year. Planned jointly with office of Professional Development, but event was cancelled due to COVID-19.
A. Organized GPSA Sun Devil Support Network training in partnership with the Sexual Violence Prevention Department (September 6th and 13th, 2019).
B. Attended the Fall 2019 NAGPS Advocacy Summit and Legislative Action Days in Washington D.C. (September 27th to October 1st, 2019).
C. Participated in the annual NAGPS National Conference at the University of Kentucky (November 7th to November 9th, 2019)
D. Took part in Arizona Board of Regents public meetings, and student leadership events;
   1. ABOR at Northern Arizona University (9/19-9/21 2019)
   2. ABOR University of Arizona (11/20-11/22 2019)
   3. ABOR at Arizona State University (2/12-2/14 2020)
E.Partnered with the ASU Office of Governmental Relations to host the Annual Day at the Capitol event (February 11th, 2020)
F. Participated in the annual NAGPS Western Regional Conference at the University of Nevada Reno (February 28th to March 1st).
A. Created a robust 2019/2020 GPSA Advocacy Agenda through qualitative surveys of graduate students, and with Assembly and Executive Committee feedback. The Advocacy Agenda covered topics such as accessibility and student success; diversity and inclusion, the international student experience; mental health, sexual violence prevention, and food insecurity.

B. Participated in the ABOR Student Regent Search Committee to recommend a short list of ASU student applicants to be elected as the next student regent by the Governor of Arizona.

C. Supported in the promotion and logistical planning of National Voter Registration Day (Tuesday, September 24th) events sponsored and hosted by USGs from each campus.

D. Held meetings with Vice Presidents of Policy of each USG Campus twice a month throughout the academic year.

E. Sent seven student delegates from GPSA to Washington, D.C. in September where they conducted student advocacy focused meetings with eight out of the nine offices of Arizona members of the House of Representatives, and the offices of both Arizona Senators in collaboration with U of A, and NAU graduate student delegates.

F. Sent two Assembly Members, and an executive member to the national conference for NAGPS at the University of Kentucky to learn about, and share important tips and information related to advocating for graduate students. Critically assessed membership with NAGPS as revelations relating to poor financial accounting practices and leadership arose.

G. Sent several Assembly Members, directors, and executives to the regional conference for NAGPS at the University of Nevada Reno to learn about and share important tips and information related to advocating for graduate students at ASU and beyond. Following this meeting, the GPSA terminated the affiliation with NAGPS indefinitely.

H. Trained Graduate Students in advocacy in preparation for ASU Day at the Capital. The training consisted of an overview of the Arizona State Legislature, how to effectively message to legislators, and a summary of relevant bills under the legislature’s consideration.

I. Sent 25 students to ASU Day at the Capitol in partnership with ASASU to meet with Arizona legislative representatives and staff.

J. Reported on all public ABOR hearings at UofA, NAU, and ASU.

K. Participated in Deputy Registrar Trainings with the Maricopa County Recorder’s Office to gain expertise on voter registration for students and community members.
L. Developed bi-monthly Federal Government, State and Local Government reports informing graduate students on the intersection of public policy and higher education.
M. Created a “Policy Updates” section on the GPSA website for graduate students to stay updated on policy affecting higher education.
N. Composed a Graduate and Professional Student COVID-19 Resources document to assist students in navigating resources from changes to payment policies, to housing and food assistance, and much more.
O. Scheduled meetings with each of the Washington D.C. offices of the Arizona Congressional delegation to conduct student advocacy focused meetings in March. This planned trip was cancelled due to COVID-19.
P. Drafted a resolution for GPSA to formally support the ASU Pitchfork Pantries as an important resource to address food insecurity on campus and to urge the ASU Administration to implement the use of SNAP benefits at on-campus venues. This resolution was passed.
Q. Drafted a resolution for the GPSA Assembly to advocate for post graduation solutions for international students in response to the effect that the COVID 19 pandemic has had on the future outlook for graduating students. This resolution was unanimously passed.

COLLABORATIONS
A. Continued working with ASU’s Office of Government Relations
B. Member of the Movement for Violence Prevention Coalition
C. Worked with the Downtown Pitchfork Pantry to provide advocacy support and wrote an Assembly bill to further support food insecurity among the ASU graduate student population
D. Member of the Change the World Steering Committee
E. Member of the ASU Complete Count Committee - 2020 Census
F. Enhanced strategic partnership with Northern Arizona University and University of Arizona at the state and federal government levels.

Director of State and Local Government Affairs: Spencer Morgan
Director of Federal Government Affairs: Thomas Arsenault
Director of Advocacy: Michelle Castagne
Awards Program Fall 2019

Teaching Excellence Award
Applicants: 64
Winners: 18

Outstanding Research Award
Applicants: 68
Winners: 10

Annette Jecker Outstanding Staff Award
Applicants: 12
Winners: 2

Awards Program Spring 2020

Teaching Excellence Award
Applicants: 42
Winners: 17

Outstanding Research Award
Applicants: 60
Winners: 19

Outstanding Mentor Award
Applicants: 36
Winners: 11

Arijit Guha Graduate Student Advocacy Award
Applicants: 7
Winners: 2

Reviewers
> Fall: 112 graduate student reviewers
> Spring: 93 graduate student reviewers
> Each reviewer observed 2 to 3 classes for the Teaching Excellence Award and reviewed at least 5 online award applications
Applicants: 93
Winners: 3; Dr. Aggie Yellow Horse, Asian Pacific American Studies & Justice and Social Inquiry; Dr. Silvie Huijben, Center for Evolution and Medicine, Dr. Yang Weng, School of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering
Centennial Committee: headed by GPSA Vice President of Professional Development Amelia Miholca and composed of 2 GPSA members and 6 USG members

EVENTS

Grad Welcome: In partnership with New Student Programming
Location: Sun Devil Stadium
Date: August 21
Attendance: c.600 graduate students
Activities: tabling by various ASU departments, like Career Services and SDFC; tabling by graduate student organizations; GPSA swag giveaways; dance performances; food buffet

Cover Letter Workshop with Career Services
Location: MU Tempe
Date: September 20
Attendance: 20
Activities: graduate students learned how to draft a professional cover letter for their job applications

Fall Social
Location: Social Hall restaurant in Tempe
Date: Nov. 7
Attendance: c.260
Activities: networking game
Location: Sparkys Den in MU
Date: Oct. 31
Attendance: c.50
Activities: food buffet and survey on how to improve the awards review process

Spring Welcome
Location: Student Pavilion
Date: Jan. 14
Attendance: c.300
Activities: small tables with ASU resources by Counseling Services, Career Services, Tutoring Center, Graduate College, Office of Student Advocacy; student panel on how new students can navigate the graduate experience at ASU

Linkedin Learning and Online Social Networking Workshop
Location: Zoom
Date: April 23
Attendance: c.15
Activities: Carig Stevens, Business Executive in Residence in the ASU MBA Executive Connections Program, presented on how to create a professional Linkedin profile and personal website, and how to form professional connections online

Grad Chats workshops series focused on mental and financial wellbeing
> September session with a presentation from Counseling Services and a discussion on how to identify someone who is suffering with mental health issues
> October session with a discussion on international student issues
> November session with a presentation by Ashley Folkes
> February session with a presentation by SDFC Health Educator Alyssa Sanonu on peak-performance and motivation
> April session via Zoom with a discussion on how students are coping with the financial, mental, and social circumstances of COVID-19

Planned events for Spring that were canceled due to COVID-19
Grad Week Picnic
Internal Awards Ceremony
External Awards Ceremony
Reviewer’s Social

Director Awards: Neeta Kumar
Director of Events: Nivedita Mahesh
The Assembly was nearly full throughout 2019-2020 and finished the year with 42 (of a possible 45) seats full. Members consistently contributed to programs and events across GPSA.

**CREATION OF THE GPSA DOWNTOWN PHOENIX COMMITTEE**

The GPSA Downtown Phoenix Committee, consisting of all GPSA Assembly Members from the Downtown Phoenix campus and volunteer members from graduate programs based on the Downtown Phoenix campus, was formalized as a standing committee. The committee held several events to identify specific problems facing downtown students, such as access into the Downtown GSC, and improving overall engagement with students on the Downtown Phoenix campus.

**CREATION OF THE GPSA WELLNESS COMMITTEE**

The GPSA Wellness Committee, chaired by the Director of Wellness, Emma Lecarie, consisting of GPSA Assembly Members and volunteer members was formalized as a standing committee. The committee held several events which support graduate and professional mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing. Such events included hiking, cooking, and exercising events.

**CREATION OF THE GPSA INNOVATION FELLOWS COMMITTEE & INNOVATION FELLOWSHIP**

A. The GPSA Innovation Fellows Committee oversaw the newly created GPSA Innovation Fellows Program (IFP). The Innovation Fellows Program encourages graduate students to complete projects that help the graduate community or further GPSA initiatives. Projects can be events to bring different types of students together, helping analyze data, or creating documents to help GPSA. In addition the program can assist the president and executive team to further their agendas. and


C. Due to the interruption of the spring semester, due to Covid-19, the following projects were approved but were not awarded: Women’s Mixer Event, Student led town hall for the Watts Public School.

D. The Innovation Fellows Committee worked on improvements to this pilot program for next year and created a system for soliciting, receiving, reviewing, and administering projects proposed by IFP participants.
A. In January 2020, the Assembly approved a restructuring of Assembly seats for 2020-2021 to create new paths of engagement between the graduate and professional student community, GPSA, and ASU administration.

B. Over the course of the academic year, the Assembly Operations Committee also worked to develop a more detailed justification document for each of the standing committees within the Assembly. This document helps further clarify the existence of the committees and serves as a mechanism to bring attention to the ways in which GPSA is serving the needs of graduate and professional students.

C. In September, the Assembly passed a bill to allow for members of the Summer Operations Committee to receive a small scholarship to compensate for their hard work over the summer preparing the budget and planning for major events that kick off the academic year in August.

D. The Assembly Parliamentarian/Secretary and Assembly President worked to use Robert’s Rules of Order to push the Assembly to become more efficient this year. In part, this is evidenced by an increase in the number of bills considered this year (57) compared to last year (54).

E. The Assembly Parliamentarian/Secretary worked with the Government Operations committee to improve our minutes and notes from monthly meetings. This year’s minutes and note taking improved in detail and quality. These notes are key to improving the Assembly’s transparency to the students at ASU.

F. In the midst of the uncertainty and transient month of March 2020, the Assembly shifted to fully online via Zoom. The Assembly President and Parliamentarian/Secretary quickly and successfully adjusted to Zoom meetings.

A. In September 2019, the Assembly passed a resolution, AB 13, to send a revised Constitution to the general graduate and professional student body for approval.

B. The referendum was held November 13-14, 2019 and the updates to the Constitution were passed. The changes go into effect in May 2020.

C. The changes to the constitution include: creation of GPSA Elections Commissioner as separate from ASASU elections commissioner and as an elected position; style and language updates to the Constitution to align with that of the Bylaws; and the removal of references and stipulation related to outdated or non-existent ASASU documentation that no longer are applicable.

D. After unearthing an old (and previously unknown) copy of the GPSA Supreme Court Rules and Procedures, Jake Garcia, Assembly Parliamentarian/Secretary, examined the document and began working with the Supreme Court to update their functions to reflect their governing document.
E. In February Jake and the Government Operations committee broke new ground with the GPSA Supreme Court, revising a version of the GPSA Supreme Court Rules and Procedures and opening a more inclusive line of contact with sitting Justices. The revised document was unanimously passed by the Assembly as AB 45 in the March Assembly Meeting and passed by a majority of the Supreme Court.

**FOCUS ON GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT PRIORITIES**

A. After the university moved to a virtual format in March 2020, the Assembly passed AB 47, which gave the approval for the creation of a crisis fund to be set up within the Office of Advocacy and Assistance to aid in supporting graduate students in need of emergency help. This fund initially served graduate students by providing $50,000 in funds to graduate and professional students in need.

B. Prioritizing transparency in the use of graduate student fees has been an important component of our efforts to focus on the priorities of graduate and professional students. As such, we have continued in our efforts through to ensure student fees are being used in an ethical manner with the GPSA annual budget, use of funds by GSOs. Additionally, we approved a resolution to fully disassociate from NAGPS which has, in the past few years, not been transparent in the use of member fees.

**GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUPPORT**

A. Supported 147 requests for funding from Graduate Student Organizations (GSOs) to support a broad range of events and programming activities, including documentary screenings, welcome back events, conferences, and invited speaker events. Up from 103 requests for funding from 2018-2019 (increase of 44 events).

B. Through 2019-2020, GSO funding saw a steady increase of participation. On average, each funding cycle included 2-5 NEW GSO’s applying for funding (NEW meaning had not previously applied for funding from GPSA).

C. Assembly President Pro Tempore, Nicole Mayberry, conducted a GSO Leadership Summit on Wednesday, October 23rd 2019. Attended by 30 students from 12 GSOs across campus, the summit focused on cultivating leadership among graduate student leaders and dialogue about how GPSA can best serve GSOs. Talks by Business Specialist Senior Jemell Nelson.

D. In November 2019, Nicole’s team successfully revised all funding documents and streamlined funding communication on the GSO funding website as well as the documents given to GSO’s to review. All found inconsistencies in funding policy were resolved. New documents were created that reflected these changes and were added to the GSO funding folder in the Assembly Drive as well as the GSO Funding Website.

E. Nicole’s team updated GSO Funding policy to deny any request over 2,000.00 automatically and to limit social hour/happy hour budgets to 350.00 per request.
F. Nicole’s team updated funding, with the help of an Assembly vote, to limit GSO funding to events in the state of Arizona.

G. In Committee meetings, Nicole’s team implemented a standard review procedure and introduced Zoom meetings in November 2019 in order to maintain meeting efficiency.

H. In Spring 2020, Nicole’s team attended specific GSO meetings that requested refreshers on GSO Funding policies and procedures.

I. Nicole worked with Specialist Senior, Jemell Nelson, to create funding flow-charts (seen on GSO website) as well as updated business forms for GSO’s to use when submitting reimbursement materials for payment (also updated on GSO funding website).

J. President Pro Tempore Nicole Mayberry made significant revisions to the GSO funding website to reflect funding timelines, a how-to for funding documents, funding restrictions, and general updates (see https://gpsa.asu.edu/funding/gso-funding/).

K. In Fall 2019, Nicole’s team helped pass a bill to continue GSO Funding throughout all semesters on ASU campuses (Fall, Spring, Summer). Funding is now supported in the summer months with a guaranteed budget of at least 8,000.00 for summer months (excluding black out dates).

L. In Fall 2019, President Pro Tempore Nicole Mayberry successfully introduced a bill to the Assembly which extends the Pro Tempore position to a 12 month funded position. This was done with the aid of Assembly Parliamentarian, Jacob Garcia.

M. Nicole’s team successfully funded events while remaining under budget in the Fall and Spring semesters while leaving an additional 4,000.00 for summer funding.

Assembly President Pro Tempore: Nicole Mayberry
Assembly Parliamentarian: Jacob Garcia
Assembly Director of Innovation Fellowship: Zee Wilson