

Graduate and Professional Student Government

Assembly Board Meeting Minutes

University of Pittsburgh, 117 Mervis Hall

November 8, 2017



Meeting Summary

- AB briefly updated before transitioning to a Town Hall where students asked questions to University Administrators about graduate and professional concerns.

Attendance

GPSG Executive Board Officers:

- Christopher Staten (President)
- Caitlin Sniezek (VP of Committees)
- Srilakshmi Kavikkal (VP of Communications)
- Shreyas Vamburkar (VP of Finance)
- Clarissa León (VP of Programming)
- Sarah Brooks (GSA)

GPSG Assembly Board Members:

- ANKUR
- CSSA
- Arts & Sciences 1
- Arts & Sciences 2
- Arts & Sciences 3
- Biomedical
- Computing & Information
- Dental Medicine

- Engineering
- GOSECA
- GSPIA
- Health & Rehab Sciences
- Katz (Part-Time)
- Katz (Full-Time)
- Law
- Nursing
- Pharmacy (PharmD)
- Pharmacy (PhD)
- Public Health
- Social Work

Absent:

- TASA
- Medicine
- Education

1. Call to Order

- President Staten called the meeting to order at 4:35pm

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve October minutes. *Minutes approved. None opposed.*

3. Old Business

- Voting: Proposal of GPSG 2017/2018 Budget
- Voting: Amendment for Supplemental Funding - allowing GSOs to apply for funding 3 times a semester
- Discussion: Diversity & Inclusion Program Committee
- Discussion: External Affairs Committee
- Discussion: How are AB representatives getting GPSG information to their schools?

4. Reports

• President's Report

○ The SAGE Fall Summit Update

- The University of Pittsburgh Graduate & Professional Student Government was afforded the opportunity to host the Student Advocates for Graduate Education Coalition (SAGE) 2017 Fall Summit. The SAGE Coalition represents over 140,000 graduate and professional students at leading public research universities across the country. Nine membership schools from the Association of American University were represented by over 20 graduate and professional students from across the nation. We shared best practices from each graduate and professional student board, lobbying strategies, and discussed legislation that can effect graduate and professional students. The SAGE had in depth conversations on issues such as student debt, research funding, and campus climate and safety. Dr. Nathan Urban, Vice Provost of Graduate Studies and Strategic

Initiatives conducted an engaging speech regarding the value of higher education. The SAGE also invited Paul Supowitz, Vice Chancellor of Community and Governmental Relations at the University of Pittsburgh, and Brendan Schubert of Triad Strategies to participate in a Lobbying Panel to share best practices when lobbying to legislators and policy makers. The Fall Summit was a great opportunity for graduate and professional student leaders to convene and strategize on how to optimize the graduate and professional student experience for all 140,000 graduate and professional students that the SAGE coalition represents.

- Professional Development Committee Update
 - Partnerships with Pitt Career Services Consortium
 - Headshots to come soon with partnership with CDPA and Student Affairs
- See President letter at Letter from the President resurgence
- Committees' Report
 - UCGS – What do schools provide for their students in terms of career services? What do students want to see?
 - Discussion of what different school's offer for career services
- Communications' Report
 - TEDxUniversityofPittsburgh 2017
 - Received our Salon license for the year, allowing us to host a minimum of 3, smaller, discussion-oriented events to engage the community
 - First salon (out of 4 events total) tentatively planned for early Spring
 - SAGE updates are up on <https://gpsg.pitt.edu>
 - Share any events and photos to our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PittGPSG/>
 - Website is updated with the latest AB contact information – please review
 - Please disseminate the Fall Formal poster and info in your respective schools and groups
- Finance's Report
 - GPSG Financial Report
 - GPSG and GSA's expenses
 - October Travel Grants
 - Supplemental Funding
 - University is changing accounting system for student organizations into Engage. There may be delays in organization's updates on expenses
- Programming's Report
 - Latest update to Fall Formal
 - Moving formal to Carnegie Music Hall
 - Friday, November 17th 7:30pm – 12:00am
 - Current promotion – Early Bird, \$25 before 11/10. \$30 afterward
 - Pirate Game scheduled for April 7th
 - Thinking of Spring formal for late April. Looking for venue ideas
- Executive Administrator's Report
 - Attendance reminder
- Assembly Board Member Reports
 - *Arts & Sciences*
 - No report
 - *Biomedical*
 - No report
 - *Dental Medicine*
 - No report
 - *Education*
 - No report
 - *Engineering*

- No report
- *GSPIA*
 - No report
- *School of Computing & Information*
 - No report
- *Katz (Full Time)*
 - No report
- *Katz (Part Time)*
 - No report
- *Law*
 - No report
- *Medicine*
 - No report
- *Nursing*
 - No report
- *Pharmacy (PharmD)*
 - No report
- *Pharmacy (PhD)*
 - No report
- *Public Health*
 - No report
- *School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences*
 - No report
- *Social Work*
 - No report
- *ANKUR*
 - No report
- *CSSA*
 - No report
- *ISA*
 - No report
- *GOSECA*
 - No report
- *TASA*
 - No report

5. Committee Reports

- See full reports on website (www.gpsg.pitt.edu)

6. New Business

- Discussion: AB Meeting from 4:30pm – 5:30pm next semester?

7. Town Hall Meeting

- Dr. Nathan Urban, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Strategic Initiatives
- Katie Pope, Title IX Coordinator
- Dr. Darlene Zellers, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Career Development

8. Announcements

- Next meeting: **December 6th at 5:00pm in Posvar Hall 5604**

AB Meeting Adjourned at 5:00pm