



Graduate & Professional Student Committee Agenda

Date: April 20th, 2023

I. Call to Order – 2:00p

II. Roll Call

Haley Dawson Present

Arturo Barahona Present

Ahmed Soliman Absent

Nick Kukuk Present

Sarwar Minar Present

Cole Sebastian Absent

Alejandro Arzola Absent

Larissa Adames Present

Teresa Amador Absent

III. Unfinished Business

IV. New Business

a. Debrief GSAW

- i. Overall, we received a lot of good feedback from the students. We got over 350 replies to the survey. Offering meal vouchers was a great incentive. They state that the events were very enjoyable and felt appreciated by GPSC and UGS. Students did not feel very appreciated by their department or advisors. Larissa suggested working more closely with the program directors to address this in the future. Providing templates for student highlights may be helpful. The scholarly forum received poor feedback. There were issues with printing and



judges that the students think could be improved upon. Overall, students also requested that we provide more giveaways and meal vouchers.

- b. Revisions for GPSC Funding Requests
 - i. The overall consensus is that the current request for funding is inefficient and requires a lot of work before the trip. Arturo suggested making the application as simple as possible and pre-approving students up to a certain amount. The exact amount they will be reimbursed would be based on the receipts submitted at the end of the trip. Requiring quotes for travel and lodging prior to the trip is unrealistic as prices can quickly change.
 - ii. It was discussed to potentially lower the overall amount that a student can get and remove the cap for lodging.
 - iii. Nick suggested that running out of money does not mean we failed. It means we funded as many students as possible, given the budget, which is the goal of GPSC.
 - iv. Larissa suggests keeping the current overall amount of money students can get and increasing the internal caps i.e., lodging. She also suggests setting limits by semester, so we make sure we don't run out of money during the year.
 - v. Revamping the website. Not many people request funding for professional development events. Haley also recommended adding an events page/calendar to the GPSC website. This will help students stay up to date on everything. Haley also suggested creating a GPSC emailing list that students can sign up for.
- c. Coffee Hour
 - i. Students have really expressed their appreciation for these events. They get a lot from them and enjoy meeting students from other departments. Nick also suggested hosting coffee hour at EC and BBC.
- d. Office Hours
 - i. Students do not really go to office hours, but they reach out and ask to schedule appointments all of the time. It was suggested that having those appointments count as office hours would be a more efficient use of time.
- e. Future Planning
 - i. It is estimated that we will not use the full GPSC budget this year. It was suggested to use any leftover money to buy giveaways and merchandise and save it for next year. This will allow us "rollover" any unused money and help

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mitigate the effects of the \$40,000 budget cut GPSC is going to receive this upcoming year.

- V. Reports
 - a. Senate Leadership
 - b. Committee
 - c. Advisor
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Meeting Adjournment – 2:59p