

HGSA MEETING MINUTES
December 2, 2014
8:00AM to 9:00AM

Sarah Schraeder called the meeting to order 8:10AM.

Members Present

Joni Ford, Mickey Dennis, Sarah Schraeder, Hans-Petter Grav, and Jason Hogstad.

OFFICER REPORTS

GPSA Senators

Sarah Schraeder presented the following report on the GPSA Senate meeting December 2:

1. The Budget Committee reviewed affiliate-funding applications, and HGSA received \$598 for the spring interdisciplinary conference. Next semester this committee will focus on providing more detailed rubrics and present them at the first GPSA Senate meeting for discussion and approval.
2. The Wiley Exposition is now accepting abstracts. All are encouraged to submit until January 23, 2015. There are a variety of scholarships available for graduate students sponsored by GPSA. ASWSU is also providing 25 scholarships for undergraduates. The expo will have writing workshops and networking opportunities available. This is the first year the expo will be adding an eight category looking for submissions on projects that have an international component. For more information, please contact Sarah Schraeder or Brian Stack.
3. The GPSA Director of Legislative Affairs (DoLA) is putting together a strategic plan for his position that will require GPSA Senate approval. The discussion at this point is to consider turning this position into a full-time assistantship and potentially also create an assistant position.
4. The Tobacco Free Task Force is holding a panel on Thursday, December 11 at 3:30-5:00PM in Ableson 201. The recent survey results noted that about sixty percent of undergraduates and staff are in favor of making Pullman campus a tobacco-free campus while about sixty percent of graduate students were against the position. Hans-Petter Grav noted that the Vancouver Campus has been a tobacco-free campus for a year and a half.
5. The Health Insurance Task Force has provided the senate with raw data showing how WSU compares to other universities. They are working on sending a survey out by next semester and providing an information sheet to synthesize the raw data.
6. The University-Wide Housing and Dining Committee is finalizing rate increase recommendations today, December 2, 2014. It was noted at the December 1 GPSA

Senate meeting that rates for on-campus residents would increase 3.5% and 2% for apartments for the spring semester.

7. The representative from the President Student Advisory Board noted that the Gateway Project at Stadium and Main Street will commence in May 2015. It is funded by private donations.
8. An announcement was made at the most recent GPSA meeting on December 1, 2014 that WSU has a Tumblr page to share information about what is happening at the university. Their post on the GPSA CougSync provides more information about their goals.

“WSU has started a Tumblr account to share the University’s research discoveries in an accessible, shareable, engaging way. The goal of the Tumblr is to get a wider audience interested in the great discoveries happening at WSU – an awareness that can increase the University’s reputation, and since Tumblr has a graduate-student-aged demographic – attract some of the best and brightest to work here. We want the Tumblr to have an authentic voice that shares the wonders that can come from research at all stages – and who better to tell that story than graduate students?”

If you would like to provide anything relevant to share send it the administrators. For more information, use the following link: https://orgsync.com/39017/news_posts/90366

Colloquium Representative

Joni Ford noted that there will not be any more colloquia this semester. The colloquia on travel funding and how to correctly submit your thesis/dissertation will be held in Spring semester.

RCI Steering Committee Representative

Jacob Wells noted that there is a committee meeting this Thursday that he will attend where the committee will discuss incorporating a transferable RCI course to junior colleges further.

NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

Sarah Schraeder announced she had uploaded a variety of HGSA documents to the CougSync account for HGSA. She would like to invite all HGSA members to join CougSync in order to use this site to upload relevant information about HGSA, including meeting minutes, the HGSA Constitution and By-Laws, and other important documents. It also allows a variety of other benefits. All present members approved this and invitations will be sent out when all HGSA officers have reviewed the list.

The next HGSA meeting date will be announced at the beginning of the Spring 2014 semester.

Sarah Schraeder adjourned the meeting at 8:30AM.