

To attend in person:

The CUB, 2nd floor, the junior ballroom.

To join via Zoom:

https://wsu.zoom.us/j/99876233332?pwd=Yb4CxcU1K8d8hwUoAAlLAcEbWax14J.1&from=addon

Meeting ID: 998 7623 3332

Passcode: 653407

GPSA Senate Attendance Form:

https://forms.office.com/r/GSqts8TZjT

GPSA Senate Absence Request Form:

https://forms.office.com/r/YUiuuW1Pq1

If you want to add items to the agenda, please email the Executive Vice President by the Wednesday before Senate meetings. Minor edits to this agenda can also be suggested over email.

Pay close attention to the Guest Speaker. You are expected to engage in conversation and ask pertinent questions. Some prior research is encouraged so that questions and comments are well-informed.

Here's the agenda:

• 05:30 | Call to Order

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

https://forms.office.com/r/MMqSQcqmj0

- Andrew Sutherland: I motion to approve the September 9th, 2024, meeting.
- Anna Ivanova: Second
- Do you approve of the 9/9/2024 meeting minutes?
 - o Yes: 34
 - o No: 0
 - o Abstain: 1
- Marwa Aly: Voting is done, and the motion carries.

Approval of the Agenda

https://forms.office.com/r/cbDYx7GV5e

- Madison Honig: I motion for the approval of the agenda for September 23rd, 2024.
- Anna Ivanova: Second
- Discussion:



- Edmund Larbi Afari: The agenda says the Budget Plan is for 2023-2024 when it should say 2024-2025.
- o Marwa Aly: Yes, we will edit that within the agenda.
- o **Arpita Sinha**: We received the updated agenda 15 minutes before the meeting and could not review it. So, I don't know if the GPSA bylaws approve that. At the same time, it would be helpful to have the speakers' names rather than just their positions.
- o Marwa Aly:
- Do you approve of the 09/23/2024 meeting agenda?

o Yes: 43

o No: 0

o Abstain: 1

- Marwa Aly: Since we reached a majority, the motion carried.
- 05:45 | Guest speaker

Resource navigator.

Please share as many questions as possible with our guest speakers using the following form: https://forms.office.com/r/EBg6uqh2Gz

- Marwa Aly:
- Benefits Navigator, Office of the Dean of Students, Washington State University
 - Contact Information:

Office: 509-335-5757

o Email: <u>annalei.santos@wsu.edu</u>

- Annalei H. Santos: My job focuses on providing services to WSU graduate students, including meeting with students one-on-one, conducting research and relaying information, helping them apply for local and state services, and collecting and relaying data for WSAC. At the same time, I can help find resources on childcare assistance, financial assistance, food security, health and wellness resources, housing security, and utility assistance.
- Scheduling an appointment through the office of the Dean of Students webpage, filling out and submitting the request form, and email confirmation.



- o https://deanofstudents.wsu.edu/student-resources/
- Golrokh (Rose): Our international students are not eligible for some federal funding, and sometimes, even if they need help, they need assistance. They may not reach out to you because they think it may impact their visa status, green card, or anything else, so can they rely on the fact that when they reach out to you, they can be sure that we won't impact you know anything that they are not eligible, for it will be communicated with them. They can be sure it causes no problems for them. Can we assume that? This is what you are taking care taken care of.
- Annalei H. Santos: I've only worked with 2 in, not international. But graduate students. I'm learning as I go. So, I also want to reassure you all that as I'm going, I'm learning that your privacy and kind of status are protected with me. I'm not. I'm not going to. You know how you all are, giving your information to the wrong people or doing more with your stuff than I must. I'm here to help you find what you need and what you qualify for. So, I will always work with the most confident confidentiality when working with you all and any student because that's the respect you deserve when you're looking and seeking help. You don't want someone to return and say, "Oh, you don't qualify for this. This is like, No, I can. I'm here to help you find what you qualify for. Yeah, I'm totally. Yeah, it's a very valid concern to bring up. You know, someone's status may be at risk. But again, I'm an advocate now for anybody trying to complete their degree regardless of their citizenship status.
- Attah Austine: What's the difference between what the navigator does and what a case manager does? Also, is there a way for your services to help streamline the process rather than being passed around from person to person?
- Annalei H. Santos: Case managers refer to me regarding referrals for resources. I help streamline the process of emergency funding, but one person reviews the energy funding process.
- **Madison Honig:** Could you speak on different issues that you are working towards addressing, such as food insecurity?
- Annalei H. Santos: In terms of initiatives and working more towards addressing issues, this position is one of those steps to bring attention to these issues. One of the opportunities is a community pop-up market, which will help provide education and resources to students. Before I meet with you all, I will bring those concerns to my superiors.
- 06:00 | 15-minute Dinner
- 06:15 | New Business

Vote to approve the Budget plan for 2024-2025



https://forms.office.com/r/id9i9Ynwr3

- Marwa Aly: We would like to vote to approve the budget. But before we do so, does anyone have any questions about this year's Budget plan?
- Haden Kingrey: I emailed you a week ago about having a more detailed and specific itemized budget. However, we never received a more specific breakdown of the budget.
- Marwa Aly: The budget breakdown can be found in the Excel sheet.
- Haden Kingrey: I still need a more detailed breakdown of the chairs.
- Marwa Aly: I can tell that we have the operation, the executive account, the scholarships, the travel grants, the community affairs, the legislative affairs, the university affairs, and the communication. That's the cost breakdown for them. So, we don't have more details on these accounts now. If that makes sense and double time, does that make sense? I can tell that we have the operation, the executive accounts, the scholarships, the travel grants, the community affairs, the legislative affairs, the university affairs, and the communication. That's the cost breakdown for them. So, we don't have more details on these accounts and double time.
- Edmund Larbi Afari: You mentioned in the legislative agenda that we don't have money for Federal advocacy, but I see money allocated to it. So, I'm just wondering if there's been a change quickly.
- Tathagata Pal: Check which document you are referring to for this year's resources. But then I see the budget, and there's money allocated to Federal Advocate. So today, we will approve the allocation, which is different from how the committee will spend that. So whatever you see here under each committee heading is like what happened, what has happened in the past. So it's not necessary that is what we have! What happened in the past? We are going to continue spending on that. It's generally the case, but at least for the history reference. It's like many times. It's not the case. So we still need to decide what to spend the money on.
- Edmund Larbi Afari: Okay, I get it. But then, this is a bit deceptive in the future because if we put on these numbers, you have items listed. Then I know that. Okay, you have the budget for yourself. But then, if you are saying it is impossible to go back strictly, the Senate is putting on your budget. But then you go ahead and use it for something else.
- **Tathagata Pal:** Yeah, I can see what you're getting at. And I agree with you that we need to update the number tomorrow.
- Marwa Aly: Which numbers?
- **Tathagata Pal:** Like the detailed budget numbers we have under each committee.
- Marwa Aly: These numbers are different from two years ago. This is the sheet for 24-25 that we all work on, and everyone has access to it. Today, we are voting on the total allocation for each committee, and each committee is responsible for allocating the money between their activities. Then, they will return to us and share how they will spend the money.



- Niyi' Ogunkoya: My concern is, why can't we have the expenditures? Are the expected expenses of each committee spelled out for us? That is transparency. So if, in the end, they are not expecting the money, we can return it to the coffers, but for transparency and equity. I think having all of these expected expenses broken down into a budget is worthwhile. That is a good representation of our people. Thank you.
- Marwa Aly: Can I add that they need to know how much they should expect in their account to set all together as a committee with their chair and discuss their plan? Does that make sense? Because you can. Now, let me give a motion that is okay. I want to change the budget for the programming from 17,000 to 20,000. Does that make sense? So that's why this is a suggested bucket, and we need to allocate the total budget for all of them to know. Okay, that's the end. That's what we have. We need to make them. Does that make sense?
- Madison Honig: I want to echo what our senators have brought up: requesting a more transparent budget as a committee chair. I would be happy to present the rough budget that I presented to my committee, and I think this is something that we can circulate at the next meeting, and I will, you know, in my responsibility, urge other committee college representatives to do the same. So, I thank you for bringing up those points. I want to speak about how you allocated the budget for each committee. I knew last year we had to submit a request for a certain amount of money. All that money we requested actually got cut by a certain percentage. Suppose you could speak to that. That would provide additional transparency about how those budgets have been individually allocated. But I agree that we should submit a more transparent budget.
- Marwa Aly: How did we allocate or suggest this amount between all the categories? 1st of all, the operation. We need control of the operations because operations are benefits and scholarships, and some are ours. So, as a budget chair. I don't have any control over the operations. And it's almost 50% of what? What of what we receive? The rest of the budget we received was all shared last year before the S&A request. They shared their request for this year. How much they think that can be the budget that they, or others, or the future chairs can work with, and we shared all the numbers with the S&A committee in a presentation. But unfortunately, we didn't receive what we asked for all the committees that went to the S&A. Request. They all challenge the accounts in the request; according to Scott, the request that the budget Committee received from all the chairs cut ex. So it's almost 7 to 10% to cut for what they requested. So, this cut was according to and based on the cut that GPSA received from the S&A Allocation Budget. And what we propose right now is to allocate these numbers after the cuts to each account. I am with everyone to share a detailed budget. But again, until this point, as a budget chair, I don't have the detailed budget for each committee because they still need to share their plans and discuss them with their committee members. Then, they come back and share this plan with us, but we need to approve the total amount allocated to them. Suppose I shared the details with you; these



could be their activities. But it's not the final activities from their from their end.

- Haden Kingrey: I understand what you're getting at that we approve on the committee total budgets, but I think a lot of our concerns are because, as you said, we got a budget reduction overall for my constituents. We are very concerned about the travel grant the Union is trying to negotiate for. GPSA must travel, Grant. So, my concern is ensuring that as much money as possible is allocated. Say to the travel grants, so it's based on me. And this may be the case for many senators. I don't think we're satisfied with the justification for how this money is allocated. For example, I'm just looking at it now, looking at advertising communications, \$250 for advertising, \$750 for communications. I don't know if that money should go towards travel grants or not or towards a different committee. So those are my concerns, and maybe those of the other Senators and Representatives who have spoken.
- Marwa Aly: So it's almost every executive meeting right now. Every week, we discuss increasing the budget for the travel grants. You know, and I will share what I shared in the last execution in the previous execution meeting, that at the beginning of the spring, we will see each committee and how much they have plus. We should reallocate the child care money to the travel grants because, with the child care opportunities that the University offers for all the students, that makes sense and should be. Sa can provide opportunities for the French. Does that make sense? So I hear you, everyone here on the Executive Board listening to you, and all the Senators for their concerns about the travel grants. Yes, we need to increase the mind—the budget for the travel grants.
- **Joseph Siaw Akowuah:** I move to vote on the budget for the 2024-2025 year.
- Nazua Idris: Second.
- Niyi' Ogunkoya: When I was wondering, considering the volume of discussions that we have had concerning this budget, I would suggest that we step down on this budget. Each committee will go back and work on the basic things that constitute their budget's result and represent that for clarity and transparency. And on that note, I wouldn't know if I should move another countermotion. So we need. If there is a motion, we need to vote first, and then after, everyone will vote. Yay, or nay, we can return to your motion. But we need to vote on this motion motion first.st Okay? So, on that note. My concern is that we should rework the budget and maybe break it down in a way that a layperson would understand, considering the content there.
- Marwa Aly: Okay, So I would like to emphasize something. Suppose you all agree to postpone this voting until the next meeting. That's fine. We can have a session about the budget at the next meeting. Each committee member or chair has with you all their plan with their committee to spend the money.



- **Ricardo Rivero:** We are discussing. So, it should be the reverse instead of just approving the whole number and then breaking it down. 1st, we plan. We have come up with a detailed list of where we will spend the money and then spend it. Approach the budget at the next meeting.
- **Haden Kingrey:** If we were to approve the budget today, as you mentioned that you may or may not, you may need more or less based on what your committee is allocated, based on this approval. Would we then need to amend the budget?
- **Tathagata Pal:** The budget you are seeing now is based on the recommendation of the previous committee chairs, which helps shape the next administration's budget.
- Do you approve the Budget Plan for 2024-2025?

o Yes: 41

o No:26

o Abstain: 0

- Marwa Aly: We did not reach a 2/3rds majority; therefore, the motion did not pass.
- Niyi' Ogunkoya: I would like to motion to table the budget for the next meeting so that GPSA senators will receive a detailed breakdown by then.
- Madison Honig: Second
- **Desmond Aboagye:** If we were to approve the budget today, as you mentioned, you may or may not need more or less based on what your committee is allocated based on this approval. Would we then need to amend the budget?
- Tathagata Pal: If I understand this correctly, each committee chair would need to come up with a detailed budget test explanation. Right? So, should we make these based on the current allocation? Exactly. Or should we write down whatever we want to do on these allocations?
- Marwa Aly: No, you based your expenses.
- Voice vote:
 - O Yay's had a majority, whereas nay had no one speak up.

Approve the legislative agenda

https://forms.office.com/r/L3KF90Xemm

- **Tathagata Pal:** Our plan for this legislative agenda includes the following:
 - City Level: Merged Bus Route, which we worked on last year and will continue this year with lobbying for merged bus



routes. This will merge the Apartment Land Express and the Campus routes.

- Niyi' Ogunkoya: My concern is, what is the result? What are you trying to achieve by measuring these lines?
- Tathagata Pal: Yeah, thank you so much. Me for this great question. So we did a survey last year. Gpsa pushed out a survey last year asking students what they want Gpsa to work on. And when we presented them with this specific idea, most said this would be beneficial. So the thing here, like how we are looking at this, is, if it is not, maybe it is not being helpful to all the value production students, but at least it could if it could help, like 30%, 40% of the value professional students without harming the rest. Then, this is an acceptable solution. Right? So that's what we, our logic was because we pushed out the survey last year and, like many of the rally production suits, they say that they would love to see this Mosh route. So, since we started working on that, we are continuing this year.
- Anna Ivanova: I have a question about your argument. I think there was a survey. I submitted the survey and am trying to remember the exact code or anything like this being mentioned there. There were some questions regarding the distance from the campus, but I did not remember anything mentioned in the story about the merge.
- Tathagata Pal: It asked students if they want GPSA to work on transportation, housing, or other issues. Transportation was one of the problems that GPSA needed to work on. Then, when we sat with our committee and came up with this plan, we presented the same thing last year in the Senate meeting, and it was passed through the synagogue like a Senate approved. Yes, GPSA should continue working on this merge route proposal. So that's why we started working on them, and since we didn't get it, we are still working on it.



- **Gaurav Narang:** I assume they made flagging specifically for merging these two routes so we don't have to walk in the snow and all those issues. So now they spend money to address these issues. If you merge like this, would it make it redundant? The planning store?
- **Tathagata Pal:** So we also actually pondered about this question a lot. And we also thought of similar questions from the Admins, like, would this make the flagland redundant? So our thinking about this is so. The Flagland is a transit hub. So, when buses from different routes come and stop at that hub, it does not necessarily mean that a route has to terminate at that point. So, like every other bus route, it would go through the Apartment Lands, and the people who need to get down and change the buses can do so. But if people need to go to the other side of the campus, they can stay on the bus and keep going with that bus. So that was the rationale behind this: Apartment Lands is necessary. We are friends, optional students. We love them, but having the merged route is not detrimental to the cause—the reason why Apartment Lands was set up.
 - State Level: WCCC Work-Exemption focuses on how graduate and professional students currently need to be eligible for the work exemption in the WCCC program. This changes the RCW language to explicitly incorporate graduate and professional students for the WCCC work exemption.
 - State Level: Provost: GPSA will have a budget ask for creating a survey led by WSAC to gather data on affordability and availability regarding on-campus and off-campus childcare.
- Edmund Larbi Afari: I move to approve the legislative agenda.
- Anna Ivanova: Second.
- Madison Honig: Could you send out more information or the flier with the legislative agenda?
- Approval of the Legislative Agenda:



o Yes: 43

o No: 3

o Abstain: 0

Nominations

- Nazua Idris: Hello, everyone. This is now. And I apologize. This one is different from the updated one. We have just one addition to that, and that's my fault because I missed one nomination. So, I added that later. So I'll go one by one. Here's a quick recap of how we sort out all the nominations. So we got all these nominations plus one, so she was nominated for communication for the vacant seat in communication, but she declined. So, the next available candidate was Zara, who was nominated for two positions. She was the only person who got two nominations. So we moved her to that vacant position and got some nominations for Ed psychology. But we gave the position to Portia, who is from Ed. Psychology. According to the bylaws, when someone is nominated for a vacant position from the same department, the priority is given to that particular person and then to the vacant position in Connors, which was for human development. We got all.
- We got several nominations for that position. But 1st, we gave that position to someone nominated from the college, minor, not from the same department, but from the same college. But when they declined. We reached out to these two people who were initially nominated for human development, and we have added one more person here whose name you cannot see because this is not the updated one; that particular person is from GPSA, and they were nominated for, like any available Senators, Senator at prominent position and then we have two nominations from us for the School of Music. Vacancy. Since we have yet to receive any nomination from the school of music. We just decided that we would do our voting, and then the final one was for the College of Investment. But someone else was nominated for this particular position. So, we will move forward and use our remaining nominations for this specific position. I want to give you a quick recap. You can see all the comments there. If you have any questions, please let me know.
- Niyi' Ogunkoya: So I want to suggest that there are subsequent dealings we make. We try as much as possible to present updated documents to allow Senators to make the best of their decisions. That's my observation. I thank you for listening.
- Nazua Idris: Thank you so much. I agree with what you were saying. However, with the nominations, the problems were with us rather than the nominated people. They just made last-minute decisions to decline things. So that's why we're looking best, but if you want to move any of these items to the next meeting. That's fine, too. Some nominations still need to be changed for the agenda and presentation. So, if anyone has any concerns about the ones that have been changed and if you want to table that for the next meeting, we can do that for transparency. So just let us know. So next, we need to move and vote on the Senator's nomination for educational psychology and communication.
- o **Edmund Larbi Afari**: So usually, when we are doing the regular elections, senators put forth a manifesto for people to read and vote for them, and when we are also voting



for college reps, they come here. They tell us why we should vote for them. So why don't we do the same for cylinders?

- O Nazua Idris: According to the bylaws, we go through the same process if we have more than 15% maintenance. However, since we had only five vacant seats, we went according to the priorities; for example, as I mentioned, the Ed Psych's position was vacant, so the person nominated from inside got the priority. They got the position situation if that makes sense. Then, next was like, Okay, someone needs to be selected or nominated from a department, probably from that college that went to that person. Someone got two nominations versus someone got one nomination, like, you know, there are degrees of like rules that we follow, or even when we have like small amounts of and as far as I know that if we go to that, you know portfolio system where someone would post things, and then they were recording. And we also have to spend money to get that platform. So you know, also to save the money. But thank you so much for the question.
- ➤ Senators' nomination for Educational Psychology and Communication

https://forms.office.com/r/EGAVzDG8d8

- Tathagata Pal: I motion to vote on the Senators nominated for Educational Psychology and Communication.
- Andrew Sutherland: Second
- Ajay Barman:
- Nazua Idris:
- Approval of the Senators' nomination for Educational Psychology and Communication

o Yes: 57

o No: 2

o Abstain: 1

> Senators' nomination for Human Development (3 candidates)

https://forms.office.com/r/pAjjt5EP8t

- o **Hesam Abbasi:** Hello, everyone. My name is Hassan. I'm a 3rd year. PhD, a student in **electronics.** Yeah, that's it. I'm running for the
- o position of human development Senator. So, can I answer any questions with the IP?
- Edmund Larbi Afari: I motion to vote on the Senators nominated for Human Development.
- o Folake Okor: Second
 - Approval of the Senators' nomination for Human Development.

o Anup Parajuli: 32

o Abraham Ofori: 16

o Hesam Abbasi: 31



- **Joseph Siaw Akowuah:** I motioned to table the remaining voting at the next meeting.
- Anna Ivanova: Second.
- Marwa Aly: For those who approve the tabling, please say yay. Now, for those who are against the tabling, please say nay. Now, for those who are abstaining, please raise your hand.
 - o Yay's had a majority
- ➤ Senators' nomination for the School of Music (2 candidates)

https://forms.office.com/r/uDy8msctvt

- Approval of the Senators' nomination for the School of Music.
 - o Yes:
 - o No:
 - o Abstain:
- ➤ Senators' Nomination for the College of Veterinary Medicine (Professional/DVM, two candidates)

https://forms.office.com/r/c8Gm6t8UgL

- Approval of the Senators' nomination for the College of Veterinary Medicine.
 - o Yes:
 - o No:
 - o Abstain:
- 07:30 | Adjournment

GPSA Executive Board Reports

Please get in touch with the corresponding individual if you need clarification or have any questions.

President and Executive Board Chair-Ajay Barman; presgpsa@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- o Coug vote with collaboration with ASWSU
- o GPSA report to the Board of Regents
- o Travel grant application review
- o Presidential Search Committee listening session

Meeting attended:



- Meeting with Faculty senate
- o Meeting with Interim Vice-Chancellor
- o Meeting with the WSU Transportation team
- Virtual SGC steering meeting
- o Meeting with ASWSU DOLA



- Special meeting with WSU Transportation
- o Meeting with ASWSU President
- o Meeting with ASWSU vice president
- o Meeting with Programming Committee chair
- o Meeting with IAC chair
- Meeting with PDI chair

Executive Vice President and Budget Chair- Marwa Aly; vpgpsa@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- o Prepare the Senate agenda.
- Sponsorship funds for RSOs.
- o Present budget overview during the senate meeting

Meeting Attended

- o Meeting with Interim Vice-Chancellor
- o RSO meetings as requested.

Vice President of Legislative Affairs and Chair of Legislative Affairs—Tathagata Pal; gpsa.vpla@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- o At the City level, working with WSU TAG to get the Figure-8 bus route
- At the State level, working on a budget proviso to create a task force for childcare support survey
- At the State level, I am working on a bill to incorporate graduate and professional students for WCC work exemption
- o Travel grant application review
- o I attended the Washington Student Association (WSA) retreat with the GPSA President.

Meeting Attended:

- Weekly GPSA executive team meeting
- Weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- o Meeting with Pullman City Council member Carla de Lira
- o SGC legislative affairs meetings



o WSA Graduate student meeting



Chair of Internal Affairs—Nazua Idris; gpsa.internal@wsu.edu Task Completed:

- o Finalized the senator-at-large nominations and made preparations for the voting
- o Co-presented with the GPSA VP at the Senators' Meeting
- o Resolved several issues regarding Senators' accommodation requests
- o Resolved several problems regarding Senators' apportionment
- o Updated the list of Senators based on their college for the committee chairs

Meeting attended:

- o Met with the GPSA President and VP regarding senator-at-large nominations, bylaws, and inclusive language
- o Attended Senators' Meeting
- Met with the Dean of Students and Access Center Staff regarding inclusive election and programming
- Attended Exec Board Meeting

Chair of Communications- Andrew David Sutherland; gpsa.communications@wsu.edu

Task Completed:

- o GPSA Website Updates
- o Developing a University Committee Webpage for GPSA
- o Collecting teaching resources for students.
- o Lauren's Lap Social Media Promotion/Slate Announcements/Daily Evergreen Developed
- o Promoted PDI events
- Social Media Promotion of GPSA Executive Members.

Meeting attended:

- o Bi-weekly GPSA executive board meeting
- o S&A Committee Meeting
- o GPSA Communication Team Meeting



Chair of University Affairs-Golrokh (Rose) Maleki; gpsa.university@wsu.edu

Tasks Completed:

- o Updating the university committees
- o Introducing our Representatives to University Committees

Meeting attended:

- o Student and University Affairs Committee meeting
- o Meeting with ASWSU