

April 19, 2024

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: Washington State University (WSU) Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Report

SUBMITTED BY: Ajay Barman, President and Executive Board Chair, WSU GPSA

On behalf of GPSA, I would like to thank the Board of Regents for your continued support of WSU graduate and professional students. It is with great pleasure that I report the following:

Key Efforts:

- **GPSA Election 2024-25:** All of the 72 positions, including three executive officers, eight college representatives, and sixty-one senators, are elected positions. GPSA successfully conducted its general election 2024-25 and filled its positions for President, Vice president, and Vice President of Legislative Affairs, including 30 senators. The election result received a two-thirds majority vote in the GPSA Senate on March 18, 2024. Our open election application process is ongoing to fill the three vacant college representatives at large and thirty-one senator-at-large positions.
- **GPSA Food Pantry referendum:** During the GPSA general election 2024-25, we have the Cougar Food Pantry Funding referendum on the ballot. GPSA reached the majority to pass the referendum. This referendum would establish an increase in Student & Activity fees that would go into effect beginning in the Fall 2024 semester. Each semester, the fee would be \$5 per graduate student on the Pullman campus. This one-time fee increase will continue annually. The fee will be incurred by all fee-paying Pullman campus graduate students enrolled in the Fall and Spring semesters. Additional funding provided by the graduate student fee will help stock the Cougar Food Pantry with food and hygiene supplies. Graduate and undergraduate students will now be contributing to the operation and decision-making processes of the Cougar Food Pantry. Approval from the BOR is required for the fee to take action.
- **GPSA Research Exposition & Academic Showcase:** GPSA organized a research exposition in collaboration with the graduate school on March 28, 2024, between 9-12 PM. This event allows WSU graduate and professional students to present their original research while competing for awards in different submission categories. Over seventy students participated this year to discuss their research through a poster presentation.
- **Socialization events:** Our graduate and professional student community come to Pullman, leaving their friends and family at home. That's why our GPSA programming committee hosts fun events to ensure our graduate students can socialize. Some of our events after the March BOR meetings are Sexual Health Awareness Drag Bingo, Rock climbing and pickleball, Full Moon Sound Bath, and Invasive Weeding party.