

March 07, 2025

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 General Election:** The application period for the GPSA general election 2025-26 opens from Feb 3rd - 17th, 2025, at 11:59 pm. We are looking to fill 72 positions, including the president, Vice President, Vice President of Legislative Affairs (VPLA), eight college representatives, and 61 senators representing their departments. Our candidate debate is scheduled to be on March 3rd, 2025, from 5:30-7:30 pm during the senate meeting.
- **Promoting Student Wellbeing:** This semester, we are launching our "Serving Spoons: Crafting Nutritious Meals on a Budget" on Mar 18 at 4 pm in Butch's Den. This event will focus on the importance of nutrition for wellbeing and tactics to achieve them. Our International Women's Day Movie Event is on Mar 21 at 5 pm, where we are planning to show the movie "Barbie," including speeches from guest speakers. We are partnering with WSU UREC to host UFit4.0 to encourage students to have an active lifestyle.
- **GPSA Research Exposition & Academic Showcase:** Each year, GPSA organizes a Research exposition where WSU graduate and professional students have a forum for presenting their original research while they are competing for awards in different submission categories. We are currently accepting research abstracts from the students (Deadline January 22, 2025), which will undergo a rigorous evaluation process. This year, we will organize the event on March 27, 2025.
- **Professional Development Initiative:** Each year, GPSA hosts a series of events to help the graduate and professional student population develop their professional skills, which can't be achieved inside a classroom setting. Our next event is "Formatting your Thesis or Dissertation" on Feb 19, from 10 am -12 pm. In the Spring of 2025, we hosted events like "Professional Headshot" and "Python Working Group: An Introduction for Graduate Students."
- **Community Engagement:** As a part of the Pullman community, GPSA hosts a series of events to build a stronger bond with community members. Our next event is Restaurant Friday at Tokyo Seoul, Pullman. This initiative started during the COVID period with the intent to support local businesses where we provide incentives to students (\$10 to the first 50 students) to visit a local restaurant.