

January 26, 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:

- **Coug Day at the Capitol:** The GPSA attended Coug Day at the Capitol on January 22, 2024, with the Associated Students of Washington State University (ASWSU) across the WSU campuses through the Student Government Council (SGC). Ten graduate and professional students were part of 80 cougs to meet with 90 legislatures at Olympia, Washington, to advocate for higher education.
- **Fundraising Reception initiative for a travel grant:** The GPSA hosted a Fundraising Reception to support GPSA's Travel Grants initiative on March 1, 2024. Due to decreased funding from the Service and Activity (S&A) committee, we had to decrease our GPSA Travel Grants budget from \$120K in 2020-21 to \$80K in 2023-24. Attending conferences is important to a graduate student's academic journey, so we have selected this mission to fundraise for! 100% of our proceeds during this event will go towards this endeavor. This travel grant fundraising initiative will benefit all graduate and professional students.
- **Professional Development Initiative (PDI) events:** GPSA-PDI is jointly administered by WSU Graduate School and GPSA. Here is the list of events that GPSA hosted for the students after January: Financial Literacy with Cougar Money Matters on February 6, 2024, Writing the Conclusion for a Research Article: A Graduate Writing Center Collaboration on February 27, 2024
- **Programming events planning for socialization:** 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 January BOR meetings are the Candle-making workshop, Restaurant Friday at O-Ramen, and Ex Throwing.
- **GPSA Election 2024-25:** GPSA is holding a general election for the academic year 2024-25 between March 4 and 8, 2024. We received applications for President, vice president, Vice president of legislative affairs, six college representatives, and thirty-five senator applications.
- **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 competing for awards in different submission categories. We received 150 abstracts for this year, and our Award and Scholarship committee is reviewing the applications to finalize the top 60 abstracts.