



← Please welcome our awesome new logo!

GPSC General Assembly Meeting Agenda: January 21, 2014: 6:30pm, 0016 Westbrook

Presiding Officer: Shannon O'Connor

Refreshments: Abbe LaBella

6:30pm: Welcome and Call to Order

Shannon O'Connor

6:31pm: Invited Speakers

Young Trustees: Kate Duch, PhD and Malik Burnett, MD MBA

- Malik: elected 2 years ago, MD-MBA
 - GA Question: Can you give an overview of what the YTs do?
 - You are the graduate student rep among the board of trustees (BoT) and attend the 4 meetings per year, where the BoT will discuss a number of issues
 - He sits on two committees: Facilities & Environment, and the Medical Center
 - F&E: discusses what buildings are being built, what they'll look like, what the future plans for buildings are
 - While sitting on a number of committees, you try to represent the interests of graduate students. It's not an advocacy position, but rather you give the perspective of the graduate student. You bring that voice to issues that would otherwise be overlooked at the board level
 - The 2 graduate YTs work together to ensure that issues that affect graduate students are brought to the board's attention
 - GA Question: What are the qualities of a good YT?
 - Good understanding of graduate student issues
 - Having commitment and passion. You will have to be at 4 meetings in the year which are very time intensive. You will hear about a number of important issues and meet a lot of people. This requires commitment and passion
 - Committed to putting in the time
 - Ability to talk
 - GA Question: What is fun about being a YT?
 - Once you leave Duke, the real world is not as cool. It's nice to come back at Duke
 - GA Question: What are the most important issues Duke over the next 10 years? And facing graduate students?
 - Duke has to figure out how to remain competitive. We have gotten to a place where we are considered an elite university, but now we have to continue to be cutting edge and advance academia.

- We need to continue looking at how grad students are performing when they leave school (what are they doing, where are they getting job placements?)
 - We need more resources dedicated to graduate students at Duke. In particular, resources to help students translate their skills to the real world.
 - We need to look at whether more masters programs or graduate programs are needed.
- GA Question: Do you enjoy being a YT?
 - It's fun. You get to meet cool people, and come back to Duke.
 - There is a lot of reading though
- GA Question: What is the least attractive part of being a young trustee?
 - There can be some topics at meetings that are less entertaining than others, but you should make a point to pay attention. Pick committee positions that you are more likely to stay focused on.
- GA Question: Why don't you feel that you have much of an impact as you did when going in?
 - As a graduate student, you only get 2 years on the board. The 1st year you are an observer. This inherently limiting your impact.
- GA Question: Do you feel that your voice is respected and taken as an equal?
 - Absolutely. Everyone is excited to have you there.
- GA Question: How many years do you think you would need to sit on the board to feel that you make greater impact?
 - Probably 3 years, which is the term of the undergraduate young trustee. We represent more students than they do. 3 years as a starting point would be good
- Kate Duch could not be present at today's meeting
- Any other questions?
 - Paul Triulzi (Liberal Studies): will Katy speak to us in the future?
 - Answer: We will try to schedule her for the next meeting. There are 10 grad students sitting on standing committees, they also know things about the BoT as well.
 - How many trustees are there?
 - There are 37 trustees
 - There is a dedicated website for BoT. Please check it out
 - Each standing committee has at least 1 grad student.
 - There is also an exec board of the BoT that meets in the interim between meetings to set the agendas

7:00pm: Welcome Back, Outline of the New Semester, and GPSC GA Retreat 2014

Shannon O'Connor

- What the GA accomplished last semester
 - Passed fall budget
 - Got people to read GPSC news
 - Been great at brainstorming. Much of this coming to fruition
 - Attended happy hours, strengthened relationships between members of the GA
 - Attended community and social events

- Passed housing resolution
- Record attendance at GA meetings
- Formed a bunch of new committees which we will hear about in the upcoming meetings this semester
- What the executive board accomplished last semester
 - Amol Yadav (President):
 - Starting a housing committee over the summer, which drafted a resolution that was passed by the GA, which Amol then took to the administration to acted upon
 - Projects our public image
 - Went to the NAGPS meeting along with Shanna Lehrman
 - Is creating a vision document to guide GPSC through the upcoming decades
 - Brad Hover (Attorney General)
 - Helps the GA own parliamentary procedure
 - Revising and interpreting the bylaws
 - Eden Ellis (Financial Officer)
 - Leads the finance committee
 - Manages a huge budget
 - Made the first ever YouTube video to help student groups get through the funding application cycle
 - Betty Jiang (Secretary)
 - Keeps track of the appointed reps, manages attendance
 - Sends out the meeting minutes soon after the meetings (sort of 😊)
 - Shanna Lehrman (University Affairs Coordinator)
 - Elected to an exec position on the NAGPS
 - Manages committee (external and internal) appointments for all the GA reps
 - Is working on make the committee application process more efficient for next year
 - Yilin Liu (Academic Officer)
 - Has been holding very successful lunch meetings with administrators and students, allowing students to have more contact with admins to ask important questions
 - Abbe LaBella (Student Group Liaison)
 - Coordinates student groups withUCAE
 - Running Bridging GaPS, which put on the pumpkin and game night events
 - Helping us transform the GPSC house to be a useable social space
 - Tiffany Wilson and Ben Shellhorn (Student Life Co-Chairs)
 - Put on many successful events: Thirsty Thursday, family friendly events, tailgates, etc.
 - Put out the informative Social Survey and incorporated ideas into the events they planned
 - Put out monthly snapshots of GPSC events, and advertised events in many different (and new!) ways to reach the graduate community

- Daniel Brown (Community Outreach)
 - Planned a 5K, soccer tournament, Movember
 - Runs the Facebook GPSC service page
- Junchi Li (Career Services)
 - Has been advocating for career development, and has worked alongside the career services office
- Fumiko Chino (Communications)
 - Puts out the GPSC news each week (and does an amazing job!)
 - Keeps tabs on the website
 - Running the GPSC logo contest
- Patrick Killela and Ralph Michael Peace (basketball co-chairs)
 - Ran a successful basketball campout
 - Met with administrators to discuss problems and policies
 - Lead the basketball committee
- GPSC retreat
 - Last year: we held the GA retreat at the Thomas Center. The goal was to figure out how to reach students who don't normally attend our events, how to make GPSC better on a social level. 67 GA reps attended (basically the entire GA)
 - This year:
 - Instead of a social focus, we are taking an academic one. The goal is to figure out how GPSC can create stronger dialog between schools
 - Thursday March 27th, 6-10pm, Thomas Center at the Fuqua School of Business
 - We have invited all 9 deans of the graduate schools to come. 7 have been confirmed.
 - We will have an informal meet-and-greet where you will talk to your own dean, then have a panel discussion where the deans will discuss their visions, then dinner with the deans, then break into workshops to hone in on ideas
 - One dean who cannot make the retreat will speak at a meeting. Another is unable to make any meetings.
- Looking at the events of this semester
 - Next meeting will be a committee discussion. Bring forth issues you have from your committees, ask for the input of the GA if you'd like, and bring back information to your committees. We will group committees with common issues together. Bring with you ideas of what issues you want to talk about
 - Other things to look out for
 - 2/18: Young Trustee elections, and basketball committee discusses survey results
 - 3/18: we vote on GPSC's budget for next year
 - 3/27 (Thursday): is the retreat. All reps are expected to attend. Your deans will be expecting you
 - 4/1 and 4/15: GPSC executive board elections
 - See slides for more details.

7:10pm: Young Trustee Voting Eligibility

Brad Hover

- Elections of the YT
 - Will occur on 2/18
 - At this meeting, the screening committee will have reduced the candidate pool to 3, and the GA will vote from those 3.
- Spring elections: exec board and standing committees
- Voter eligibility
 - For Young Trustee
 - To vote, you must have attended today's meeting (or send proxy), the next meeting (or send proxy), and be at the 2/18 meeting (no proxy, you have to be there)
 - Bill Hunt (English): Previously, we interpreted the bylaws to mean that you could have attended any 3 meetings prior to the election, not just the immediate 3 meetings before the election
 - Answer: The bylaws were changed last year. The wording "directly prior" was put in because we felt the information was so crucial leading up to elections that we needed people to be there. However, we will send this to the judicial committee to revisit the interpretation of this issue
 - For spring elections
 - To vote, you must attend or send proxy for 2/18, 3/18, 4/1 and 4/5 meetings. Proxies can vote for spring election positions

7:15pm: Spring Funding Approval

Eden Ellis, Abbe LaBella

- The student group funding allocations were put together by the finance committee. This was sent to the GA before the meeting. We are now discussing whether to pass it or not
- Motion to approve the budget request, which was approved. It was called to question and seconded. The GA voted to pass the student group funding as is, without modifications

7:30pm: GPSC Logo Contest Voting

Fumiko Chino

- 5 options of new logos were presented, along with options to keep old logo, or to discard all options and have a new cycle of submissions
- There was an instant runoff voting that returned option 1 below as the favorite after only the first round.
- This logo was approved by the GA by vote



- Fumiko will now clear it with Duke branding office

7:50pm: LDOC T-shirt Contest Announcement and Social Update

Tiffany Wilson, Ben Shellhorn

- Design contest for the LDOC shirt
 - We will be holding a contest for the LDOC shirt design
 - Look in the GPSC news for the submission link
 - Submit a front, or front/back design
 - Deadline is February 14th. This gives us time for the GA to vote on it, have it cleared by the branding office, and time to get it printed before LDOC
 - Please google “Duke Branding Office” and guidelines regarding use of Duke logos, etc will be on it. Follow the rules when making a T-shirt
- Line-up for the semester
 - Winter formal: February 22nd at Parizade after the Syracuse game. The theme is “masquerade” and Bridging GaPS will hold a mask making event beforehand
 - Thirsty Thursdays
 - LDOC event: bigger than last year, since last year was a bigger success than we had anticipated
 - We will be holding more and different types of events
 - Includes events that are drinking-focused, and more family friendly events
 - For example, last week we held Grad Convos at the GPSC house. This is where people split into groups to watch an interesting video, then reconvene to discuss the topic
 - Poker night is upcoming
 - Looking to do events in a smaller setting too

7:55pm: Vision 2020/Strategic Plan Document

Amol Yadav

- Every year, there is a new exec board and new president with new goals. Some goals may carry through for a few years, while other goals are more long term. To have these goals be fulfilled, there needs to be more continuity in goals and commitment from the board on these issues for several years.
- We need to create a strategic plan, which will be a comprehensive document that can be reference by boards and updated each year
- Amol is working on this document and would like your feedback into what goes in it.
 - Do you have suggestions on a good process to use when planning to write it?
 - Do you have ideas on what important issues should be included?
 - How should it be organized?
 - By issue
 - By broader categories
 - Example topics
 - Housing
 - Safety
 - What to use the GPSC house for
 - How to create an environment where faculty support student involvement in GPSC and other campus organizations
 - How do we make GPSC an equal to DSG in 5-10 years?
 - How can we have the University incorporate graduate schedules and priorities in their planning?
- Question: Paul Triulzi (Liberal Studies): What is your timeline?
 - 3 months. End of April
- Things that come up in the retreat will be incorporated into the document

8:00pm: New Issues/Announcements

- Is either basketball co-chair present? Question about whether there are exemptions for nights for the UNC game camping.
 - Please ask the Duke Head Ushers through their Facebook page. At this point, they are running that show rather than the basketball co-chairs
- Have your committees met?
- A new master's program has been created in the history department. It's a joint program between history and the center for documenter studies
- Student Affairs is working on the graduate student housing website

8:10pm: Officer Updates

- Abbe LaBella
 - Met with Chris Roby fromUCAE today. We will be getting an AV system for the GPSC house.
 - She is looking for more ideas for Bridging GaPS events. Please email her with ideas
 - Question: How many people would vision and dental insurance if offered through the Duke insurance plan?

- Many hands were raised.
 - That is something else we would like to push for
- Shanna Lehrman
 - How many are interested in education policy?
 - A number of hands were raised
 - If you are interested, there are some opportunities to get involved on a national level through NAGPS.
 - There are also opportunities to edit a journal and publish through the NAGPS's open access initiative
 -

=8:20pm: Reminders and Wrap-up

- Approval of previous meeting minutes: ok passed
- Don't forget to send out an update to your constituents!
- FREE happy hour at the GPSC house right now: beer, wine, light hors d'oeuvres
- GPSC house address: 306 Alexander Ave.; 27705 (just off Erwin)

8:25pm: Adjournment

GA meetings, 6:30pm, 0016 Westbrook

January 21, 2014

February 11, 2014

February 18, 2014

March 18, 2014

RETREAT: March 27, 2014, R. David Thomas Center, 6-9pm

April 1, 2014

April 15, 2014

April 22, 2014 (tentative)