I. Call to Order
At 6:06
Attendance: Jasmine Sears, Mariia Khorosheva, Juhyung Sun, Sarah Netherton, Joy Veluz, Chandni Parikh, Brandon Smith, Ryan Fagan, Madeline Ryder, Usir Younis, Sierra Fung, Alexander Karaman, Cari Tusing, Caitlin Harrison, Justin Ostrowski, Jim Collins, Mark Ryan, Anne Myers, Preshit Ambade, Chris Sogge, Sarah Kosso, James Geach, Jennifer Sedler, Jared Brock, Katie Strawn, Vic Keschrumrus, Jahaira Vera, Delaney Stratton, Thomas McClintock, James Carlson, Kate Chisholm (proxy by Preshit Ambade), Rohan Beri (proxy by Jasmine Sears).

Guests: Jill Augustine, Wei-Ren Ng, Madelyn Pawlowski.

II. Call to Audience
Jill Augustine, College of Pharmacy
i. J. Augustine: The National Honor Society is open for graduate and professional students.
   1. Many of your colleges have societies, but this will be across the board.
   2. I've brought fliers.
   3. I'm the founding president, I need people to form sessions and elections.
   4. In order to be part of this society, you need to be at least a 2nd year graduate and professional student, top 35 percent, be taking 12 units, and be a proponent of leadership and service.
   5. The participation fee is now 15 dollars, though it may increase to 20 dollars. So it's not too money intensive for grad students.
   6. We will be the first Western chapter. It's an honor to be invited to be part of this society.

ii. B. Smith: Is it top 35 percent across the university or individual colleges?

iii. J. Augustine: It can be seen as both.
   1. It probably means the top 35 % of your college or class.
   2. I don’t have access to the actual GPA numbers for your colleges. Please go see your program coordinator.

iv. J. Sedler: The College of Medicine usually gives pass/fail grades, and the grades can’t be accessed by anyone else. Do we have to release our grades?

v. J. Augustine: I don't know, but probably grades do not need to be released.

vi. J. Sun: If you think someone in your constituency would be interested, let them know.
   1. Invitation to this society will probably be on a case by case basis.

vii. D. Stratton: This is a great opportunity, can online students be involved?

viii. J. Augustine: Yes, as long as you are a degree seeking student.
ix. J. Sears: Find out the GPS for the top 35% in your college, or who is interested.
   1. I will send the link and contact info.

x. A. Karaman: Can we create a generic email to send to constituents?

xi. J. Augustine: Yes, we can, and I can send the flier too.

III. Approvals
   a. September 28, 2015 minutes
      Vote: 30 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain
   b. Research and Project Grants
      i. J. Sears: We are in round 1.
      Vote: 30 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain

IV. Early Reports
   a. Social Chair – J. Veluz
      i. J. Veluz: There are two social events that GPSC is holding.
         1. On Thursday we have the “Romance in Rome” event at the UofA museum.
         2. On Saturday we have the “Haunted Corn Maze”.
         3. GPSC has brought the “Haunted Corn Maze” tickets down to 10 dollars a ticket,
            also alcohol is sold there.
         4. Cat Tran buses will be taking people there. If you have any questions, let me
            know.

V. New Business
   a. Grads Have Debt 2 – S. Netherton
      i. S. Netherton: There is Nationwide campaign to let officials know that we have
         significant amounts of debt, also to inform elected officials of something they are
         not aware of.
         1. It is a social media campaign, held through Facebook and Twitter.
         2. You can retweet back to the elected officials.
         3. If you’re from state other than Arizona, you can tag other officials.
         4. It makes a difference to hit all the people. It only takes a few minutes.
      ii. J. Sun: I sent a link to google docs a few weeks ago, it has sample tweets and
          links.
          1. It also holds some instructions on finding out who people are.
          2. I will re-send the document with instructions.

   b. Legislative Action Days – S. Netherton
      i. S. Netherton: The legislative action days were held earlier last month in DC.
         1. We met 10 out of 11 of people we target.
         2. It was beneficial, and we made some good contacts.

   c. Resolution for Trans-Related Health – S. Netherton
      i. J. Sears: This was sent out over email for voting and information purposes.
      ii. C. Sogge: We are bringing a lot of transgender professors and people in, but there
          is no health care for them.
          1. A lot of other groups are doing it, so there is push to pass this resolution.
      iii. B. Smith: What are the expected affects of this passing?
iv. **C. Sogge:** Added premiums.
   1. I am not sure what the UoF will chose to do, but 5 other peer institutions are passing this resolution.

v. **S. Netherton:** At this point, it would be illegal to include these staff in out health insurance due to state law.
   1. Our premiums will drop significantly, because we won’t be subsidizing anyone in Arizona. Being self-insured will work out well.

vi. **J. Ostrowski:** We do this at the university of Illinois.
   1. We didn’t pay more than 3 dollars for this per person.

vii. **J. Brock:** Are we talking about staff or students in this resolution?

viii. **S. Netherton:** Staff.

ix. **J. Brock:** I am not sure GPSC should be taking the lead on this.
   1. The administration may turn us around on this.

x. **C. Tusing:** I don’t see why we should support this.

xi. **J. Sears:** Some staff members are students, or students can later become staff.

xii. **A. Karaman:** It would be great to pass it as a matter of human rights.

xiii. **J. Ostrowski:** It’s not such a large stretch to support staff as grad students.
    1. The living conditions of staff and faculty will benefit us as students.

xiv. **J. Collins:** Many of the non-degree grad seeking students are staff members.

 xv. **J. Sun:** This resolution is to make sure transgender employees could access healthcare.

xvi. **B. Smith:** The way I read it, it implied that transgender professors have the same health care provided.
    1. They are only excluded from transgender surgery, hormonal treatment, etc.
    2. How common is it that people have these services covered?

xvii. **J. Sears:** Not everywhere, but it’s becoming more and more usual.
    1. People with these services become better employees.

xviii. **C. Sogge:** We need to pass this if we want to be competitive and bring in transgender people.
    1. It is becoming more common in the business world.

xix. **J. Brock:** We can make some word corrections, and vote next meeting.

xx. **S. Netherton:** It is a current issue and this is the best time to pass the resolution.
    1. We should either do it now or not worry about it.
    2. Student insurance already covers all of this.

xxi. **J. Brock:** Should we start advocating on all employee matters?

xxii. **A. Karaman:** This is affecting grad students.
    1. Any rejection of this resolution can be a veiled form of transphobic tendencies.

**Vote: 21 for, 1 opposed, 8 abstain**

xxiii. **S. Netherton:** Here is Wei-Ren, he is our Website and IT Administrator.

xxiv. **W. Ng:** The majority of my current work is the migration of documents.

xxv. **J. Sears:** If you are not on the GPSC listserv, contact him.
W. Ng: Let me know if you need anything, I will be glad to help.

VI. Funding

VII. Staff Reports

VIII. Representative Reports

a. Campus Rec Grad Hours – J. Sedler
   i. **J. Sedler:** I wanted to go to the Rec Center graduate room, but we are only allowed to be there 6 hours per day.
      1. How can we change or extend these hours?
      2. Is it just the College of Medicine reps concerned? Have you heard from other reps as well?
   ii. **S. Netherton:** The gym is always open, just a certain section of it is not open.
      1. Lin is the director of campus health.
      2. She was very receptive of student concerns in past, and always willing to talk.
      3. Maybe you can set up a meeting with her.
   iii. **B. Smith:** The summer fees is where we should pick up a fight again.
   iv. **J. Sears:** We could ask to either possibly extend the hours of that room, or have a poll for which day would be high in demand.
   v. **J. Brock:** Yes, I’m sure Lin will be glad to meet with you.
      1. If you meet with her individually before a general meeting, you will get concrete objections, and then you can bring your main concerns to the bigger meetings.
      2. Also, talk about the gym north of Speedway.
      3. Lin is considering this, they have the extra money, and this is on the list for ways to spend it.
      4. We can ask them about the North of Speedway Gym.
   vi. **J. Collins:** This space has nothing to do with the summer rec fees.
      1. We have talked about the fee before.
      2. I talked to Lin about the room, and she is willing to extend the hours if more people come.
      3. People mainly don’t come because they don’t know about it.
      4. We can put a video tour on our website. This could get more people the necessary information.
   vii. **M. Khorosheva:** We should include this information in an email and send it to the reps, as well as put it in the newsletter.
   viii. **D. Stratton:** I have never heard about this room before.
       1. On the website, it doesn’t even say there is a grad room.
   ix. **W. Ng:** The information about the room is under the “Smart Move Studio”
   x. **J. Sears:** Yes, where to find this information should be much clearer.
   xi. **J. Collins:** Why don’t we draft an email, send it to the constituent, explain where the room is, etc. if more of us go, they can increase hours. Also talk to Lin.
   xii. **J. Sun:** We should be directing this to Sierra, since she sits on the committee.
1. Please consult with the members on the Rec Committee.

xiii. S. Netherton: I would love to have a survey go out, but we need to try to avoid survey fatigue.
1. We do general health surveys.

xiv. M. Khorosheva: I would advise finding out the boundaries of what Lin would recommend.

xv. B. Smith: I agree it’s great to meet with her individually, it’s good to get the topic on her mind.
1. However, I think that until the numbers of graduate students using the room won’t go up, they won’t expand the hours.

b. Help Save Higher Education Petition – A. Karaman
i. A. Karaman: Help us save higher education in Arizona.
1. We are proposing a Petition on education changes in Arizona. I sent it out an hour before the meeting.
2. Its an ongoing effort, there was a lot of energy put into editing.
3. The issues targeted are the issues employees and students face. The petition also considers the economic situation.
4. It is currently circulating, with 150 signatures. It is very contemporary.
5. We can discuss the petition and hopefully sign it, so that there is a group affiliation.

ii. B. Smith: While I agree that this issue needs to be addressed, it focuses on Higher Ed, and not on K-12 education.
1. It is asking the state to solely endorse higher education.

iii. J. Brock: Asking for K-12 support will get zero approval, because of what the K-12 system did to the budget.
1. If we include K-12 in this, it would be diluting the message, and the petition wouldn’t get implemented.

iv. C. Tusing: There is nowhere in the petition that mentions the K-12.
1. There should be multiple tools and platforms for addressing this.
2. We should support the K-12, but we should find other outlets, so that we can get the ball rolling on this petition and present it to ABOR.

v. J. Sears: What do you expect to happen when you bring it up to ABOR?

vi. A. Karaman: People are trying to build a critical mass in Arizona.
1. Many people advocate in the community outside the university.
2. The State of Arizona might not pass the petition.
3. But it can be a resource to other people, newsletters could pick this up. As people sign it, they can communicate between themselves. It is not a panacea.
4. GPSC of course would have written a different petition. But this was a group effort, and many people may be compelled to pass it.

vii. S. Netherton: I mostly agree with these things. My concern is with signing it as organization, as it will hamstring on our ability to talk to people on other levels.
1. If GPSC signs this, it will make negotiation difficult.
2. I am in favor of individuals signing it, but for us as an organization I have real
concerns about this petition.
3. The movement puts pressure from outside.
4. But the power GPSC has on campus is that we get to put pressure from the center
out.
5. We have relationships with people we want to have action with.

viii. **J. Sears:** ABOR was also against budget cuts, so they would support GPSC in that. The
administration too.
1. It was ugly politics that happened with the budget.
2. My mindset is that if you make noise at the right time and place, this will cause
change.
3. Pushing from “outside” and “inside” creates pressure.
4. As members in the GPSC, we participate in certain process inside, as individuals we
can be on the outside too.
5. If we sign on to this, people will not receive it well.

ix. **J. Sun:** What we should consider are the things we can fight for and what we can
achieve in our political climate.
1. We can take budget cuts and try to lower them. The same with tuition hikes: we can
try to slash them, but not to cancel them. There is a lot of compromise.
2. Individually I can agree with the petition, but it probably won’t be supported in the
administration.
3. If we sign it, it will pass as a farce, or tie our hands in the cooperation with ABOR and
the administration.
4. The reality is that if we want to have a say, we can support this petition outside this
room. This is the unfortunate political reality.

x. **M. Ryan:** Collectively this is a great idea.
1. But we have to be good at political jockeying, and be careful about issues.
2. Alex, this petition is good, but if we can get a student regent that can enforce these
changes - that will be better.
3. Let’s not forgo our regent position.

xi. **A. Karaman:** There is no real prof that signing this will prevent our ability to act.
1. Rather than representing our constituents, we are beholden to the administration.
2. We have to work for the graduate students.
3. I have long work relationships with administrators. Administrators often approach
us from backstage and say: “Thanks for providing pressure on us, so that we can do
the job better”.

xii. **J. Sears:** Maybe we can talk about this petition some more during our next meeting?

xiii. **C. Tusing:** The vice president and president’s part of the job is to be uncomfortable.
1. Perhaps this petition will give us a stronger mandate for administration.

xiv. **J. Sears:** There doesn’t seem to be a consensus.
1. We need to talk to our constituents.
M. Ryan: Maybe there is a possibility of signing as individual colleges in GPSC, so some can opt out.

J. Sears: The petition will simply say which colleges have not signed it.
   1. Lets table the discussion.
      Vote: 23 for, 3 opposed, 4 abstain

J. Collins: We are trying to put on an anti-sexual assault workshop on campus through GPSC.
   1. The biggest problem with OASIS is that they are not reaching many people.
   2. I asked if we can watch some of their presentations. Who will be interested in seeing them?

M. Khorosheva: We should try to set up a meeting time doodle poll for those interested in attending.

J. Collins: Yes, we can put something together.
   1. We should try to create workshops that people may want to go to.
   2. We can present the materials in a more powerful way.

J. Sears: So keep an eye out for a poll from Jim.

S. Fung: I asked my constituents for ideas on improving the campus.
   1. They suggested healthy vending machines.

S. Netherton: There are exclusive contracts between the university and vending machine companies.

J. Sears: When do the contracts expire?
   1. The university makes lots of money through those contracts.

M. Pawlowski: Taxes are taken out of the first GA paychecks. I want to see if it is happening in other programs and departments.

IX. Officer Reports
   a. President – S. Netherton
      i. S. Netherton: We had to cancel the vision testing.
         1. I want to thank Jasmine and Cari, they are members of the committee willing to fight hard.
         2. Is anyone interested to walk into the GPSC office to talk about homecoming?
         3. We are changing the way we are judging. Faculty is also judging now.
         4. You can sit down with Kevin and talk to see if the judging process will work.
         5. If you are available, shoot me an email.
      ii. U. Younis: If we can’t make it, can you send an email with info about this?
      iii. S. Netherton: Yes, Kevin might be able to give something in writing.
         1. The student regent application is due next week, and so far we have no applications. It is an important role that we want to be able to rely on.
         2. We have an opportunity to send someone from our campus.
         3. If you are interested – let me know.
      iv. J. Sun: Let your constituents know as well.
         1. We really needs more applications.
v. S. Netherton: Yes, otherwise we will have to delay our deadline.
   1. We want to have graduate students apply especially.
   2. Graduate students have a level of experience and it makes all the difference.
      b. Vice President – J. Sun
         i. J. Sun: If you hold events- advertise them. It is good to broadcast any big events.
      c. Assembly Chair – J. Sears
         i. J. Sears: The Committee of 11 is looking how to donate more money towards endowed chairs.
            1. A few people didn’t get the email about vision testing, so I gave them the information about the 35 dollar vision testing and who to talk to if they are upset.
            2. We are also having “Pitchfest”, it is based on how to make the campus better for graduate students.
            3. You should tell your constituents what “Pitchfest” it.
      d. Treasurer – J. Brock
         i. J. Brock: Nothing to report.
      e. Secretary – M. Khorosheva
         i. M. Khorosheva: We have a Governing Docs meeting tomorrow.

X. Updates

XI. Other Business
   i. Sworn in reps: Jennifer Sedler, Katie Strawn.

XII. Call to Adjourn
At 8:02.