(I) GAPSA Funding

To communicate more effectively with the 12,000+ graduate study body, GAPSA has updated its funding page online and further enhanced applications. Our funding sources include the following:

(1) Travel Funding

Individual Travel Grant (Travel Grant Application): The GAPSA Professional Student Council offers individual professional students up to $300 of funding to defray the cost of academic travel. Contact: Matthew Colo, Vice Chair for Professional Students, gapsa.prof@gmail.com.

President Gutmann Leadership Award (President’s Award Application): President Amy Gutmann, using the proceeds of her 2009 Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award, has generously provided additional funding to GAPSA to augment GAPSA’s funding for graduate and professional student travel. The Carnegie Award funds are a one-time award that will be dispersed to students over the next few years. The President’s Award will be given as a travel grant to students presenting at either an international conference, or a conference within the United States that would normally be out of their budget even with an Individual Travel Grant through the Research or Professional Student Councils. Students must be presenting at the conference to be eligible. The grant applications will be reviewed by a committee made up of 3 research students, 3 professional students, the Vice Chairs for Research and Professional Students, and the Vice Chair of GAPSA. Maximum funding is $2,000 or 50% of the total travel cost, whichever is the lesser of the two. Please contact Ben Ediger, gapsa.research@gmail.com, or Matthew Colo, gapsa.prof@gmail.com, with questions.

(2) Event Funding

Academic Event Funding (Guidelines and Application): Students coordinating an academic event can receive supplemental funding from the Research and/or Professional Student Councils depending on their target student audience. Applicants, in person, are required to describe their target student audience, justify the academic nature of their event and demonstrate their general need of funding. Events specifically contained within one school are not eligible. Please contact Ben Ediger, gapsa.research@gmail.com, or Matthew Colo,

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1 There are separate travel grant applications for research students.
(3) Research Funding

GAPSA-Provost Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation: The GAPSA Research Student Council in conjunction with the Office of the Provost offers $6,000 grants to provide summer support for research projects that promise to harness the knowledge of different academic disciplines to explore societal issues. Individual students or teams of students may apply for this award by submitting a proposal for a summer research project that clearly intends to integrate knowledge across academic disciplines. Please contact Ben Ediger, gapsa.research@gmail.com.

(4) General Funding

GAPSA General Assembly Discretionary Fund (Application): Each year, the GAPSA General Assembly utilizes a $25,000 discretionary fund to support academic and social enterprises that will benefit Penn’s entire graduate student population. To receive funds, applicants must demonstrate, to the General Assembly, how their endeavor will improve graduate and professional student life. Contact James Wiley, Vice-Chair for Finance, gapsa.finance@gmail.com.

(5) Student Group Funding

(Application): GAPSA’s Finance Committee solicits applications from Penn student groups throughout the year and awards funding once in the fall and once in the spring. Groups comprising undergraduates and graduate students are eligible, although all student groups must be registered with the Office of Student Affairs (Register). Those organizations that cater to larger student populations with memberships from a variety of Penn programs typically receive greater funding. Average awards tend to be around the $400 mark. Successful applicants will receive a confirmatory email from the GAPSA VC for Finance and will be asked to submit the letter at the Office of Student Affairs (second floor of Houston Hall) to receive reimbursements, which typically take three weeks. Please contact James Wiley, gapsa.finance@gmail.com, with any questions.

(II) Enhanced GAPSA Logo

Pretty nice, right?

(III) GAPSA Weekly Email

I’m happy to report that 11 of the 12 schools are now receiving the GAPSA weekly and we’re waiting for confirmation from the twelfth. This means that the GAPSA weekly is already reaching 10,000+ students each week, thereby reducing informational disparities among the graduate student community. To sign up so you automatically receive the email, you can enter your information on the right hand side where it says” Subscribe to GAPSA’s newsletter”:
Volunteers Wanted for Memory Study:
Participants will be paid between $20 and $30 for each session (based on performance), and an additional bonus will be given upon completion of all sessions. Contact Joel Kuhn for details: kahanalab@gmail.com

STITCH THERAPY - JOIN US FOR KNITTING, CROCHETING, SEWING & CONVERSATION! @ Penn Women's Center. Meeting Tuesdays and Wednesdays (alternating) More Info.

Penn Med Music on Call meeting of 2012 @ Student Lounge on the 2nd floor of Stemmler Hall. Discuss how you can perform in upcoming concerts and meet other musicians. Dinner provided.

German Speakers Chat: The next meeting will be held on January 19 at Ralph’s Italian Restaurant (9th and South. More Info
6:00PM: Graduate Students Needed for Focus Group Residential Services is looking for graduate students who live off campus to participate in a focus group regarding student housing at Penn. @ Houston Hall’s Griski Room (room 311).

New Saturday Brunch at Houston Market Beginning January 21st, Houston Market will begin serving an extensive brunch menu every Saturday.

Argentine Tango Lessons - No dance partners or experience are required. Another class on Jan. 23, 7-10PM. Email penntango@gmail.com or join google group or Facebook group.

Will Shortz, NY Times Crossword Puzzle Editor will speak about his favorite puzzles, answer questions, and play interactive word games with the audience. @ Irvine Auditorium. Admission is free. More Info.

Come hear Student Health Nutritionist Katy Meassick give tips on how to eat healthy on a budget with not a lot of time. @Ben Franklin Room, 218 Houston Hall. More Info.

Thank you,

Joseph Friedman
GAPSA Chair
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