



Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Meeting Minutes | Ninth Session of the 45th General Assembly (2023-2024)

14 February 2024 at 7-8:30pm

Location: Jon M. Huntsman Hall (JMHH) 360

Minutes by Deputy Director for Records Grace Chang

Following minutes of 45.9 to be approved the 28th of February, 2024

7:09 pm

1 Opening (3)

Holtzer

- Meeting called to order and opening remarks by Speaker Dan Holtzer.
- Quorum confirmed by Director of Logistics Aradhana Kasimsetty.
- Agenda approved.
- Motion to approve minutes from 45.8 (1/31). Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried.¹

7:12 pm

2 New Business (77)

Upcoming programs and volunteer opportunities (2)

Holtzer

- Museum Tours - Feb 1st is the Mutter Museum Tour.
- Spring Gala Feb 16th.
- Find [events](#) here!

7:12 pm

Approval of Group Funding Awards to Date (5)

Jones

- Overview by Nakisha: First section we'll look at is for the student group event fund. We had 20 applications pending review from two weeks ago, and 101k was requested. We were able to allocate 31.5k (shown on slides).

Assembly Member: was the max 2000? Distribution seems very uniform. Nakisha: Max amount was higher, the ranking of the groups in this round was generally uniform, and none got a high enough score to get a higher award.

¹Please provide all suggested edits to the minutes to Director of Logistics Aradhana Kasimsetty by the Friday before next GA.

Assembly Member: What is the GAPSA Lending Vehicle? Nakisha: Loan program to get funds about before GA, for events that have earned revenues and gotten awards in the past.

- Speaker Dan Holtzer calling the vote on approving the group funding to date. Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried and the [awards](#) are finalized.

7:17 pm

Review and approval of GAPSA Funding Applications (55)

Jones

- Groups coming up have already applied and are high quality, but need more money that available from student group event. They are here to ask for discretionary fund. According to the constitution, min \$25,000 total across the entire year is allocated to this fund.
- [Penn Fight Night](#): This event is a 20 year tradition among the graduate schools. Amateur boxing night between graduate schools and Wharton to support a literacy initiative for children in the Philadelphia community. Looking for sponsorship to subsidize tickets. We have participants from various schools, includes a weigh in on April 4th, Event on Saturday April 6th and after party at the Fillmore.

Assembly Member: What are other sources of funding, and what revenue has been acquired in recent years that has been donated?

Answer: WGD 45k, Juno 10k, a few others with product not monetary 1k. Typical revenue is around 300k, donation is typically 100k.

Assembly Member: What is ticket distribution like across the G12?

Answer: We find it difficult to track. 50% Wharton, 30% Law, 20% other graduate schools. Dental, School of Education, Nursing, and other Medical schools have fighter participation.

Assembly Member: Are we allowed to contribute to this since funds go to charity? I believe we are not.

Nakisha: our funds are not going to charity, but funding the event. As long as not more than 50% of revenue is going to charity we are alright.

Assembly Member: How much is the request? \$35,000

- Presenter is put in the waiting room, session is now closed to him.
- Presenter brought back in, updated with voting timeline.

7:45 pm

- [Wharton Africa Business Forum](#)

We were founded in 1992, and we bring together African students and those interested in business in africa. One thing we've been doing is to run the business forum. We are requesting \$11,000 to close funding gaps. We spent \$167,000 last year, and managed to raise \$156,000 from corporate and alumni sponsorship and ticket sales. Last year we were awarded \$5,000 from GAPSA. Our attendance is 50% Wharton, 10% other schools, 40% outside business leaders. It is a big opportunity to build community, typically 400 attendees.

Assembly Member: What was the cost of past tickets for Penn grad students? Answer: 140 dollars, 160 for a normal ticket.

Assembly Member: Do we have numbers on the break up of total budgeted expenses?

Venue and housing 75k approximately over the two days, and the evening Gala. Another is the new venture competition. 30k to emerging and startup businesses in Africa or those

doing business in Africa. That money came from corporate sponsors. Last is hiring entertainment. Most have been covered. We just need out last hotel payment and some closing the gap because budget isn't adding up.

Assembly Member: Whats the makeup of the organizing committee? Second, is there any profit from ticket sales, donations during the event, and where does it go?

We open planning and leadership up to other schools, over the years that has happened. We do not profit from this event, we are losing unfortunately, which is why we would like to close the gap with GAPSA funding.

7:57 pm

- Session is now closed to presenter.

8:01 pm

- Session is opened.
- [MFA Class of 2024](#):

We are asking for 5k for satellite show. It is a 2 part exhibition to display thesis work. This event goes to New York, and we bring along co-workers from other schools. Cohort is 19-20, many of us are dual majors. Many impressive alumni, so our work is gaining attention which we believe will bring in more students and growth. Estimated budget is to offset venue cost. Renting EFA project space, total is 8,000 a month rent, total is 18,000 for transport, marketing, rent, etc. We expect anywhere from 100 to 200 in NYC, large draw for the Philadelphia portion. We don't take attendance.

Assembly Member: Are you applying for academic event funding?

Response: This satellite series is unaffiliated with finishing the academic year. We are unaware of academic event funding.

Ludwig informed them of Academic Event Funding. As well as under-utilization trends.

Assembly Member: When you say 20 group members, you bring co-creators in addition?

For example, we had a play. dancers, performers, and others were brought up with her.

Assembly Member: For AEF logistics, if you're not registered as a student group make sure to do that. Also tell future Weitzman about the AEF fund.

- Session is Closed to applicants.

8:13 pm

- Session is opened.
- [Synergy Fund](#): Funding set aside at 25k and allows us to use it for general graduate student population. Pipeline is from Finance recommendation from executive board who votes, then it goes to GA for approval. It has gone un-used so far. Tonight, we'll review three applications that have been approved by the E-board. Latin American Conference, Holi 2024, and Spring Gala. Adjustment of dollar amounts, as well as overall approval, is on the table tonight.

Assembly Member: Whats the total we have for synergy? Answer: 25k

Assembly Member: Is there a reason Spring Gala needs to so much for the other two? Answer: Its filling in the gap from here rather than G12 to cover losses.

Assembly Member: How much is the gap you're referring to? This is an expected amount but not entirely known.

Assembly Member: Who formally applied for this money? Answer: Nakisha applied.

Assembly Member: How many schools opted into IPF, how much is needed beyond this 10k? Answer: Vet, SP2 and Law. BGSA as well. We know there is a large deficit, more 60k.

- Motion to vote. Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried. All three groups will receive [this funding](#).
- Information on Heritage Fund: Another source of funds. Refer to slides.
Spring gala makes 80k, costs 240k. Additional info next GA.

Motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes. Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried.

8:27 pm

First reading of RC resolution regarding Ph.D. experiences Bill 11 (15) Zhao

- Look at a concern around information showing when entering Penn. Seeking transparency and access. Looking to help handbooks and orientation materials to aid a sense of being lost. A lot of schools and departments fail to adequately orient their students. Proposed resolution text is appended. We want to start the Academic Group Communications Task Force (AGCT) to ensure these changes are reinforced.

Please provide feedback now, or before the next GA.

Assembly Member: Will this go to councils? Answer: Yes.

We may need to reword some things. First resolved clause needs to be revised to emphasize VP office collaboration.

Assembly Member: Have you received feedback from the university? Answer: VPE and their office have seen this, and they have been giving feedback to "operationalize" this. We also have been getting feedback from constituents. Motivation comes from them, not just the council.

Assembly Member: Note that the creation of the AGCT is standing and binding.

Assembly Member: If schools are non-compliant what are repercussions? Answer: Only certain things VP has power to control. Hopefully this resolution will inspire and apply pressure. Students often use personal networks to do this now, this resolution is to provide structure and bring this need to the attention of program chairs.

Motion to extend by 5. Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried.

8:39 pm

3 Open Forum (10)

Holtzer

Announcements and Questions from GA Members

Holtzer

- E-Board election is coming up on March 13th. Chair of Elections is the speaker.
Krone: Run for exec, start March 13th which will be a long meeting. They will likely follow into the next meeting. Reach out with questions on running.
- Drafting Committee will be meeting for the sake of integration, please come to these meetings if interested. It will be on Zoom.
- Standing ovation for Simeons last meeting! We will miss you.

8:43 pm

4 Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned.

5 Attendance

IDEAL Council	Professional Council
<p>Christopher Johnny IDEAL BGAPSA Absent Proxy: Catherine Zhang Briana Edwards IDEAL BWGA Absent Zihao Wang IDEAL CSSAP Absent Carlos Jarquin IDEAL LAGAPSA Virtual Max Piscotta IDEAL Lambda Catherine Zhang IDEAL PAGSA Absent Virtual Sereen Assi IDEAL PGWISE Danushi Prajapati IDEAL Rangoli</p>	<p>Lavnik Balyan Engineering (GSEG) Oliver Ma Engineering (GSEG) Sravana Nuti Engineering (GSEG) Joey Vitale Engineering (GSEG) Sophia Li Engineering (GSEG) Yilong Huang Engineering (GSEG) Harsh Yellai Engineering (GSEG) Akash Jain Engineering (GSEG) Proxy: Huy Truong Megan Perelman Engineering (GSEG) Virtual Yiming Wang Engineering (GSEG) Aditya Chennapragada Engineering (GSEG) Hugh Strike Law (CSR) Virtual Olivia Heffernan Law (CSR) Absent Laila Salame Law (CSR) Virtual Sooyong Kwon Law (CSR) Virtual Hayden Innes Medicine (BGSA) Absent Muskan Lather Medicine (BGSA) Absent Christian Bogardus Medicine (MSG) Virtual Maya Alexis Medicine (MSG) Absent Mo Soumaoro SP2 (SP2SG) Virtual Elyse Cinquino SP2 (SP2SG) Virtual Isabelle Schlehr Veterinary (SAVMA) Virtual Sabrina Garcia Veterinary (SAVMA) Virtual</p>
Professional Council	Research Council
<p>Daniel Ceva Arts and Sciencess (LPSGov) Xinyu (Kathy) Li Arts and Sciencess (LPSGov) Absent Rebekah Davis Business (WGA) Absent Ashish Erasani Business (WGA) Alison Lee Business (WGA) Absent Divya Ahtani Business (WGA) Absent Isaiah Matthews Business (WGA) Rhea Datta Business (WGA) Absent Loyd Bradley Business (WGA) Absent Cristian Navarro Business (WGA) Absent Shivani Daftary Dental (PDM) Virtual Lauren Verheyden Dental (PDM) Virtual Katherine Bencosme Dental (PDM) Virtual Tre Ambroise Design (WSC) Virtual Meagan Kearney Design (WSC) Virtual Lauren Pawlowski Design (WSC) Absent Duc Nhu Education (GSESG) Virtual Taylor Sullivan Education (GSESG) Ananya Mekapati Education (GSESG) Vani Kumari Education (GSESG) Virtual Xinzhu Shi/Madelynn Education (GSESG) Mengying Bian/Victoria Education (GSESG) Absent Varun Viswanathan Engineering (GSEG) Absent</p>	<p>Ben Glass Arts and Sciences (SASGov) Absent Jenny Reiss Arts and Sciences (SASGov) Virtual Jaydee Edwards Arts and Sciences (SASGov) Ameen Sidhick Arts and Sciences (SASGov) Virtual Alexandra Faeth Arts and Sciences (SASGov) Adithya Raajkumar Business (WDC) Devo Probol Communication (AGCS) Catherine Zhang Education (GSESG) Simeon Ristic Engineering (GSEG) Stephen Lee Engineering (GSEG) Absent Makyla Boyd Engineering (GSEG) Stephanie Schreiner Medicine (BGSA) Emily Getzen Medicine (BGSA) Absent Jayme Nordin Medicine (BGSA) Virtual Adam Ziada Medicine (BGSA) Alexandra Maye Nursing (DSO) Virtual</p>

Appendix

To: Members of the General Assembly of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
From: GAPSA Research Council
Authors: Jenny Reiss, Yumi Kodama, Emily Getzen, Ludwig Zhao
Date: 11/19/2023
RE: Resolution on Research Student Information Sharing

Abstract

The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) Research Council at the University of Pennsylvania commits to advocating for transparency and access to essential information for research students. This resolution is motivated by a desire to ensure that all Ph.D. granting programs are providing adequate information for students' planning and decision purposes. This resolution proposes communication requirements, specifically regarding graduate group handbooks, welcome letters, websites and orientations to guarantee preparedness for Ph.D. students, which will contribute to the overall prestige of the university.

WHEREAS, The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (**GAPSA**) is entrusted with the responsibility of advocating for the welfare of all graduate and professional students at the University of Pennsylvania (the **University**); and

WHEREAS, Within GAPSA, the Research Council (**RC**) is tasked with handling academic and advocacy issues specific to research masters and doctoral students (**Research Students**); and

WHEREAS, To maintain Penn's status as a world-leading educator, University departments and graduate groups (collectively, **Group** or **Groups**) should regularly furnish essential information to their Research Students, and present such information in an accessible manner and timely manner; and

WHEREAS, The Vice Provost for Education (**VPE**) oversees the compliance of Groups for their Ph.D. and research masters programs with the University's information sharing requirements; and now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, FIRST that GAPSA RC shall work with VPE to institute communication requirements (Appendix, Section I) for all Groups at the University of Pennsylvania; including comprehensive offer letters, matriculation letters, graduate group orientations, maintenance of program-specific handbooks, and maintenance of program-specific websites.

RESOLVED, SECOND that GAPSA shall work with VPE, all schools with research students (the **Schools**), and their respective student governments, to create, maintain, and utilize transparent methods to ensure compliance by Groups with Resolution 1, above.

RESOLVED, THIRD that GAPSA approves the creation of a standing working group within RC's Committee on Academic Affairs (the **Academic Group Communications Task Force** or **AGCT**), to liaise with VPE and the Schools and their respective student governments on the subjects of Resolution 1, above.

RESOLVED, FOURTH that GAPSA charges the AGCT with the responsibilities listed in the Appendix, Section II for the 2023-2024 academic year and going forward.

Appendix

Section I

- I. *Comprehensive offer letters in clear and plain language.* VPE shall ensure that the letters sent to all Research Students acknowledging acceptance into a given University program (**Offer Letters**) include in clear and plain English any and all information with respect to:
 - A. The availability of stipendiary funding and the source of such funding, if offered;
 1. if stipendiary funding is offered, the Offer Letter shall include:
 - a. the amount of offered stipendiary funding per year and any regulations regarding cost of living increases or other variations in such funding year-on-year;
 - b. the number of years of stipendiary funding offered;
 - c. the date of the first disbursement and the number of months within each academic year stipendiary funds are dispersed;
 - d. any work or Group or University service requirements to which stipendiary funding is subject, including, if applicable, if such requirements are negotiable and the process for that; and
 - e. if applicable to the program, expectations regarding, and the availability of funding within the Group for additional program years beyond the duration of offered stipendiary funding;
 - B. contact information for the Group officer (program coordinators or their equivalent) responsible for answering any additional questions, the Group chair (or their equivalent), and the student's advisor(s), if applicable;
- II. *Matriculation Letter.* VPE should send an additional letter (a **Matriculation Letter**) to each newly matriculated Research Student once such students have committed to matriculation no later than two months prior to the formal commencement of the student's program at the University. Such Matriculation Letters shall include:
 - A. a general timeline of key Group (if applicable) and University orientation and registration events and dates, accompanied by applicable website addresses; and
 - B. as a link, an attachment, or otherwise enclosed, a copy of the Group's comprehensive handbook, defined to include at a minimum, all core program information, processes, options, rules, regulations, forms, and contact details, covering admission through graduation (**Group Handbook**) as is currently required of Groups by VPE; and
 - C. as a link, an attachment or otherwise enclosed, a copy of a universal University research student handbook (**Universal Handbook**) compiled jointly between VPE and GAPSA, or in the absence of such an up-to-date, complete, Universal Handbook being available for the relevant admissions cycle, a link to the Graduate Student Center's New Graduate Student Orientation Hub <https://gsc.upenn.edu/welcome>.
- III. *Graduate Group orientations.* VPE should require and ensure each Group holds annual new student orientations. Groups must be held accountable for ensuring the

relevant date, time, and location of such orientations is provided to each new Research Student.

- IV. *Maintenance of clear, comprehensive, accessible, and up-to-date program Handbooks.* VPE shall require and ensure that all Groups maintain clear, comprehensive, and up-to-date Group Handbooks, as defined above. Group Handbooks shall be in a form easily accessible to Research Students, such as a PDF document or well-organized, clearly presented web pages with active links.
- A. Group Handbooks shall be reviewed and updated at a minimum annually.
 - B. If a Group chooses to provide a PDF document, such document must be easily accessible on the Group's website to admitted and enrolled Research Students.
 - C. VPE should strongly urge Groups that such information also be provided to prospective Research Students as well.
 - D. The Group Handbook shall include, but is not limited to, the following information:
 1. Graduation requirements
 - a. Course requirements and process of credit transfer, if available
 - b. Teaching or service requirements
 - c. Dissertation proposal requirements and processes
 - d. Qualifying examination or comprehensive examination requirements
 1. Timeline
 2. Format
 3. Outcome and its implication
 4. Remediation
 - e. Dissertation committee requirements
 1. Formation
 2. Composition
 3. Frequency, format, and records for regular meetings
 - f. Research requirements (including any publication requirements)
 2. The minimal meeting frequency with the primary dissertation advisor(s)
 3. A basic time-to-degree timeline
 4. The availability of funding and funding resources
 5. The availability of dual degrees and the enrollment process
 6. An advisor-advisee grievance policy
 7. A link to the Group's website
 8. Information regarding essential University resources, which should include but are not limited to:
 - a. Graduate Student Center (GSC)
 - b. Penn Libraries
 - c. Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Innovation (CETLI)
 - d. Penn Wellness
 - e. Weingarten Center and Student Disability Services
 - f. Campus Cultural Resource Centers (CRCs)
 - g. International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

- V. *Maintenance of clear and up-to-date Department websites.* VPE shall require each Group to have a website that includes the following essential information and is updated regularly, at a minimum annually.
- A. Graduation requirements as outlined in the Group Handbook
 - B. A basic degree timeline
 - C. Contact information for
 - 1. Program Coordinators or their equivalent
 - 2. Graduate Chairs or their equivalent
 - 3. Faculty members within the Group
 - D. The link to the Group Handbook
 - E. Essential University resources, including but not limited to the item listed under Section I.IV.D.8
 - F. The Graduate Group grievance policy
 - G. The requirements and the format of annual progress meetings and/or report

Section II

The following are the responsibilities of the AGCT:

1. work with GAPSA Research Council representatives and their respective school governments to determine which Groups are not in compliance with Resolution 1, above, for the current academic year and communicate that information to VPE; and
2. lobby VPE for their compliance with Resolution 2, above, on an ongoing basis; and
3. discuss with VPE the creation of a revised template Offer Letter for all Groups to be obliged to send all Research Students, including, but not limited to, the information outlined in Section I.I, above, to ensure consistency of information sharing across all University Groups; and
4. investigate with VPE, school governments with Research Student constituencies, and relevant GAPSA stakeholders, the feasibility of the creation of a template for all Group Handbooks in accordance with Section I.IV, maintained by VPE; and
 - a. if deemed feasible, take such steps as may be necessary to assist VPE in the creation and maintenance of such a template.
5. investigate with VPE, school governments with Research Student constituencies, and relevant GAPSA stakeholders, the feasibility of the creation of a proposed Universal Handbook for Research Students to be maintained by VPE and provided to all Research Students in accordance with Section I.II.C, above; and
 - a. if deemed feasible, take such steps as may be necessary to assist VPE in the creation of such a Universal Handbook.
6. annually review the communication requirements listed under Resolution 1, above to see if any changes shall be made to reflect current students' needs.

GAPSA Finance seeks GA approval of the following allocations to student groups reviewed to date (1/2)

Student group name	Amount requested, \$	Amount awarded, \$	Notes
Black Graduate and Professional Student Assembly ¹	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Degrees of Diversity; Black Grad Exchange
Chinese Psychology Association at Penn	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Peer Support Group Workshops
Master in Law Society	\$ 3,860.00	\$ 2,000.00	MLMP Mentoring Program
Penn Carey Law Antitrust Association	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	Merger Enforcement Symposium
Penn Fight Night	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Penn Fight Night
Penn Graduate Consulting Club	\$ 2,345.00	\$ 2,000.00	PGCC Kick Off Event, Case Competition
Penn Med Symphony Orchestra	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Spring 2024 Concert
Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group	\$ 4,388.00	\$ 2,000.00	PSDPG General Interest Meetings
Penn Tango	\$ 2,510.00	\$ 2,000.00	Penn Tango Bootcamp
Rangoli ²	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Holi 2024
Equal Justice Foundation	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	EJF Auction 2024
Wharton Roadrunners & Triathletes	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	Wharton 5K
Wharton-Weitzman Future of Cities Conference	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Wharton-Weitzman Future of Cities Conf.
CIT59x	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Hackathon and Coding Events

1. BGAPSA received \$5,000 from GAPSA Lending Vehicle
2. Rangoli received \$8,000 from GAPSA Lending Vehicle



GAPSA Finance seeks GA approval of the following allocations to student groups reviewed to date (2/2)

Student group name	Amount requested, \$	Amount awarded, \$	Notes
Penn Quakers Venture Club	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Ge Ju Sharing Session
Student National Dental Association	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Black History Month Celebration
Transportation Club	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 1,000.00	Multiple Events
Penn Chinese Dance Club	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	Camden City School District "A Night in China"

* Indicates contribution from lending vehicle



2023-2024 GAPSA Universal Group Funding Application

To promote greater equity and access to funding, several GAPSA group/event fund applications are consolidated into a universal application. This includes but is not limited to the:

- Academic Event Fund (AEF),
- Community Outreach Fund,
- Discretionary Fund,
- Empowerment Fund,
- Student Group Event Fund (SGEF).

Applications will be automatically referred to the appropriate fund(s) for consideration based on the information provided in the application.

Applicants should contact their respective G12 school government officers to inquire about Interscholastic Partnership Fund eligibility.

Only events or programs occurring between September 1, 2023, and May 30, 2024, are eligible to apply.

Section 2: Applicant Information

Unique ID	UF-44-037
Name of Applicant	Mitchell Knafo
Student Group Name	Penn Fight Night

Group Description

Over the past 20 years, Penn Fight Night, a student-run organization has hosted an amateur boxing event in which 3,000+ graduate students attend. Since its founding, Penn Fight Night has become the largest philanthropic event at Penn, combining a thrilling show with making a significant impact in the local Philadelphia Community.

What year was Group formed?	2003
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How many members does your group's leadership (executive board) have?	8
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Have you received GAPSA funding in the past?	Yes
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Did you earn revenue last year? Yes

What was your total revenue last fiscal year: between July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023? \$500,000

Brief summary of how funds will be used.

The funds this year will be used to decrease our costs so that we can subsidize tickets to Penn Fight Night. More specifically, we are hoping that we can decrease the ticket price for General Admission and Palestra Only tickets to make the event more accessible for all graduate students.

Section 3: Event(s) or Program(s) Information

For this section, we aim to capture a comprehensive understanding of the event's objectives, target audience, and alignment with GAPSA's mission. The answers provided will give us insights into the event's relevance, expected impact, and potential for success.

In what category should your event/programs(s) be considered? Other/None of the above

Academic Event Funding (AEF) requests will be referred to the Research Council (RC) for review. To be considered, applicants must: (1) have the endorsement of at least one Research [GA Representative](#). (Click [here](#) for list of reps.) (2) Submit a presentation using the presentation [template](#) (Click [here](#) for template). Contact the RC Chair at gapsa.research@gapsa.upenn.edu for further details.

How many events are you requesting funding for? 1

What is the event name? Penn Fight Night

List the dates of your event(s) or program(s) (MM-DD-YYYY). If you have more than one event or program for this application, please separate these dates by ";"

04-06-2024

Please provide a brief description of your event(s) or program(s). Outline the main objectives and activities of the event.

Over the past 20 years, PFN, has hosted an amateur boxing event in which 3,000+ graduate students attend. This year's event will take place on April 6, 2024. The main objective for this event is to bring together students from all the graduate schools and give them a night they will remember.

Target Audience and Broad Engagement: How will your event engage a broad audience of graduate and professional students beyond a specific club or small group? Describe the strategies for outreach and engagement to ensure participation from a wide array of students across disciplines. Highlight any collaborative efforts with other student groups or departments.

Our goal is to target all 12 graduate schools—last year, we had representation from 11 of the 12. We will engage a broad marketing strategy, utilizing the GAPSA newsletters, social media, individual school emails, and physical posters detailing the event. We presented to the G-12 back in the fall.

What is your marketing plan?

We have an internal marketing team that will market the event to all the graduate schools. We As previously mentioned, we will utilize various avenues to notify students of PFN and how to obtain tickets. Tickets will go on sale in late-February and we plan on promoting the event at the beginning of February. If tickets do not sell out on the date of release, then students will be able to purchase tickets up until the event. Our goal is to engage with the individual school presidents to market the event to their student

body.

Alignment with GAPSA's Mission: How does your event advance or align with GAPSA's mission? Relate the event's objectives and activities to specific components of GAPSA's mission. Explain how the event will further GAPSA's goals and values.

We are uniquely positioned to have an event that allows engagement amongst all the graduate schools. As mentioned, last year, we had representation from 11/12 graduate schools. We hope to unify the student body through a fun event. PFN contributes to the inter-graduate school culture.

Section 4: Budget Details

What is the total budget of your event(s)? 385895

Of your total budget, how much money are you requesting from GAPSA? 35000

What is the estimated attendance for your proposal? 3100

Please itemize your total budget for the following categories:

	Unit Cost (\$)	Quantity	Total Cost (\$)
Food (for meetings or events)/Non-alcoholic beverages	39000		
Alcohol	9000		
Venue/Location/Tickets	81598		
Speaker Fee/Honorarium	0		
Equipment/Technology/Marketing	51500		
Event related supplies	3050		
Event related promotional items (banners, t-shirts, etc)	0		
Clothing & Costumes	4300		
Delivery Services	0		
Digital Advertising	0		
Facilities & Security	35000		
Sports Equipment	0		
Photocopies, Printing & Publicity	0		
Performance Production	177000		
Travel & Conference Fees	9000		
Other	6000		

Will the event(s) or program(s) generate revenue?

How much revenue will the event(s) or program(s) generate revenue? 388275

How much will the tickets cost (per person)? 110

Revenue Planning: How will your group ensure that 33% of the total cost will be earned in revenues.

Historically, we have sold about 385,000 in ticket sales.

* there are different ticket tiers for the event. We are seeking funds from GAPSA to make the event more affordable specifically for the General Admission and Palestra Only tiers, which will have the greatest impact on the accessibility for the event for graduate students.

Will you be cosponsoring the event(s) or program(s) with other organizations?

List the names of the co-sponsoring organizations and the name and email addresses of their officers

WGA, loydb@wharton.upenn.edu

Have you requested funding from other sources/sponsors?

How much funding have you requested from other sources? 45000

How much funding have you secured from other sources? 45000

Are there any restrictions on who may attend (e.g. cap on students, spots reserved for students from a particular group or department)?

Cap: 3265, Spots reserved for Wharton Boxing and Penn Grad boxing clubs. 21+ event.

Wharton Africa Business Forum

What

The Wharton Africa Business Forum (WABF) is the largest student-run, Africa-focused annual conference that brings together business leaders, students, and investors to discuss the latest trends in business in Africa. Hosted by the Wharton Africa Student Association (WASA), the conference is a two-day event that features keynote speakers, panel discussions, and networking opportunities, making it a prime opportunity to learn about African business trends and connect with other business leaders.

Celebrating its inception in 1992, the WABF has become a significant event for MBA students from all different schools to engage with influential African leaders and delve into the continent's latest business trends. It is entirely student-run and offers a lineup of thought-provoking sessions and keynote addresses by industry leaders, fostering fresh ideas, collaborations, and opportunities.

Who

The conference is organized by the Wharton Africa Student Association (WASA)

Target Audience: Penn students, business leaders across Africa, and students from other universities

Average attendance: >400 per year. For WABF 30th (held in November 2023), 404 people attended the conference

Where

Huntsman Hall and Sofitel Hotel

When

November 10-11, 2023

Wharton Africa Business Forum

Funding Request

Funding requested: \$11,182

Total budgeted expenses: \$167,852

Planned Use of Funding

Funds shall be used to settle the conference deficit of \$11,182 which is still unpaid to date. Specifically, \$5,000 will go towards settling the loan from GAPSA and the remaining \$6,182 shall be used to settle events suppliers and reimburse student expenditures incurred in organizing the conference.

Other Funding Sources

Sum of money raised: 156,669 (including ticket sales)

Sponsorship: McKinsey Africa (20K), Shiri Adventures (5K), OA markets (8.5K), WGA (30K), Jobomax (1.5K), Mack Institute (5K), CatalyzU (5K), Harambeans (5K), and Africa Global VC (2K), Others (6.5k)

Wharton Africa Business Forum

Why GAPSA?

How would GAPSA, the graduate community, and/or Penn community benefit from the event/initiative?

- Networking opportunities: WABF attracts > 400 attendees, presenting an opportunity for attendees to meet other students at Penn and other universities and prominent African business leaders.
- Community Building: It takes >30 people at Penn 4 months to organize WABF. During this process, the organizing team ends up developing a very strong community like bonding with each other.
- The WABF Gala is a celebration of Africa's unique and diverse culture, which enriches attendees' greater appreciation of Africa's heritage and tradition, thus facilitating a richer bonding with Penn students from Africa.

To what extent is the event/program inclusive of other graduate schools?

- We expect about 10-20% of the attendees to be Penn Graduate students outside Wharton.
- The event is open to all Penn students. Undergraduate students get discounted tickets.
- The event is marketed event across all graduate schools at Penn.

How do you plan to involve other graduate schools?

- We used the different affinity groups across Penn schools to market the event and encourage participation by other non-Wharton Penn students.

MFA Class of 2024

What

Our event is a two-part exhibition featuring the work of the Weitzman MFA Class of 2024.

The purpose of this exhibition is to build strong social and material connections between the MFA students at the Weitzman School of Design and a broader audience. The goal of this exhibition is to allow our MFA Cohort, as representatives of both UPenn and the Philadelphia Arts community, to show the important and exciting work being done here with a broader audience. This event provides a wonderful opportunity for the graduate fine arts community at UPenn, and presents itself as a means to stimulate conversation within the network of potential students and professional artists and curators present in New York City.

Who

MFA Class of 2024

Where

EFA Project Space Manhattan, New York

When

Entire month of August 2024. There will be two openings for each respective half of the exhibition.

MFA Class of 2024

Funding Request

Funding requested: \$5,000

Total budgeted expenses: \$18,000

Planned Use of Funding

We plan to use the entirety of the funds received through GAPSA to offset venue costs.

Other Funding Sources

Of the twenty group members each of us has taken on individual out-of-pocket costs to produce the work for this exhibition.

The Weitzman School of Design Department of Fine Arts has offered \$8000

The Sachs Program for Innovation may grant us an additional \$3000.

MFA Class of 2024

Why GAPSA?

How would GAPSA, the graduate community, and/or Penn community benefit from the event/initiative?

- A free event open those with interests in the fine arts across the twelve graduate schools.
- As a GAPSA sponsored cultural endeavor, this event will extend beyond the traditional academic landscape, offering a platform to share artworks, engage in meaningful discussions, and learn from one another.
- By spotlighting diverse talents and emphasizing the relevance of arts in academia, this exhibition speaks to GAPSA's mission to work beyond the university, advocating for the recognition and significance of artistic pursuits in higher education; not just across campus, but on a on a larger stage as well.

To what extent is the event/program inclusive of other graduate schools?

- We hope with our marketing strategy to have the show reach students in each graduate school. Our on-campus relationships as a club have a strong connection to a few schools across campus, most notably the School of Social Policy and Practice, as well as organizations that work across schools, like CEE and the ICA.
- Our marketing is primarily concerned with on campus efforts that advertise to the graduate community at large, and in the summer additional promotion in NYC.

How do you plan to involve other graduate schools?

- On campus outreach and promotion (verbal, digital, physical), specific promotion for artist-led tours of the show, outreach through our cross-school hubs such as ICA, CEE and Penn LGBT Center.

Synergy Fund proposals for GA endorsement of Executive Board approval

Synergy Fund

Program Name (Group)	Program Date(s)	Amount Requested, \$	Notes
Latin American Conference at Wharton (WHALAC)	Feb. 9, 2024	\$ 3,000.00	Approved by GAPSA Exec on February 7
Holi 2024 (Rangoli)	March 31, 2024	\$ 2,000.00	Approved by GAPSA Exec on February 7
Spring Gala 2024 (GAPSA)	Feb. 16, 2024	\$ 10,000.00	Approved by GAPSA Exec on February 7



Graduate and Professional Student Assembly