

Graduate and Professional Student Senate 2018-2019 Legislative Agenda *Steps for Graduate Student Achievement*

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GPSS supports increased access for:

Underrepresented Communities

Expanding outreach, pipeline programs, and other resources will increase equitable access to higher education for underrepresented communities at the UW and beyond.

Students with Disabilities

Promotion of accessible infrastructure and streamlining the application and transfer process will expand support and protections for students with disabilities.

Student Caregivers

Initiatives that increase availability and lower the costs of student resources will contribute to more equitable support for student caregivers and their dependents. Limited availability, long wait lists, and high costs prevent student caregivers from obtaining care for their dependents or obtaining on-campus housing.

Student Voices

All state task forces, committees, commissions, and other advisory boards or councils should include at least one undergraduate and one graduate student to ensure student representation.

Open Science

Free access to all scholarly peer-reviewed articles, grey literature, and research data to increase public knowledge of scholarly work, better support reproducibility, and promote higher quality scholarship.

GPSS supports increased state investment in:

The State Need Grant

Full funding of the State Need Grant attracts, retains, and develops diverse, globally competitive students and faculty who contribute to the UW's state, federal, and worldwide impacts. Support for the State Need Grant gives students greater ability to achieve their full academic potential, many of whom attend graduate school at the UW.

Predictable Tuition

State support is essential to prevent drastic graduate and professional tuition and fee increases. Increased funding to the UW's state-supported budget ensures continued affordability for graduate and professional students and maintains the UW's contributions to the Washington economy.

Financial Aid Resources for Self-Supported Program Students

As of the 2016-17 academic year, 32.5% of all graduate students at the UW were enrolled in self-supported programs, some with debt as high as \$100,000. Resources should be established to ease this debt burden on self-supported program students and provide long-term financial stability.

Expanded UW Health Science Programs to Aid Underserved Populations

Continued funding and expansion of cost-effective, top-ranked training programs is essential for UW students who are committed to serving in communities with greater healthcare needs. These programs will build regional healthcare networks by improving healthcare provider recruitment and retention, as well as increasing resources for new healthcare providers to practice in rural and underserved communities.



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