PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

BILL No. SP24-B012

Amending the Financial Code of Operations to provide equity in PGSG member incentives

Author(s): Legislative Review Committee
Sponsor(s): Victor Gutierrez-Schultz, Jacob White

WHEREAS, The Executive Board is composed of a variety of members, each of which leads the execution of a variety of powers activities all central to progressing PGSG's mission; and,

WHEREAS, PGSG is tasked in the preamble of the PGSG Constitution to **"**represent graduate student interests and concerns at the university; develop and disseminate ideas to improve the academic, social, and professional welfare of graduate students; and voice the graduate student perspective to the university community"; and,

WHEREAS No activity undertaken by PGSG, including incentivizing any individual to participate in PGSG, should deter from this foundational representative government mission; and,

WHEREAS, Officer payments or similar terms are not found in either the PGSG Constitution or the PGSG Bylaws, but are only found in the PGSG Financial Code of Operations governing PGSG expenditures; and,

WHEREAS The majority of the PGSG budget is derived from Student Activity Fees that all graduate students are required to pay and thus should be used primarily to support Graduate students; and,

NOTING PGSG is not permitted to spend in excess of the current total amount for "Specific Payment to Officers" but may redistribute the payments amongst its various positions as it deems appropriate; and,

WHEREAS Any payment made to an individual for services pertaining to executing PGSG functions should be to incentive participation, but should not be viewed as compensation so as not to deter from the understanding that their participation is voluntary and is in service of the Purdue graduate student body; and,

WHEREAS Payment to any individual should be tied to the duties and responsibilities of that position, not necessarily the time commitment required to fulfill those duties, as the time commitment could be alleviated by engaging other members of PGSG; and,

WHEREAS Current PGSG officer payments are not tied to the duties and responsibilities of the position, nor the time required to fulfill those duties. Furthermore, key PGSG members are neglected from inclusion of the list of members receiving payments; and,

WHEREAS Senate participation is exclusively representative, and as such any payment made to Senate leadership should only be incentivizing the duties required to lead the Senate and execute its functions, as all other duties to represent Purdue graduate students are inherent duties of the Senators, not the leadership;

NOTING The inordinate expectation of time commitment on any single PGSG member detracts from the overall goal of PGSG being a representative body by concentrating that representation in a single individual as opposed to diving it among several individuals; and,

NOTING PGSG officer payments no longer carry with them an obligation of service (such as a Graduate Assistantship which has been historically used to support the compensation of some PGSG positions) and may be collected in combination with other streams of income from Purdue University; and,

NOTING This ability to collect simultaneously may not extend to all PGSG members, particularly those with an international student designation, and as such, incentives should be minimized to ensure that participation in certain PGSG roles is not prohibited or discouraged, either implicitly or explicitly, by any student characteristic, including country of origin; and,

NOTING All obligations of PGSG to provide representation in various committees and boards of the university should be diversified among various individuals to ensure the principles of shared governance are being achieved; and,

NOTING PGSG should remain focused on representing graduate students, which in some instances, may clash with the inferred need to support Purdue University. In these cases, all efforts must be made to spread responsibility of representation amongst various members of the Purdue graduate student body, including those who typically do not engage in PGSG activities; and,

NOTING Activities undertaken by any PGSG member that are beyond the scope of their duties and powers outlined in the PGSG governing documents, even if such activities do indeed advance and support the overarching goal of PGSG, cannot be taken into account when determining the “duties and responsibilities” upon which the incentive is based;

WHEREAS Current “Specific Payments to Officers” section of the Financial Code of Operations needs to be updated to ensure that payments made are viewed as incentives as opposed to compensation, include other key members of PGSG, and provide leeway for growth of future individuals in various committees and teams in PGSG.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, That the Section VII.A.3.c entitled "Specific payments to officers" be updated as follows: (with new wording in blue and deletions in red and stricken):

c. *Specific payments to ~~officers~~ PGSG Members: These include PGSG Officers and their Vices, Team Chair and Team Vice Chair, and Senate Leadership payments that are to be paid three times throughout the year (first payment at the end of the Summer semester, second payment at the end of the Fall semester, and third payment at the end of the Spring semester)~~, with the exception of the president's payment which is paid monthly~~.*

Annual Allocations - PGSG Officers

- *President ~~$19,000~~ $5,250*
- *Treasurer ~~$2,000~~ $2,500*
- *Chief of Staff ~~$2,000~~ $2,500*
- ~~*Senate Chair $2,000*~~
- *Public Relations Officer ~~$2,000~~ $2,500*
- *Legislative Affairs Officer ~~$1,000~~ $2,500*
- *Diversity Officer ~~$1,000~~ $2,500*
- *Parliamentarian ~~$1,000~~ $2,500*
- *Vice Public Relations Officer ~~$500~~ $1,000*
- *Vice Public Relations Officer 2 $1,000*
- *Vice Diversity Officer ~~$500~~ $1,000*
- *Vice Treasurer $1,000*

Annual Allocations – Senate Leadership

- *Senate Chair $1,500*
- *Senate Clerk $1,000*

Annual Allocations - Teams

- *Life Team Chair ~~$1,000~~ $1,500*
- *Community Team Chair ~~$1,000~~ $1,500*
- *Career Team Chair ~~$1,000~~ $1,500*
- *GRAC Chair ~~$1,000~~ $1,500*
- *Life Team Vice Chair ~~$500~~ $585*
- *Community Team Vice Chair ~~$500~~ $585*
  - *Community Mental Health Action Week Vice Chair $585*
  - *Community Research-O-Rama Director $150*
- *Career Team Vice Chair $585*
- *Legislative Review Committee Vice Chair $585*
- *GRAC Travel Grant Vice Chair $585*
- *GRAC Professional Grant Vice Chair $585*
- *GRAC GSOGA/Symposium Grant Vice Chair $585*
- *GRAC Transitional Housing Grant Vice Chair $585*

- *GRAC Accessibility Grant Vice Chair $585*

~~*Annual Allocations - PGSG Directors*~~

- ~~*Mental Health Awareness Week Director $250*~~
- ~~*Graduate Student Appreciation Week Director $250*~~
- ~~*Fall Career Fair Director $250*~~
- ~~*Spring Career Fair Director $250*~~
- ~~*Next Generation Scholars Director $250*~~
- ~~*Big Grad Event Director $250*~~
- ~~*GRAC Vice Chair - Travel Grant $250*~~
- ~~*GRAC Vice Chair - Professional Grant $250*~~
- ~~*GRAC Vice Chair - GSOGA and Symposium Grant $250*~~
- ~~*Treasurer 2 $500*~~

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this amendment repeal any prior amendments pertaining to Section VII.A.3.c that have not yet been approved by BOSO and/or SAO.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all relevant line items of the 2024-25 budget be updated to reflect the above values.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the PGSS strongly emphasizes the need to distribute the representative work of PGSG, including its participation on various university boards that may or may not be explicitly acknowledged in the governing documents, and strongly encourages PGSG leadership to develop methods to engage graduate students across campus that may not traditionally engage with PGSG to fill these representative positions.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED That contingent upon timely approval by BOSO and SAO, these amendments apply to incoming payments for 2024-2025.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ENACTED 24th day of April 2024.

Somosmita Mitra President, PGSG		Josiah Davidson Senate Chair, PGSS
		Andrew Mitchell Parliamentarian, PGSG
		Victor Gutierrez-Schultz Floor Sponsor, Senator for Biochemistry

Certification

I, Secret Permenter, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly passed and adopted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 24th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES (28): Aeronautics and Astronautics (AAE) - Josue N. Rivera
Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) - Daphne Fauber
Agricultural Economics - Diamilatou Kane
Aviation and Transportation Technology (ATT) - Luigi Raphael Dy
Biochemistry - Victor Gutierrez-Schultz
Biological Sciences - Morgan Chaney
Chemical Engineering - Isaac S. Wheeler
Chemistry - Temitope Olayemi
Communication - Husen-Chi Chiu
Comparative Literature - Marisa J Bryans
Computer Graphics Technology - Sanjeevani Patankar
Computer Science (CS) - Jacob White
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Jacob Mishne
Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) - Jamie Klamerus
Engineering Education - Anyerson Cuervo
Engineering Technology - Praga Giri
Food Science - Elma Kontor-Manu
Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) - Desmond Sosu Mensah
History - Secret Permenter
Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS) - Inga Nordgren
Industrial and Physical Pharmacy (IPPH) - Shambhavi Borde
Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBSC) - Tuba Marjan
Management (MGMT) - Jinfeng "Phoenix" Chen
Mathematics - Patrick Henry Debonis
Nutrition Science - Qianyue Wang
Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) - Lauren Wilbanks
Sociology - Corey Resweber
Statistics - Kyle Conrad

NAYS (5): Biomedical Engineering - Mikayla Roach
Health Sciences - Joseph Speth
Materials Engineering - Daniel Sinclair
Philosophy - James Emery
Technology, Leadership, and Innovation (TLI) - Elnara Mammadova

ABSENT (16): Agronomy - Lynda Peter
Animal Sciences - Opeadura Timileyin Osunbami
Basic Medical Sciences - Naseem Alfadhl

Comparative Pathobiology - Omnia Ibrahium
Computational Interdisciplinary Graduate Program (CIGP) - Meenakshi Narayanaswami
Educational Studies - Alexandria Holmes
English - Jeeyoung Choi
Entomology - Leslie Aviles
Environmental and Ecological Engineering (EEE) - Venkat Roy
Global Supply Chain Management (GSM) - Rohan Saini
Industrial Engineering - Mohammad Ahmadi Gharehtoragh
Nuclear Engineering (NE) - Stepan Ozerov
Philosophy and Literature - Ramona Bergman
Physics and Astronomy - Soumik Chandra
Political Science - Benjamin E Torres
Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (SLHS) - Margaret Ziko

ABSTAINED (13): Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication (AgSEC) - Mathew Smith
Anthropology - Rebecca Gale Martinez
Botany and Plant Pathology (BPP) - Pascal Okoye
Civil Engineering - Jose Capa Salinas
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (EAPS) - Michael Oyelakin
Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) - Paschal Amusuo
Engineering Management - Titiksha Wagh
Gerontology - Destiny Ogle
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (HLA) - Vera Vukovic
Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) - Chang Ma
Languages and Cultures - Adewuyi Roseline
Mechanical Engineering (ME) - Meghavin Bhatasana
Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) - Oluwabunmi Titilope Oladele

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of May 2024.

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Secret Permenter
Senate Clerk, PGSS