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*Graduate students enjoying the GPSC outdoor barbecue as part of Graduate Student Appreciation Week.*

## Student Showcase FAQs

### **Q. What is Student Showcase?**

The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) at the University of Arizona produces and promotes Student Showcase, an exhibition of undergraduate and graduate scholarship in all areas of research within the University of Arizona community. The event is held every Homecoming weekend on the University of Arizona Mall. Student Showcase represents the academic portion of the festive weekend. Each year, the number of exhibitions by students has steadily increased. This year, Student Showcase will be November 10-11, 2000, Friday and Saturday of Homecoming weekend.

### **Q. Who Participates in Student Showcase?**

Participants in Student Showcase range from students, faculty, staff and administration to community sponsors. Students are the most active contributors to the success of the event. They are the people who diligently research their topic and have the talent and vision to display their work to the public. There are two divisions within the student participant population: undergraduate and graduate. Within these two divisions, the students are divided into categories pertaining to their field. See the gpsc web site for more details: [www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu).

### **Q. What is the Application and Acceptance Process?**

The application and acceptance process is quite rigorous. First, the students submit their application form and a synopsis of their research and the cultural implications it has on the surrounding community. Once all the applications are received, a committee of students, faculty and community members diligently critique the proposals. The committee accepts a majority of the applicants, except in cases where the research purpose is unclear or there is no evidence of community orientation. The process for awarding prize money is even more challenging. A judging committee composed of faculty, community members and students evaluate a subset of presentations and the highest ranking among that category is awarded. Since Student Showcase offers the best of the best research at the University of Arizona, it is quite competitive.

Applications were mailed out to all graduate and professional students in September and are also available through the GPSC website at [www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu). **Showcase 2000 applications are due October 13, 2000.**

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## GPSC 2000-2001 Officers and Directors

President: Jason Auxier  
(auxier@u.arizona.edu)

Administrative VP:  
Jonathan Hartman  
(jhartman@ag.arizona.edu)

Executive VP: Kameha Kidd  
(kamehak@u.arizona.edu)

Treasurer & Elections Director:  
Kelly LeFevre  
(krl@email.arizona.edu)

Showcase Director: Kirsten Price  
(splash@dakotacom.net)

Communications Director:  
Laura Umphrey  
(lroberts@u.arizona.edu)

Clubs Director: Gretchen Urkov  
(g\_urkov@hotmail.com)

Events Director: Anthony Berry  
(apberry@u.arizona.edu)

Webmaster: George Bell  
(gbell@u.arizona.edu)



## Graduate Student Club Funding 2000-2001

Are you interested in joining a U of A club or starting your own club? The GPSC has funding opportunities for your organization! New club funding is granted twice a year (September 30th and January 30th) and operates as a debit account for the organization. Deadlines for club funding for established clubs are September 30th, November 15th, January 30th, and March 15th. This type of special events funding for established clubs is awarded on a competitive basis and some restrictions apply. For more information, please refer to the GPSC web page at [www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu).

## GPSC Travel Funding Opportunities 2000-2001

The Graduate and Professional Student Council, in conjunction with the Graduate College, offer funding opportunities for travel to academic conferences and meetings. As graduate students, GPSC recognizes the importance of presenting papers at conferences and participating in the activities of your discipline. Travel grant funding is awarded on a competitive basis. The procedures for applying for the travel grants can be found on the GPSC web site: [www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu).

## New Time Sheets Only for Accountability

Are you signing the new "Bi-weekly Employee Time Record" timesheets? This new form is not intended for use as a record of hours for payment, but rather as a method of accountability for work performed. This is a confusing issue that is specific to exempt employees (which all assistantships are) and is mandated by the Fair Labor Standards Act. By definition, exempt employees do not get paid by the hour. They have a contractual agreement for a set pay amount every pay period. However, according to the Fair Labor Standards Act, a record must be kept of every employee ensuring that they are doing the job they are hired for and paid for.

In order to assist departments in maintaining proper records, the department of payroll sent a memo (<http://www.hr.arizona.edu/caboboc080100.html>), introducing the Bi-weekly Employee Time Record. This new form is designed to document persons performing their job and improve communication so that payroll does not continue payment to someone who no longer works at the University. Additionally, this form is a generic one and has places for recording hours. When this form is used for the purpose of accountability, hours are not to be recorded on it. However, some programs may use this form to keep track of worked hours for their own specific record keeping purposes. When this occurs, the hours recorded are not to be used for payment determination, rather only as record keeping.

If your department has asked you to fill out a form such as this, ask them to clarify the purpose of the timesheet. If their response is not consistent with this information, contact Payroll directly at 621-9097.

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## Graduate Writing Workshops: Winning Writing Skills for Success and Survival

Having trouble writing your thesis or a course paper? There are still several classes available this semester designed to help you improve your writing skills. The Writing Skills Improvement Program, in cooperation with the Graduate College presents "Graduate Writing Workshops: Winning writing skills for success and survival."

Weekly writing workshops cover basic aspects of graduate level writing. Topics range from how to develop your literature review to refreshing your basic knowledge of grammar and punctuation. Please refer to the table on this page for a listing of specific topics covered weekly.

Workshops are FREE and OPEN TO ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS with NO PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED; just simply show up!

Workshops are on Tuesdays from 4-5 P.M. in room 413 of the Modern Languages Building. Come on out and learn how to improve your writing skills!

## Proposition 301 Affects Students

The General Election is in November. While you are voting for a Presidential Candidate, take notice of Ballot Proposition 301. Proposition 301 supports an increase in sales tax by 0.6% which will raise \$440 million dollars annually for Arizona public education. This increase

### Graduate Writing Workshop Fall Schedule

**October 10 - Perfecting Your Presentation for Class or Conference**

**October 17 - Writing a Master's Thesis or Dissertation Proposal**

**October 24 - Designing a Workable Plan for Your Thesis or Dissertation**

**October 31 - Academic Writing: Balancing Objectivity and Persuasion**

**November 7 - Reporting Your Own Research: Principles and Practice**

**November 14 - Grammar and Punctuation Refresher**

**November 21 - The Ins and Outs of Revising**

**November 28 - Tackling the Take Home or In Class Exam**

would translate into a \$20 million increase for the University of Arizona. Proposition 301 would free up money in the University of Arizona general fund for several issues. These issues include faculty salary increases for faculty retention, TA/RA salary increases and workload decreases, building renewal and maintenance, increased library funds, etc. For additional information on this issue and on others, please refer to the following web site: <http://www.sosaz.com>.

## TA Taskforce Report

In the spring of 2000, the TA Taskforce, consisting of graduate students, faculty and administrators, concluded an on-line survey of graduate teaching assistants at the University of Arizona. The questionnaire assessed graduate TA workload, salaries, and time commitments. The results of the study indicated that graduate teaching assistants in the Humanities have a higher teaching load than other areas on campus. Following completion

of the report, the taskforce met with the President's Campus Advisory Committee and made recommendations for improvements to Dr. Gary Pivo, Dean of the Graduate College and President Likins. In response to the TA Taskforce Report, Pivo suggested that in order to improve TA workloads, as many as 150 TA positions should be added at the University. At present, the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) has approved the proposal (at an estimated cost of \$2 million) and the Arizona State Legislature will review the proposal and make a final decision. If you are interested in seeing the final report (conclusions and recommendations made), please refer to the GPSC web page at [www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu).

*Check out  
[www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu)  
for information  
on graduate student  
issues that affect you!*

## GPSC Mission

The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) is the elected representative body for graduate and professional students at the University of Arizona. Its mission is to (a) promote the academic, economic, and social aims of the graduate and professional student population at the U of A, (b) to establish effective communication among graduate students and (c) to facilitate communication within the University and with other organizations.

The GPSC holds meetings bi-weekly, discussing issues that affect graduate students. If you are interested in participating in your graduate student government, please contact Kameha Kidd at [kamehak@u.arizona.edu](mailto:kamehak@u.arizona.edu).

Want current information about graduate student life at the U of A? Stay connected with the GPSC web page:

[www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu)

Graduate and Professional Student Council  
University of Arizona  
P.O. Box 210066  
Tucson, AZ 85721  
Website: [www.gpsc.arizona.edu](http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu)

## GPSC Constituency Units and Representatives 2000-2001

Your GPSC representative is charged with scheduling meetings with the respective constituency units listed below. **Stay tuned for dates and times.** In the meanwhile, if you have pressing issues that you would like GPSC to address, please contact your current representative!

College of Agriculture -Jonathan Hartman ([jhartman@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:jhartman@ag.arizona.edu)), Gretchen Urkov ([g\\_urkov@hotmail.com](mailto:g_urkov@hotmail.com)), Elizabeth Smith-Incer ([eas@email.arizona.edu](mailto:eas@email.arizona.edu))  
College of Architecture – Melissa Candek ([redhot@gci-net.com](mailto:redhot@gci-net.com))  
College of Business and Public Administration (available)  
College of Education – Anthony Berry ([apberry@u.arizona.edu](mailto:apberry@u.arizona.edu))  
College of Engineering – Felipe Ip ([felipe@hwr.arizona.edu](mailto:felipe@hwr.arizona.edu)), Anastasia Olander ([aolander@u.arizona.edu](mailto:aolander@u.arizona.edu))  
College of Fine Arts – (available)  
College of Humanities – Mike Insalaco ([insalaco@hotmail.com](mailto:insalaco@hotmail.com))  
Interdisciplinary Programs – Zach Derbyshire ([derbyshire@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:derbyshire@pharmacy.arizona.edu)), Tracy Hysong ([thysong@u.arizona.edu](mailto:thysong@u.arizona.edu)), Kameha Kidd ([kamehak@u.arizona.edu](mailto:kamehak@u.arizona.edu))  
College of Law – Kirsten Price ([splash@dakotacom.net](mailto:splash@dakotacom.net)), Chris Wencker ([cwencker@bigfoot.com](mailto:cwencker@bigfoot.com))  
College of Medicine – Jason Gerrard ([jason@nsma.arizona.edu](mailto:jason@nsma.arizona.edu))  
Non-Degree-Seeking Students – Jim Collins ([collins@vega.lpl.arizona.edu](mailto:collins@vega.lpl.arizona.edu))  
College of Nursing (available)  
Optical Sciences – Jason Auxier ([auxier@u.arizona.edu](mailto:auxier@u.arizona.edu))  
College of Pharmacy (available)  
College of Science – Jani Radebaugh ([jani@lpl.arizona.edu](mailto:jani@lpl.arizona.edu)), Kelly LeFevre ([krl@email.arizona.edu](mailto:krl@email.arizona.edu))  
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences – Colin West ([cwest@u.arizona.edu](mailto:cwest@u.arizona.edu)), Phil Leckman ([phil@u.arizona.edu](mailto:phil@u.arizona.edu))