

GPSA Spring 2009 Newsletter



ETSU

The Graduate

What is GPSA!

The Graduate and Student Professional Association (GPSA) of East Tennessee State University is a student managed organization whose membership is open to all currently enrolled post-baccalaureate degree seeking students. Our primary function is to improve the quality of both graduate and professional education and the graduate and professional student experience at ETSU! Graduate and professional students represent approximately 20% of the total

student population at ETSU, and the teaching, clinical, and research activities of these students present genuine needs that are considerably different from those of the remaining student population.

Contact Us

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Our Purpose!

The primary goal of the GPSA is to provide support and informational services that will encourage all graduate/professional students to: 1) become involved in institutional governance and development; ; 2) participate in student-sponsored activities; and 3) maximize their potential as students, educators, and researchers. The function and purpose of the GPSA will benefit not only all graduate/professional students, but also those undergraduate students interested in applying to post-baccalaureate degree programs at ETSU.

Inside the Issue:

- UPCOMING SCHOOL FUNDING EVENT
- TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINE DATES
- NATIONAL GPSA NEWS AND INFO

-Up Coming Event *Finding Funding !*



February 10th, 12:30
Culp Center, Dining
Room 1

On February 10, 2009 Kathy Feagins, the director of the ETSU Scholarship Office will present a workshop on finding funding, including information about scholarships available at ETSU. The deadline to apply for the scholarships will be March 1—so be sure to come check out the new \$ource\$ of funding and get your questions answered.



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Upcoming Deadline—*Travel Funding!*

If you will be presenting at a conference this semester, or would simply like to attend one related to your field of study, funding may be available to help cover all your costs. Deadlines to apply for these travel fund awards are Feb. 2 and March, 23. Amounts vary depending on the amount needed (your applica-

tion must include a budget estimate) and distance traveled. The maximum amount awarded will be \$500, and preference is given to those presenting at a conference. If you are awarded travel funding, we simply ask that you make a brief presentation to peers and GPSA officers during GPSA week (GPSA week

Date here) or some other schedule date. Application and procedure are available at <http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/gpsa/travelfunds.asp>.

The sooner you apply, the better. Don't delay, apply today!

**CURIOSITY MAY
HAVE KILLED
THE CAT, BUT IT
SURE HAS
EARNED A LOT
OF PEOPLE
GRADUATE
DEGREES.
~ROBERT
IRVING~**

NAGPS—National Association of Graduate & Professional Students

NAGPS is the organization that unites Graduate Student Associations like ours to improve and enhance graduate student life. NAGPS offers access to student and recent graduate health insurance as well as various discounts and resources. It sponsors conferences (regional and national) that provide opportunities to present research and

papers and network with other grad students (often PhD candidates). NAGPS will also sponsor a **Legislative Action Days** event in Washington, D.C. March 4-6. These **Days** will involve meeting with federal policy makers to express concerns about loan paybacks advocate for other graduate student needs. (<http://nagps.org/>) If you are

interested in attending, you may apply for Travel Funding through ETSU! ETSU is a proud member of the Southeast Region of NAGPS! Many from this region are national officers. For more information about this great organization, visit its website at <http://nagps.org/> or its Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?>

GPSA WEEK

GPSA Week is a week of honoring graduate students like YOU and the hard work and dedication they contribute. It is also a time to promote the organization on campus.

ETSU will celebrate this week March 30th-April 4th. Fun social events and service activities will be

planned, as well as programs for professional development. We welcome any ideas or suggestions you have for this week! Contact us at [gpsa@goldmail.etsu.edu!](mailto:gpsa@goldmail.etsu.edu)

Wanna be Involved? Join a Committee!

Professional Development

Coordinate seminars such as CV and resume workshops; plan student presentations during GPSA week!

Budget

Evaluate and award travel fund requests; apply for and present the organization's case for SGA funds at end of semester

Community Involvement

Organize and schedule activities oriented towards community service projects, charities, and events benefiting the student body that aren't covered by the Professional Development Committee

You can sign up for committees at the 1st Meeting—Thursday, February 12th