



# GPSA 2008 Spring Newsletter

The Graduate

## Letter from the President and Vice President::

Hello Everyone! We are Geoffrey Williams, current President, and Kristy Leonard, current Vice President, of the GPSA. We are graduate students at East Tennessee State University and we want to welcome all new and former GPSA members and hope everyone is enjoying a great semester here at ETSU.

We have many new ideas and events that we would like to participate in this semester. We invite all ETSU affiliates who are interested in the personal development of yourself, or others, to join us and share your ideas. Last year, we sponsored a variety of events and hope to do the same this year.

Some events that are in the works for the upcoming semester include Relay for Life, a social Paintball event, and seminar on business risk.

**On Monday, February 4th, we will be having our first meeting of Spring 2008.** The meeting will take place at 4:00 p.m. in Dining Room 3 in the Culp Center. Food will be provided. We hope to see you all there and please share your ideas about activities that you would like GPSA to be involved with in the upcoming semester. Feel free to email us any time at [gpsa@goldmail.com](mailto:gpsa@goldmail.com).

Sincerely,  
Geoffrey Williams & Kristy Leonard  
President and Vice-President, GPSA  
[gpsa@goldmail.etsu.com](mailto:gpsa@goldmail.etsu.com)

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## GPSA Officers 2007-2008

President: Geoffrey Williams  
Treasurer: Dominique Gilliard  
Vice President: Kristy Leonard  
Secretary: Jennifer Fisher  
Advisors: David Moore &  
Queen Brown



# What is GPSA!

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## What is GPSA?

The Graduate and Professional Student 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.

## 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.

On top of this, GPSA also facilitates fostering a sense of community within the graduate student body through sponsoring social events and community service projects.

## How do I become a member of GPSA?

It is simple to become a member of GPSA. All you have to do is fill out an application form; which can be picked up from the Graduate Studies office or filled out online at: [http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/gpsa/gpsa\\_forms.htm](http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/gpsa/gpsa_forms.htm). You can turn it back into the Graduate Studies Office and pay the \$5 fee to become a member.

*NOTE: there are two online applications one is the html version that can be submitted online and the other is the Acrobat PDF file which cannot be submitted electronically. You will need to fill it out online, print it out, and turn in the hard copy. If you want to send it through campus mail, our box number is 70720.*

## Contact us:

Email: [gpsa@goldmail.etsu.edu](mailto:gpsa@goldmail.etsu.edu)

Phone: 423-439-4431

Address: 309-B Burgin Dossett Hall

<http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/gpsa>



# Letter from GPSA Advisor

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## Welcome from David Moore:

Welcome new students, and welcome back to those who are not so new to ETSU! Many of you know me already, whether by reading my entries in previous newsletters, or by attending GPSA activities and meeting me directly. I look forward to getting to know more of you as the semester unfolds. I can't promise that I will attend all of the association's functions and meetings, but I will be there as much as my schedule allows.

I was pleased with the level of participation during the fall semester; more students came to, and involved themselves in, both the general meetings and the planned activities than during the 2006-2007 school year. I want to see the growth in interest continue. I challenge each of you to make a point of attending at least one GPSA activity this semester. This includes those of you on the VA campus; I want to see you participating too! Chances are you will enjoy the chance to interact with graduate and professional students who hail from other degree programs than your own. Who knows, you may meet new friends. Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements for the meetings and events.

Before closing, I can't fail to mention that those of you who have benefitted by being awarded GPSA travel funds to help offset the cost of attending professional conferences need to remember that you will be asked to give a short talk about your research or conference experience. You will be notified as to the date, time, and additional details of that forum later in the semester.

David R. Moore  
Graduate Recruiter/GPSA Co-Advisor  
(423) 439-6149  
mooredr@etsu.edu



# GPSA Travel Awards

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## 2007-2008 Travel Award Recipients

Any graduate or professional student at East Tennessee State University who has a completed membership form on file and is actively involved in Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) can apply for use of GPSA travel funds. A travel form can be obtained from the Graduate Office or online at:

<http://www.etsu.edu/comptrol/frm.htm#Travel>. GPSA only awards money for individual travel. Group travel requests will not be considered and you must request 606 funding from the Student Government Association (SGA). A graduate student may not receive funding from both agencies. If granted 606 funding, you are ineligible for GPSA travel grants. Be sure to have the Chair of the department sign your travel request form before it comes to the Graduate School for processing. Because the funds are limited, the following priorities will be followed in the allocations:

1. First priority will be given to applicants who are requesting funds for presenting research/scholarly presentation in which the applicant is sole or co-author.
2. Second priority will be given to applicants who are requesting funds to attend a conference or professional development workshop that can be shown to be linked to their program of graduate study at ETSU.

Other proposals will be considered if applicants can demonstrate that the proposed activity will enhance their graduate education, program of study and/or scholarship.