GPSA Mission Statement:

The Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) supports and promotes graduate student education, campus sustainability, and graduate student life at the University of Idaho. This includes creating programs and assisting graduate students during their transition from student life to professional life. The GPSA is also committed to providing a collective voice for graduate students to the University and the State.
As graduate students you are all part of the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA). The GPSA represents you, your concerns and questions to the University of Idaho and the state. Below is a brief guide to who GPSA is and what we do for you.

What is GPSA?
The GPSA supports and promotes graduate student education, campus sustainability, and graduate student life at the University of Idaho. We are YOUR voice on campus! We represent you and all your fellow graduate student friends to the University and the State.

What does GPSA do for you?
- Help you meet new friends — Fall and Spring Socials
- Help you relax — Coffee Hours, programs and activities
- Offer Travel Awards — up to $800!
- Help you finish up — Thesis/Dissertation Printing and Binding Awards — $50
- Recognize your hard work — Graduate Achievement Awards and Excellence in Teaching Awards
- Shares your ideas and concerns with all major university committees
- Keeps you informed on the latest policies that affect your graduate career

How can you help?
- Join one of GPSA’s committees! Come help plan social events, set up programs and workshops, review awards, and much more!
- Make sure your department is represented on the GPSA.
- Share your brilliant ideas with us. Tell your department representative, email us at gpsa@uidaho.edu, come to a meeting, or stop by the GPSA Office, Morril Hall Rm 202.

**VOTE!** Voting only takes a few minutes on the computer and is very simple. You can make a difference!

*Go to the website: [http://vote.uidaho.edu](http://vote.uidaho.edu)*

For more information on meeting times and events please visit our website: [www.uidaho.edu/gpsa](http://www.uidaho.edu/gpsa)
**GPSA PRESIDENT**

*Position Description:*  
The GPSA President represents all graduate and professional students to the University and the state. He/She will oversee all GPSA programs and activities, appoint officers, and approve all GPSA awards and payments.

**Kate Cobb**

Hi, I am Kate Cobb and I would like your vote to be the President for the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA).

I have been an active Senator representing the English Department since September. Currently, I am a member of the Travel Grant Committee, Communications Committee, Teaching Excellence Grant Awards Committee, and the Programming Committee. I am also serving on the Student Fee Hearing Committee.

My biggest goal and main focus as President, if elected, would be to increase awareness of who GPSA is and what we do for students. I want to make an even stronger connection between the students, faculty, and administration. The GPSA exists as a platform for student for student voices and every graduate and professional student pays fees into and is a member of the GPSA. I want to make sure that they know where their money is going to and that they are benefiting from us as much as possible.

As President, I will also make a big push for unrepresented departments to send students to meetings and events. I plan on visiting at least most of the departments that don’t have a Senator and explain to them the benefits they would be getting if they have someone representing their department.
GPSA VICE PRESIDENT

Position Description:
The GPSA Vice President represents all graduate and professional students to the University and the state. He/She will oversee all GPSA committees, maintain all legislative documents and chair the senate meetings.

Mark Corrao

I have a B.S. from the University of Idaho, a M.S. from Colorado State University, and am a second semester PhD student in the Waters of the West program here at the U of I. While attending the U of I, I simultaneously work as a professional consultant in the field of water resources. Over the last four years I have worked for various State, Federal and Private organizations in Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho assisting with natural resource policy development, administration and regulation. I have extensive experience in regulatory and proposal writing, project management, public relations and conflict resolution as well as team building and organizational leadership.

I believe my professional experience and academic drive will aid in supporting the goals of GPSA to establish a more well-developed, influential relationship within the University as well as the community. A goal, most important to me for GPSA, is to increase student awareness of our organization and interest in our Association to increase participation. I propose to accomplish this through the development of additional incentives and opportunities beneficial to current students and appealing to future graduate students as well as continue to engage faculty members and the community. I am always open to improvements, new ideas and motivated people.

Thank you for your consideration as Vice President of GPSA and I look forward to working with all of you.
GPSA SENATOR AT LARGE

Position Description:
The GPSA Senators at Large (all 8 of them!) represent all graduate and professional students to the GPSA Senate. They sit on University-wide committees like the University Curriculum Committee, Graduate Council, Library Affairs Committee, and University Safety and Loss as well as GPSA committees.

Dave Campbell

Hi, I am Dave Campbell and I would like your vote to be a Senator at Large for the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GSPA).

I have been an active Senator representing the Curriculum and Instruction department to the GSPA since September. I am a member of the elections committee and the GSPA representative to the University’s Safety and Loss Committee with a perfect attendance record.

My philosophy is, “keep it simple”. Graduate students have enough on their plate without worrying what the University is going to throw at them next. I am particularly attentive to potential fee increases and look for ways to promote a positive perception of University of Idaho graduate students. In these changing budget times, it is important to stay on top of how budget and service cuts are going to affect us. I would like to represent you in these changing times.

I appreciate you reading this and hope for your vote.

Daniel John Carroll

My name is Daniel and I am a second semester graduate student in musicology and philosophy here at UI. I am also a full-time teaching assistant in the Lionel Hampton School of Music. I am seeking a position as your Senator-at-Large so as to get more involved in the functioning of the university that we don’t often see in public. In the last semester, I have become much more enlightened as to how the behind-the-scenes operation of the university affects every facet of our educational careers here, and I wish to be more involved so as to take a more active role in these matters.

In my various capacities as a student, teaching assistant, and university employee, I have developed an outstanding ability to cordially and cooperatively interact with colleagues and administrators, and I will most definitely transfer such skills to a position as a Senator-at-Large.
David L Griffith

I am a PhD student in Environmental Science, with a research emphasis in Forest and Rangeland Plant-Fungi interactions. I am originally from the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia, and have undergraduate and graduate degrees from Virginia Tech. I was privileged to serve on several university-wide committees as both a graduate student and adjunct faculty at Virginia Tech, and have worked in education as well as science and grant writing before coming to the University of Idaho. I am currently the Environmental Science department representative to the GPSA. I have a strong belief that service to the community is an essential component of university life, and I would like to continue in service to the graduate student community as a GPSA Senator At Large. I am particularly interested in issues regarding the working relationship between WSU and UI, the quality of graduate life at the UI, and competitive compensation for teaching and research assistants.

Susie Irizarry

My name is Susie Irizarry, and I would appreciate your vote for the Senator-at-large position in the GPSA. I am a first semester master’s student in the Conservation Social Science program in the College of Natural Resources. I grew up in south Florida and received my Bachelor of Science degree from Clemson University in Environmental and Natural Resources Management. As a new member of the graduate community, I want to contribute my previous campus leadership experiences and desire for involvement through representing graduate students at the university level. As a whole, the graduate student body faces a unique set of challenges and responsibilities setting us apart from other student or faculty groups on campus. As your Senator-at-large, I hope to serve as a liaison to other university groups communicating the not only the concerns and needs, but also the successes and contributions of University of Idaho graduate students. I will work to incorporate the various viewpoints of our diverse graduate student body into a unified voice that can be heard at the university level. I will bring a fresh perspective and dedicated attitude toward this leadership role in the GPSA. Thanks for your consideration!
Chad Kooistra

I grew up in Fremont, MI, earned a B.S. in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources at Colorado State University, my M.S. in Conservation Social Sciences (CSS) at UI, and am currently a PhD student in the CSS Department. As GPSA Vice-President, I learned that the University of Idaho faces challenges in better integrating all UI campuses in Idaho into the UI community. I plan to work with the next GPSA leadership team as a liaison to these campuses. The goal is to better understand the role and functions of these campuses, as well as the needs and interests of the graduate students at UI campuses other than Moscow. GPSA needs to define our relationship with graduate students at each UI campus and develop a strategy for better representing their programs, successes, needs, and goals at the University level. I will accomplish this by communicating with graduate students, faculty, and administration at these campuses on a regular basis to better understand the most effective forms of communication and how GPSA can best represent graduate student needs and accomplishments across the state.

Matthew Pendleton

Greetings! My name is Matthew Pendleton and I would like your vote for the GPSA Senator-at-large position. As a current Ph.D. student in the Department of Geological Sciences, I dedicate the majority of my time to teaching, research and presenting at national conferences. In these economically difficult times, changes are being made to the financial budget at the University of Idaho that impact all student activities and programs within the campus community. As your GPSA representative, I will ensure that sufficient funds remain available for travel grants, research and teaching awards, as well as graduate student socials catered by local restaurants. Many graduate students are concerned about tuition fee increases. As such, I will voice the opinions and ideas of our graduate student body to the state Senate and University to maintain a lower cost of attendance for students with minimal financial support. I am invested in this University and will do my best to make your time at the University of Idaho manageable and worthwhile. Please support me in these efforts by voting me, Matthew Pendleton, as your GPSA Senator-at-large. Thanks!