

April 26, 2023

GAPSA Annual Report 2022-2023

GAPSA Executive Vice President: Hoang Anh Phan GAPSA Executive Board Officers 2022-2023

General Assembly Meeting



Thank you!

Represents 16,000+ students

across 12 graduate & professional schools

G12+ Student Governments



General Assembly Members from G12+



































Thank you!

Affinity Groups





THE BLACK GRADUATE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

BGAPSA

















Executive Report

Accountability Process

Student G12+ GA Rep Committee Council GA Exec University

GAPSA Constitution

- Committee Bylaws
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Custom

Bylaws

BYLAWS OF THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

GAPSA G12+ Accountability Program Bylaws as of June 15, 2021

GAPSA Finance Bylaws as of July 1, 2021

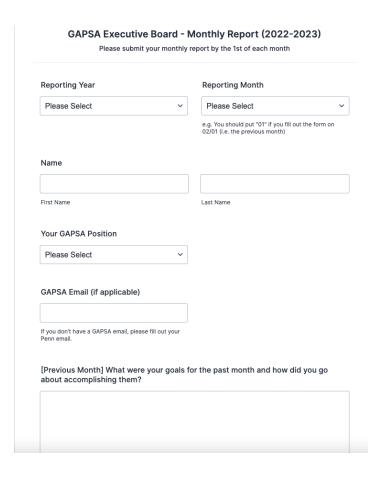
GAPSA Executive Bylaws as of May 15, 2022



GAPSA Executive Board - Monthly Reports

Monthly Reports – Past and future goals

Monthly Flash Report – Responsible Financial Reporting



	MSG Subitem Name	Transaction Date	Budget Code (CREF)	Vendor	Description	Mode of Payment	Payment Number	Amount Spent	Status
		MM/DD/YYYY		e.g., "New Deck Tavern"	e.g., "food for happy hour"		lf applicable	(in \$)	
Item 1				10		_	l.		~
Item 2	•		*			•			•
Item 3	*		*			_			*
Item 4	•		•			~			•

Monthly Spending Goals – Budget responsibly

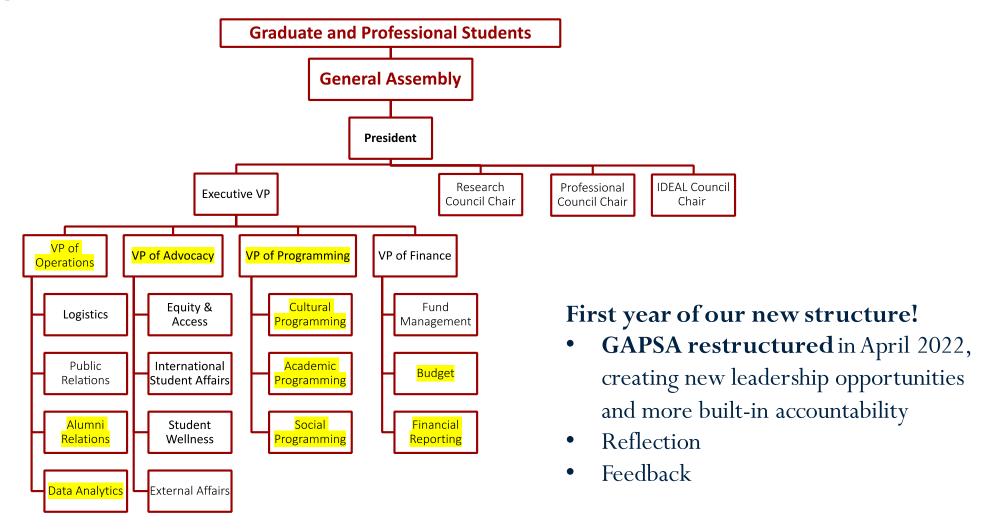
Plan next month's spending here!

In each row, do your best to describe how you will spend your budget next month. List out planned events as best as you can. Be sure to select the right subitems.

For example: 2.6.1 Budget Subcommittee - 4265 Finance Division Development - "Budget Subcommittee Meeting Dinner" - \$100

	MSG Subitem Name	Budget Code (CREF)	Description	Amount Anticipated	Notes
			e.g., "food for happy hour"	(in \$)	Anything we should know?
Item 1			li di	l.	
Item 2			li di		
Item 3	₩	₩			

GAPSA Organizational Chart



What We Do



2022-2023



- Individual Grants
- Student Group Funding

Fund & Financial Support



Graduate Student Center

Advocacy

Amplify your voices

- Representation
- Financial Security
- Graduate Equity (Ph.D. vacation policy; advisoradvisee relationship; work study)
- Wellness (mental & physical health; food insecurity)
- Safety & Housing Security
- Transportation Security
- Technology <u>Access</u>

Programming

Community Building

- Academic/ProfessionalProgramming
- Cultural Programming
- Social Programming
- Wellness Programming
- Alumni Engagement





Leadership

President

Accomplishments and Service:

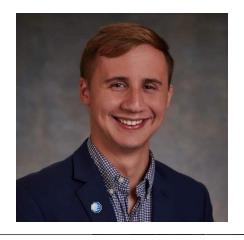
- Led all GAPSA General Assembly Meetings
- Coordinated and led GAPSA-administration meetings and communication.
- Served as graduate representative on Red & Blue Strategic Advisory Committee.
- Served as graduate representative on Provost and VPUL Search Committees.
- Successfully Led efforts to secure compensation via Service

 Awards for all Executive Board members.
- Co-led G12/P.A.C. Meetings with Executive Vice President.
- Successfully secured University Council presentations and speeches for GAPSA. Served on Steering Committee.
- Secured Iris Photo Booth for all graduate students.
 - To-Be-Continued:
 - Student Representation on Penn's Board of Trustees.
 - Raising action-item votes at University Council
 - Graduate Student Housing Concerns
 - Shared Governance!

Leadership Robert Blake Watson GAPSA President, L'23, GSE '23







The Philadelphia Inquirer

Penn students want voting rights on its board of trustees, like some other colleges

The graduate student assembly passed a resolution earlier this month, asking that one graduate student and one undergraduate be added to the board.





Executive Vice President

Advocacy & Operations

- Hosted bi-weekly Executive Board; ensured smooth operations of the Board and built accountability (monthly reports)
- Represented GAPSA on different forums; connected constituents to appropriate University partners; spearheaded and/or supported GAPSA Advocacy Division initiatives such as
 - Food Security: Meal Voucher Program; Food Pantry
 - Wellness: Health Insurance Workshop (Wellness @Penn); Learning Disability Diagnosis Infographic (Weingarten); SWAG (Student Wellness Advisory Board)
 - International Student Advocacy : ISAB; ISTAR (w/ISSS); ELP

Grants

- Administered, evaluated, and distributed PGLA Travel Grant
 - Summer/Fall 2022 | 70 applications (\$97,617 requested); 12 awarded (\$14,537)
 - Spring 2023 | Received 31 applications

Outreach

- Facilitated collaboration between and feedback from constituencies (e.g., Town Halls; Red & Blue Committee with UC reps & G12+, UC Planning Meetings)
- Hosted G12+ Summit in Fall 2022 and GAPSA Leadership Summit (with G12+ and Affinity Group leaders) in Spring 2023





Jaydee Edwards Hoang Anh Phan





New International Student Reception





GAPSA Leadership Summit 2023



Advocacy
Councils
Advocacy Division

Councils

Advocacy

- Represent all 12+ graduate schools
- Develop and pass resolutions to advocate on behalf of students' needs
- Collaborations with GAPSA Advocacy Division
 - Housing & Transportation
 - Food Security

Grants

- Administer, evaluate, and approve applications for individual student travel and research grants
 - Fall 2022 cycle done
 - Spring 2023

Programming

 Host programming to benefit constituencies (e.g., Research Student Town Hall)

Council Chairs

IDEAL Student Council
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access and Leadership

Jay Ortiz





Professional Student Council
Michael Krone

























The IDEAL (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Leadership) Council is charged with representing graduate and professional affinity group interests across all of Penn's twelve graduate schools.

2022-2023 Council Initiatives

- Increased the number of IDEAL member organizations with the addition of BGWA (Black Graduate Women's Association) to the council.
- Advocated for a significant increase in IDEAL Group Funding to offset significant community-building and financial barriers on IDEAL constituencies.
- Advocated for and established 2 new funding mechanisms for IDEAL member organizations, the IDEAL Collaboration Fund (ICF) and the Affinity Group Leadership Development Fund (AGLDF), to foster intersectionality, collaboration between IDEAL groups, and the creation of new affinity groups.
- Reestablished IDEAL Council Bylaws and new funding guidelines to support the work of future council members.
- Established guidelines for upcoming leadership development events for IDEAL group leaders.
- Hosted mixer events to foster a community for grad & professional student members of IDEAL Affinity Groups.

GAPSA Professional Council

Represents professional students across 11 Penn Schools

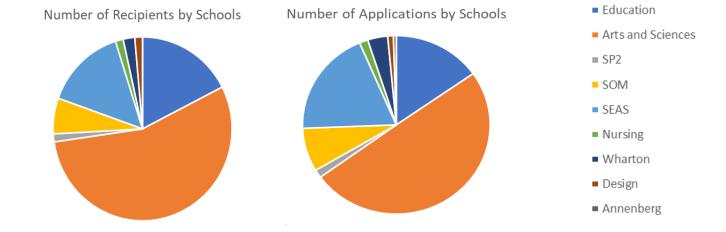
2022-2023 Accomplishments

- Hosted **biweekly council meetings** that doubled attendance over previous years and focused on key issues facing professional students, such as housing, transportation, and engagement with the City of Philadelphia and corporate sponsorships
- Allocated nearly \$200K in travel and conference grants to nearly 500 students across all 11 represented schools
- ▶ Built out a **schematic for a pitch competition** to implement in the coming academic year
- Provided feedback on GA resolutions to shape GAPSA-wide advocacy initiatives

GAPSA Research Council

Grants

- Research Travel Grant\$ 86,943, 114 awardees
- Academic Event Fund\$ 20,150, 12 events



Advocacy

- ▶ Ph.D. Stipend
- Restructuring Research Travel Grant & GAPSA-Provost Award
- Housing & Transportation Survey
- ► Research & Technology Service Grant
- ► Application Fee Wavier & Relocation Stipend

Advocacy Division





VP of Advocacy
Hoang Anh Phan (F22)
Joelle Lingat (S23)



Deputy Director Yuwan Guo

Equity and Access - Emily Getzen

Identify issues that graduate and professional students face at Penn relating to equity and access and advocate through raising awareness of to the student body/administration



International Student Affairs - Rexy Miao (F22)

& Qiao (Betty) Xu (S23)

Build a "home away from home" for international students primary by providing legal & financial support, community integration, and professional development opportunities



Student Wellness - Jason Were (F22) & Kerone

Wint (S23)

Ensure graduate and professional students are cared for during their time at Penn by advocating for students' physical & mental well-being



External Affairs - Xinyi Wang

Connect graduate student needs with external organizations and promote external opportunities that benefit graduate students at Penn



Advocacy Statements

A Statement on Recent Gun Violence

Statement by The Graduate & Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA)

University of Pennsylvania

June 9, 2022

This past weekend our community suffered the tragic loss of three Philadelphians in a mass shooting event. This shooting took place only three days after the hospital shooting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and within two weeks of the elementary school shooting in Uvalde, Texas. The Graduate & Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) is grieving the loss of the recent victims of gun violence. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims and all of those who have been impacted by these events. However, we believe that thoughts and prayers are not sufficient to ameliorate gun violence and prevent the loss of innocent lives. As GAPSA, we strongly condemn these violent acts and we call on our federal, state, and local legislators for meaningful violence prevention measures and gun policy reform.

We know that these recent incidents have raised additional safety concerns among Penn students, faculty, staff, parents, and affiliated communities. In the wake of these heartbreaking events, we encourage Penn-affiliated individuals to explore and access the Public Safety and Wellness resources listed below.

In these challenging times, please continue to take care of yourself and each other. Let us know how we, as GAPSA, can continue to support you all as we stand against these senseless acts of violence and stay strong together.

PUBLIC SAFETY RESOURCES

Walking Escort Services: 215-898-WALK/9255 or 511 from a Campus Phone

On-Request Eventing Shuttles: 215-898-RIDE/7433 or PennRides on Request app

UPenn Alert: Opt-in program for alerts and updates by the Department of Public Safety

ReadyPhiladelphia Program: Opt-in program for emergency alerts from the City of Philadelphia

WELLNESS RESOURCES

If you have any doubt about where to turn, Penn's <u>HELP Line</u> is available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, at 215-898-HELP.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): 215-898-7021

Student Health Service (SHS): 215-746-3535

Student Intervention Services: 215-898-6081

Office of the Chaplain: 215-898-8456

A Statement on Abortion & Reproductive Care

Statement by the Executive Board of the Graduate & Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA)

University of Pennsylvania

August 3, 2022

On June 24, 2022, the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health overturned Roe v. Wade, revoking the constitutional right to abortion and leaving abortion access to the discretion of individual states.

We, the Executive Board of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA), acknowledge that this ruling, along with its implications and potential impacts, raises many concerns and anxiety for students and members of the Penn community. Restricting access to safe abortions will jeopardize a right to bodily autonomy, and adversely impact maternal mortality, maternal & infant health, and general mental well-being. Furthermore, the lack of safe and legal abortions will disproportionately impact underserved and marginalized populations who already have limited access to healthcare.

In light of this ruling, we highlight reproductive care services and support available to Penn students:

WELLNESS AT PENN

Student Health and Counseling (SHAC), formerly known as Student Health Service and CAPS, offers clinical services to all Penn students:

- For Medical services, students can go to 3535 Market Street, First Floor, and call 215-746-3535 (24/7)
- <u>Gynecologic Care</u>: SHAC provides services such as gynecological care, contraception counseling & prescriptions, preventive care, and pregnancy testing & options counseling. Appointments for gynecological and reproductive care are confidential and available to Penn's gender-diverse community
- Contraception: SHAC provides many forms of contraceptives for birth control and menstrual regulation. Information about emergency contraception available at Penn and local pharmacies can be found here
- For <u>Counseling services</u>, students can go to 3624 Market Street, First Floor West, and call 215-898-7021 (24/7)

<u>Public Health and Wellbeing</u> (formerly Campus Health) fosters a community of care through advocacy, education, and action. This includes disease surveillance and prevention, health education and promotion, campus health policies, and immunization and insurance compliance.

- · 3535 Market Street, Suite 50
- Immunization and Insurance Compliance: 215-746-4200
- Public Health: 215-898-0300

Abortion is still legal in Pennsylvania. Wellness at Penn's information sheet on abortion and Philadelphia referrals can be found here.

We encourage those who are eligible to vote to make their voices heard in the upcoming elections as the election outcomes will be critical to our rights and our future. Once again we stand with the Penn community and beyond to advocate for and support access to safe, evidence-based reproductive care.

This year, we issued many statements, participated in DP/newspaper interviews, and wrote letters to administrations to advocate for our student body.

Statement of Support for Students & Scholars affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria

The members of the <u>International Student Table for Advocacy & Relations (ISTAR)</u> are deeply saddened by the devastation caused by the series of earthquakes that struck Turkey and Northern Syria on the morning of 6th February 2023. Our hearts ache for the countless lives lost, innumerable destroyed homes, and the trauma and pain of those affected by the devastation. We would like to extend our support to all students whose families, friends, and homes are affected by this calamity.

Please refer to the list of resources available to you on campus to find the support you need through this tough time.

University-based Resources for affected Students

- 1. International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), Penn
- Wellness Resources: Penn's <u>HELP Line</u> is available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, at 215-898-HELP.
 - a. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): 215-898-7021
 - b. Student Health Service (SHS): 215-746-3535
 - c. Student Intervention Services: 215-898-6081
 - d. Office of the Chaplain: 215-898-8456
- 3. Student Intervention Services (24/7: 215.898.HELP (4357))
 - a. Emergency Funding
- Reach out to student groups
 - a. Assembly of International Students (AIS)
 - b. Undergraduate Assembly (UA)
 - c. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA)
 - d. International Student Advisory Board (ISAB)

Advocacy Efforts



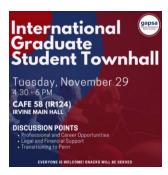
IVY+ Summit (October 2022)

- The Ivy + Summit is a gathering of graduate student governments from the Ivy + schools.
- Shared concerns with peer institutions (e.g. housing, food insecurity, DEI, mentoring, sustainability, international student issues)





Town Halls (Fall 2022)





Food Pantry (October 2022)



CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

Penn announces the largest onetime increase to minimum Ph.D. stipend

The University-wide minimum Ph.D. stipend will rise from \$30,547 to \$38,000 and goes into effect in the coming academic year.



Joint efforts between GAPSA Councils, Advocacy Division, and our constituents



Advocacy

Elevated Our Voices & Representation .

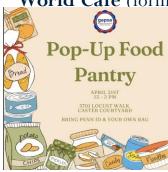
- Worked on building **feedback** and **collaboration** between stakeholders and various bodies (i.e. GA, G12+, Exec, Advisor, Admins, GSC, other campus offices)
- More streamlined application process for **University Council & University** committee representatives
- University Council Planning Meetings
- University Council Presentation



Equity & Access | Wellness

- Weingarten Center & International Student Advisory Board (ISAB): **Learning disability diagnosis infographic**
- Student Wellness, Penn Period Project, UA:
 Menstrual product access
 - Penn Dining & GSC: **Meal Swipe Program** resolution passed & implemented
 - **Food Pantry** (4/2023) with Sharing Excess

World Café (formally ISA Coffee Chat)









A Holistic Support for our Students

- English Language Program Scholarships: 5 scholarships for international graduate students Workshops
- **Family Center:** Brainstormed on family support initiatives including leave and funding, proposed resolution for funding a family grant for students not covered by the current program
- Netter Center: Created internship funding for the upcoming summer
- **Career Services**: Endowed fund + funding for immediate grants for unpaid/underpaid internships
- Initial brainstorming on international student fees
- Tenant Workshops: International Students
- Unionization Topic
- Gender neutral bathrooms in Williams Hall
- **DP interviews** on housing, trustees, etc.

Looking forward: hoping to keep up the momentum of this year and build more initiatives for next year! We want to hear from you and thank you for an incredible year!



Programming

Programming Division







- Sparsh Maheshwari

Devise, implement, and monitor cultural programs and events of interest to the graduate and professional student community.

These programs aim to embrace inclusivity and multiculturalism, and to promote or build cultural awareness.





VP of Programming Shreyas Ramesh (F22) Keshara Senanayake (S23)



- Djodi Hardi & Keshara Craft programming that brings

together the various G12 schools. Create a sense of community. Have fun!



Deputy Director Elly Choi Anusha Singhal





- Bruce Hou

Empower the students to become global leaders in their field of studies by hosting academic events and better utilizing the resources.







Inclusive Programming



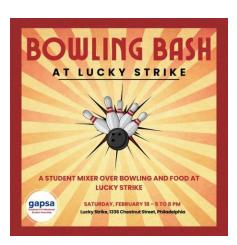
- Spring Gala GAPSA's Gatsby Gala (March 17th, 8pm - 12am)
- Broadway Series
- Beyond Penn
- Guided Museum Tour Series
- Restaurant Series
- Academic Relaxation Dinners
- Lunch with Professors Series
- Bowling
- New York Observation Decks Tour
- Acro& (Acro Yoga)
- Ice Skating
- Book Talk
- Longwood Gardens
- 76ers
- More!



















Programming

- Emphasized reducing the cost of programming and increasing accessibility
- Took **feedback** seriously: if you had an event idea, we tried to make it happens
- From ticketed events, collaborating with groups and schools, to our Spring Gala, programming had a tremendous year of planned events
- Programming has the highest utilization and even went beyond its budget to provide affordable and diverse programming events
- <u>Looking towards the future</u>: we are looking to find more on-campus partners to put on events, including a collaboration next year with campus recreation
 - We also want to emphasize more free events!
 - We are wrapping up some programming by-laws, which can be presented to the GA the next academic year

The entire team appreciates the General Assembly and thanks you for all your support!



MARCH 18TH



Operations



Operations Division



VP of Operations Helen Jin



Deputy Director Ravisara (Ning) Wattana Dawn Adrian

Logistics - Alex Chmielinski

Ensure that all aspects of operations runs smoothly. From meeting minutes to meeting locations and coordinating from all across Penn, we are the go-to for any and all planning



Public Relations - Dora Racca

Serving as a gateway from GAPSA to the whole student body. Manage social media channels, newsletter and the GAPSA website, and aim to engage with all graduate students across the university



Alumni Relations – Paul Welfer

Connect students with alumni for mentorship, career networking, leadership development, and fundraising. Engage alumni through GAPSA events & alumni association mixers, partner with Penn Clubs, and host Beyond Penn



Data Analytics – Gary Hettinger

Provide data support for all of GAPSA's efforts! Work with the various councils & divisions to collect relevant, representative data on the student body; ensure secure and convenient access to such data; and report important insights.





Operations Division



Accomplishments

Public Relations

150% increase in Social Media Engagement 300% increase in Newsletter Engagement Fulfilled all design needs for GAPSA!

Data Analytics

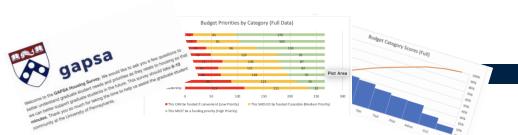
Collaborations Advocacy, Finance,

Research Council

Surveys Provisional Budget, Housing, Meal Voucher Follow-up

Logistics

- GA Small Group Dinners
 - High engagement







Accomplishments

Kickoff Alumni Dinner Alumni Engagement Survey GSC 21st Birthday Penn Homecoming Board Game Night Second Thursday Mixers Leadership Summit Beyond Penn Alumni Cocktail Mixer Alumni Weekend **GAPSA** Goes Global GAPSA Alumni Ticket Program GAPSA Alumni Mentoring GAPSA Alumni Networking GAPSA Alumni Fundraising

GAPSA Alumni Cocktail Mixer, 4/13/23

Finance



\$3.5 million GAPSA Budget 22-23



VP of Finance Aalok Thakkar (F22) Rexy Miao (S23)

Fund Management – Clary Rodriguez Cruz

Manage grant application, evaluation, and disbursement process



Budget – Emily Hu



budgets.

Deputy Director Simeon Ristic



Manage the GAPSA Eventbrite; assist GAPSA and partners to use the Eventbrite; ensure compliance with ticket policies.

Deputy Director Ananth Srinivas



Happy to help with numerous things; Assist with onboarding vendors who aren't Penn approved.

Financial Reporting – Shuruthi Senthil

Perform regular audits of GAPSA Finances, GAPSA-funded groups, events, and initiatives. Maintain financial records & provide regular reports.



Help design and maintain GAPSA budget & GAPSAfunded events/initiatives. Ensure that spending is on track with the allocated

Finance

Emphasized **reducing the cost** of programming and **increasing accessibility**

Transparency & Feedback (Carryover & Contingency Release (370k); Sunshine Report for GAPSA Utilization)

IPF Utilization 91.28%

Proper Financial Practice

Financial Data Security

HIGHTLIGHTS: Support Across G12+ schools and different divisions & councils

- Spring Gala
- ► Holi 2023
- Celebration of Black excellence Dinner
- Penn Fight Night
- Wharton Africa Business Forum
- Menstrual Product Projects
- Meal Voucher Program
- Grad Student Tenants Workshop with Penn Housing Rights Projects
- G12 student Government Summit



Outlook & Conclusion

Outlook & Conclusion

- Outlook & Next Steps
- Important Dates
- Important Tasks
 - <u>GAPSA Website Updates</u>: website and social media links
 - <u>@G12+ and Affinity Groups</u>: Please share your elections results or dates
- Feedback
 - Email: gapsa.president@gapsa.upenn.edu and gapsa.evp@gapsa.upenn.edu



THANK YOU ALL AND CONGRATS TO THE NEW TEAM

Let's stay connected!





@upenngapsa



@upenngapsa



gapsa.upenn.edu

GAPSA Officer Contact gapsa.upenn.edu/positions

