

President’s Report to the Senate

March 20, 2019 Regular Business Meeting

Jack Wilson, GSO President

**NAGPS Spring LAD**

The weekend of March 10, Jessica Posega, Khem Sedhai, and I attended the Spring 2019 Advocacy Summit and Legislative Action days. There, we connected with fellow graduate schools across the nation, gathered the latest updates on Title IX, the Higher Education Act reauthorization, international student concerns, and the graduate mental health crisis. We spoke with the offices of six Senators and five House Representatives from 3 states about the Graduate Student Savings Act, Title IX, the mental health crisis, F1 visa revalidation, and expediting green cards for international students who received a graduate degree from a US university.

**Off-Campus Security Cameras**

The academic year before last, the GSO Senate at the recommendation of that year’s executive board approved $1000 towards the installation of security cameras along Westcott and Euclid Avenue owned and administered by the City of Syracuse and the Syracuse Police Department. This was a joint venture by GSO, SA, and the University.

More recently, the Ackerman Avenue incident has triggered calls by some in SA to expand the range of these cameras to include more of the Westcott area. In contrast to the Executive Board of two years ago, this year’s Executive Board is less warm towards spending money on further expansion in the event we are asked. The critical questions at hand are, first, whether the installation of cameras reduce crime or merely displace it to adjacent areas; second, whether these cameras assist in attempts to find and apprehend suspects; third, whether any gains from prior two questions outweigh the potential loss in civil liberties or increased capacity for police forces to racial profile or otherwise abuse their powers as a result of their presence; and fourth, whether it is the place of the GSO to pay for improvements to City of Syracuse infrastructure. I encourage discussion of this topic.

**Join the Executive Board!**

You know you want to.