

Report to the GSO Senate on NAGPS Leadership Summit

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I was fortunate to be able to attend the NAGPS leadership summit in Pittsburgh this year for 3 days, from August 4-6, 2014. The summit was held on the campus of Carnegie Mellon University, and involved members of NAGPS from all regions of the US, including members from CMU, University of Arizona, University of Missouri, MIT, and others. The summit allowed these members to gain connections, and I gathered many contacts that have been invaluable in seeking advice of comparisons to other institutions student governments.

The summit was held over 3 days and contained sessions on diverse topics such as Emotional Leadership, Adaptive Leadership Styles, as well as a problem solving session designed to create dialogue between schools to collaborate on solutions to common graduate student problems. Particular items of interest to Syracuse involved issues of discrimination and HR as well as Graduate Student pay issues. The ability to both interact with other student leaders and gain valuable insights from the many sessions that went on gave me even more tools to use in the year to come.

Leadership Summit was a valuable experience, and I would recommend sending at least one attendee next year to educate and inform our board as well as provide them with a more diverse skillset to advocate for graduate students. I also would like to see Syracuse University consider the possibility of hosting a Leadership Summit at some point in our future.