



Annual Report/Budget Cover Sheet

To be completed annually by each department. Please attach Budget Request Forms for each proposed increase.

Department: GPSC

UAF Account #: 237118

Department Budget History:

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Operating Budget	\$116,199	\$139,947	\$164,236	
Total Current UAF Allocation	\$97,805	\$99,353	\$99,588	
UAF Increases Requested	\$13,500	\$6,000	\$8,000	
UAF Increases Funded	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Total End-of-Year Reserve Balance Across All Operating Accounts	\$44,467	\$79,648	\$41,000	\$41,000

Please provide a reserve spending plan if ending FY17 reserves exceed University requirements.

The Graduate and Professional Student Council has intentionally accounted for future expenses for moving from White Creek to a permanent building. Additionally, we are anticipating inevitable costs in replacing technological pieces such as desktop computers, laptops, projectors etc.

Any amount that is not used directly during these periods is saved for the next period.

UAF Increase Request History & FY 2019

Summary:

<i>Program, Service, or Operation Requested</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>	<i>SAFAB Recommended? (y/n)</i>	<i>VPSA Approved? (y/n)</i>
FY 2017			
Grad Camp	\$4,000	YES	NO
Interdiscipline Dinners/Intimate Gatherings	\$2,000	NO	NO
FY 2018			
Student Research Week Director — Graduate Assistantship Position	\$15,500	YES	YES
FY 2019 Proposal Summary (Prioritized)			
Student Research Week Director — Graduate Assistantship Position	\$8,000		

Annual Report (cont.)

Additional Questions: *(to assist the Board when informing the student body about stewardship of the University Advancement Fee)*

Briefly, what recent programs/services have been successful? Which need work? Explain.

Student Research Week:

- Success:

Student Research Week (SRW) is one of the nation's largest weeklong student-led, university-wide research symposiums, which provides graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to display their academic achievements at Texas A&M University and foster an environment of learning for all participants. The 2017 SRW held on March 27-31, had 101 sessions, 797 competitors with 483 posters, 312 oral presentations, 200 judges and 161 volunteers. 398 graduate students and 397 undergraduate students from various disciplines had participated to communicate their research in front of peers and faculty judges. They explained their research background, their hypotheses and ways in which their methods were used to collect data, which was used in analyzing and solving a problem. Through such a platform students are able hone their communication skills as well as receive feedback on their research, which will help them to progress and proceed with their projects. In appreciation and ensure encouragement, awards for both poster and oral presentations had been given out, which totaled approximately \$25,000. SRW is a unique research showcasing which created a high impact learning experience for both undergraduate student participation as well as graduate student planning exposure. It has also been recognized by the office of graduate and professional studies and participation as a judge counts as a professional development unit (PDU) which aids in the achievement of the G.R.A.D. Aggies Professional Development Certificate – advanced category.

- Improvements:

SRW has had a tremendous impact on the student body. One of the main goals is to continue growing the program by increasing both student and staff/faculty participation. The number of graduate student participants has been relatively steady over the years, while the undergraduate participation has continually increased. By further engaging staff/faculty to be judges for our events we can build up our prestige and reputation with the staff/faculty, which may increase the number of graduate student participants. We are also working to improve our schedule planning for time allocations to participants such that we can specify it to 1 hour blocks or lesser. We are also thinking of ways to strengthen our communication with those participants having a time conflict. In order to streamline the judging process we will update our requirements and instructions to be made available to the respective people ahead of time.

What do you see as your department's financial priorities in the next 3 – 5 years (FY19-FY23)?

The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) identifies two financial priorities for the next three to five years, which will help ensure financial stability, growth of our University, and successful operation of our organization.

These priorities include: 1) enhancing Student Research Week (SRW) and 2) building a life cycle fund

GPSC prioritizes Student Research Week because this is one of our high impact, high visibility events that affects both students and faculty/staff. It is one of the largest student-run research symposiums in the nation that caters to both undergraduate and graduate students. To match up with the standards that has been already set up for this event, we must ensure its success by securing the funding to meet the costs associated with running such an event. Continuing and expanding SRW will not only help students achieve student learning through research, but will also move the University towards reaching its Vision 2020 Goals.

Another priority of GPSC is to develop a life cycle fund. This fund will be utilized to cover unexpected but necessary costs that arise. For example we are currently located in White Creek, however, this is a temporary location that we were relocated to last year, and will eventually be moving from there. There will be associated costs with this move that are unavoidable and will be covered by parts of our previous life cycle fund, but we foresee future funds will be necessary. In addition GPSC has certain equipment costs that we must meet from time to time. Currently GPSC has several laptops and two desktop computers which we use on a regular basis for our day-to-day officer activities, and to manage member attendance at our meetings. It is inevitable these will need replacement in future in order to be supported by our IT department. By developing a life cycle strategic plan and fund GPSC will be able to maintain foreseen and unforeseen equipment costs and relocation costs without causing major impact to one individual GPSC year.

How many reclassifications did you have approved in FY17? 0	Total financial impact: \$0
How many equity adjustments did you have approved in FY17? 0	Total financial impact: \$0
How many one-time merit increases did you have approved in FY17? 0	Total financial impact: \$0
How many hiring adjustments did you have approved in FY17? 0	Total financial impact: \$0

Additional comments, special considerations, etc.

None

SAFAB Comments/Notes: