

Graduate Student Association Fee Report

2017-18

Abbreviated fee referendum verbiage for allocations to this institution:

To fund Graduate Student Association programming, services, and facilities (operational costs, not capital).

1. **Amount of annual revenue generated by the GSA FEE in 2017-18:**

\$225,968

2. **Describe the need for a CPI adjustment and include the plan if CPI is not applied in 2018-19:**

An annual adjustment of GSA Fee based on CPI is a cost-effective way to sustain a healthy GSA budget. The primary benefit of a CPI adjustment is to allow GSA to account for the inflation in office supply and equipment cost, travel expense for External Vice President (around \$18000 per year), food costs for General Assembly meeting, etc. Additional GSA Fee from CPI adjustment will be used to benefit graduate students and to sustain the organization.

Before the 2016 Fee referendum, asking for GSA Fee adjustment was a long and arduous process. With the annual CPI adjustment, GSA substantially reduce the need to ask for another fee adjustment. In addition, the per student change in GSA Fee increase is negligible (approximately \$1.5 per student per year); majority of General Assembly also support the CPI adjustment.

The CPI adjustment has minimal impact on GSA's overall budget. If CPI is not applied in 2018-19, we believe GSA will still be able to sustain all its current proposed financial activities. However, if General Assembly requires additional funding for certain projects, we will have to withdraw money from the reserve.

3. **Describe GSA's role and function on campus. (What Impact does it have on students? The UC Davis campus community? The wider Davis community?)**

The GSA represents over 5,000 academic graduate and professional students on the UC Davis campus. As the official graduate student government, we serve to empower students and build a collaborative and supportive graduate student community through social activities, advocacy, and financial awards.

GSA is a platform for graduate students to advocate student activism/social justice, to share their grievance as student workers, and to engage in campus events. GSA builds solidarity among graduate students across disciplines through our social event such as Coffee Bagel Donut Day (CBDD), Bar night, field trip, yoga class, etc. GSA provides Travel Award to support travels to academic conference and job interview. GSA also provides Special Project funding to help fund student-led academic events. GSA also work closely with businesses and organizations in Davis (Housing, Food Pantry, Restaurant, Government), and encourage graduate students to participate local events.

4. **Please provide the amount of GSA FEE reserves (if any) and plans to use reserves for anticipated project or expenses:**

\$37,394. The current reserve will be saved for future rental, equipment, and operating expenses when GSA move its office to Walker Hall. GSA also plans to increase funding and award amount for Orientation events, Travel Award, and Special Projects. GSA bylaws doesn't require a minimum reserve. Previous Treasurer Laura Emerson (16-17) suggests GSA should keep about 13% of total GSA fee revenue for reserve.