Welcome Fellow Graduate Students!

WMU Graduate Student Association (GSA) is Western’s study body government focused on your graduate connection. Our goal is to ensure a successful and positive graduate experience that will prepare you for a better tomorrow. Our mission is dedicated to “Building our Presence” through partnership, advocacy, and leadership.

As a liaison between graduate students and faculty, GSA leadership wants to make sure students stay informed on their rights and benefits on a national level. This newsletter is dedicated to keeping graduate students knowledgeable about events, funding, and opportunities in our community.

Moreover, as a graduate student, you are GSA, so we want to hear your voice and concerns about what’s happening around campus. To stay informed please make sure you check our the monthly newsletter and attend GSA general body meetings.

Our primary mission is to empower, develop, and support you on your journey as a graduate student.

Go Broncos!!

Learn more about workshops offered through the grad college:

- Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods - October 10
- Start Smart Salary Negotiation - October 14
- Research Data Management - October 28
**Giving an effective presentation about your interest or scholarship is essential in a graduate student’s career. Why not practice and get feedback from fellow graduates in various departments.**

**For more Information:**
E-mail: gsa-gradtalks@wmich.edu

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**Graduate Student Spotlight**
recognizes outstanding graduate students who make a difference in the lives of others. If you would like to be featured or know an outstanding graduate student, please nominate them for the GSA Spotlight.

**Email:**
denisha.c.griffey@wmich.edu
for more information

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**The Hilltop Review**
Submission for the Fall 2014 issue are due September 22, 2014.
Please contact the Editor with questions at:
gsa_hilltop@wmich.edu

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS (NAGPS)**

Welcome to the 2014-2015 academic school year. My name is Denisha Griffey and as your legislative chair my primary focus is to advocate for graduate students’ needs on the local, regional, and national level. This is done through partnership with the NAGPS in which WMU GSA is an active legacy member. The GSA is also very active in the Midwest Region of the NAGPS with several of our graduate students serving on the regional board. Please check out Midwest newsletter to learn more about advocacy efforts that are taking place throughout the Midwest region.

We’ve been busy this summer advocating for graduate students on Capitol Hill. In July the House passed H R 3393 Student and Family Tax Simplification Act. This bill negatively impacts our nation’s graduate and professional students and their families who benefit under the previous law. The bill eliminates the Lifetime Learning Credit and the tax deduction for tuition and fees. Eliminating this aid will increase the financial burden on graduate and professional students and limit their ability to contribute to our struggling economy.

To learn more about advocacy efforts please visit www.wmich.edu/gsa/legislative and www.nagps.org. If you like to know how you can get involved please email me at denisha.c.griffey@wmich.edu.

**Legislative News**
Denisha Griffey,
GSA Legislative Chair