Resolution: 1.17 Graduate Student Association Executive Board Stipend Increase proposal. 
Introduced: April 21, 2017

Whereas, on February 26, 2016 the Graduate Student Association, in its general assembly, approved the resolution 1.16 (available at https://wmich.edu/gsa/legislative) urging the creation of a Committee that revises the Executive Board stipend every 2 years, and present a formal proposal to the GSA general assembly for consideration, and;

Whereas, the Committee for stipend revision worked in collaboration with the GSA President, Vice-president, and advisor (or designee) to design parameters for stipend revisions, while ensuring that University’s regulations are followed, and;

Whereas, the Committee understands that the GSA has expanded its activities in variety and scope, resulting in a significant increment of the workload to its Executive Board, and;

Whereas, the Committee understands that good compensation practices are needed to attract the best talents to the leadership positions that GSA needs for its optimal performance, and;

Whereas, there have been increases in tuition, housing and other fees that affect the purchasing power of graduate students; a discontinuation of the insurance subsidy for WMU graduate students; and other forms of financial support have been eliminated (subsidized graduate student Stafford loans) or are more expensive (graduate student loan interest rates are no longer tied to undergraduate student loans rates and now have a significantly higher cap), and;

Whereas, this stipend increase comes in response to feedback over the last several years from graduate students, who have been quite consistent in identifying the need for to revise Executive Board stipends, and;

Whereas, the proposed increase does not impact other services currently provided to WMU graduate students, and;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the following GSA Executive Board positions Director of Administration, Director of Outreach, Director of Professional Development, Parliamentarian, Director of Legislative Affairs, Director of Public Relations, and Director of Events receive an increase of $450 total to be distributed evenly in the fall and spring semester for a stipend grand total of $1,225 to be received each semester.
LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GSA Director and Editor of the Hilltop Review journal receive an increase of $4,000 to be distributed evenly throughout the academic year including the periods of summer I and summer II for a stipend grand total of $8,000, and;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon approval by 50% plus 1 of the voting members present at the meeting, the written proposal must be revised and approved by the GSA advisor the WMU Vice-president for student affairs, and;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that if approved by all parties, the stipend increase proposal would take effect in the immediate academic year that follows the year in which it was approved.