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**GPSA is now GPSG**

UNIVERSITY OF PITT

GPS

GRADUATE AND PROFE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

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*engage • experience •*

Students returning from a summer away from Pitt may not have heard the news! GPSA is now GPSG, the Graduate and Professional Student Government. The GPSA Assembly Board voted at its June meeting to rename the organization to "Graduate and Professional Student Government" (GPSG). The name change is intended to better-reflect our role as the governing body for all graduate and professional students at Pitt. Despite the name change, we will continue to offer the events, services, and advocacy that we have in the past!

Renaming the organization requires a bit of shifting, as we update our website, Facebook page, Facebook group, etc. If anything moves (e.g. website address or Facebook page), we'll let you know on the website, through Facebook, and on the mailing list!

The GPSG officers look forward to serving you this year!

## **Win a Kindle (or other prizes)!**

GPSG would like to know how to serve and represent you better. To do that, we need to get to know you. This fall, we will be sending out a survey later this fall. All graduate and professional students who complete the survey will be entered to win a prize. One prize will be awarded each week! Prizes include an iPod Nano, Nook Color, Apple TV, and Kindle Touch!

The survey will be available between September 10th and October 5th. Once the survey is released, you will be able to access it at <http://gpsg.pitt.edu/GSSurveys2012> or <http://tinyurl.com/PittGradStudentSurvey2012>.

## **Lactation Rooms now available!**

The [Provost's Advisory Committee on Women's Concerns](#) has compiled a list of rooms to assist mothers in finding a convenient location to express breast milk on the University of Pittsburgh Oakland campus. The list can be found here: <http://www.provost.pitt.edu/pacwc/LactationRoomLocations.pdf>. Other rooms may be available within University units.

## **Information about voting**

As you probably know, we're coming up on election season!

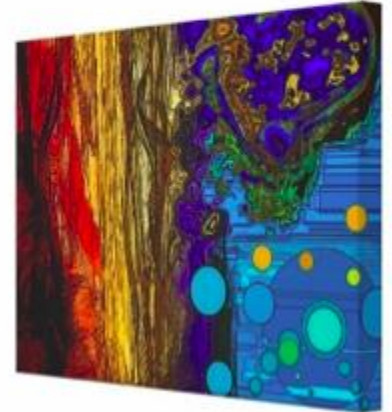
If you are an American citizen and would like to register to vote, GPSG has forms available at our office (825 William Pitt Union) during office hours (office hours found [here](#)). It takes just a few minutes to fill out and we'll even mail it for you (for free)!

If you are voting as a Pennsylvania resident, [there have been some changes](#) to the ID required to prove your identity when you vote. To vote in Pennsylvania, only certain forms of ID are valid. A current PA drivers license will work, as will your Pitt ID (as long as it has your picture and is not expired). A list of other valid forms of ID can be found [here](#).

## Represent Pitt: GPSG Art Initiative

Represent PITT!

GPSG Art Initiative



### Graduate Students – GPSG wants you to Represent Pitt!

GPSG is looking for creative ways to capture what Pitt grad student life is like on a 16" x 20" canvas! We welcome all ideas, including any mediums in addition to the canvas. The 18 projects chosen for production will receive a free canvas for making their ideas come to life and given one month to do so. Pending budgetary approval, small grants of \$20 to \$50 may be available for materials costs in addition to the canvas. Please note below if your project proposal is contingent on such funding. All participants will be invited to the GPSG Fall Gallery Event in late October, where the projects will be displayed. Following this, all of the canvases will be permanently displayed in 825 William Pitt Union.

To submit your idea, please fill out the form: <http://tinyurl.com/RepresentPitt>. Submissions are due by September 22, 2012.

### Sep. 15: SNMA Sickle Cell Shootaround

The Student National Medical Association (SNMA) wants to help you meet new people by inviting you to participate in their first SNMA Sickle Cell Shootaround. In honor of National Sickle Cell month, they are hosting a 3 on 3 basketball tournament.

Registration is \$5 per player which can be paid via PayPal or in cash by September 13th. Cash payments will be accepted in the Scaife lobby at 12pm - 1pm from September, 4th until Thursday, September 13th. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the National Sickle Cell

Foundation, so come out and play for a good cause! Prizes will be given to the tournament winners and runner ups. An email with the game schedule will be sent out after registration is closed.

Any questions or comments can be directed to Kevin Baidoo at [baidoo.kevin@medstudent.pitt.edu](mailto:baidoo.kevin@medstudent.pitt.edu).

**Date:** Saturday, September 15th

**Time:** 10am - 5pm

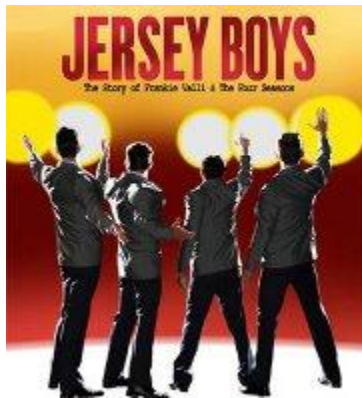
**Venue:** VA courts

**Cost:** \$5/player

**Registration:**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dDFuY29VamE3UFJoa3hvWmNhZVpnSVE6MQ>

## Sep. 20: Jersey Boys Musical (plus Reception)



The Pitt Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) has arranged for discounted group tickets to attend the Broadway sensation JERSEY BOYS musical performance at the Benedum Center on Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 7:30-10:00 p.m. show. You are also invited to attend the Pre-Show Reception at the Pierce Studio at 5:30-7:00 p.m. Free food and beverages will be served to all those attending the show.

As tickets are limited we urge you to fill up [this RSVP form](#) asap. Please note, this form is the only valid RSVP in order to purchase tickets (Facebook RSVPs do not count). Tickets are discounted by over 50%! RSVP deadline is Sunday Sept. 9 @ midnight (or until tickets last). To pick up tickets, visit the William Pitt Union Ticket Office (First Floor), between Monday Sept. 10 @ noon - Monday Sept. 17 @ noon. After that all remaining tickets will be open for sale to all graduate students.

**Date:** Thursday, September 20

**Time:** Reception: 5:30 - 7:00 pm, Musical: 7:30 - 10:00 pm

**Location:**

- Reception: Pierce Studio, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Arts Education Center, 805-807 Liberty Ave.
- Musical: Benedum Center

**Ticket Price:** \$25 (maximum of two tickets per current/valid Pitt ID)

**RSVP:**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dEZqLWIIR201OVhsNXR4cHhPNHRIVFE6MQ>

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

PITT Arts is also selling tickets for JERSEY BOYS, however this particular show has been arranged SOLELY BY GPSG. You must purchase tickets for this event ONLY from the William Pitt Union Ticket Office. Please DO NOT GO TO PITT Arts to ask about these particular tickets. The price of our tickets are a steal and even lower than prices from Pitt Arts!

## **Oct. 19: GPSG's Annual Masquerade Ball**



Join us for our fabulous pre-Halloween dance and reception!

The date is set for Friday night on October 21st. As the event gets closer, we'll provide more information, but for now, keep the day open!

**Date:** Friday, October 19th

**Time:** 7:30pm - 11:00pm

**Venue:** O'Hara Student Center (4024 O'Hara St. in Oakland)

More details to follow soon on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PittGPSA>

## **Health Care Enrollment**

Enrollment is now open for Student Health Insurance provided by the university. Enrollment is open until the end of September. Information about health insurance can be found here: <http://gradcare.hr.pitt.edu/> and enrollment can be done through the [Pitt Portal](#) (in the "My Resources" tab, select "Student Health Insurance", wait for the page to load, then click on "Student Health Insurance" on the right).

## **Cheap Pitt Football Tickets!**

As Pitt students, we are eligible for discounted tickets to your favorite games. For more information, see <http://www.pittsburghpanthers.com/tickets/studentfootball.html#3>.

## **Cheap/Free Arts Tickets!**

Since 1997, [PITT ARTS](#) has been providing Pitt students to the cultural life of Pittsburgh. Their Cheap Seats program offers discounted tickets to most arts events in the city. Their Free Visits program allows all Pitt students to visit many museums around the city for free.

## **Pitt Celebrate 225 Years of Building Better Lives**

Founded in 1787, Pitt is celebrating 225 years this year! Pitt has, and still is, a leader in so many ways. For more information on its past and present, see: <http://www.225.pitt.edu/content/video>.

## **PUMP Membership**



GPSG is pleased to offer FREE memberships to one of Pittsburgh's premiere networks of young professionals: PUMP - the Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project!

PUMP is a local non-profit, and their goal is to build and engage networks of young professionals in Pittsburgh. They provide their members with a wide range of Pittsburgh-based programming opportunities: from social networking events (e.g. happy hours and trivia nights) to civic engagement forums with regional political leaders. They serve as a voice in the community through civic engagement and forums that address specific issues (e.g. the 2009 Healthcare Forum held with GPSG in October 2009). They run the Pittsburgh Sports League, which is PUMP's largest social networking program and Pittsburgh's premiere adult co-ed sports league with more than 12 different sport offerings. They also have social networking through monthly Quiz Nights, Happy Hours, and high profile events like Pittsburgh's 40 under 40.

You can click the link below to join PUMP for free today through GPSG:  
[www.pump.org/index.cfm?pageId=1177&grandparentID=471&parentID=493](http://www.pump.org/index.cfm?pageId=1177&grandparentID=471&parentID=493).

## **Cool Pittsburgh**

New to Pittsburgh, but not interested in sports or networking? [Cool Pittsburgh](#) is a great resource for all fun things in Pittsburgh! With lists of places to eat, shop, enjoy various kinds of entertainment, and get around, you can create your own adventures.

## **Volunteers Needed for GPSG's Student Affairs Committee**

GPSG is committed to better our understanding of the Pitt graduate student experience during the coming academic year. To do so we will be instituting surveys, focus groups, and other means of learning about students' needs and wants. The GPSG Student Affairs Committee seeks



volunteers to be involved in planning and instituting these initiatives, analyzing the data they provide, and proposing new ways GPSG can best support graduate students at Pitt. This committee will also take on the prior duties of the Election Committee, responsible for running the GPSG elections in early 2013.

For more information or to volunteer, please email [pitt.gpsg@gmail.com](mailto:pitt.gpsg@gmail.com). In addition to volunteer positions, a small stipend may be awarded to the Committee Chair if there are interested candidates. Committee members will be expected to serve for at least one semester, beginning with Fall 2012; however, volunteers for the entire 2012-2013 academic year are preferred.

## Serve on a University Committee

Are you looking for a way to get more involved at Pitt? Are you looking for an added boost in your resume or CV? Serve the University, GPSG, and your fellow students through an appointment on a University Committee!

GPSG is committed to representing graduate and professional student interests. Within the University of Pittsburgh, we accomplish this by appointing students like you to serve in committee positions throughout the University. You can contribute to real policy, fiscal, administrative, and operational decisions that affect students throughout Pitt, and most of these appointments meet once a month or less.

We are currently in need of representatives for [various University Senate, and Provost committees](#). If you are interested in applying, please email Vice President of Committees Preston Thomas at [committees.pittgpsg@gmail.com](mailto:committees.pittgpsg@gmail.com).

## Help Plan GPSG Events

GPSG is looking for volunteers to be part of the Event Planning Committee for Fall 2012. Main duties will include assisting with, organizing, and coordinating our GPSG social, cultural and civic events. Commitment is required only per event. It does not demand too much time and it's great fun. All those interested please email Vice President of Programming Tran Doan at [programming.pittgpsg@gmail.com](mailto:programming.pittgpsg@gmail.com).

## Volunteer Opportunity: One Young World



One Young World (OYW) will be hosting their 2012 summit this October 18-23 here in Pittsburgh! OYW is a not-for-profit organization that brings together young adults to ensure their concerns, opinions, and solutions are heard. The



topics this year are education, global business, health, human rights, leadership, sustainable development and transparency. More countries are represented here than any other event for young adults, outside of the Olympics.

There are a number of opportunities to volunteer, including welcoming attendees at the airport, answering general questions about the city at hotels and the convention center, and accompanying attendees to various venues in the area. While the David L. Lawrence Convention Center is the summit's primary venue, summit delegates will also attend sessions at other destinations, such as Phipps Conservatory, Pitt, and CMU. All volunteers are eligible to win an overnight stay at a Downtown hotel, along with tickets to Pittsburgh attractions!

For more information, or to sign-up as a volunteer, please visit:  
<http://www.visitpittsburgh.com/oyw/>.

## **Student Spotlight: Nahom Beyene**

Congratulations to Nahom Beyene for being the Grand Prize Winner of the [PhD Comics 2-Minute Thesis Contest](#)! Nahom, a grad student in the School of Health & Rehab Science, competed against 200 grad students around the world and won the opportunity for Jorge Cham (PhD Comics creator) to animate his thesis, to be released this Fall on the [PhD Comics website](#)! His two-minute submission, [The Synthesis of NAViSection](#), is on what defines driver capabilities and how to link that capability to safety.

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