



## **GPSGA General Assembly Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 29, 2012**

### **Murray 035**

WHEREAS: student loans play a critical role in the ability to continue their studies for many graduate and professional students at Oklahoma State University;

WHEREAS: graduate and professional students, whether employed by the university or not, typically earn a low annual wage;

WHEREAS: increases to the financial burden shouldered by graduates and professional students thus has both an immediate and long-term impact larger relative to their annual income than most other occupations;

WHEREAS: federal subsidy of the interest on graduate and professional student loans was recently eliminated by the White House as of FY 2012;

WHEREAS: prior, the federal government had subsidized the interest on fifty percent of all student loans held in the United States;

WHEREAS: this move significantly impacts graduate and professional students everywhere, at the same time that it contradicts the federal government's declaration to make the United States a world leader in research by effectively reducing the pool of people able to attend graduate school while simultaneously making it more difficult to continue and complete school for those currently enrolled in graduate and professional degree programs;

#### **Section 1:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the graduate students of Oklahoma State University, through the voice of the Graduate and Professional Student Government Association, urge the administration and all representatives popularly elected and serving the State of Oklahoma on a national level to reconsider the value of this short-sighted legislation and make every effort to serve the needs and desires of those who will become the next generation of leaders, researchers, and producers of capital by taking all reasonable actions to redress this grave misstep;

#### **Section 2:**

Upon its passage and approval this resolution will be forwarded to Burns Hargis, OSU President; Dr. Robert J. Sternberg, OSU Provost and Senior Vice President; Dr. Lee Bird, OSU Vice President, Office of Student Affairs; Gary C. Clark, OSU Vice President and General Counsel; Dr. Sheryl Tucker, OSU Associate Provost of Graduate Education and Dean, Graduate College; Jay L. Helm, Chairman, Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges; Frank D. Lucas, US Representative for Oklahoma's 3rd Congressional District; James M. Inhofe, US Senator – Oklahoma; Dr. Tom Coburn, US Senator – Oklahoma.