

## Questions

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The 1% pay increase to support graduate student pay was announced. How much increase in biweekly salary, on average, will this ensure for graduate student employees? Has the Graduate School raised the minimum graduate salary? .....	2
How is Purdue going to make sure that next year’s undergraduate students taking classes in English and using the Writing Lab won’t be shortchanged, given that English graduate support is underfunded and will be understaffed? .....	2
If faculty and Senates at the regional campuses have a question for the President, what is the best way for them to ask it so that they can get a response in the same way and manner the President answers questions of West Lafayette faculty at monthly meetings of the University Senate? .....	3
Is it true that there is a year-long waiting list to be tested for free for ADHD through CAPS? .....	3
How has interest, admission, and enrollment at Purdue changed for international students (undergrad and grad) during COVID, and particularly in light of a growing sense abroad (at least in some countries) that the US (and maybe Indiana particularly) doesn’t want “foreigners” coming and learning in our universities? I’m thinking about the lobbying that universities had to do around SEA 388, for example. ....	3
The Exponent is reporting a poster insulting Adonis Tuggle was spotted posted on campus. Will there be the same investigative effort as the anti-rape culture flyers last semester? .....	4

**As you know, the Senate is discussing possible future divestment from fossil-fuel dominant companies for endowment funds managed by Purdue University and Purdue Research Foundation. Please clarify to what extent endowment income is utilized to meet the normal budget expenditures versus capital improvement projects at Purdue University.**

Endowments exist for both operating and capital projects. Around \$100m annually is distributed and used in the University's operating budget, primarily in the areas of student aid, professorships, and dedicated allocations. Additionally, funds are held in endowments for R&R and planned major capital projects (e.g. Nursing/Pharmacy building).

The current raise plan for employees and graduate students has been announced as a 4% raise pool, plus an extra 1% allocated to raising graduate students' and other underfunded employees' pay. How is this cost shared between department and central funds, and how has the administration increased department budgets to accommodate such pay increases (so that these raises don't also serve as department budget cuts)?

Central funds allocated to colleges and administrative units are the primary source for both the 4% and 1% pools. To the extent a position is funded (entirely or partially) through a sponsored program, those funds are utilized with some central funds to help bridge the increase for particular grants. For auxiliary functions paid for with dedicated revenues, those funds are used (athletics and housing/dining are examples). Consistent with prior years, we did ask units to contribute to the merit pool (4%)—central funds are funding 90% (3.5%) and colleges/units are funding 10% (0.5%).

**The 1% pay increase to support graduate student pay was announced. How much increase in biweekly salary, on average, will this ensure for graduate student employees? Has the Graduate School raised the minimum graduate salary?**

The 1% pool includes raising the university-wide minimum stipends to \$18,800 (academic-year appointments) and \$24,124 (fiscal-year appointments). That will raise pay for roughly 1,100 graduate students an average of 19% (academic year) or 26% (fiscal year). In addition, certain units will be raising the university minimums to an even higher level, also boosting wages. The precise percent increases will vary by unit. A portion of the 4% compensation pool will also be dedicated to raising stipends—those plans are in development and will be finalized in May. Finally, some of the 1% pool was targeted to select departments and disciplines where Purdue is preeminent and competing nationally for talent. Those increases will also boost pay but will target a smaller subset of the total graduate student population. In total the investment in graduate stipends is \$11 million (9% increase). On a cost-of-living adjusted basis, these increases will place Purdue in the top third of its Big Ten peers.

**How is Purdue going to make sure that next year's undergraduate students taking classes in English and using the Writing Lab won't be shortchanged, given that English graduate support is underfunded and will be understaffed?**

As it prepares to move to its new space in the Krach Leadership Center, the On-Campus Writing Lab has developed a staffing plan that combines professional writing consultants, post-doctoral fellows, a modest number of graduate students, and undergraduate tutors to serve students and other campus writers through consultations and writing workshops. The graduate students working there will be those whose primary research and teaching interests align with the core function of the Writing Lab. This new professional staffing model

increases the Writing Lab's capacity to serve students by 23%, something they anticipate may be necessary with its move to its new location in the student life corridor in Krach.

With regard to classes in English, the University offers several options to allow students to fulfill the written communication requirement. The College of Liberal Arts will offer capacity in their courses as requested to meet the projected needs of students. In terms of other English classes, it is not currently foreseen that there will be a shortfall of courses that will limit students' ability to make progress toward their degrees.

**If faculty and Senates at the regional campuses have a question for the President, what is the best way for them to ask it so that they can get a response in the same way and manner the President answers questions of West Lafayette faculty at monthly meetings of the University Senate?**

Questions may be submitted through the [University Senate](#) or directly to the Provost or Office of the President at [president@purdue.edu](mailto:president@purdue.edu).

**Is it true that there is a year-long waiting list to be tested for free for ADHD through CAPS?**

From Chris Hanes, Senior Director of CAPS:

CAPS does not offer psychological assessment, including ADHD testing. CAPS provides referrals to campus and community partners when testing is recommended. Waiting lists for these evaluations vary in length depending on time of the year and the distance one is able to travel from campus.

**How has interest, admission, and enrollment at Purdue changed for international students (undergrad and grad) during COVID, and particularly in light of a growing sense abroad (at least in some countries) that the US (and maybe Indiana particularly) doesn't want "foreigners" coming and learning in our universities? I'm thinking about the lobbying that universities had to do around SEA 388, for example.**

Applications for both undergraduate or graduate international students are at or near record highs. During the height of the pandemic lockdowns, some students could not obtain visas, but we worked to facilitate online courses for these students. Visa and travel issues have improved, and we continue to see strong interest and enrollment from international students at every level.

The focus of SEA (Senate Enrolled Act) 388 was on foreign gifts and contracts, not on foreign students. None of the discussion, testimony, or debate on the bill focused on interest, admissions, or enrollment of our international students. Additionally, the language in SEA 388 requires us to submit the same information to the state that we were already submitting to the federal government, so it's an added step to also share the info with the state, but not a brand-new requirement.

**The Exponent is reporting a poster insulting Adonis Tuggle was spotted posted on campus. Will there be the same investigative effort as the anti-rape culture flyers last semester?**

The exact same policies apply regardless of content. The university has investigated conduct, not content. Vandalism and defacing university property will be looked into, regardless of the nature of the communications. The university guarantees all members of the community the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn.