



PawPrints

October 2018



October Call To Action Get Out The Vote!



The information below is specific to North Carolina. If your permanent address is in a different state, use Rock the Vote or search "Your State Board of Elections" to find details specific to your state.

Important Dates

- October 12, 5pm Voter Registration Deadline for Nov. election
- October 17 to November 3 Early Voting Period
- October 30 Deadline to Request Absentee Ballot (5pm)
- November 6 Election Day

Discover the October CTA

2018 Midterm Election Info

- All US House, NC State House, and NC State Senate seats are contested in 2018.
- There are SIX amendments to the NC Constitution (briefs found here, but further reading is required to understand them fully. Be sure to research before voting!

How to Register (two ways)

- Use the <u>voter look-up tool</u> to verify your registration (current address, affiliation)
- For first-time registration: complete this <u>registration form</u> and e-mail, fax, or mail the form to your county board of elections (<u>address look-up</u>). Must be postmarked by October 12 if sending by mail.
- Register at one-stop/early voting locations- requires proof of address (<u>more information</u>)

Where to Vote

- Early voting Now Available in Talley! The Talley Student Union is now an early onestop voting location. Register in Wake County, learn about candidates and ballot measures, and vote at Talley from October 17 through November 3.
- Additional one-stop (early) voting location in your county <u>HERE</u>.
- Go to your designated polling place (<u>voter look-up tool</u>). Polls open 6:30 am 7:30 pm.
- <u>Absentee-by-mail voting</u> (October 30 is ballot request deadline. Completed ballot must be received by county board of elections by 5:00 pm on November 6)

What to Bring with You on Election Day

- Photo ID is NOT required to vote in North Carolina (learn more here)
- Proof of address required during one-stop/early voting (more information)
- View a Sample Ballot (for NC State address).

NC State Response to Hurricane Florence

North Carolinians continue to recover from the impacts of Hurricane Florence and NC State is working to provide help to those impacted - both on campus and across the state. Immediately following the storm, NC State Police, facilities personnel and others traveled to the coast to assist our colleagues and peers at UNC-Pembroke and UNC-Wilmington.

We have also reached out to our students in some of the state's hardest hit areas to provide resources and support, and we continue to be a recovery resource for farmers, ranchers and others impacted. Read how **NC State is helping**.

Get Hurricane Support and Assistance

Graduate Student Focus Group on University Housing

University Housing is seeking 6-8 graduate students to participate in a **30-minute** focus group on the topic of University Housing at NC State. The University Housing department is in the midst of a master planning study addressing housing needs by type, residents, etc. and graduate student input is solicited.

The focus group will take place on **Tuesday**, **October 16**, **from 11:15 - 11:30 am**. A free box lunch from Rave Catering will be provided to all Focus Group participants as a way to say thank you for your time and input. The location is To Be Determined.

If you are interested in participating, email Susan Grant (Director of University Housing) directly at scgrant@ncsu.edu, putting Graduate Student Focus Group in the header line above.

Tag your night of fun

Let's have fun together at the N.C. State Fair on Thursday, October 18. All textiles graduate students come, join TAGS (Textile Association of Graduate Students) for an enjoyable night of food and fun. Please contact ddbatch@ncsu.edu, turashid@ncsu.edu or RSVP with the code.



Legislative Snapshot!

October 2018

With so much happening on The Hill these days, keeping up with legislative changes to higher education can be difficult. Therefore, in each issue of Pawprints we endeavor to include a "Legislative Snapshot," or short summary, of any local, state, or federal policy or regulation changes from the previous month that are pertinent to grad students at NC State.

View the full Legislative Snapshot HERE

November 6 Midterm Elections - 35 days!

Deadline to REGISTER to vote in the midterm election in NC is *OCTOBER 12*. Find out HOW to register to vote HERE.

For more information on candidates, voting locations, and more, look at our Call to Action, HERE!

Amendments to NC Constitution

On the ballot for this election, there are <u>six amendments</u> to the NC constitution. Included is an amendment to enact a *new Voter ID Requirement*.

Here are Detailed descriptions of each amendment,

Hurricane Florence relief

On September 26, the House of Representatives <u>overwhelmingly voted</u> in favor of \$1.7 billion relief funding for the Carolinas after Hurricane Florence. The legislation now moves to the Senate.

Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

The <u>PSLF program</u> program was established to help cancel the student loan debts of public servants after 10 years of service;

However, in its first year <u>only 96 out of 28,000 were granted</u> by the Dept. of Ed. and lawmakers recently allocated \$350 million in funding to fix mistakes.

Dept. of Education proposes changes to Title IX

New rules regarding sexual misconduct cases <u>proposed</u> by the Dept. of Ed., have <u>prompted concerns</u> that reporting and investigations of sexual harassment and assault cases would decrease.

Funding Updates

On Sept. 27 congress passed <u>H.R. 6157</u> appropriating funding to Depts. of Education, Labor, Health & Human Services, Defense. The funding package has been <u>sent to President Trump</u> to sign into law.

The bill <u>increases funding</u> for NIH by \$2 billion to a total of \$39 billion. Additional info HERE.

Other Reports

New bi-weekly <u>Legislative Letters</u>, 09-24-18, from the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) bi-weekly Interested in contributing to the Snapshot? Email <u>gsa-vpexternal@ncsu.edu</u>.

Block grants available for interdepartmental events

GSA Block Grants are awarded to support academic activities among graduate students across academic departments at NC State University. The full amount of funding will be awarded to those organizations that demonstrate inter-departmental cooperation and possess great academic value. For eligibility requirements, instructions, and application, please visit the GSA finance webpage.

Visit GSA Finance Page

Conduct Board Grad Position

Looking for another way to get involved? You can serve as a graduate representative on the Conduct Board.

- Committee Description: The Conduct Board is responsible for reviewing potential
 violations of the Code of Student Conduct and educating the Student Body about the
 policies of the Code. Most notably, Board members serve as hearing officers for
 cases that could result in Suspension or Expulsion from the University.
- 2. **Position commitment:** Hearings usually take place Monday and Thursday afternoons beginning at 4 pm. Interest meetings begin in September and the application opens in October. If you are interested, please reach out to Chief Justice Jodi Svetaketu at student-chiefjustice@ncsu.edu.

Discover more about the Conduct Board

Are you a Mom and a doctoral student, a mom scholar?

We want to hear about your experiences! We are currently recruiting full-time; doctoral student who are moms with children ages 0 to 5 to participate in a research study. We want to know about your experiences as both a doctoral student and a mother. We use the term "Mom Scholars" to broadly refer to those who have the dual role of mothering and attending graduate school. The purpose of this study is to illuminate the experiences of NC State's Mom Scholars with young children.

If you are interested in participating please contact **Andrea DeSantis**.

Want Something Featured in PawPrints?

Submit your events, news, or relevant piece of Graduate Student info. We would love to celebrate your achievements too. If you have won an award, let us know!

Submit Here

Feedback for GSA Executive Board

Do you have something that you want to tell the Graduate Student Association? What can GSA be doing to better assist graduate students at NC State? Is there an issue that needs fixing?

Let the GSA know by submitting anonymously through the link below!

Tell GSA

