



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

NAGPS Newsletter/ June 2021 Edition

<http://nagps.org/>

Upcoming Events

NAGPS Member Forum

NAGPS
Member Forum - June

June 25 2021, 7 PM EST
Register Now : shorturl.at/qHRS1

We want to hear from you! What issues are you facing as a grad student? Where can we focus our efforts better to serve you and your GSO? The second NAGPS member forum will be taking place on **6/25 at 7-9pm EST/4-6pm PST**. It is a drop-in meeting: come for any part you are able, and we look forward to seeing you!

Scan this QR code to register:



NAGPS 35th National Conference

WANT TO HOST NAGPS NATIONAL CONFERENCE in November 2021 and become part of NAGPS' history? Submit a bid to be the host institution for the 35th Annual National Conference!

Contact us at dec@nagps.org for more information!!

Know Our SouthCentral Region



8 states
1 legacy member
6 organizational members
Many individual members

Members include



Meet Our SouthCentral Regional Board



Vivek Gurung
Regional Director



Samiksha Adhikari
Assistant Regional Director



Audrey McCollum
Director of Communications



Manasi Kotulkar
Director of Outreach

Vivek Gurung is originally from Darjeeling, also known as the Queen of the Hills, located in India's foothills of the Himalayan range. He is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Microbiology, Molecular Genetics and Immunology at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) in Kansas City. Vivek's research focuses on understanding regulated proteolysis in bacteria. He also serves as the President of the Graduate Student Council (Dec 2019 – Dec 2020) and as the senator at the Student Governing Council (FALL 2020 – FALL 2021) at KUMC. Before serving in these positions, he also served as the President of the Indian Association at the University of Kansas Medical Center for two years. Vivek's primary goal for this year at NAGPS is to rejuvenate the South-Central Region by increasing membership, building healthy communication and networking opportunities for the graduate students in the universities in the South-Central region. While he is not working at the laboratory, he enjoys playing soccer on the field or Xbox, playing guitar, and singing.

Samiksha Adhikari is currently pursuing master's in computer science at Arkansas State University. She is a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Global Engagement and Outreach. She completed her MBA in May 2020. She has been involved in several leadership position at organization on campus such as Nepalese Student Organization, Women's Leadership Center, Graduate Association for Business Students. She loves meeting new people and visiting new places. She is from Nepal and loves hiking in her free time.

Audrey D. McCollum is a graduate student of Arkansas State University pursuing her Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership. She is an alumna of Grand Canyon University receiving her Masters in Special Education, The University of Memphis holding a Bachelor of Professional Studies degrees in Health Services Administration, and an Associate of Science degree in Business Administration from Southwest Tennessee Community College. Audrey is a professional high school teacher for Shelby County Schools. She humbly consecutively holds the seat of Public Relations Officer at Astate University for the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association and Southcentral Regional Director of Communication of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students.

Manasi Kotulkar is a graduate student in the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutics at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC). Manasi received her MS in Microbiology from Savitribai Phule Pune University, India. She is an active participant in student-led activities at KUMC such as Graduate Student Council where she serves as an Inter Institutional Networking Liaison. Manasi is also the current vice president of Indian Association of KUMC. She is excited to be serving National Association of Graduate and Professional Students as a Southcentral Regional Director of Outreach.

CONTACT:

Email : sc-rd@nagps.org

Follow on :



Legislative Platform Update

- NAGPS strongly opposes legislation which would reduce the academic freedom of students; we recently signed on to a letter by the American Association of University Professors condemning recent state laws banning the teaching of critical race theory in Universities. Read the full statement [here](#).
- Expect action on student financial aid in the next month, including Pell Grants!
- The Legislative Concerns Committee is looking for new members! If you are interested in helping to organize the advocacy efforts of NAGPS, or are interested in finding out more, please email: legislative@nagps.org

Board Member Of The Month



Sarah Smith
Assistant Director of Administration
University of Louisiana at Lafayette



NAGPS Member Spotlight

Graduate Student Association of University of South Carolina celebrated the winners of 2021 Graduate Student Recognition Awards (GSRA) recently. Congratulations to all the winners!!! Check out the full story on [Instagram](#) of U of SC GSA for more details.



Get Involved!!!!

Parul Suri, Director of Outreach outreach@nagps.org

Samantha Malone, Assistant Director of Outreach outreach-ad@nagps.org