

## Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

Date April 6th, 2011

Time: 6 pm

Location: James Room (Sadler Center)

- I. Call to order
- II. Vice-President's report
  - a. Graduate Portfolio  
Submissions have been coming in and are currently in the process of being posted. Please continue to encourage people to submit the information themselves using the online form, or submit to your department's GSA representative.
  - b. Health Insurance  
GSA officers (Paul & Megan) have been in contact with appropriate parties, but the bill that has been discussed has been tabled until next year. The issues will continue to be worked on by the incoming officers for next academic year.
- III. Treasurer's report
  - a. Reimbursements  
There is \$950 left for departmental colloquia. The deadline to turn in receipts will be emailed to department representatives shortly.
- IV. Secretary's report
  - a. GSA Website Update  
All GSA officer candidate statements have been posted to the GSA website.
- V. Social Chair's report
  - a. Spring semester social date  
Discussed whether a social event for April should be held. It was decided that with the end of the semester fast approaching, the Spring Grad Bash would be the final social event for the school year.
- VI. Senate Representative
  - a. No announcements.
- VII. Graduate Council
  - a. Spring Grad Bash will be April 9<sup>th</sup> 12-4 pm \$5, free entry if you volunteer with the event! The Grad Bash is this weekend. Be sure to bring your student ID, and a state-issued ID if you plan on drinking. (There is more beer this year.) If interested in volunteering, please email Ashely Heilprin.
  - b. VIMS Fish Fry/Spring Party April 16<sup>th</sup>  
\$10 entry, \$5 if you bring a dish to pass

## VIII. Old Business

- a. Graduate Research Symposium report (Shaun Richards and Sarah Zimmet)  
Suggestions from the GRS debriefing meeting with GRS committee members and Dean Sanderson were discussed. Two possible ways to increase GSA membership on the committee and participation overall was to 1) put forth a motion that the new position of Parliamentarian serve as a liaison between the two organizations; and 2) to offer an additional \$100 for departmental colloquia to departments and programs that have someone on the GRS committee. Other suggestions were to promote the value of serving on college-wide committees for your C.V. to incoming graduate students; disqualifying departments not represented on the committee from receiving awards; or, worst case scenario, preventing students from presenting. Volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated.
- b. Elections (Eric Aldrich)  
The GSA elections e-ballots are to be sent out at 12:01 AM tomorrow morning. The voting is open until 11:59 pm. There are two open positions (Social Chair and Senate Representative). The new officers will determine how to fill these positions at the first GSA meeting of next year.

## IX. New Business

- a. Need to establish a committee to review this round of applications  
The deadline for travel funding applications has passed, and a new committee is being formed to review applications. If interested please email Ashley Heilprin. As posted on the website, please allow four weeks for a decision.
- b. Parking services issues (Megan)  
Megan is working on motioning for a reduced rate for parking passes for graduate students on stipend to the Parking Services Advisory Board. The rate would be comparative, as is currently the case for faculty making less than \$80,000. She is collecting letters from students who support the proposal, as well as from people who wish to share their personal problems with the current parking permits. The meeting is scheduled for April 20; if you wish to write a letter, please email them to Megan no later than the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- c. College-wide committee appointments  
There are seventeen committees looking for graduate representation for next school year. If interested, email Ashley Heilprin for details.

## X. Adjournment

**LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR!!!!**