

## Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Sadler Center, James Room

Presiding Officer: Menuka Ban, President

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by the President, Meuka Ban

22 people in attendance

[Secretary, student Senate Representative, and Graduate Studies Advisory Board](#)

[Representative](#) still available. We called for applications due by September 9 2015 at 11:59pm. The election will be held on the 14th and 15th of September and the winners will be announced on September 16th at 5pm.

This summer, Menuka reviewed constitution and noted some things are not relevant and are out of date. We sent a sign up sheet around to form a committee to go through the Constitution and edit the election related section and the responsibilities of the GSAB representative. We brainstormed possible fixes for the elections portion including changing the timing and technology of ballots. We also brainstormed possibly changing the time commitment of the GSAB representative, making it more manageable

We also discussed forming a committee to plan the professor's round table. We will form this committee by next meeting.

Graduate Student Research Grant 2015-2016 [Applications](#) for Fall 2015 must be received in the Office of Graduate Studies and Research by 4:00 p.m. on October 2, 2015, and will cover expenses incurred September 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

OGSR/GSA Supplemental Conference Travel Funding grants are reviewed by both the Office of Graduate Studies and Research (OGSR) and the GSA. A committee will be formed to review applications and award money to Arts & Sciences graduate students who are attending or presenting at a research conference. For conference dates between September 1, 2015 and December 31, the application deadline is October 23, 2015. We want to create a committee to review these applications so be on the look-out for more information during the October 9th meeting.

We determined our meetings will continue to be the first wednesday of every month at 7:00. Our next meeting will be October 7th with the place TBD. We will continue to have ad hoc meetings when need be.

Grad Bash is this Friday the 11th, come out if you can and volunteer if you have time! The VIMS party is October 10th this year \$15 and pig roast, we don't help plan this but should go out to support our fellow students. October 5th is the 2015 Raft Debate at 6:30 p.m. in PBK Hall. The event is free and open to the public. We talked about helping to plan a grad student wide capture the flag game with the Grad Council. More information will be coming shortly.

We have a multiple representatives from the Graduate Apartment Complex Association, they haven't had a meeting yet. During the COGs meeting professors talked about streamlining the process for defending and submitting dissertations. Now they are thinking about doing a totally online thing and should go online soon. Keep an eye out for this.

Looking far into the future, program representatives should have a conversation with continuing students by the end of the year and ensure they get the name of the incoming representatives to the president. GSA has no role in getting the representatives. We still need a biology representative for this year.

Andrew went to the budget board meeting. We got most of the funding we requested but we are not funded very well for Professor's Round Table. Deadline for budgets for next year is December 4th, we will talk more about it in November.

If you have ideas for things to do or events to run, brainstorm ideas and make a proposal.

The meeting was adjourned by Menuka Ban at 7:52 pm.