

GSA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 1st, 2011 at 5:15 pm
DRC2 Room 1002

- Members present: Jamie Arnst, Amanda Lakamp, Krupa Savalia, Ariel Burns, Carly Ninemire, Holly Siebler, Alex Moffitt, Emily Edwards, Mike Gleason, Agnes Constantino, and Erin Rosenbaugh presided.
- October meeting minutes approved (posted on GSA website)
- **Old business**
 - Halloween Havoc, October 28th at McFly's
 - Over 65 people attended, made over \$400 in petty cash!
 - People loved the piñatas...instead of candy next year will fill piñatas with confetti
 - Included categories for pre-carved pumpkin contests
 - Flu shots and PPD/ TB skin tests...if you have not received yours, please do so ASAP by setting an appointment with Student Health...you will not be able to register for Spring classes if you have not been cleared.
- **New business**
 - Screening of the PhD comics movie
 - Friday, November 11th from 5 pm to 9 pm in DRC1 Auditorium
 - **Ticket Pre-SALE:** Nov. 7th–11th at 12-1pm in DRC commons
 - Pre sale: UNMC students \$4, guests (limit 4) \$5 each
 - At the door: UNMC students \$5, guests (limit 4) \$6 each
 - Cost of first screening is \$700, sent on flashdrive
 - Dinner catered by Katie's Greek Restaurant (received invoice)
 - Will serve: Greek potatoes, hummus/pita bread, gyros and falafels (veggie option)
 - Food ordered for 250 people (\$1500), 300 soda cans from UNMC catering (\$200)
 - Un-open cans can be returned for a refund by Saturday morning
 - Food expenses covered by support from the Nebraska INBRE Program and UNO Graduate Studies Office
 - Dr. Frank Bramlett will give a brief talk about comics at 6:00 pm
 - Grad Students willing to chat with interested undergrads can wear "Ask Me" badges
 - Treats sponsored by GSA – we will not charge for treats, but donations are welcomed
 - Movie starts at 7 pm and the run time is about 1 h and 10 minutes
 - Volunteers/Officers helping with PhD Comics movie event...need to show up by **4:45pm**
 - Set up: Help Katie's with the food delivery and set-up
 - Sign-in/attendance sheet – separate from ticket purchasing table
 - Table for ticket purchases and table for ticket entry (separate) by auditorium entrance

- At ticket entry table, will mark people's hands to allow re-entry and access to food
 - Must sign-in first prior to getting food
 - o Doorman – watch doors after 6pm (doors will automatically lock)
 - o Food servers for potatoes, hummus, soda, and movie treat sections
 - Monitor the food and portion control (min of 2 people)
 - o One person designated to advertise this event per department/building
 - Contact department student representatives for advertising help
 - Department or Program brochures would be a great recruitment tool...if you have one, please email Erin.
- Student Senate updates
- o Elections in November - 10 open seats and still positions available
 - Received 8 applications for officer positions
 - If interested in senate, contact friends to become a 'write-in' candidate since its too late to apply for an officer position
 - Elections will take place at the end of Wittson Hall...will be notified via email
 - o Zoo event was October 23rd and bowling event is likely to come
 - o High School Alliance looking for mentors and possibly graduate students to teach
 - For applications, contact Erin
 - Erin met with director and asked about a more "teaching-focused" mentorship
 - Email was sent out in Mid-October as a reference
 - o UNMC Delegates looking for UNMC representatives
 - Contact Erin for details
 - o 2 goals for the year: 1) Parking
 - Parking for handicapped, disabled, injured, and/or pregnant students
 - Form a parking policy for said students
 - Want more accommodating, designated parking for students with health complication that have proof of Doctor's consent
- Discussion of fall and spring seminars
- o UNeMED- post doc positions and jobs in technology transfer (Steve)
 - Asked for a potential date: GSA advises for late Nov. or early Dec.
 - Seminar/presentation on a Tuesday around lunchtime
 - o Joe Tringali-head hunter, presenter at scientific meetings (works with companies or on an individual basis...industrially focused talks...works w/FASEB, a advocacy group that promotes science on Capital Hill) – Spring 2012 Seminar
 - Seminar (1hr) in early morning around 11am...afterward an informal lunch with interested grad students (more geared to older/graduating students)
 - His stated honorium = \$1000/day (negotiable)...would like to reduce if possible
 - Looking into involving the Post-Doc association in co-sponsoring this event
 - Schedule: Fly-in (evening)...dinner w/interested students...next day: seminar...lunch w/interested students...fly-out (mid-afternoon)...should be less than 24hrs

- NIH postdoctoral office representative – Spring 2012 topic
 - Governmental employee cannot accept money, making seminar more affordable
 - Waiting on Joe's schedule to contact a NIH rep to avoid an overlap
- Melody Montgomery of UNMC Research Editorial Office – Another writing seminar geared toward students without writing experience...gave Ariel outline of possible presentation topics
 - Is Melanie a scientist or English major? Is she familiar with scientific writing?
 - Maybe instructors from the CIP writing course would be a better fit (Dr. Toews, Dr. Zucker, or Dr. Schultz)
- Seminar given by a panel of UNMC PIs regarding stress management and balancing personal life with job responsibilities – Topic for early Spring 2012
 - Potential participants: Mary Glassman (BIO feedback therapist), Rhonda Stevens (Counseling center), married (PI) couples
 - Selection of participants will be done carefully and by invitation only
- Graduate Council updates (Contact Erin for more info)
 - Revised eligibility of MD/PhD students for UNMC Assistantship competition to **after 6 months** of enrollment in full-time PhD program
 - Letter of Intent due Dec. 15th, details to follow soon (via email)
 - Amanda will post an example of the “Letter of Intent” on the GSA website
 - UNMC Assistantship resubmission process revised – do not take lightly...if a red-flag is identified, students may lose funding
 - Suggested a peer-institution review...swap applications with neighboring institution (that has a similar assistantship competition) to reduce conflict of interest
 - Maternity leave issues to be discussed in November meeting– urgent issue!
- Issues for graduate students
 - DRC1 internet connections- Erin is setting up meeting with Faisal Ahmed soon
 - Any other IT concerns?
 - UNMC Student Parking issues
 - Maternity leave and private “pumping room” for new moms in DRC
 - Plans are under review and will be creating more “permanent” pumping rooms
- Ideas for spring social events
 - International potluck or other cultural event

- **Other business**

- Adjourn