**GSA Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 5th, 2013 at 5:15 pm DRC2 Room 1002**

* Members present: Prathamesh Patil, Duy Ha, Krupa Savalia, Ariel Burns, Aditya Bade, Heather Talbott, Carly Ninemire, Weiwei Zhang, Erin Rosenbaugh, Terri Vadovski, Hollie Siebler, Sarbinaz Bekmuratova, Shardul Sohari, Raheleh Miralami, Paven Penliguila, and Amanda Lakamp presided.
* January meeting minutes approved and posted on GSA website
* Announcements:
	+ UNMC Writing Group: Contact Marissa Stanton (mstanton@unmc.edu) if interested in participating
		- Group of Postdocs/Students do writing exercises to improve scientific writing
	+ CIP Valentines Day Fundraiser – American Heart Association
		- Valentine candy grams ($5): sold in DRC Commons (Mon, Feb.11th to Thur, Feb.14th)
		- Candy grams sold over the lunch hour…more details to follow
	+ Chinese Cultural Fair – Friday, Feb. 7th in DRC Commons (3-5 pm)
		- Taste authentic Chinese food and tea from local restaurants
		- Fun door prizes, activities: games, art, calligraphy, and more
* Old Business
* **Grad Studies Deadlines and Events**
	+ UNMC Assistantship/Fellowship competition and Renewal – *Due* *Friday, February 15th*
		- Send all applications to Grad Studies (unmcgraduatestudies@unmc.edu)
		- No submission accepted after Feb 15th
	+ Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum (MSBRF) – *Saturday, February 23rd*
* **MSBRF Volunteers**
	+ Volunteers to facilitate oral and poster sessions (do **NOT** have to be presenter)
	+ Breakfast and lunch provided to all volunteers
	+ Please contact Duy Ha (dha@unmc.edu)
	+ ***Need volunteers for 7:30AM – 10AM time slot***
* **2013 GSA Survey Results**
	+ Students asked to give feedback on GSA meetings, events, and elections
	+ Results posted on GSA website – *favored online elections and shorter meetings over the lunch hour…more discussions to come regarding changing the meeting times*
* **IPE** (Krupa/Duy)
	+ Interprofessional Education (IPE) Program – Encourage students to formally network with other professions to advance their graduate thesis or career development
	+ Student-created proposal was forwarded to Drs. Nickol and Davies
	+ *Duy presented general idea to subcommittee and interprofessional students were highly receptive of our efforts. At the next meeting we’ll discuss feasibility of specific topics – Dr. Davies is very supportive of graduate students wanting to be involved in IPE activities.*
* **Morning Coffee Vendor Survey** (Amanda)
	+ **Postponed**…Jeff Elliot currently soliciting for a new vendor
	+ *Sergio from 13th Street Coffee is interested but needs to buy a coffee cart*
	+ *If they’re unable to be vendor, may use Jo-on-the-Go again & ask them for larger coffee sizes*
* New Business
* **Spring career development Seminars** (Ariel)
	+ Lab/project Manager Panel – *Tuesday, March 19th*
		- Speakers: Dr. Robert Powers (UNL faculty, 10yrs in industry) & 4 other speakers (referred by UNeMED: Streck, LI-COR, Novezymes)
		- Informal Question & Answer session with speakers
		- Will offer student-speaker luncheon
		- Students want panel of PhD scientists with diverse backgrounds – *Biologocal/chemical research project management, product development, and technical support*
	+ Dr. Cliff Mintz – referred by Joe Tringali
		- Founder of BioInsights, Inc. and serves as its Chairman and CEO
		- Visit ([http://www.bioinsights.com/about/educators-and-trainers/cliff-mintz](https://webmail.unmc.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=Sv-Xh2R4WEWaunnzOY4Oe-N8gnr90s8I_cF0tF2Eg8J2Fy_Xh-WnUsD9FXu5mksQ63sjF2wvugM.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.bioinsights.com%2fabout%2feducators-and-trainers%2fcliff-mintz)) for info
		- Experience within both academia and industry research career field
		- Formal seminar with student-speaker luncheon
		- *Students interested in having this speaker due to his presentation style and topics he plans to present – we expect a good turnout so will book the auditorium*
		- *Asked to focus talk on “Alternative careers, how the industry field has changed, and how to make you standout as a job candidate.”*
		- *Amanda will contact the PostDoc Education group to see if they’d like to help sponsor either career events*
* **Spring activities** (Heather/Prathamesh)
	+ Possible activities:
		- Graduate Student Breakfast (bagels, donuts, coffee, hot chocolate)– *Monday, February 25th*
		- Karaoke night (Omaha establishment)
		- Movie night (Aksarben Cinema: Tuesday’s $1 popcorn, $1 soda night, FilmStream)
		- Bowling night (recommended sites other than Kelly’s bowling alley)
	+ Suggestions?
		- March 14th – Pi Day (organize a pie bake-off fundraiser)
		- Laser Tag / Paintball Family Fun Center – more interactive between students
* **CV/Resume Review** (Amanda)
	+ First review by UNMC faculty (17 faculty volunteers, looking for more)
	+ GSA will organize the process & review/comments sheet
	+ Suggestions for organization of event:
		- Categorize volunteers into specific career/research fields – students pick best applicable field
		- Faculty will review resumes prior to one-on-one meeting with students to go over comments (if student prefers to organize meeting with reviewer)
		- Provide a suggested CV/Resume templates for students (similar to portfolio)
		- Recommended for students: 3rd year & above (**PhD**) plus 2nd year or higher (**Masters**)
		- *Students will put together their own CV/Resume before review process*
		- *After this event, GSA will organize resources on the GSA website for 1st and 2nd year students to follow when preparing their CV for later years*
* **Graduate Council Meeting Updates** (Amanda)
	+ NIH Grant Writing Workshop Survey – asking for feedback from recent workshop
* Other Business
* **Registration Deadlines vs. Add/Drop Deadlines** (Duy/Terri)
	+ Complications with staggered dates
	+ *Credit hours can be added to “Dissertation thesis research” class when other classes are dropped even when new classes cannot be added*
	+ *Contact Dan Teet and Terri Vadovski immediately when courses are cancelled*
* **GSA Issues Committee and Student Discrepancy Committee** (Krupa/Aditya/Alicia)
* Dr. Davies is in favor of maintaining a permanent grievance committee by faculty and students
* Flowchart of various contacts and campus resources: outlines the steps to take in the event of an issue
* **International Student Issues and committee** (Aditya)
	+ Ravel Unravel – Non-profit organization looking for UNMC Partnership
		- Curriculum to educate a community about different faiths, beliefs, and cultures
		- Topic presented at the Senate meeting – *Wednesday, February 6th*
	+ Separate Facebook group for committee
		- *We decided to keep everything integrated into one facebook page to promote interaction between international and domestic students*
		- *We will better advertise through letter congratulating students on acceptance by email to encourage use of the GSA website and facebook forum for incoming international students prior to moving to Omaha/US…to be better prepared when arriving in Omaha*
		- *Incorporate students in the Ambassadors program into the discussion board*
	+ Committee member presentations
		- *Presented ideas on international student activities that will be discussed in greater detail later so that these activity proposals can be realized*
		- *Will apply for funds through Student Senate and possible Chancellor’s office, but we can start with low budget events and work with other organizations such as UNO to split the costs*
		- *One of the first events will be a game night with games and snacks from difference cultures for students to learn about other’s cultures*
* **Potential Career Development Fair** (Amanda)
	+ Looking to hold event putatively in Fall of 2013 or Spring 2014
	+ Contacted Creighton’s career development office (Danielle Tate)
		- *Health Professionals have career fair once a year…does it relate to graduate students?*
		- *Amanda will network with Creighton students at MSBRF to help in the planning process*
	+ In the process of contacting graduate studies office at UNL and UNO
	+ Email Amanda if you want to get involved in this project
* Adjourn