

## GSA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 at 5:15 pm

DRC2 Room 1002

- Minutes from March meeting approved (post on GSA website)
- Members present: Terri Vadovski, Hollie Siebler, Mercury Wu, Carly Ninemire, Duy Ha, Aditya Bade, Ariel Burns, Krupa Savalia, Prathamesh Patil, Heather Talbott, and Amanda Lakamp presided.
- Old Business/Announcements
  - **Friday Lunch Vendor** – Zemog’s Mexican Food (*started Friday, March 29th*)  
*Positive Feedback, potentially move vendors to better businesses days*  
*Godfather’s pizza leaving early on Mondays and not putting pizza on heat plates (cold food)*  
*Tina Spencer discussed the lack of customer service and quality of Godfather’s vendor rep, whom are looking to make major adjustments to their service*
  - **UNO Gym Membership** – Alternative option to UNMC facilities (\$45/mo or \$7/day)
  - **National Public Health Week** – April 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, hosted by College of Public Health
  - **Pi Day Fundraiser and Bake-Off Competition** – March 14<sup>th</sup>
    - 17 contest entries, WINNER: Megan Bosch for her “Death by Chocolate”
    - Raised \$155 for future GSA events
    - Can allow students from other colleges to participate in future years
  - **Lab and Project Manager Panel** – March 19<sup>th</sup>, Sorrell 2018
    - Speakers’ contact info and presentation posted on GSA website  
*Positive feedback from students – Ariel contacted one of the speakers to establish internship opportunities for UNMC graduate students and will discuss this with Dr. Davies*
  - **Senate Luau** – Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at McFly’s (9 pm-12 am)
    - DJ, fun activities, prizes, food and drink provided
    - Tickets: Pre-sale \$5, At door \$10
    - Tickets pre-sold in DRC Auditorium...details soon to follow
  - **Upcoming Spring Seminars** (Ariel/Amanda)
    - Khan Academy: Active learning at UNMC – April 11<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm, Sorrell 3001
      - Pizza Lunch provided
    - Dr. Cliff Mintz – Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> (10:30-11:30 am) in DRC Auditorium
      - Founder, CEO and Chairman of BioInsights, Inc.
      - Topic: “Straight Talk on Career Opportunities and Jobs in the Life Sciences Industry.”
      - Breakfast for the first 75 attendees  
*Voted for Panera Bread – cream cheese (1 plain, 2 honey walnut, 1 vegetable), assorted pastries, and 3 varieties of coffee*
      - Event co-sponsored by GSA and the Postdoc Association
      - **Sign-up to have lunch with Cliff**
        - PEN students will not be able to attend (required student invited speaker lunch)
        - Graduate student and postdocs will have lunch with Cliff after seminar
        - Dinner reserved for GSA executive council with Cliff at Zin Room 6:30PM
  - **Morning Coffee Vendor** (Amanda/Krupa)
    - Finalized RFP (proposal for soliciting a semi-permanent coffee vendor)
    - Interested vendors: 13<sup>th</sup> Street Coffee, Crane Coffee, Scooters Coffee, Jo-on-the-Go
    - Evaluation committee of coffee vendors
      - Krupa Savalia, Amanda Lakamp, and Carly Ninemire will serve on committee alongside Melanie Stewart and Jeff Elliot
      - Jeff hosted meeting for companies to view location and space: only The Nebraska Med Center (TNMC) and Sodexo reps attended

- New Business

- **Spring activities** (Heather/Prathamesh)

- 1.) Aksarben Movie Night – Successful-past GSA event  
Putative date: Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> (discount on soda and popcorn)
- 2.) Dancing (referred by Mercury Wu) – Instructor fee is ~\$200 and beverages will be decided later  
Social chairs are planning event as end of the year celebration in mid-May
- 3.) Karaoke night (Omaha establishment)  
*Decided to not pursue event...social chairs will organize the Movie night and Dancing night  
Based on current GSA Budget: voted to be spend majority on Movie Night, where the remaining funds could later be used for a Dancing Night*

- **Electronic CV/Resume Review** (Amanda)

- Postponed: Grant and graduation deadlines
- Reviewers: UNMC Faculty Volunteers – NEED MORE!!  
*If not enough volunteers, may have to cap the number of student CV that get reviewed*
- Putative date: Mid/end of June

- **Graduate Council Meeting Updates** (Amanda)

- Changes to student Individual Development Plan (IDP)  
*More detailed than current committee reports – project and career development centered  
Students will mention the experiences to improve on project and career development (i.e. conferences they've attended, networks they have created, internships, workshops, preparations for job interviews, etc.)*
- Potential Graduate Studies Matriculation Ceremony – Fall 2013
  - Add/Drop Policy – Senate is examining UNO and UNL policies to allow for add/swap without penalties so students can meet credit hour requirements if classes are cancelled or if they want to try out a class before deciding
  - Monitoring and coordinating program reviews – Graduate Studies Departments are looking into being reviewed to improve program efficiency and student development

- Other Business

- **2013 GSA Online Elections – on CARE website**

- Dr. David Carver: IT and election liaison (determines eligibility and monitor's election)
- Declaration of Candidacy deadline: April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Log onto CARE website to fill out candidate profile page
  - Cannot edit candidate information after April 12<sup>th</sup>
- Campaigning allowed: April 15<sup>th</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Candidate 'Meet & Greet' – prepare 5 min brief statement/speech  
Looking to host in DRC Commons on April 24<sup>th</sup> (week before voting)
- Election week: April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Only current or former GSA executive members are eligible for President position
  - All other officer positions are open to all graduate students

- **Scientific Research Career Fair** (Amanda)

- Putative event – Fall of 2013 or Spring 2014 in Omaha
- Forming project committee – membership open to all campuses
- Contact Amanda if you want to serve on committee!!  
Will start planning for event at the beginning of the summer

- Individual Committee Meetings Update:

- **Academic Affairs Committee** (Duy):

*Academic Handbook will meet the April 15 completion deadline and be uploaded onto the GSA blog shortly thereafter*

– **International Student Affairs Committee** (Aditya):

- A.) *International Student Ambassador Orientation – Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm in Sorrel 1005  
They are still accepting applications for students to serve as ambassadors  
The program is looking into offering a UNMC student discount to all ambassadors who serve*
- B.) *International Student Orientation – GSA will provide snacks  
Each day of orientation will be spent in different regions of the campus to help students become acclimated with UNMC  
International Student handbook is under review by senior international students  
Surplus furniture sale in August – incoming students (including international students) will get the first opportunity to purchase items prior to the usual surplus sale in Oct/Nov (off Dodge Street, near UNeMED building)*
- C.) *Looking into hosting English/communication classes that could be taught by volunteer UNO teachers to help the English speaking proficiency of new international students*
- D.) *International Week (Nov 11th-15th): Celebration of the different cultures on campus  
Cultural activities like: wear clothing or colors from your native country, tea with faculty, sports activity, film festival, and passport station get T-shirt, photography contest  
MORE DETAILS TO COME!!*

- Adjourn