

## GSA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 5:15 pm

DRC2 Room 1002

- Minutes from last (April) meeting were approved and posted on website
- Members present: Krupa Savalia, Ariel Burns, Duy Ha, Prathamesh Patil, Heather Talbott, Aditya Bade, Hollie Siebler, Terri Vadovski, Carly Ninemire, and Amanda Lakamp presided.
  
- Old Business/Announcements
  - **Monday Pizza Vendor** – changed Godfather’s Pizza provider to Aksarben group
  - **GSA Online Election** – April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup> on CARE website
    - Voting was easy but still waiting for the voter turnout results from Dr. Carver
    - A message confirming declaration of candidacy would be helpful
    - Provide full profiles of all the candidates during election week on the voting page
    - Candidate images were difficult to upload due to small size requirements
  - **Dr. Cliff Mintz Seminar** – April 19<sup>th</sup>
    - Recorded seminar and slides posted on GSA website
    - Students interested in building skills and making themselves stronger applicants
    - Consider joining societies with online certifications – workshop on these programs
    - Competition for students to get scholarships to get these certifications that includes travel to conferences – perhaps ask boss to contribute to the cost of joining these societies
  - **Morning Coffee Cart** (Amanda/Krupa/Carly)
    - Sodexo bid was accepted – offer 10% student discount
    - Discount will be applied during card swipe
    - Grand Opening Ceremony: Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 8 am (DRC1 atrium)
      - Promotions (free coffee giveaways, prizes), drink specials, and samples
      - Starbucks “punch cards” used at med center coffee kiosk is valid at DRC Coffee Cart
      - Serves regular coffee, tea, soda, water, pastries...looking to add greater drink varieties (mochas and lattes) – from lack of plumbing in DRC1 atrium
  
- New Business
  - **Congratulations New 2013-2014 GSA officers**
    - President: Duy Ha
    - Vice-President: Heather Talbott
    - Secretary: Prathamesh Patil
    - Treasurer: Ariel Burns
    - International Student Officer: Aditya Bade
    - Co-Social Chairs: Hollie Siebler and Yinnong Jia
  - **Congratulations to new Graduate Student Senator** – Raheleh Miralami (MSIA)
  - **Spring activity** (Heather/Prathamesh)
    - Aksarben Movie Night – Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>
    - Cost: \$5/ticket: UNMC students + 1 non-student guest (2 or more guests = \$7/ticket)
    - Tickets pre-sold: May 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> in DRC Commons (12-1 pm)
    - Discounted popcorn and soda plus watch movie of your choosing
    - Have mock tickets for popcorn and soda that can be redeemed at theater – like last year
    - Have one half of ticket with popcorn and the other half with soda for students to choose at theater
  - **Electronic CV/Resume Review** (Amanda)
    - Grad Council suggested CV workshop – lack of faculty participation
    - Present templates for each career field (education, academia, industry, etc)
    - Host workshop twice a year – invited speakers

- *Allow students to continually update CV with help of own mentor without need for faculty reviewers*
- o Putative June event
- **Senate Updates:**
  - o Family Zoo day in early August – open to children
  - o Changes to Macori health care plan (2013-14):
    - \$500 deductible, increase from \$100k to \$500k care coverage
    - Optional Major Medical: \$1 million
- **Graduate Council Meeting Updates (Amanda)**
  - o BEST grant proposal – due Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> (complete survey)
    - *Students asked about creating a competitive scholarship for current grad students to apply to scientific societies and compete for travel grants to present at national conferences*
  - o Changes to extramural fellowship – awarded a “scholarship”
    - *If students come in with funding should discuss if they can get the extramural scholarship*
    - *Mentor receives supplement if student receives external fellowship for 2 years*
    - *Student receives 20% of base UNMC stipend as a scholarship for 2 years after being scored and awarded with external fellowship at national level (ex. NIH, AHA)*
  - o UNMC Database – Track students / Post-docs
    - *Database will be tested in phases*
    - *Able to track progress of students and post-docs during and after career at UNMC*
  - o Mentorship program for pre-tenure faculty – all of UNMC
  - o Enhancing recruitment to UNMC
    - Exceptional incoming (domestic) student scholarship
      - *Strict criteria (3.6 GPA, 1+ publication, 3+ presentations, high GRE or MCAT scores, etc)*
      - *Scholarship is applicable for incoming domestic PhD and MD/PhD students*
    - How to recruit non-Nebraska students?
      - *Students suggested using social media:*
        - *Live Skype chats, video blurbs on the UNMC student website, improve the website to make it more user friendly,*
        - *Hire PR group or permanent IT person to enhance student recruitment websites*
        - *Send mailers or posters to undergrad colleges of current grad students*
    - McNair Scholars visit UNMC – June 19<sup>th</sup> (10 am to 12 pm)
      - *Undergraduate students will learn about UNMC graduate programs, labs, and GSA*
      - *Heather volunteered to discuss her success in the McNair program*
    - Dr. Davies wants your suggestions...
- Other Business
  - **International Fun/Game Night** - Wed. May 30<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm, following ISA Committee meeting
    - *Will offer ice breakers and fun games to help students become acquainted with each other*
    - *Other Fun/Game nights will continue throughout the year*
  - **Graduate Grievance Council Update**
    - o Dr. Karen Gould’s meeting with Dr. Dele Davies and Dr. Cheryl Thompson
    - o Editing flow-chart issues – brainstorm examples
      - *Please share incidences you know of to the committee knowing everything is anonymous*
  - **Scientific Research Career Fair** – contact Amanda if interested
    - o Putative event – Fall of 2013 or Spring 2014 in Omaha
    - o Forming project committee – membership open to all Nebraska University System
    - o First project committee meeting is end of May...details soon to follow
- Adjourn