

UNMC GSA Officers and Committees

October Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of the minutes from September 2nd At-Large GSA Meeting

September meeting minutes were approved with no adjustments.

2. Announcements:

a. GSA Website

Discussed how many people present at the meeting visit the GSA webpage, very few frequently visit the page. The webpage is a good tool to post important links, events, and material from past GSA seminars. Some of this information is also available on the new UNMC app under student events and the UNMC today. Discussion was ended by asking for ideas on how to improve the website; ideas will be emailed to President Heather Talbott.

b. Career Development

i. Susan Carson

Update: The GSA has asked Susan Carson to come and give a seminar in April, the fine details are being worked out now.

3. Action Items:

a. Nominate 2 male graduate students to the Grievance Committee – Heather

Two male graduated students were elected to serve on the Grievance Committee. Brady Sillman (PEN) was elected for the 2-year position and Shane Smithee (Path/Micro) was elected for the 1-year term.

b. Halloween Havoc Proposal – Social Chairs

i. Approve budget and strategic plan from social chairs

Presentation of the details of this year's Halloween havoc was given by Shalis Ammons. The event is scheduled for Nov. 1, 8:00PM-12:00PM, at McFLY's tavern. This is the same day as the medical students' Road Rally event; this date was chosen because the 821 students have an exam on Oct. 31st. Two budgets were proposed: Budget A was \$500 and budget B was \$750. Budget B allowed one extra hour for the DJ and the DJ would provide a light system. Also there would be free food. Those present voted and Budget B won by a large majority. There was discussion of how attendees will be encouraged to wear costumes to the event. It was decided that there should be some incentive, but there was no agreement on the details yet.

c. HOLI Boss Proposal – International Student Committee

Only briefly mentioned because Sidra and Sugandra were absent from the meeting.

d. Plan Spring 2015 GSA Meetings – Heather

Due to a conflict with journal club, a new meeting time for the spring was discussed. It was decided that the meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month at noon for 1-1.5 hours.

e. **Career Fair – Heather**

No new updates.

f. **Discuss Student Termination Process – Heather**

Some improvements to the previous termination process draft were discussed, including clarification of some wording. For example, “lack of professional promise” was changed to “lack of professionalism” as defined by the UNMC code of conduct. There was some resistance to the GSA suggestion that one member of the terminating committee should be from another department or the department’s student representative.

g. **Plan for Library Resources – Shalis/Ekta**

No update.

h. **Constitution – Heather/Hollie**

No changes will be made to the constitution at this time.

4. Reports (only discussed if needed):

a. **Graduate Student Orientation – Heather Talbott**

Discussed the fact that during orientation this year, they ran out of food and the graduate students had to buy their own. The GSA will try to get the department that provided the food to reimburse the students, if that is unsuccessful than there will be discussion of whether or not the GSA will reimburse them.

b. **GSA Welcome Back Party – Social Chairs**

5. Other business:

1. Students were invited to attend the Oct 14th ground breaking ceremony for the student life center addition
2. Volunteers for presenting at the healthcare career day include Heather, Shalis, Brady, and Nick
3. International week has been scheduled for Nov. 3 or 4 – 7. It will include a photo contest, international tea, flag football, ping-pong, and badminton. It is open to all students, international and domestic.
4. It was decided that the comprehensive exam survey should be sent out soon, since no one time of year seemed best for all departments.

6. Reminders:

- a. **Next at large meeting:** Tuesday, November 4th, 12-1pm, DRC1 4003