

# GSAC – Graduate Student Advisory Council Meeting

August 21, 2013 at 3:30 p.m.

Sunflower Room – Overman Student Center

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## Minutes

- Welcome/Introductions – B.B. Stotts from Graduate and Continuing Studies welcomed the group and introduction were made of all members present which included: Torrie Epperson (Biology), David Beck (English), Robert Smith (History), Hillary Dickey (HHPR), John Kuefler (MBA), Caleb Smith (MBA), Lacy Jo Graham (Nursing), Yusra Zabarmawi (Physics), Tyler Polshak (Psych & Counseling), Jordann Bluejacket (Psych & Counseling), Stephanie Jepson (Psych & Counseling), Sydney Zortz (TCHL), Kristina Lewis (HRD), Dr. Brenda Roberts (TCHL)
- Dr. Pawan Kahol – Dean, PSU Graduate School welcomed the group and shared his vision for the group. He mentioned that this is a forum for graduate students to let us know what their needs are and how we can advocate for them better. He hopes this group will be an active group and sees GSAC an opportunity for professional development for graduate students.
- 2013-2014 Representatives: handout  
Departments still needing representation: Chemistry, Technology GIT, TWL-HRD
- Overview of GSAC was given explaining the mission – 1) to facilitate communication among graduate students, faculty and administrators; 2) to promote professional development and interaction among the graduate population; 3) to act as a source of information and guidance. The events that the group has hosted in the past were reviewed as well as the funding resources available to graduate students for conferences and research.
- University Committee Representation
  - University Academic Honesty Committee Nominee – Lacy Jo Graham volunteered to serve on this committee. It was also discussed that several other campus committees may need representation from our group and other opportunities will arise.
- Officer Nomination – a new slate of officers was decided at the end of last academic year but a VP is still needed. Sydney Zortz volunteered to serve as VP. The full slate of officers include:
  - President – John Kuefler
  - Vice President – Sydney Zortz
  - Secretary /Treasurer – Tayler Klein (confirm she will continue to serve)
- Additional Tasks/Events for group
  - Graduate Student Informational Gathering – this event normally happens each semester. It was discussed to hold this event on Sept. 11 at 5:00 p.m. in the Overman Student Center with presenters from the Graduate School to talk about the Grad System within GUS and Thesis and Research process. **\*Note: One of the presenters is not available on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>; therefore, the event will be held on September 18, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Balkans Room, OSC.**

- Activities Fair – September 10 – John talked to the group about this event. GSAC will register for a table for this event, registration due September 3. We will be looking for members to help man the table from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. on that day. Look for a registration sheet to come.
  - Fall Graduate School Showcase – this is a new event Dr. Kahol would like to see on our campus this Fall. We hope to have this event the week after early enrollment – November 18-22. Look for more information to come.
  - Collegio – Graduate Student News – seeking a GSAC member to serve as a liaison to assist the Collegio in highlighting Graduate Students and research, stories.
  - GSAC T-shirt – would like to see a few people take on this task of creating a new t-shirt for the group.
  - Fall picnic? – Wondering if the group would like to participate in a social event of this type.
  - Thesis & Research Workshop – Dr. Kahol is willing to help put on this workshop or series of workshops.
  - Why Grad School class presentations – we will be making short class presentations to senior seminar type classes to make our students aware of the Graduate School and will need assistance from GSAC to make theses presentation.
- Best Meeting Day/Time for the group – The group discussed the best time and day to meet each week. It was decided to meet the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. in the Sunflower Room, OSC. The meetings for Fall 2013 will be: September 4; October 2; November 6; and December 4.
  - New Business/For the Good of the Order – no discussion
  - B.B. Stotts thanked everyone for their attendance and gave a Grad School t-shirt to all who wanted one. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. Refreshments were served.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sunflower Room, Overman Student Center**