GSGA General Assembly Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2013

1. Special guests
   1) Dean Zierolf introduced Provost Davenport
   2) Provost Davenport addressed the graduate body

2. Vice Presidential elections held
   1) Candidates
      I. Samuel Burbanks
      II. Ahmed Farad
      III. Bertin Ondja’a
   2) Results
      I. Total votes cast = 33
      II. Winner = Bertin Ondja’a

3. Dean Hanson presented examples of new Doctoral regalia

4. President’s address – Ayça Mazman
   1) New prices of Doctoral regalia presented
      I. Fine quality collection (licensed by University of Cincinnati) = $778.00
         1. Includes gown, hood, velvet tam, Doctoral gold tassel
      II. Student elements collection = $192.00
         1. Includes element gown, element hood, velvet tam, degree-colored tassel

   2) Graduate and family housing
      I. Progress being made – issue fully supported by President Ono
      II. Meeting with administration scheduled for the week of September 9th

   3) Housing safety
      I. As a response to the tragic fires that claimed the lives of two UC students last year, the University is supporting a safe housing initiative – created by the City of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Fire Department
         1. Website: www.cincinnatisafestudenthousing.com
            a. Free inspections provided by Fire Department – call (513) 357-7585 to ask about and schedule an inspection
               i. Question tabled about eviction worries and issues – students cannot be evicted if their apartments are inspected and found to be in violation of fire codes and regulations
            b. City-approved residences will be listed on website once inspected
      2. www.besafe.uc.edu is another resource
         II. Photoelectric smoke detectors discussed

4) NightRide
   I. Another handicap accessible vehicle now available
II. Call (513) 556-RIDE for service
III. Hours of operation – Sunday through Wednesday 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.; Thursday through Saturday 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

5) Campus Safety Summit
   I. In the process of working on a Public Safety Strategic Plan
      1. Graduate students were not included in the process of developing this draft, but GSGA was given a copy
      2. The graduate student community will be included as the initiative moves forward

6) Representative needed to serve on committee that will address the needs of commuter students
   I. Initiative being led by Student Affairs
   II. Representative should have an overall understanding of commuter students’ needs and a passion to meet these needs

7) Healthy food initiative
   I. Contracts with food vendors on campus are negotiated every five years
   II. Although we are a few years away from contract negotiations, the campus is making some positive improvements
      1. Vegetarian stations at CenterCourt and MarketPointe
      2. Veggie burgers available upon request at residential dining centers
      3. Participation in “Meatless Mondays” program at Center Court
      4. Whole fruit available daily at residential dining centers
      5. Wellness Walks available each semester at campus dining centers

8) Research Fellowship
   I. With the support of the Graduate School and Office of Research, the award has been increased from $20,000 to $25,000 this academic year

9) Battle for the Bat
   I. When: Friday, September 13 at 3:00 p.m.
   II. Where: Marge Schott Stadium
   III. Who: faculty/administration vs. students

10) UC at the Zoo
    I. September 7 from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m.

11) BTS
    I. North route has changed due to construction – route needs to be pushed back
       1. Construction on McMicken and MLK – both Metro and BTS routes have had to change to accommodate construction
    II. Students urged to put issues in writing so that the Executive Board can table these issues with administration

5. Treasurer’s address – Sagil James
   1) 2013-2014 budget presented
   2) 2013-2014 fiscal year to date presented
3) Student Travel Award changes
   I. Graduate students whose conference travel is supported by **departmental and/or advisor's external grants** (including but not limited to federal, state and local government or industry grants awarded externally to UC), or b) who are traveling to a conference as an employee of such grants are **no longer eligible for GSGA conference travel awards** due to changes in University of Cincinnati student travel policy.
      1. Projected that 20% of graduate students will be affected by this change
      2. GAs are considered students and not staff

4) Group Budget allocation
   I. Group Budget funds will only be available for use only after the group registration process (GSGA portion) is complete.

6. Campus Ambassador's address – Jeremy Parker
   1) GSGA Orientation
      I. When: Saturday, September 7 at 9:30 a.m.
      II. Where: Annie Laws (Room 407, Teachers College)
      III. This workshop is **mandatory** for all GSAs to properly register with GSGA
         1. At least one officer from each group must attend (preferably the Treasurer) must attend
         2. If no officer is able to attend, a make-up orientation session must be scheduled with the GSGA Treasurer

   2) Group registration
      I. Deadline for group registration is Sunday, October 13 at 5:00 p.m.
         1. SALD registration link: [http://www.uc.edu/sald/student_organization/StudentGroupRegistrationProcess.html](http://www.uc.edu/sald/student_organization/StudentGroupRegistrationProcess.html)
         2. GSGA registration link: ()

   3) Group Grant
      I. First deadline is Friday, September 13 at 5:00 p.m.
         1. $3,000 available
         2. Present a clear budget proposal
         3. All required signatures must be included in submission in order to be considered
         4. Review criteria on GSGA website: [http://www.uc.edu/gsga/GroupGrant.html](http://www.uc.edu/gsga/GroupGrant.html)
      II. 2013-14 Group Grant submission deadlines
         1. Friday, September 13 by 5:00 p.m.
         2. Friday, November 1 by 5:00 p.m.
         3. Friday, December 20 by 5:00 p.m.
         4. Friday, February 7 by 5:00 p.m.
         5. Friday, March 28 by 5:00 p.m.
         6. Friday, May 16 by 5:00 p.m.
         7. Friday July 11 by 5:00 p.m.