GSGA General Assembly Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2013

1. Special guest
   1) Megan Tischner
      I. Doctoral students participating in December graduation must order regalia by Thursday, October 3
      II. Graduate School hosting a webinar covering the usage of Wordpress and portfolio creation on October 24 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
         1. Please visit the Graduate School’s website for more information about this webinar and to sign up to participate

2. President’s address
   1) Fees
      I. Changes made to what fees are covered under GIS and GAS awards
      II. Undergraduate Student Government is getting involved in the discussion of fees
      III. Document is being prepared that presents fees assessed and stipends disbursed over time across departments and colleges – currently, there are no such records in existence at the University
         1. President asked constituents present at meeting to provide their stipend and fee information for this academic year—data collected at the end of meeting
         2. Hoping to collect data trends over the last 5 years

   2) Safety
      I. Free inspections offered through the Fire Department – call (513) 357-7585 for more information about and the scheduling of inspections
         1. Distributed fliers for constituents to post in their departments, offices, and other common areas
      II. Burglaries
         1. Burglaries and robberies are not being reported to police, particularly in the international student community
         2. It is imperative that all incidents are reported so that UCPD and CPD can identify and target hot spots for crime
         3. Hot spots can be patrolled and monitored more aggressively once they are identified
      III. Smoke detectors
         1. If in need of a smoke detector, Student Government has a supply – contact GSGA and/or Dean Cummins to secure a detector

   3) Transportation
      I. BTS
         1. 3 new 30-passenger shuttles will be in service by the end of October
2. GSGA has been compiling a list of complaints and incident reports about BTS service.

3. We would appreciate feedback once the new shuttles are active so that we can assess whether transportation problems have been alleviated.

4. **Constituent input**
   i. Suggest that new shuttles be assigned to North and Southwest routes.
   ii. Question: Southwest route has 2 shuttles running simultaneously during morning hours – why can’t the two shuttles be spaced out?

4) Commuter and off-campus needs
   I. Special guest: **Daniel Cummins** (Assistant Dean of Student Affairs)
      1. Commuter committee
         i. Formed under the guidance of the Assistant Dean of Students Affairs, Daniel Cummins.
         ii. We are looking for commuter students to serve on this committee.
         iii. Email [president.ucgsga@gmail.com](mailto:president.ucgsga@gmail.com) if interested in serving.
   2. Renter rights – working on establishing a list of rights students have as tenants.
   3. Administrative review committee (peer review)
      i. Time commitment – 10-15 hours per semester.
      ii. Committee will deal with Student Code of Conduct issues.
   4. Free Bearcat Bond t-shirts distributed
      i. **Bearcat Bond** – “As a member of the University of Cincinnati, I will uphold the principles for a Just Community and the values of respect, responsibility, and inclusiveness. I will promote the highest levels of personal and academic honesty and aspire continuously to better myself, the Bearcat community, and the world.”

5) Research Fellowship
   I. Deadline: November 22 at 5:00 p.m.
      1. Requirements
         i. A single signature from advisor or department head.
         ii. CV (maximum of 2 pages).
         iii. 1 letter of recommendation.
         v. Students must have accrued a total of 12 credit hours in order to be eligible to apply.
      2. Committee is still determining allocation amount for each college – final decision will be reached once all applications have been received.
3. Students who received the award last year are not eligible to apply – it is a one-time award granted per degree earned at UC

6) Graduate Councils
   I. Graduate student representatives serving on college-level graduate councils
   II. Who are they? How are they selected?
   III. How can we, as graduate students, achieve better representation at the College level?

7) Dissertation Writing Support Group
   I. GSGA would like to form a Dissertation Writing Support Group
      1. Open to all graduate students who have reached the dissertation/thesis stage
      2. It will create a structured writing environment for students and a system of accountability
      3. Goals: write, build community, create a positive environment to discuss research
   II. Half of the General Assembly body expressed interest in this group

8) OMBUDS
   I. Successful meeting with Associate OMBUDS, Kim Fulbright
      1. Creating better relations between OMBUDS and graduate students
      2. Ms. Fulbright will join us at our November General Assembly meeting
   II. Constituent input
      1. Expressed importance of making it clear to departments that OMBUDS is not a threat, but rather a neutral negotiation process
      2. Requested that students entering the grievance process have a graduate student peer advocate

9) Conflict resolution workshop
   I. Official and non-official conflict resolution
      1. GSGA is planning to host a workshop in November with the help of the OMBUDS office and the Graduate School
      2. More information to come

3. Vice President’s address
   1) Opening statement: “Show up and be present.”

2) Registration
   I. Deadline: October 13, 2013
      1. Group pages will be updated once the registration deadline has passed
      2. Reminder: all groups must register with both GSGA and SALD
3. Final SALD orientation of October is Thursday, October 3 from 4:00-4:45 p.m. in CRC 3210

3) Group Grant
   I. Group Grant Committee approved 7 grant proposals totaling $2,225
      1. 8 applications from 6 departments
      2. Many applications did not include enough information and review process was quite difficult
   II. Next deadline: Friday, November 1 by 5:00 p.m. ($3,000 available)
      1. Please take time to write your proposal
      2. We will post an example of a sound proposal on our website
      3. Check GSGA website for guidelines
      4. Email Vice President (vicepres.ucgsga@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns
      5. We are in need of volunteers to review applications and proposals

4) Soccer and cricket tournaments
   I. When: Saturday, October 5 from 9:00 am. to 5:00 p.m.
   II. Where: Gettler Stadium
      1. Team Composition
      2. Soccer: 5 players on field
      3. Cricket: 8 players on field
   III. To register your team, please contact Bertin at vicepres.ucgsga@gmail.com

5) Committee Reports
   I. SACUB (Student Advisory Committee on the University Budget)
      1. 4 graduate seats
      2. General Fee negotiations
         i. When General Fee is increased, tuition must be increased

4. Treasurer’s report
   1) 2013-2014 budget FYTD presented

   2) Group Grant reimbursement
      I. Submit paperwork within 14 calendar day deadline

5. Campus Ambassador’s report
   1) Smoke detectors
      I. To secure a new smoke detector for your residence free of charge, please call (513) 357-7574
         1. Photoelectric smoke detectors should be provided by your landlord
         2. If you feel it necessary to secure one on your own, they can be found at any hardware store

   2) HSGA Social Mixer
      I. When: Friday, October 4 from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m.
II. Where: Mt. Adams Pavilion
   1. 949 Pavilion Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

III. Who: all graduate students 21 years of age or older

IV. FREE cover