1. Special guests
   1) Dean Zierolf
      I. New awards all-campus awards will be granted to graduate students this spring – they are not specifically for graduating students
         1. 2 for students in professional programs (engineering, physical therapy, etc.)
         2. 2 for students in other programs
      II. Coffee hours with Dean Zierolf will begin next semester
          1. Take place twice a month
          2. No agenda will be planned – it is an opportunity for students to take a leadership role and initiate an open dialogue
   2) 3 representatives from UCIT
      I. Strategic programming / planning for the next 5 to 7 years – gathering feedback from General Assembly
         1. Question 1 – What are your priorities for eLearning?
            i. Student feedback – “End Note training” and “the price of software”
         2. Question 2 – What do you feel are the most important learning / technology trends?
            i. Student feedback – “Ease of acquiring software and improving accessibility”
            ii. Software depository and personal desktop retrieval in the works
         3. Question 3 – How can UCIT expand research resources?
            i. Much of the body is not aware of the VPN Client (Virtual Private Network) and its uses
            ii. Student feedback – “Better off-campus accessibility to articles and documents”
            iii. Student feedback – “Proposed partnership with Google (specifically Gmail and Google Docs)”
               i. Contract with Microsoft up in 2 to 3 years
      II. UCIT distributed notepad in order for students to list and submit: top 3 priorities moving forward in the next 5 to 7 years and 1 big issue with the current IT system
      III. Strategic Planning document available on UCIT website at the following link: http://www.uc.edu/ucit/about/strategy.html

2. President’s report
   1) IT Committees
      I. More than 1 graduate student representative can sit on each committee – President charged body with a call for volunteers
         1. Listerv message will be sent in the coming week
   2) Update on GSGA events
      I. Conflict resolution workshop held on November
         1. Only 8 individuals attended
2. Nonetheless, the workshop was very fruitful and effective – talk of creating more workshops and making more training available

II. More dissertation writing workshops are in the works

III. Thanksgiving dinner on Tuesday, November 26

IV. Dissertation Writing Group going strong

V. Faculty Senate / Undergraduate Student Government / GSGA Joint Session in February
   1. This meeting is mandatory
   2. Date is still TBA – Listserv message will be sent once date is sent

VI. Health Insurance Workshop
   1. When: Friday, December 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
   2. Where: 450 Lindner Center (next to Nippert Stadium)
   3. If you are unable to attend, but would be interested in attending a similar Student Health Insurance workshop another time, email studins@ucmail.uc.edu

3) Blackboard upgrade
   I. Students, faculty, and staff are invited to learn more about phased upgrade to Blackboard 9.1 Service Pack 13 and the plan for its implementation at an upcoming Blackboard Upgrade Town Hall Meeting
      1. Uptown Campus West Town Hall: Tuesday, December 3 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Stratford Banquet Room)
      2. UC Blue Ash Town Hall: Wednesday, December 4 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. (Muntz Auditorium)
      3. UC Clement Town Hall: Thursday, December 5 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. (Krueger Auditorium)
      4. Uptown Campus East Town Hall: Friday, December 6 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. (Procter Hall 276)

4) Graduate Councils on campus
   I. A&S GSA Presidents are meeting on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. in GSGA Office
   II. President talked to Dr. Zierolf about identifying other graduate student reps at College level Councils
      1. Asked Graduate School to endorse grad student reps at all levels to be elected by GSAs, not to be assigned by faculty

5) Graduate and family housing
   I. Moving at a disappointing speed, obviously not a priority by the administration
   II. Another survey out https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/UCLiving
      1. Please make Graduate and Family Housing a priority on the survey and help us put it on the radar

6) Safety update
   I. Lock doors and windows!
   II. Leaving cars on the street before leaving for the holidays violates the city ordinance and it prevents street cleaning
   III. More UCPD patrolling on campus (as a result of the feedback you gave us last time!)
   IV. More Cincinnati Police Department presence around campus
1. **Question:** Are we at a tipping point when the police presence around campus does not make you feel safer, but makes you uncomfortable?

V. UC sending letters to local judges and asking them to prosecute the repeat offenders who target student to the fullest extent of the law

VI. Crime rate around campus and high schools around campus – no such link

7) Board of Trustees / student trustee voting issue

I. House Bill 11 – out of the committee, expected to be discussed in the Ohio House of Representatives in January
   1. Retroactive resolution we drafted with the Undergraduate Student Government to be sent to the House of Representatives
   2. **General Assembly unanimously voted in favor of writing a resolution concerning House Bill 111**

II. The term of our current graduate student trustee, Joshua Smith, ends at the end of this academic year – we need to find his replacement
   1. Mr. Smith addressed the body concerning the application and selection process of student trustees

8) Diversity strategic plan

I. Diversity and inclusion at the forefront of University initiative as a response to Dean Jackson’s recent resignation
   1. Proposed plan available through the following link: [http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/diversity/docs/5787-Diversity-Report-2011-2016.pdf](http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/diversity/docs/5787-Diversity-Report-2011-2016.pdf)

II. Open discussion: What’s working and what’s not? What is the real baseline reading on the current climate on campus?
   1. Student feedback – “Too much emphasis on Greek Life and sports...posts concerning increasing diversity on campus only surface when big issues arise”
   2. Student feedback – “There is a trickle-down effect...what is happening with the administration trickles down to the students, for better or worse”
   3. Student feedback – UC pulls a lot of its students from the greater Cincinnati area and Cincinnati is not know for its diversity or inclusion...consider the environment and reach out to outlying communities

III. Wider discussion: Three short-term action steps (over the next 12 months) that will enable us to significantly move the needle on advancing diversity and inclusion at UC?
   1. **President charged each GSA to submit 3 short-term action steps to address issues of diversity and inclusion by December 15**

3. **Vice President’s report**

1) Group Grant
   I. Submission deadline: **Friday, December 20 by 5:00 p.m.**
   II. Group Grant Workshop: **Friday, December 13 at 12:30 p.m.**

2) Community building activities
   I. Body asked to share activities their GSAs are doing to build community
II. Events and projects suggested
   1. Holiday parties / social events (including other departments)
   2. General meetings
   3. Open studios – everyone (including community) invited to attend
   4. Corporal Texture Conference – MFA hosting speakers from region and nation
   5. Karaoke
   6. Golf
   7. Bowling
   8. Professional networking and volunteering
   9. Holiday potluck
   10. Social mixers
   11. Volunteer outreach – Ronald McDonald House
   12. Team building – Iron Chef Event
   13. Finals week food day
   14. Conversion days – to promote graduate continuation for undergrad
   15. Semester outings – paintball
   16. Readings / present work
   17. Workshops
   18. Community service (dog walking)
   19. Luncheon with food from different cultures to raise money for charity
   20. Knitting circles
   21. Movie nights
   22. Dissertation dish – academic and social
   23. Departmental cookbook
   24. Journal club
   25. Interdepartmental mixers
   26. 5k for hunger

4. Treasurer’s report
   1) 2013-2014 budget FYTD presented
   2) Please review rules of Travel Awards (particularly in regard to policy changes put into effect this fall)
   3) Group Grants – call to submit more applications (only used 10% of Group Grant budget thus far)

5. Campus Ambassador’s report
   1) Langsam renovations
      I. 4th floor of Langsam – creating group study rooms with multimedia, collaborative tables
         1. Additional lounge furniture will be installed
         2. Renovation will be complete January 3
      II. 5th floor of Langsam study rooms also renovated (similar to 4th floor changes)
          1. Construction begins December 15 and will be complete January 3
   2) 24/7 hours at Langsam initiative pushed by President Ono
I. Renovations will be necessary
II. Projected trial period – will probably occur in fall semester
III. We will keep you updated when we receive more information

3) Langsam extended hours December 1-12
   I. Hours are extended until 2:00 a.m.
      1. Remember: **If you are entering after hours, you must enter on the 5th floor and you must bring your UC student I.D. to check in after 6:00 p.m.**

4) NightRide
   I. There is talk of expanding the NightRide service – contracting more shuttles, potentially contracting an outside organization to manage the service
   II. Nothing has been solidified, but we will absolutely keep you updated on any developments

5) Upcoming conference hosted by English Graduate Organization (EGO)
   I. Conference is open to **all** graduate students here at UC and the theme this year is "Transforming Access."
   II. They will be accepting individual, panel, poster, and alternative media presentations dealing with that theme from a wide number of perspectives
      1. The deadline for submitting an abstract is **January 15, 2014** and submissions and questions should be sent to conference organizers at transformaccess2014@gmail.com
   III. Conference itself will take place **March 8, 2014** and updated information will be posted to [http://transformingaccessuc.wordpress.com](http://transformingaccessuc.wordpress.com) at the date approaches