GSGA General Assembly Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2014

1. Special guest
   1) Megan Tischner from Graduate School
      I. Grad School Workshop—selecting and working with your thesis dissertation committee
         1. Held April 3 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in TUC 400A and April 8 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. in TUC 400A
            1) Intended for students beginning work on their thesis
            2) Registration is encouraged

      II. Graduate Assistant positions open in Graduate School
         1. PFF (Preparing Future Faculty) Coordinator—applications must be received by Sunday, April 13
            1) Must submit cover letter and résumé
         2. Photography/Graphic Design position—applications must be received by Sunday, April 20
            1) Must submit cover letter, résumé, and link to portfolio
         3. Check www.jobsatuc.com for more information about either position

      III. New art installation in Van Wormer—stop by for a visit!

2) Dr. Terri Hurdle from SALD
   I. Registration is required for all student groups
   II. New to GSGA Fall Orientation
      1. Dr. Hurdle will be attending GSGA Orientation to present and discuss SALD policies and regulations
         1) GSAs will no longer have to send representatives to separate SALD orientations throughout the beginning of fall semester
         2) IF your group misses GSGA Orientation (which is mandatory), you must schedule a make-up orientation session with GSGA and attend a separate SALD orientation

2. President’s report
   1) Safety
      I. New lighting being installed in requested areas (e.g., Bishop Street)—will be installed this summer
      II. Block by Block Program—civilians engaged on foot in high crime areas
      III. NightRide
         1. Please submit grievances/complaints to any GSGA officer via email
         2. Possibility of adding text alerts to the system—when NightRide van is outside for pickup, students would receive a text alert
2) Graduate and family housing
   I. Graduate Student Focus Group: UC hired a consulting firm (Brailsford & Dunlavey) to assess the housing demands of the students. In early March, we invited about 20 students to attend this focus group.
   II. Third Century Input Session with the President and the Provost: Graduate and Family Housing and a designated communal building for grad students were among the top issues discussed.
   1. The conclusion of UC’s second century is coming in 2019
   2. Administration is looking toward the future
      1) Potential stipend increases for graduate students
      2) Pushing for increased research funding
   III. Housing Master Plan Survey: http://studentvoice.com/bd/uc14. (Please complete by Monday, April 7)

3) Gearing up for summer and fall
   I. Your continued leadership is needed in various committees
      1. Call for volunteers
         1) Push to establish representatives for committees early in fall semester
   II. Secured $20K for events next academic year thanks to Provost Davenport
   III. Secured at least $15K for the GSGA Research Fellowship for the next award cycle, thanks to Dr. Zierolf
   IV. The Search Committee for the Dean of Graduate School is moving very quickly
      1. Airport interviews are going to be completed before the end of classes, which means the top 3-4 candidates will be visiting campus late April
      2. Your participation in open forums is critical
         1) GSGA will send out more information about the open forums once the details are set
   V. GSGA Executive Board will create an end-of-year report of GSGA activities this year
      1. Planning to have the report out by the end of this fiscal year (June 30th)
      2. If you have any input/comments, do not hesitate to send them to President Mazman.
   VI. Should we stay in Annie Laws for next year’s meetings?
      1. Input from body: YES

4) End of the year business
   I. Main Street Stride (The MainStreet Stride is a campus tradition – it is a springtime foot parade): Friday, April 11 at 11:15 a.m.
      1. Call for interest—about 8-10 people raised their hands
      2. GSGA will register to participate
   II. End of the Semester Party—Talent/Open Mic Night: Sunday, April 20 starting at 5:30 p.m.
1. Call for talent
2. GSGA will serve Indian food

III. Dissertation/Thesis Writing Group is still going:
http://grad.uc.edu/content/dam/grad/docs/Events/Dissertation_Writing_Group_Schedule_Spring2014.pdf
1. Should a room be reserved for summer sessions?
   1) Input from body: YES

3. Vice President’s report
   1) Working with Graduate School to create a survey for outgoing GSA officers
      I. Will serve as an end-of-the-year progress report
      II. Survey will go out by the end of the week (4/5/14)
      III. Survey must be submitted by Thursday, April 24
   
   2) GSA goals
      I. Call for goal reports to be created and submitted by beginning of fall semester

3) Group Budget usage
   I. Total amount of monies available for Group Budget = $20,600
      1. Amount of Group Budget used = $5,748
      2. Amount of Group Budget remaining = $14,852
   II. Why aren’t the funds being used?
      1. Input from body: “Bureaucratic hoops are difficult to navigate”
      2. Input from body: “A bunch of people paying $10 each for an event is much easier to manage than one person paying $500 for all attendees and then waiting for reimbursement.”
      3. Input from body: “Chemistry GSA has created their own bank account that has funds from the department, so no student has to endure financial hardship.”
      4. Input from body: “Can GSGA host a workshop about the reimbursement process?”
      5. Input from body: “Funds aren’t being used due to a lack of student involvement within some GSAs.”

4) Group Grant usage
   I. Total amount of monies available from Group Grant = $21,000
      1. Amount of Group Grant money used = $8,423
      2. Amount of Group Grant money remaining = $12,577

5) GSA Announcements
   I. Art Education GSA hosting an Art Swap on Friday, April 4 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. (open to the public)

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

5. Campus Ambassador’s report
   1) Queen City Colloquium
      I. Keynote address for the History Department’s graduate conference, the Queen City Colloquium, will be held on Friday, April 11 at 12:30 p.m. in the Taft Research Center
         1. Keynote speaker is Vanessa Schwartz, a professor of History and Art History at the University of Southern California
         2. Her talk is entitled ”Obsolescence, Technology and the Aesthetic of Expendability at the Dawn of the Jet Age”
      II. All are invited to attend!

2) Upcoming events
   I. GradPub this Friday, April 4 in Catskeller Pub (beginning at 5:30 p.m.)
   II. GradCup this Sunday, April 6 beginning at 9:00 a.m.
   III. Excellence Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 6 at 4:00 p.m. in TUC Great Hall

3) Meet your new Campus Ambassador!
   I. Daniel Traicoff, your new Campus Ambassador, would love an opportunity to meet with you and your fellow GSA officers before summer break
   II. Please email him at the following address: dtraicoff@gmail.com
       1. Following the conclusion of finals, his term will have officially begun and he can be reached at campusambass.ucgsga@gmail.com

4) Listserv
   I. Those of you graduating may no longer wish to receive Listserv updates from GSGA (we understand completely)
   II. Upon graduation, please respond to any future GSGA emails with a request to be removed from the list and please provide any and all email addresses with which you might have registered
       1. Unfortunately, we are only able to remove you by searching for your email address.

THANK YOU

Thank you all for a tremendous year of service, leadership, progress, and advocacy. We cannot begin to adequately express our gratitude for your commitment to bettering graduate student life at UC. Without your dedication and drive, GSGA would cease to exist.

To those of you graduating, we wish you nothing but the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Good luck with finals and have a marvelous summer break!