



GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
gsa@ucmerced.edu  
<http://sites.google.com/site/ucmgsa/main>

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED  
5200 NORTH LAKE ROAD  
MERCED, CA 95343

August 12, 2013

## Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Call to Order:** 11:00 am

**Location:** KL362

### In Attendance:

Henry Pai, *President*  
Eddie Gibb, *Academic Affairs Officer*  
Jason Davis, *External Vice President*  
~~Janelle Szary, *Internal Vice President*~~  
Aaron Cowles, *Public Relations-Community Outreach Officer*  
Brandon Stark, *Secretary*  
Alyse Pittman, *Treasurer*  
~~Kristynn Sullivan, *Ex Officio*~~  
Rachael Martin, *Staff Liaison*

### Previous Meeting Minutes Not Approved

### Old Business:

#### 1. Final Updates:

- a. GROW
  - i. Graduate Student Panel: August 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:40-12:25pm and lunch at 12:30pm, COB 105
  - ii. Available for attendance: Henry, Jason, Aaron, Brandon, Eddie
  - iii. Topics: Q&A, Small plug about GSA
- b. GSA Dropbox
  - i. Update: Will distribute again
- c. GSA Email Archival
  - i. Continue to CC [gsa@ucmerced.edu](mailto:gsa@ucmerced.edu) with any communication for future reference

## 2. Ongoing Action Items (Discussed in Meeting)

- a. Last Year's Budget
  - i. Update: Still awaiting further information
  - ii. Contact Point: Connie McBride (OSL) [cmcbride3@ucmerced.edu](mailto:cmcbride3@ucmerced.edu)
- b. Action Item: National Day of Service
  - i. Old Discussion:
    - 1. Working with Vernetta Doty to set up a service project on Sept 11th
    - 2. Aim to develop community with incoming graduate students
    - 3. Looking to have 25-50 volunteers
    - 4. Helping to clean Lake Yosemite
    - 5. Working with undergraduate students, but on separate assignments
    - 6. No food provided
    - 7. Need to know by Sept 6<sup>th</sup>
    - 8. Advertisement plan: email announcement, word-of-mouth
  - ii. New Discussion
    - 1. Will make an announcement at GROW
    - 2. Point of Contact: Aaron
  - iii. Action Item:
    - 1. Continue developing plan
    - 2. Prepare GROW announcement
- c. Committee Rally Planning
  - i. Old Discussion
    - 1. Include tie-in with Ice Cream Social
    - 2. Suggested Date: Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013
    - 3. Overview of committees gathered so far
      - a. See last year's committee assignments
      - b. Need to complete list by August 22<sup>nd</sup>
      - c. Email to the various committee contacts
    - 4. Reiterate need for flyers and advertisement
    - 5. Does the Committee form need updating? – *Eddie*
  - ii. New Discussion
    - 1. Discussion with Rachael
    - 2. Suggested Time: 11-1:30
    - 3. Will coordinate with specific people to ensure they are there to discuss their experiences
  - iii. Action Item:
    - 1. Track down contact points for each committee
    - 2. Email various committee contacts
    - 3. Draft email for announcement

4. Contact Jen when ready for further planning
5. Jason to track down the undergraduate's list of active committees
- d. GSA Facebook/Social Media Campaign
  - i. New Discussion
    1. Brandon to start
    2. General Purpose Announcements
    3. Fees, Activities
    4. Publishing and Presentation Announcements
- e. Action Item: GSA Leadership Program
  - i. New Discussion
    1. GSA Leadership Programs (Orientation, officer training, election, etc.)
    2. Under consideration: GSA Leadership event?
    3. GSA Leadership program was designed to help improve the leadership of the GSA officers
    4. Was an every other month series with keynote speakers to target specific areas
    5. Has devolved over time
    6. Proposed: Rebrand as a 'Lunch with Special Guests'?
    7. Proposed: Hot Chocolate Social for Winter Break?
- f. Versatile Ph.D. Site
  - i. New Discussion
    1. Development for students with nonacademic job training
    2. Ann will be leaving career services
    3. May experience some further delay in information
    4. Waiting on more information
    5. Hope to receive feedback from other universities
- g. Castle Space Meeting
  - i. New Update: Meeting scheduled for Aug 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at Castle
- h. GSA Website Project
  - i. New Update: Project Initiated with UC Merced Media
    1. IT backlogged, waiting on further information

### 3. Inactive Old News

- a. Delegate Assembly
  - i. Discussion
    1. Suggestion: Define member's roles - *Henry*
    2. Suggestion: Bring small meetings with the various Deans - *Henry*
- b. Committee Orientation
  - i. Old Discussion:
    1. Possible date (Sept 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>)
    2. Last year had light snacks

3. Suggestion: Bring Jane Lawrence to speak
  4. Contact Rachael and Jen for assistance
  5. Suggestion: Bring a panel of previous committee members to discuss their experience.
- ii. Action Item: Continue planning event
- c. Grad Pad Funding/Beer Garden
    - i. Update: Charles Nies mentioned something about furniture - *Kristynn*
    - ii. Action Item: Kristynn to investigate
  - d. Café Scientific
    - i. Discussion:
      1. Contact person: Erin Stacy
      2. GSA asked to provide monetary support
      3. Still looking for a suitable location
      4. Still looking for additional speakers
  - e. Split GRC Assignment
    - i. Discussion
      1. Expected separation between graduate academic program management and research management
    - ii. Graduate Council Seat Discussion
      1. Maintain as President's committee assignment
    - iii. Research Council Seat Discussion
      1. Very important seat
      2. Suggestion: Needs to be a reliable member – *Kristynn*
      3. Suggestion: Assign a GSA member
      4. Resolution:
        - a. GSA Secretary has no mandatory Committee Assignment
        - b. Brandon volunteers
  - f. Grad School Fair
    - i. No Update: Suggestion to utilize Delegate Assembly

## **New Business:**

### **1. Introduced by: Henry**

- a. Action Item: Student Fee Announcement
  - i. Discussion
    1. Early announcements by Engineering showed wrong information
    2. Fees are due **August 21<sup>st</sup>**
    3. Breakdown is as follows:
      - a. \$50.00 Health Services Fee
      - \$87.50 Transportation Fee
      - \$15.00 Student Life Fee

\$10.00 Associated Students Fee  
\$146.00 Recreation Fee  
\$10.00 Early Childhood Education Center  

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\$318.50

ii. Decision:

1. Email out reminder ASAP
2. Email out a reminder a day before

b. Action Item: TAPS

i. Discussion:

1. TAPS website still has no information on fellowship students
2. Permits may be purchased after August 27<sup>th</sup>
3. GROW Participants mailed a temporary parking pass that lasts until Aug 30<sup>th</sup>

ii. Decision:

1. Email Emily with issues
2. Point of Contact: April Hellam [ahellam@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ahellam@ucmerced.edu)

## 2. Introduced by Jason

a. Update on UCSA

i. Discussion

1. Recent conference at UC Irvine
2. Graduate Campaign – Jobs!
  - a. Initiative to help develop professional development for Graduate students
  - b. Identified as a need for graduate students as many campuses lack centers versed in graduate student needs
  - c. Includes:
    - i. Promotion of alumni associations
    - ii. Improve travel grants for networking purposes
    - iii. Development of industry partners and coalitions

ii. Jason elected as Vice-Chair for Grad/Prof committee

iii. Hopefully no more need for registration fees, aiming for better partnership with undergraduate appointees.

b. Welcoming Committee Idea

i. Discussion

1. Proposal to help incoming graduate students acclimate with Merced
2. Include helping move-in
3. Friendly Committee
4. Proposal: Make volunteers announcement on GSA facebook page

5. Proposal: Include the Delegate Assembly for assistance.
  - ii. Decision
    1. Will continue to think about
- 3. Introduced by Alyse**
- a. Action Item: Travel Grant
    - i. Discussion:
      1. Start preparation for October announcement
    - ii. Request:
      1. Look through application, look for updates
      2. Check on budget

### **Action Items**

1. Email out fall semester availability
  - a. Rachael works 8am-2pm
  - b. Alyse: on campus Tues-Thurs Only, Class 10-11:30, 1:30-3:20
  - c. Jason: TA session all day Thursday
  - d. Brandon: Class 12:00-1:30 T/Th

## Request

1. Pictures of Bobcats – *Henry*
  - a. Motion Approved



## Next Meeting:

Tentatively scheduled August 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>

## Calendar of Events

### Yearly Events

Event	Assigned Lead	Date
Committee Rally	Eddie	Sept 5 <sup>th</sup>
Ice Cream Social (One per Sem)		~with Committee Rally ~TBD
<i>Hot Chocolate Social</i>		<i>Winter Break</i>
Committee Orientation	Eddie – Coordinate with Rachael	(2 weeks after Rally)
Open Meetings		~Beginning of November ~Middle of March
Committee Thank You	Eddie	~Spring
Delegate Assembly	Janelle	
National Day of Service	Aaron	Sept 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
<b>GSA Leadership</b>		
Elections		~April
Officer Transition Meeting		~June
<i>Leadership Training</i>		~Fall