

Title: September 26, 2014, 10am, GSA Meeting Agenda  
Location: SSB 350, Gradpad  
Started: 9/22/2014  
Last Edit: 9/25/2014

In Attendance:

Not in attendance aaron

Jiba late

Marjorie Zatz visiting

Pedro Carvajal, from union for TAs

#### Past Meeting Action Items

- Distribute Gradpad Access Agreement - still in process :(
- Recap of Travel Grant Situation-- Status Update please!emails sent ou. Students should know if getting reimbursed. Postdocs do not have access to GradPad currently. Discussion to allow them to have access. Vote postponed till following meeting. We may want to have a longer discussion with GSS, Dean Zatz and Sam about postdoc inclusiveness.
- Draft Rules for Research Meetings in Gradpad
- Obtain giant wall calendar
- Check on access for postdocs?
- Delegate Assembly meeting with Aaron

#### Previous Meeting Minutes

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## Guest: Graduate Dean Marjorie Zatz

- Grad Dean Report -- Priorities enhance graduate services at UCM, most focused on 2020 enrol goal of 1,000 grad student, continued quality and diverse, focus on funding and resources, professional development with GSS, engaging in grad development, data driven reports on graduate programs.
- Will have workshops on predoc fellowships. How to effectively apply. Will have students who received fellowships at meeting, and faculty member speaking about what they are looking for. There will be one in mid-October. Developing library of successful proposals.

Looking at tech fellowships the university has been invited to apply.

Financial website has a-z listing of fellowship, and who they are open to (international or undocumented).

Working with development to build number of fellowships.

Working with graduate groups on their web pages, to include current information for current and prospective students.

If approved in budget, looking to hire communication specialist.

Will hire another admissions coordinator.

e-mails about UC Merced grad programs.

Fall 2015 new admissions program.

All forms can now be filled out online, and sent to those who need to sign. Faculty must use UC Merced e-mails for these forms.

New programs and program reviews.

Committee formed to look at policies where there are exceptions to policy. Goal to have clearer policies.

Filing fee status should be saved for one is ready to file. Use for last semester only.

Diversity and inclusiveness initiatives, and events.

Looking at increasing number of graduate students to meet 2020 plan.

Question about spaces for graduate students, safety. Want to promote space where grad students can work across disciplines.

Provost has reviewed use of space on campus by graduate students/faculty.

Possible graduate housing in the future.

Parking concerns for graduate students.

Will have workshops on professional development in the future.

Dean would like to have dissertation writing space for those working on thesis and dissertations.

## Current Reports

- Meeting with Library Staff - Brandon 9/15/2014
  - Immediate updates
    - Lantern to be open 24 hours Monday-Friday.
    - Hoping to make Head Librarian position official
    - Still trying to establish a standing library committee
  - 2020 + future plans
    - Looking to expand by having library run spaces in new buildings. Common area for study that can't be taken over by departments to put cubicles in
    - Additional graduate only spaces
    - More digital resources
    - Research with the library
      - Hiring grad students for historic data archival
      - Research on the library
  - Ideas in discussion, mutually agreeable good ideas, currently looking to see if feasible
    - Additional graduate only spaces. Possible if library reclaims east wing with 2020 project
    - Graduate students able to reserve staff/faculty only rooms in library for committee, research meetings
    - Graduate student able to check out undergrad textbooks for research purposes (good for interdisciplinary research)
  - Events & Exhibitions
    - Library willing to assist with promoting graduate student research
    - Just hired a new person to assist with exhibits
    - They would love to host something like Abstracts & Appetizers
    - Would like to do more graduate student research exhibits
    - Willing to coordinate with the Graduate Student Committee on Research
- Meeting with Janet Napolitano 9/24/2014
  - Council of Presidents suggested the following recommendations
    - Mental health is a serious issue, but alternative funding should be sought before proposing an additional student fee
    - LBGT issues are a concern and recommend priority on establishing data collection
- Meeting with Graduate Council 9/23/2014
  - Graduate Student Mentorship Document to be released soon
  - Proposed/Under review grad programs
    - ECON, Management of Innovation, Sustainability and Technology (MIST)
    - BEST, ME, MSE, EECS
    - Public Health, Molecular Cell Biology
- GSA Budget Update

- Vote on Percentages?
- How to portion carryover from past years or move to general fund?
- Currently have estimated \$10,000 carryover. \$1,500 allocated for Fall travel grant.
- Consider keeping money in categories.
- Do we want to allocate money for social event?
- Tracking being moved to CatLife.
- Costco purchases--Get purchase order with estimate. Is there an amount which must be spent (minimum \$100). GSS can help with purchases.

## Old Business

- Discussion Topic: Delegate Assembly
  - Previous Discussion
    - still need people for chem, cog sci. social sci (sociology - wendy puquirre?, public health) physics, and Chemistry. Poly sci as well.
    - Delegate Assembly meeting--hopefully by end of month.
      - Two goals, need to be acquainted with Aaron, need first meeting.
      - Push on this, hopefully meet by end of month.
      - In mid Oct. goal of meet and greet delegates.
        - Should we advertise meet and greet?
        - Could possibly do by school?
        - Have delegate come in in grad pad for 45 minutes.
        - Would be like an office hour for delegates.
  - New discussion
- Discussion Topic: UCSA fallout
  - Previous Discussion
    - Here at UCM we are going to organize student of color conference.
    - Asking 30 dollars for participants.
    - General t-shirts to publicize UCSA. UCSA now connected with USSA (US student assoc.) Student from UCR elected rep for USSA.
    - Brandon asks anything to report back?
    - New Discussion?
      - i) Regular registration @ \$30 per person for SOCC before Oct 17 and then after @ \$45.
      - j) Nov 7-9.
- Action Item: Committee Appointments
  - Previous Discussion-
    - Danielle got 19 applications from comm. rally, Alumn relations board, not sure what is happening. Jasmine will possibly do this committee.
    - Oct. 2, 10:30-12:30 having committee orientation in Bobcat Lair.
    - a lot of people applied for committee on research. Still need to look through.
    - Emily sent one to stay on TAPS.
    - Got another from student who has been sitting on ECEC (early childhood education center--Daycare). She wishes to continue. There is a 75 percent discount for students for ECEC. 25 percent is reimbursable if you are a TA and a member of the UAW Union.
    - Will email people about nominations on Monday.
  - New Discussion?
    - Missing appointments?
- Discussion Item: Reservation of the Gradpad
  - Discussion

- ES would like to hold their grad group meeting in the GradPad
  - Previously held meetings off campus in a dinner setting
  - Need to promote research, Brandon says having research meetings is an appropriate use of space.
  - Only allow on Wed. and Thurs. nights? Should have 5-8 nights. Should Friday nights be social? Do people need to reserve.
    - Need for official (ask Rachel to ask new worker intern to put and maintain calendar on wall.
    - GSA should have master rights.
      - Need to book a week and a half in advance.
      - Must let people know if in use.
      - Event could be a great use of space.
      - Should leave some rules pending.
      - Check on access for post docs.
  - Rules for research meetings in GradPad
    - Wednesday, Thursday are research nights (after 5pm)
    - Grad groups are encouraged to hold research discussions/presentations targeted for graduate students
    - Arrange with GSA at least one and a half weeks
    - Publicize (flyers, online calendar) at least 1 week before event.
- Science and Art Coalition Art Exhibit (presented by Sarah Abboud):
  - Previous Discussion
    - -Will bring researchers and artists together to highlight UC Merced's research to community at the Merced County Arts Council gallery on mainstreet.
    - -Currently have 17 artists and 19 researchers
    - -Center for the Humanities for funding?
  - Updates?
- Community Service
  - Previous Discussion
    - October: Make A Difference Day (October 25th)
    - -Work with OSL to set up event,
    - work with service fraternity.
    - Promote one service per month GSA event.
    - Find way to promote service events.
    - Provide ops for people to serve, create service callender.
    - Should offer awards for service through GSA? (long term project--year long project).
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## New Business

- Discussion Item: Discussion of the Graduate Student Committee on Research
  - Discussion
    - What do we want out of the group?
    - Any specific items?
    - Who will chair? Jasmine
    - Find grad students to promote research
    - Working with library to promote grad research
    - abstracts again.
    - In future, Fall research event.
- Discussion Item: Discussion of the Graduate Student Life Committee
  - Discussion
    - What do we want out of the group?
    - Any specific items?
    - Eddie's report from 9/25/2014 meeting
      - Student Diversity on Committee
        - Range from younger to more senior students
        - Representation from every school
      - Events
        - Movie Night (Friday, October 10th)
          - The Neighbors
          - Advertise movies one week before by flyering in GradPad, posting on Facebook and website, and word of mouth
          - Purchase popcorn and sodas this weekend at Costco (reimbursement?)
          - Reimbursement for purchasing movie on Amazon/Itunes?
          - Encourage games to be played as well?
          - Try to make this a once a month event
        - Bar Night (Thursday, October 30th)
          - Not a GSA sponsored event, just encourage students to go from all departments
          - At the Trophy Room
          - Costume dress up (optional)
        - Merced National Wildlife Refuge (Possibly Saturday, November 15th or later in December as Migration Season Continues)
          - Carpool from school
          - Hoping to get a park docent or someone from the Wilderness Center who can help identify birds
        - Events in Spring



- Vernal Pool Outing
- Sports Day

- Discussion Item: Theft/Space Allocation for IH/WC Grad Students
  - Discussion
    - Substantial thefts from student desks in the SSM cubicles
    - Undergrads encroachment, loitering
    - Unacceptable
    - Pedro notes that there is a lack of keys.
    - Dean Zatz notes that signs may be put up.
    - Need to send e-mail to Dean Zatz OSL id SSM cubicles as study space.
    - Dean Zatz said she will bring it up, talk with dean.
  - Action item?
  
- Discussion Item: Committee Orientation
  - Discussion
    - Charles Nies available on October 2nd
    - Jen reserved Bobcat Lair for Oct 2 from 10:30am-12:30pm
    - Similar format as last year
      - Tentative schedule:
        - Arrival and Networking (get food) (15 mins)
        - Introduction and Welcome – GSA President (5 mins)
        - Committee representative training – Charles Nies (40 mins)
        - Committee procedures and processes by Academic Affairs Officer and Q&A with student panel (1 hr)
    - Brunch food
    - Email to invite Grad Committee Reps
    - Need about 3 students to informally sit on grad panel
  
- Discussion Item: GSS Support of GSA
  - Discussion
    - What are ways GSS can do to further support GSA?
    - Administrative support? - Brandon
  
- Discussion Item: Final draft of GradPad Guidelines
  - Discussion
    - Cassie drafted guidelines for stocking food in the GradPad.
    - Review and approve?
  
- Action Item: To Do List
  - Update website-- Update website
  - Active facebook--Make more interesting
  - Any other ongoing things we should add to this list?
  - Visibility? Think about it.



### Current GSA Member Committee Appointments

- Brandon - Graduate Council, VC Advisory Board
- Danielle - CAPRA, OMBUDS
- Jiba - UCSA
- Aaron - ~~Alumni Relations~~ (not active?), Research Council?
- Eddie - GSA Social Committee
- Jasmine - GSA Committee on Research
- Erik - SFAC, SHAC

### Calendar

| Event                       | Assigned Lead | Date          |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Summer Ice Cream Social     | Brandon       | July 23rd     |
| Delegate Assembly           | Aaron         | August 5th    |
| GSA Officer Training        | Brandon       |               |
| GROW (GSA Panel)            | Iqbal         | August 11th   |
| Committee Rally             | Danielle      | September 2   |
| Committee Orientation       | Danielle      | October 2     |
| Fall Open Meeting           | Brandon       | ~November TBA |
| Hot Chocolate Winter Social |               | ~January      |
| Committee Thank You         | Danielle      | ~April        |
| Spring Open Meeting         | Brandon       | ~April        |
| Elections                   | Aaron         | ~April        |
| End of Year Recognition     |               | ~May          |
| Officer Transition Meeting  | Brandon       | ~June         |