

Title: April 7, 2015, 5:00pm, GSA Meeting Agenda

Location: Gateway Gardens

Started: 4/6/2015

Last Edit:

In Attendance:

Brandon

Eddie

Aaron

Erik

Danielle

Jasmine

Past Meeting Action Items

- ECEC Issue
- Social Committee Recap
- Academic Integrity Committee Feedback

Previous Meeting Minutes

Meeting Schedule

[Current Reports](#)

[Old Business](#)

[New Business](#)

Current Reports

- No Reports

Old Business

- GSA Social Life Committee
 - Advertising through GSS, on main GSA Facebook page, and on the GSA Social Life fb page
 - CRTE Partnership for Athletics Event
 - Last Friday of Grad Student Appreciation Week
 - “Schools going up against each other”
 - Vernal Pool - April 11th
 - Saturday
- Action Item: Committees
 - OMBUDS representative wants to attend a GSA meeting
 - New UCM Women’s Programs and LGBT Coordinator, Angi Baxter, wants to attend a GSA meeting
 - Academic Integrity Committee - **Graduate student feedback requested by April 13th**
- International Students
 - Previous Discussion, graduate work group
 - The need to work with CAPS and OMBUDS on issues of adjustment, loneliness, resources
 - International student fellowships getting better.
 - Summer life, travel, and funding.
 - International student liaison in GSA: capable to provide international viewpoint when we talk to administration. Possibly hold two forums per year. Plan to put on spring ballot/bylaws.
- New Updates
 - Have had a couple of meetings on international student issues
 - International Office present
 - Going to put together an Action plan
 - Lots of funding issues with billing/registrar
 - Want to conduct small programs
 - International Student Day during GROW
 - Possible “Buddies” link up
- Student First Center?
 - Anything they can do for graduate students?
 - How do grad students interact with SFC?
 - Problems with billing and registrar for International Students?

Jasmine

- Desire to start a Support Group for Women Graduate Students
 - Need for space, would like to reserve the Grad Pad conference room
 - Would like to work with OSL and CAPS on programing and possible speakers.
 - Great need for such a program with little support for women who face life/work, financial and career based pressures.
- Alisa
 - ECEC Issue
 - The short of it is that the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, Michael Reese, is contemplating shutting down the Early Childhood Education Center and replacing it with a private contractor, Bright Horizons. The parents are very upset, from all campus constituencies. The parents on the ECEC advisory committee did some research on the company and brought their concerns to the broader parent population. We are currently reaching out to the different groups on campus: faculty, staff, ASUCM and GSA to let them know about the potential change and to get feedback on what is important for them in a university childcare facility. We have a lot of questions and worry about potential negative effects on the quality of childcare if this change is made. It could pose a problem for recruiting and retention.
 - The parents want to go to the administration with a reasoned argument of what the campus community finds essential in a university childcare provider, and concerns about how a private company may or may not align with those priorities.
 - So, that is the issue in a nutshell. The faculty parents are very unhappy with the potential change. The students are as well. We want to bring it to the attention of the campus community in order to have a voice. Thus far, this has been approached completely top down.
 - updates?
- Graduate Student Writing Club
 - Alexandra Loan - approved for Gradpad access
 - Now how do we integrate?
 - Possibility - form as a service of GSA
 - As RCO club
 - As a GSS service
 - How do we promote long term success?

New Business

- Elections
 - Describe position
 - What did you enjoy doing?
 - What would you like to improve upon?
- Current/Possible Nominations
 - Christin Hoffman - Public Relations
 - Jason Davis - Internal Vice-President
 - Secretary - Violet
 - Academic Affairs - Jasmine
 - Treasurer - Maria (pending)
 - External VP - Danielle
 - President - ??
 - International Liaison - Jiba
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- International Liaison GSA position
 - Duties of the International Liaison will be:
 1. To represent the specific interests of international graduate and
 2. To work closely with the Office of International Affairs to assist
 3. To promote awareness of international graduate and professional professional students at the university, international graduate and professional students with issues of mutual concern, student issues to the university community,
 4. To promote international graduate and professional student participation in the activities of the GSA, Graduate Student Services and the Graduate Division,
 5. To plan and promote cultural programs in collaboration with the GSA Social Life Committee in order to build community among international graduate and professional students,
 6. To monitor campus issues and legislative developments that affect the ability of international graduate and professional students to study at UC Merced,
 7. To recommend advocacy positions to be adopted by the GSA Council,
 8. To serve on the Graduate Research and Orientation Week (GROW) Committee, the Delegate Assembly (DA), and other related committees as deemed necessary, and

9. To work to ensure that international graduate and professional students are well-informed, fairly treated, and able to participate equally at UC Merced.

- Updates to GSA Constitution
 - Minor
 - only updates GSA officer list
 - Reduces open meetings to once a semester
- Updates to GSA Bylaws
 - Major
 - Introduces IL
 - Updates new committee appointments
 - Reduces open meetings to once a semester
 - Updates Election timing

Current GSA Member Committee Appointments

- Brandon - Graduate Council, VC Advisory Board
- Danielle - CAPRA, OMBUDS
- Jiba - UCSA
- Aaron - ~~Alumni Relations~~ (not active?), Delegate Assembly, WSCUC
- Eddie - GSA Social Life 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 21
Hot Chocolate Winter Social	Brandon	~January
Committee Thank You	Danielle	~March 31
Spring Open Meeting	Brandon	~April 7
Elections	Aaron	~April
End of Year Recognition		~May
Officer Transition Meeting	Brandon	~May/June