

GSA Legislative Assembly Meeting Minutes 9/11/07

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Graduate Student Association (GSA) met on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, in the City Campus Union's Heritage Room. Fruit & vegetable trays were served before the meeting. Attendance included 31 departmental representatives, 6 executive committee members, 1 sponsor, and 6 guests.

Orientation packets were given to all Legislative Assembly (LA) members as a guide for joining GSA. Packets included various items: a primer on resolutions, Robert's Rules of Order, meeting times, officer roles, and a welcome letter.

Executive Chair Amber Epp opened the informal meeting introducing special guests Vice Chancellor Juan Franco and Dean Ellen Weissinger. Each spoke on current happenings with graduate education at UNL and the relevance GSA plays on campus. Each Executive Officer introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their role. As well, LA members introduced themselves and named the department they represent. Executive Chair Epp briefly described the mission, goals, and history of GSA. Sign-up sheets were passed around the group for committee chairs and members. The final lists will be included in future minutes.

Executive Chair Epp opened the floor to suggestions for GSA to pursue throughout the 2007-2008 LA Session. Those ideas included:

- Compile steps to complete a graduate career (deadlines, forms, etc.)
- Guidelines for classes, etc.
- Work jointly with Career Services and Graduate Studies to provide workshops and seminars
- Dissertation support group
- More affordable dependent insurance
- Interim childcare coverage
- Workshops – IRA's; Buying a house (Funding from realtors??); Interest rates, loans, etc; Discussion Boards (Open Forum)
- Social Events
- Graduate Student Lounge (In library?)
- Issues with owning a house & still paying out-of-state tuition (residency requirements)
- GSA advocate for graduate students selling houses
- "Yellow Pages" for graduate students
- Provide information on international visa's, etc.
- Involve faculty in more events
- Graduate student stipends – Jeff Bredthauer, Finance – New Committee??
- The Last Lecture – retiring professors

Executive Chair Amber Epp closed the meeting at 7pm. The next Legislative Assembly meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2007, at 6pm in the City Campus Union.

Minutes submitted by Karaline Poovey, VC of Information.