

March GSA Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report - Chair Laura Lynch

Executive Committee Meeting: The current and future members of the executive committee met informally on February 15 for dinner to provide an opportunity for new/old officers to learn more from each other. We met again on March 1 to discuss the upcoming agenda and resolutions, the graduate alumni shirt, our services survey (which we are officially analyzing the results of now), and other future projects.

Faculty/Administration Meetings: We've had several very interesting meetings in the last month:

- Ellen Wiessinger, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, met with Sylvia Jons, Emile Salame, and myself to discuss some current GSA initiatives including our Resolution to increase graduate representation on University Committees. We also discussed the current state of travel funds for graduate students. The outcome of that discussion is a meeting set up for March 15 with the Dean's Council to inform all UNL deans of the current state of graduate student travel funds and suggest they work with departments or the NU Foundation to increase availability to graduate students.
- Carolyn Pope Edwards, a member of the graduate faculty with appointments in the Departments of Psychology and Child, Youth, and Family Studies. Dr. Edwards was suggested as a potential faculty advisor by Dr. Bellows along with several other professors and the executive committee decided she was the top choice. Dr. Edwards is on sabbatical this semester, but is very interested in being GSA advisor starting in the fall.
- Kim Espy, Laurie Bellows, and Amber Marks (Associate Director of the CIC) met with Sylvia Jons, Emile Salame and me to discuss UNL's transition into the CIC this July and what the GSA hopes to gain from our entry.
- Marlene Beyke and Justin Solomon from ASUN met with Sylvia Jons, LJ McElravy and me to discuss Resolution 3.8.11. Although it has not officially been voted on by the GSA, we wanted to bring the resolution to their attention so that they stay informed during the entire process. Marlene and Justin seemed very open and interested in collaborating on our endeavor.

Note that the Graduate Council meeting for February was cancelled. I did attend the Student Affairs Advisory Council this month and gave an update on GSA's activities. In the upcoming month, we have meetings planned with Kim Espy & Laurie Bellows, with Barbara LaCoste (President Elect in Faculty Senate), and with the Dean's Council.

Student Impact Awards: These are annual awards given out by Student Involvement. The executive committee has decided to submit nominations for GSA President (nominations by Katie Wilson), GSA Officer (Aleks Stein - nomination by me), GSA Member (Eric Hunt - nomination by me), and GSA Event (GSAW - nomination by Katie

Wilson). Nominations are due this month and the award is given out next month. Stay tuned for more information!

LA Representation: We currently have open campus representative positions on both campuses. We still have some departmental seats open, which I've listed below:

Architecture	Nutrition & Health Sciences
Art & Art History	Physics & Astronomy
Biological Systems Engineering	Special Ed & Communication Disorders
Child, Youth & Family Studies	Survey & Research Methodology
Civil and Environmental Engineering	Textiles, Clothing & Design
Modern Languages & Literatures	

If you know anyone in these departments that might want to get involved, please let us know!

GSAW committee report: Ashley Krause

Graduate Student Appreciation Week will be April 4th-8th. The GSAW committee is happy to report that Susan Basalla May, co-author of *So what are you going to do with that? Finding careers outside of academia* will be our keynote speaker for Monday evening, April 4th. 150 free copies of Mrs. Basalla May's book will be given away to the first 150 graduate students to attend the event. Other events throughout the week will be a graduate student movie night at the Ross Theatre, an ice cream social at the East Campus Dairy Store, trivia night at Buzzard Billy's (co-sponsored by GSA events), and free massages for graduate students at the REC center. Look for more details to come on the website, blackboard, and GSA's Facebook page.