

GSA Legislative Assembly Meeting Minutes 11/10/09

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Graduate Student Association (GSA) met on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, in the City Campus Union. Pasta was served before and during the meeting.

- Avery Paulson resigned as the President of GSA for the 2009-2010 academic year.
- Laura Lynch was elected as the new GSA president for the 2009-2010 academic year.
- Minutes from the October LA Meeting were approved.
- The budget for the 2009-2010 academic year was approved.
- Committee Reports:
 - Social Committee: The social event at the Corn Maze on November 1st was a success.
 - Constitution Committee: A draft for the revised constitution is under way with the hopes of ratifying the revised version by the January LA Meeting.
 - Finance Committee: Looking for volunteers for the annual Better World Books drive. Volunteers are mostly needed to monitor the bins in the various buildings throughout campus.
 - Diversity Committee: Still looking for LA representatives interested in serving on the committee.
- A note to all committee members: All people serving on committees will be contacted within the next couple of weeks.
- NAGPS: National Conference: “Building a Strong GSA”
 - November 15 – 18th (11/14 Pre-Conference Workshop)
 - Conference bags were stuffed for conference attendees
- GSA Goals: (to be worked on this year and in the future)
 - Department Representatives: there are still departments (24/60) without representation. The list is available on the GSA Blackboard site, enabling LA members to help recruit. Our aim is to increase membership and reduce yearly turn-over/loss.
 - Ratify Constitution
 - Graduate Student Fee Deferment: Our aim is to make this available for fellowship recipients.
 - Key Card Access to Buildings for all Graduate Students
 - Family and Medical Leave Initiative: Fighting for the right for graduate students to leave (unpaid) for extended periods of time for medical emergencies/maternity.
 - Parking Permits: Our aim is to make upgraded parking available to graduate students.
 - Travel/Research Funds: Working with the University/Office of Research to make developing these funds a priority.
 - Graduate Student Fees: Our aim is to allow the GSA to have more control over the spending of graduate student fees.
 - Graduate Student Regent: Currently, there is one student regent (undergraduate). Our aim is to encourage the position of a graduate student regent to represent graduate student needs and priorities.

- Survey Data from 2008-2009 Academic Year
 - This data will help us achieve some of our goals listed above.
 - Possibly update IRB so more people could begin analyzing the data.
 - Results from data analysis will be made public.

- Housing Issues/Questions:
 - Working on a website that will help guide students in their search of off-campus housing
 - The possibility of an online discussion board was also discussed.

The next Legislative Assembly meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2008, at 6pm in the City Campus Union. Food will be served. Minutes submitted by Sharon Zumbrunn.