

GSA meeting 12-14-10

Order called 6:32

Minutes approved with no abstentions and no objections

Committee Reports

1. Exec Committee

- Working with ASUN to promote graduate representation on campus committees
- NAGPS report – Recognized Emile Salame for winning the presidential award at the national NAPGS conference.
 - i. Sylvia gave a report on the conference. Referencing the official report put out by the executive committee. Main priority is to become an independent organization. Fund raising opportunities that the GSA could take advantage of in the future through business sponsorship and alumni contacts. Other areas of interest were a Grad Students Bill of Rights, child care for grad students. Professional development seminars, CV writing ... Article posting advice.
 - ii. Question was raised about grad student unionization and if it was address at NAGPS conference. The topic did not come up at the meeting but it has been discussed in the past.

2. Social Events Committee

- Working on putting together some more professional development seminars next semester. Please provide input if anyone has ideas with potential topics.

3. Diversity Committee

- Working on creating a list of activities to do in Lincoln. And useful information for new grad students. ... Availability of medical services. How to register for utilities. A Lincoln survival guide. Have been working with the chamber of commerce & international studies. Working on flags for commencement. Pairing with ethnic studies.

4. Finance

- There has been increased competition on the book drive front. It remains to be seen if revenues will be comparable to last year. If not, next year we may not be able to pair with the book store.

East Campus Representative Election

1. Tara Wood – PhD student in the Plant Health Program. Tare already serves on diversity committee

- Motion was made to open election concerning Tara. Unanimous vote for approval. We have a new member

New Business

Resolution 12.14.10 – Endorsing recruitment of GSA reps by their departments

- This would encourage department specific graduate student organizations to maintain their GSA LA rep positions
- A motion was made to approve the resolution. The resolution passed unanimously

Resolution 12.15.10 – Resolution to promote recycling and sustainability at UNL

- The resolution is intended to increase awareness of the need for recycling at UNL
- The resolution urges the Chancellor to strengthen the Chancellor's commission on Environmental Sustainability by creating an office of sustainability that would have authority to set minimum sustainability and recycling requirements throughout the university
- A question was raised if we could emphasize waste reduction more in the resolution. Instead of focusing only on recycling
- A few reservations were expressed that the resolution did not do enough in the way of offering up ideas / advice about what should be done and that the resolution had no teeth.
- A motion was made to postpone the resolution to the January meeting. Seconded. The motion to postpone was passed unanimously.

Announcements

Book drive – Donate!!! Evaluation copies accepted.

Bowling Event – brownies are available

Open forum

1. Aleks – Department Rep. Posters. We need to get the posters out early next semester. We need to have pictures of the department reps and a short bio for the posters. Aleks will put the posters together so that we can ship them next semester.
2. Eric – ASUN / CFA - Student Fees Survey
 - a. Trying to lower fees and will be allocating fees in the next few months
 - b. Will be putting together an understandable list of fee user programs. (UPFF fees)
 - c. Will attempt to set up an informal meeting about fees to take place immediately before the next GSA meeting. Purpose – if we are going to go after certain programs and try to get cuts which ones are you interested in cutting
 - d. If anyone is not available for a meeting please feel free to email Eric.

Adjournment

Motion made 7:40 Seconded

Passed