The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Graduate Student Association (GSA) met on Tuesday, January 13th, 2009, in the City Campus Union’s Regency Suite. Pizza was served before and during the meeting. Attendance included 20 departmental representatives, 6 executive committee members, 1 guest, and 1 advisor.

- Executive Chair Brenda Pracheil called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
  - Motion to approve the December minutes: Ryan Taley; Seconded by Clarissa Steele, Motion Approved; no amendments
  - Discussion of Committee reports: No discussion.

- Dean Westbrook- Associate Dean of Libraries
  - Has held the office for 5 months and the foremost initiative she has undertaken is to develop a task force to clearly differentiate and understand the need of Graduate Student’s library resources, compared to Undergraduate Students
  - This task force is aimed with the tasks of improving the effectiveness of Library Resources of UNL campuses. The libraries are faced with increasing costs on Textbooks, small group sustainability, and 92% or better increases in cost for periodicals each year, lending to approximately $500,000.00 needed each year in new cost.
  - The task force will be made up of 15 diverse people from across campuses, with a couple of meetings per semester
  - Dean Westbrook and this task force wants student groups and organizations to propose resolutions for University level open access, faculty support initiatives, and increased copyright protections.
  - Interested individuals should contact her office or us at gsa@unl.edu

- Constitutional Amendment-VC of Legislative Affairs Ben Blackford and Doug Oxley, Political Sciences LA Representative
  - The Constitutional Amendment Petition was distributed by hard copy and e-mail to the UNLGSA-LA listserv
  - The petition/amendment calls for a 2 LA member sponsorship of future amendments, 50% vote of the LA to sponsor the petition, a 30 day review process, and a final vote in which 4/5ths of the LA present must approve for the amendment to pass.
  - Question: How was a 4/5ths vote decided? To add an extra measure of stringency.
  - Please have Graduate Students sign and print their names, verify or if they are willing, attain their UNL ID#.
  - Please return signatures to Ben Blackford, CBA 275, or 350 City Campus Union, by February 7th.
Elections - Executive Chair Brenda Pracheil
  o The Executive Committee transition this year was insufficient, in that the elected Executive officers had one transitional meeting with the old Executive officers.
  o Moreover, there was no business conducted with this transitional meeting.
  o In the Constitution, it is written that Elections will be held the last meeting of the year, and term to start May 1st to April 30th of the following year.
  o We are asking that the LA consider moving the Elections to the March LA meeting with the transition occurring at a special session in April and if needed a special business meeting held in May.
  o Motion to move Elections to March with a special session of the LA in April: Ashley Barnett, Second Doug Oxley; Unanimous vote; Motion passes and nominations will be opened at the February LA meeting.

Bigred to Huskers E-mail account transition- VC of Information Avery Paulson
  o The Bigred e-mail server is to be discontinued February 27th, 2009 and a permanent student e-mail server Huskers.unl.edu is to be put in place.
  o Avery Paulson is working with IT to change accounts on the listservs from bigred to other accounts.
  o If you have a bigred account please sign the attendance sheet with you e-mail address or contact Avery at Avery.Paulson@huskers.unl.edu

Announcements
  o Friday After Class gatherings are now in place. Everyone is welcome to meet at W.C.’s starting at 5:30 hosted by your UNL-GSA Social Events committee.
  o LJ McElravy is running for a Graduate Student position on ASUN. He asked for Signatures.

Motion to Adjourn by Jessica Colton. Motion seconded by Shannon Cummins.

The next Legislative Assembly meeting is scheduled for February 10th, 2009, at 6pm in the City Campus Union. Food will be served. Minutes submitted by Avery Paulson- VC of Information.