



❖ **GSA Meeting Agenda**

Date: December 02, 2015

1. Welcome/Call to order – Meeting started at 5:05. Called to order by A. Mueller.

Amber Mueller	Kendra Seckinger	Devin Sharp	
Courtney Chandler	Brandy Garzel	Linda Senbanjo	Julia Peter
Eryn Dixon	Amanda Bowers	Jon Van Ryzin	Susan Klumpner
Laura Bozzi	Alex San Nicolas	Amber Plante	Amanda Labuza
Quinton Banks	Danielle Abraham	Shaundra Allen	Chieh-ling Yang
Kshama Doshi	Nehal Mehta	Shirai Kapoor	Elizabeth Weingertner
Jimena Perez	Lain Hostelley	Sarah Rudzinkas	Bilal Kholkhar
Sally Hageman	Ramon Martinez		

2. Review minutes of previous meeting – A. San Nicolas motion to approve minutes, seconded by L. Bozzi.

3. Reports

a. President

- i. Announcements – proposal to raise student fees, requested by Erin Golembewski. Proposed 10% increase to the student fee per student; increase would cover a stand-alone candidacy ceremony, a summer social, two additional research awards (right now we give one a semester, and it is usually split between two people), additional travel award of up to \$300/quarter, greater funding available for student groups, increased budget for semester social events (add \$1000 to our \$3000), remainder of the increased funds to allow students to participate in volunteer activities; estimated to be about a \$5 increase per fee per semester.
- ii. Meet & Confer Committee

b. Vice President

- i. Announcements
- ii. Social Activities Committee
 1. Cookie social – for GSA reps at 4pm on Friday Dec 4th in SMC 311.
 2. Ugly Sweater social – 5pm in the 5th floor atrium of HSF1. Wear your tackiest holiday gear. There will be free food and holiday drinks.
 3. Coffee and Card Making – to celebrate the grand opening of the GSA Graduate Student Lounge!! Dec 8th, 8:30-10:am in the GSA Grad Lounge (SMC Room 305). We will be making thank you cards for the UMB

Housekeeping staff to thank them for all their hard work keeping our campus clean. All craft supplies will be provided. There will be coffee, hot chocolate, bagels, and pastries.

4. Candidacy Ceremony – date will be Thursday, April 14th, MSTF auditorium & atrium. Marcina Garner will be the GPILS contact person. **Candidates that will be invited include any students that have reached candidacy in the 2015 calendar year.** Current budget is:

Portfolios: \$30 each x 50 candidates = \$1500
Food/Beverages: \$15 pp x 150 people = \$2250
Total = \$3750

GSA allocated \$750 so we need \$3000 from the programs.
\$3000/50 candidates = \$60 per student from the programs

iii. USGA Announcements

1. Fall Formal – Thursday, Dec 10th, 6-10pm at the Visionary Arts Museum. Tickets for students are \$20, guests are \$30. There will be finger foods & drinks.
2. UMB Debates – Event on Thursday Dec. 3rd in Pharmacy Hall N111 from 5:30-6:30pm. There will be free food from Trinarcia (and wine!) and is being co-sponsored by the USGA. It is a campus-wide event. 4 of the 8 debaters are PhD students (2 of which are GSA reps!!). Would any be interested in covering this event for the Grad Gazette or taking pictures? **S. Klumpner will be taking pictures.**
3. Holiday Meal – collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement. Tentative date for Friday, Dec. 18th. Will be a lunch event (approx. 11am-2pm including set up and take down) for local families in West Baltimore (aiming for ~75 people). OCE wants \$750 total counting any contributions from student groups that would like to get involved. USGA will probably donate \$500, which leaves \$250 to split between any student groups that want to join. Anything over that will go to fund “take home” packages consisting of various foods/pies, etc. **GSA will be donating \$75 to this event.**
4. **Project Jump Start – 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$2, if you win you get ½ of the money they raise. Drawing on Wednesday, Dec 9th, at Pickles at 5:30pm.**

c. Treasurer

- i. Account – **\$7839.71 in the account.**

- ii. Finance Committee – second quarter travel awards due Jan 15th.
 - d. Secretary
 - i. Announcements – none
 - ii. Professional Development Committee – no updates
 - iii. GRC – no updates
- 4.
 - a. Grad Council rep
 - i. Announcements
 - ii. U of M grad council – discussion leave of absence policy (how far into a semester are you allowed to take a leave of absence); discussion about the ‘milestone’ deadlines we have (five years to candidacy, four years to completion – are these deadlines necessary?); question about if grad students need to be full time towards the end of their program (this may apply to masters students, who have to maintain full time status and have to pay these costs; may also apply to students who give up their GRAs and pay out of pocket as they are finishing up); the UMB course that wasn’t previously approved (Leadership and Business in Science) by the grad council will be reviewed by Erin Golembewski and will likely be offered again.
 - b. PR
 - i. Announcements
 - ii. Communications Committee – we need more writers!!! Contact Linda (umb.gsa.pro@gmail.com).
 - c. Meyerhoff – vote on funding request, pushed from last meeting due to loss of quorum. Requested \$247 for food, we have \$305 left in our budget for this semester for supported groups. Money will be spent to fund a taco bar that will be at the event. Event will be open to all of the grad students. Motion to approve the funding request by A. Labuza, seconded by Q. Banks. Motion is approved - Meyerhoff will receive \$247.
 - d. NOVA – had students come to UMB from a local highschool, took them around to different labs. Held an event for other service groups in local schools. Reps from UMB, UMBC, Johns Hopkins – will try to have more collaborative events in the future.
- 5. Old Business:
- 6. New Business:
 - a. GSA body Holiday Cookie Swap and Retreat – date will be 12/4/2015 at 4:00pm! Followed by GSA-sponsored social hour a 5:00pm.
- 7. Upcoming events
 - a. President’s Events:

- b. USGA Fall Formal – Dec 10 at the American Visionary Art Museum, 6:30pm. Tickets are \$20 for students, \$30 for non-students.
 - c. UMB CURE Scholar program – accepting mentors on a rolling basis!
 - d. Holiday Drives- there are several going on around campus.
8. Other business/Announcements
- a. Motion to postpone next month's meeting to Feb. 03 by Q. Banks, seconded by A. San Nicolas. Voted to postpone the January meeting – motion passes.
9. Motion to adjourn meeting by A. San Nicolas, seconded by C. Chandler.

Date of next meeting: February 03, 2016.