COGS GA Meeting
3/7/2012
105 Cargill Building
Agenda approval
Minutes approval
COGS:

- Who are we?
  - The Council of Graduate Students was established to promote the academic, social, and economic wellbeing of graduate students of the University of Minnesota, to establish effective communication among graduate students, to create channels of communication with the other parts of the university, and to act as the representative organization for the graduate student body at the University of Minnesota
COGS Mission
COGS:

• With Whom Do We Work?
  – GAPSA
  – U of M Administrators
  – You!
Program Representatives:

• The Role of the Reps:
  
  – As a program representative, you function as a two-way conduit for information
Stay in Touch with Exec:

• cogs@umn.edu
• Facebook
• Twitter
• Website
• Meetings
TEDx Talks at UMN
Focus Groups Update

Laurie Knies
Kathy Nelson
Experiences of Graduate Students at Boynton Health Services: Findings and Recommendations

Commissioned by the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) University of Minnesota

Prepared by Marta Shaw, Nora Murphy and Carlos Echeverria

March 2012
Introduction

• COGS and Boynton Health Services (BHS) agreed to organize a qualitative study to assess the quality of health care received by graduate students;

• COGS asked MESI to conduct the study. The purpose is to obtain useful information about the perceptions graduate students have of the health care they receive at BHS.
Purpose

- To understand how graduate students at the University of Minnesota perceive and evaluate the services they receive at BHS:
  - what works for them
  - what is not working
  - what they like or dislike
  - what they wish to recommend for improvement
Methods

- Six focus groups of forty enrolled graduate students who attended BHS at least once in the last 12 months:
  - 2 groups of domestic women (15)
  - 2 groups of international women (12)
  - 1 group of domestic men (6)
  - 1 group of international men (7)
2. BHS Strengths

The study found that students:

1. perceive BHS staff as professional and respectful
2. appreciate the convenience of BHS clinics
3. report positive experiences about their care at the majority of specialty clinics.
3. BHS Areas for Improvement

The study found that students wanted to improve:

1. Cohesiveness of care
2. Internal communication: across systems and departments
3. External communication: outreach and transparency
4. Treatment of urgent health issues
5. Respect of graduate students’ time
COGS Recommendations to Boynton

Erica Christenson
Emily Combs
Laurie Knies
Kathryn Nelson
Increase orientation

• Increase orientation information especially for international students

• Provide information about urgent care
  ▫ E.g. does your insurance cover the ER, non-Boynton urgent care clinics

• Make orientation information available year round
Increase cohesiveness of care

• Improve logistics
  ▫ E.g. updating of electronic medical records, communication between departments/labs etc.
• Provide students the option to see the same provider
• Focus on timely follow up of care
  ▫ E.g. communicating lab results, let students know if they need to come in again
Respect for students time

• In urgent situations educate students about their options
  ▫ Quick clinics
  ▫ Other in-network providers
• Communicate better about wait times at check in
SHAC Update

• Should a doctors note be required to miss class?
  – Email Kathy Nelson mich0354@umn.edu
ITRAAC Resolution

Carlos Echevarria
Emily Combs
Bylaws Changes

Section II. Membership
Program Representatives must remain enrolled in their constituent unit for the duration of their tenure as COGS Representative.

Section VIII. Graduate Education Council
The election of the Graduate Education Council representatives shall be staggered, with one two-year and one one-year position up for election every April. Graduate Education Council representatives shall be voting members of the Executive Committee.
Presidents Update (Emily)

- Outstanding Faculty Awards
  - Deadline extended to 3/9/2012
- Leadership Awards
  - Nominate yourself or a friend!
- Grad appreciation week April 2-6
- Policy on reporting of misconduct
- Next year’s exec committee
Exec VP Update (Melody)

• Survey

• Committees
VP University Relations Update
(Scott Thaller)
VP Communications Update (Adam Dahl)
VP Internal Relations Update
(Gabe Shapiro)

• CDLs: Graduate Student Appreciation Week – events in your colleges
CDLs

• Each Delegation selects a College Delegation Lead (CDL)
  – Facilitate two-way communication
  – Attend collegiate rep meetings
  – Communicate with college-level administrators
CDLs

- Non-voting members of exec committee
- 3-5 hours per month time commitment
- Moderate discussion at beginning of meetings
- Can organize events (funding available)
Announcements