Welcome to the first GA meeting!

Please help yourself to dinner; we will start at 6PM
Agenda 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:

COGS Mission Statement: To advocate on behalf of graduate students and for graduate education within the University community, and to ensure graduate students -- who are integral to the support of the research and teaching enterprises of the University -- are fully supported by their advisors, departments, colleges the Graduate School and the University at large.
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
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)
Upcoming Events

• SuperFantastic Week
  – This Friday Sept 23 at 4PM
  – Saint Paul Student Center

• Henning Happy Hour
  – Next Wednesday Sept 28 at 5:30PM
  – Kitty Cat Klub
More Events!

• SPCO Club 20/30 Happy Hour
  – Saturday, October 8
  – Happy hour at the SPCO Center; wine and dessert provided

• PhD Comics Movie
  – Nov 2, 6PM and 8PM
...More Events!

• AAAS Science Fellowships Info Session
  – October 12, 4-5PM in MCB 2-122
Alternate Positions

• Senate Alternates:
  – Wes Burdine (burd0083@umn.edu)
  – Andy Exley (exle0002@umn.edu)
  – Elliot Leffler (leffl014@umn.edu)
  – Bill Lindeke (linde082@umn.edu)
  – Mandy Stahre (stahre@umn.edu)
  – Scott Thaller (thal0033@umn.edu)

• GEC Alternates
  – An-Min Wu (awu@umn.edu)
  – Charlie Billington (billi020@umn.edu)
Volunteers

• Parliamentarian
• Fees committee selectors
• ACEC selectors
New President

• Eric Kaler
• Inauguration tomorrow
• Events to attend:
  – Cheering line
    • Tomorrow: Thursday Sept 22, 1-2PM Washington Ave Bridge
  – Reception
    • Tomorrow: Thursday Sept 22, 2-4PM Coffman Union
  – Portrait Unveiling/Party
    • This Friday Sept 23 at Noon, Coffman Union
Changes from ASR

- Automated registration exemption process: [http://www.onestop.umn.edu/special_for/graduate_students.html](http://www.onestop.umn.edu/special_for/graduate_students.html)
- Reduced time by 2 hours
  - About 600 petitions per year
- Future: automate milestone paperwork
Provost Search Update

• Coty Jen---graduate student representative to the search committee
Constitution Changes

Under Article IV. Officers:

“All officers must be currently enrolled students at the University of Minnesota and registered for at least six credits. Exceptions to the credit requirement are permitted for graduate students who are finished with their course and thesis credits. In such cases, officers must provide verification of their status as graduate students from their academic departments.”
Report on Policy Changes

Scott Thaller
COGS General Assembly
September 21, 2011
Policy Changes

• Leave of Absence and Reinstatement from a Leave: Graduate Students
• Appointment to Graduate Examination Committees
• Credit Requirements for Masters and Doctoral Degrees
• Application of Graduate Credits to Degree Requirements
• Adding, Changing, or Discontinuing Academic Plans
Leave of Absence and Reinstatement from a Leave: Graduate Students

- Grad students can be granted approval for a leave of absence
- The leave can be up to two years
- Leave time does not count towards time to degree
- Students do not have to apply for readmission
Leave of Absence, cont’d

• Grads need to...
  – submit the “Leave of Absence Form for Graduate Students” when planning a leave
  – submit the application for “Reinstatement for Graduate Students”
  – Communicate with advisor, DGS, and relevant offices
Appointment to Graduate Examination Committees

• Covers Masters Final, PhD prelim and final oral examination committees
• Outlines what sorts of individuals are allowable for appointment to the committees, and composition thereof
• The collegiate deans (or designated rep.) must review the final examination committee list for approval.
Credit Requirements for Masters and Doctoral Degrees

• Sets minimum credit requirements (thesis, course, etc.) and maximum (combined) that can be required to earn a degree.
• Programs have discretion when a student takes thesis credits
Application of Graduate Credits to Degree Requirements

• Governs application of credits for multiple degrees and transferring credits
  – e.g., plan A thesis credits can be counted only towards either masters or the PhD, but not both
  – e.g., Grad credits taken before awarding of a baccalaureate do not count towards grad degree
Adding, Changing, or Discontinuing Academic Plans

• Update of a 2002 policy
• Departments, colleges, and campuses have the authority to establish, change, and discontinue academic plans and sub-plans. Subject to final authority of the Board of Regents.
COMMITTEES!

CONTACT: MELODY @ HOFFM794@UMN.EDU OR COGS@ UMN.EDU
University-wide committees

Student Conflict Resolution Center Advisory Board
Grad Assistant Health Insurance Committee
Graduate Education Advisory Committee
Parking & Transit Student Advisory Board
Portal3 Student Advisory Board
University-wide committees

Student Affairs Student Advisory Board
Student Legal Services Board (Fri @ 5??)
Bologna (international students)
Academic Civility Work Group
Rec Sports Student Advisory Board
College of Liberal Arts

Assembly
Awards
Budget Advisory Committee
Course Review Committee
Curriculum, Instruction, and Advising
College of Science and Engineering

Consultative Committee
Library Advisory Committee
College of Biological Sciences

College appoints grad students internally
College of Education and Human Development

Stand by!
Healthcare Cost Update

• Grad assistant plan
  – $288.15/month (you pay 10-55%)

• Student Health Benefit Plan
  – Paid completely by student
  – 2.15% increase ($930 → $950)

• AHC long-term disability insurance
  – $39.78/semester
Other Important Details

- **New Voluntary Dental Plan**
  - Additional coverage to current; not necessary

- **Hard Waiver**
  - Effective Fall 2012

- **AHC waivers**
  - Attempting to cross reference grad students
  - Some confusion

- **Colleen Jahnel, Director of Quality Assurance and Compliance.**
  - Contact person for patient feedback
  - cjahnel@bhs.umn.edu, (612) 625-5688
Senator
FEES: They increased and here is why

May vary from college to college
University Fee

Rolled into tuition now
Capital Enhancement Fee $60

New!!!
Rumored to be for the new Rec Center

“Ensures a reliable revenue stream to support long-term capital financing for the renewal of facilities or construction of new facilities that contribute to or enhance student life. Required of students on the Twin Cities campus who pay the student services fee.”

http://onestop.umn.edu/finances/costs_and_tuition/fees/general_fees/index.html
Student Services Fee $366

Went up $15

Serves same purpose as always
Collegiate Fees

CBS: 13%
CEHD: 23%
CLA: 26%
CFANS: No change
Carlson: 190% ($100 >> $290)
Humphrey: No change
CSE: 50%
Pharm: New fee of $100/$200
CCE: 10%
Vet Med: 50%
Why oh why?

“The tuition and fees figures are set by the board of regents and published every year around mid-July. There won't generally be email communications about specific fee increases, but all of the information is available online before the semester begins.” (Tom @ onestop)
For more information:

http://onestop.umn.edu/finances/costs_and_tuition/fees/index.html
Resolution for Collegiate Fee Transparency

• Pamela Weisenhorn
Resolution for Collegiate Fee Waiver for Graduate Assistants

• Mandy Stahre, Tim Salo
Next Meeting

• October 12, dinner at 5:30 meet at 6pm

• Cargill Building, Saint Paul Campus
General Announcements