

COGS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA
OCTOBER 18, 2006—5:00 PM
Presidents' Room—Coffman Memorial Union

Announcements

- **P & R Council meetings** (Denise)

Assembly (all councils): Tuesday Oct. 24, 3:00-5:00: McNamara Center
RSVP by tomorrow for Oct 24 assembly meeting

DATES for Council meetings

Social Sciences: Tuesday Oct. 31, 2006, 3:00-5:00

Language, Literature, and Arts: Wednesday Nov. 1, 3:00-5:00

Engineering, Physical, Mathematical Sciences: Tuesday Nov. 7, 3:00-5:00

Health Sciences: Wednesday Nov. 8, 3:00-5:00

Biological Sciences: Tuesday Nov. 14, 3:00-5:00

Education and Psychology: Wednesday Nov. 15, 3:00-5:00

Executive Council: Tuesday Nov. 21 and Dec. 12, 3:00-5:00

- OPENINGS for Councils
 - 1 opening in Health Science
 - 1 opening in Lang/Literature and Arts
 - 3 Biological sciences
 - 3 Engineering, Physical, Mathematical Sciences

- **Website updates** (Caroline)
Nothing to report

- **Graduate Student Life Workshops** (Sara and Carol)
Sifting through paperwork:
Nov 9: Masters 2:30-4 Fraser Hall 102
Nov 14: PhD workshop 2:30-4 Fraser Hall 102
RSVP to ensure a space

- **GAPSA meeting**
 - President resigned, new President is Suzanne Sobotka
replaces Dmitry Zhdanov
 - VP: Tagee Khaled replaces Suzanne Sobotka
 - VP for Student Affairs: Kristen Denzer replaces Tony Kouba
 - Student Conduct Code revisions
 - Fee Selectors
 - Campus Firearms ban resolution: withdrawn
 - Community Action Coalition/Neighborhood Association—
contact Alissa Ausan

- **Roundtable Discussion on Graduate Student Lobbying Position:**
(Eden and Eli)
Come if you would like to have your voice heard:
Tuesday, Nov 21st 5-6 meeting date
 - Brainstorming issues
 - Proposed job description
 - Pros and Cons
 - Email people in your dept with details of meeting
 - Email with possible candidates
 Email: meye0781@umn.edu with ideas

- **Senate, Stadium, Student Health, Fees committees** (Bryan)
 - No news to report

- **Graduate insurance issue** : most issues have been resolved
 - This issue is also presented in the Open Letter
 - Update: Lindsey Batts, Hours of Boyton: batts003@umn.edu
 - List any concerns you or other grad students have about the hours of operation for Boyton, what would be helpful for you?

- **Restorative justice community action Inc**
 - Need members for Saturday mornings
 - Restorative Justice for alcohol related actions
 - Contact Emily Buehler (email?)

- **Focus Groups on Degree Progress process** (Sara)
 - They want to move it entirely online
 - Tuesday Oct 24 & Wed, Oct 25 12-1, pizza!
 - RSVP to gscmte@umn.edu

Vote

- **Changes to constitution and bylaws**
 - Approve mandated clauses
 - All passed the new changes
 - Exec members please sign

2006 Open Letter to the Administration

- This letter let's administration know where we stand as a group of graduate students: What we feel is important and what our concerns are for this year.
 - Included highlights in this year's letter:
 - Survey findings
 - Advising and mentoring
 - Parental issues
 - Teaching issues

Elections

- **Vice President for External Relations:**
 - Elected and voted in: Tara DaPra, Dept of English
 - \$500 stipend
 - 5-10 hours commitment per month
 - Coordinate GradLetter and communication with the Director of Graduate Studies
 - Deans meetings: next Thursday 3:00
 - Exec committee mtg: Wed at 4:00 1st Wed of the month

- **Senators**
 - Elected and voted in: (to share one position):
 - Kate Fleming and Kristin : elected and voted in

Open Forum for concerns, suggestions, or new ideas from Reps

- Eli presented a letter that was written by a dept DGS in regards to insufficient progress to degree. Reps presented their input:
 - The dept policy seems unfair that students would have to file by a certain deadline.
 - Letter may not be the best approach to face this issue of time to degree
 - “Seems like a cop-out”
 - This identifies a larger issue about the lack of advising support

- **Parking Proposal**
 - Presented by Jason Wilde, Family Social Sciences rep:
 - Possible resolution?
 - lottery for spot can extend from year to year
 - different levels: few spots for grad students
 - Email Jason if you would like to work on the issue : jwilde@umn.edu
 - Block of days: expanded spots available around campus; working on the weekends

- **Meeting adjourned**