

COGS General Assembly Meeting

September 20, 2007

5-7pm * Vescio's Italian Restaurant

Welcome (President Carol Powers)

- "What is COGS?"
- Introduction of 2007-08 officers

Elections

Newly elected Representatives:

- VP Communications: Jenny Corcoran (Soil Science)
- VP External Comm.: Matthew Kaplan (Rhetoric)
- Health Science P&R Chair: Sarah Stoddard (Nursing)
- Senators:
 - o Chris Miller (Psychology)
 - o Benny Xin (Biomedical Engineering)
 - o Elliot James (History)
 - o Matthew Kaplan (Rhetoric)

Many more positions still available!

- Senators (2)
- Institute of Technology (IT) Consultative Rep
- IT Library Representatives (2 Reps needed)
- U Dining Services (UDS) Advisory Council Rep

Please email cogs@umn.edu if you, or someone you know, is interested in serving on one of these committees! (Email for flyer or more detailed information about the positions.)

Resolution to support AFSCME workers

- Debate and open floor discussion
- Motion to strike "whereas" #7-10 (PASSED 28-19)
- Motion to pass resolution excluding the stricken section (PASSED)

Upcoming Workshops (Eden Kaiser)

- Forms/Formalities Workshop
 - o MA – October 3rd 3:30-4:30 @ 303 Coffman Union
 - o PhD – October 4th 1:30-2:30 @ 303 Coffman Union
- Email cogs@umn.edu for flyers

TA Job Security (Bryan Gordon)

- Call for stories about lack of job security for TAs in your department
- Delayed appointments?
- Classes cancelled?
- Email cogs@umn.edu with your stories for documentation

Upcoming issues (Geoff Hart)

- Washington Ave. Lightrail
- Work with GAPSA to support underground lightrail

Brainstorming – COGS Issues 2007

Ideas from the September GA Meeting 2007

- Evening campus connector frequency (10 instead of 15 min.)
- Explaining line items on student accounts so that it's less confusing, (e.g. point-and-click interface in the student account summary at onestop student)
- Parent help centre not helping grad students
- Resources for future teachers/teaching methods and feedback
- Course time blocks (why are there grad classes at 8am?)
- Lightrail
- Alumni exit poll (how can we better prepare ourselves for the outside world?)
- Grad wages
 - Where do these come from; is there a way we can balance between faculty and student wages?
 - # of students per TA
 - Reader/graders who do not get 1st pay check until after student fees are due (penalty fee waiver?)
 - Wage gaps between different colleges
- Film series – fun social event

* Respectfully submitted by Tanya Cothran (COGS Administrator) 9/26/07*