

GSA Agenda
Tuesday, January 13th, 2009
Wittson Hall 3042

- Roll Call
- Approval of minutes from November and December meetings
- Old Business
 - Life in the Lab – GSA Blog
 - Current bloggers: Agnes Constantino, Tara Nordgren, Miriam Menezes, Joel Michalski, Tess Eidem, Jessica Hutter, James Randazzo, and Austin Jelcick; Posts since August: 2
 - Please Post, then contact the administrator (James Randazzo)
 - Speaker from the Henry Doorly Zoo – Nadia Loskutoff, Ph.D.
 - Special thanks to Agnes for putting that together
 - Thoughts on the speaker / seminar ?
 - Student Senate Elections
 - New/Returning senators: Agnes Constantino, Ash Prakash, Stephanie Kraft-Terry, Erin Rosenbaugh, Tess Eidem, Michael Gleason, Jessica Hutter, Tara Nordgren, Tomas Helikar, & James Randazzo
 - Speaker from the CDC – Harvey Holmes, Ph.D.
 - Special thanks to Heidi, Tess, Jessica, & Haley for helping out
 - Thoughts on the speaker / seminar ?
 - Letter of Intent (LOI) submission on blackboard
 - Any problems ?
 - Suggestions for next year ? Perhaps a word template for the LOI ?
- New Business
 - Speaker from UCSF
 - Bill Lindstaedt, MS – Director, Office of Career and Professional Development, University of California, San Francisco
 - Scheduled for February 26th to give two 75 minute presentations:
 - Job Hunting for PhD level Scientists
 - In this seminar, you will learn how to prepare resumes and cover letters for your industry job search. Also, you will learn about job search strategies necessary for success on the biotech/pharma job market. After this seminar you will understand how to conduct the four job hunting techniques that comprise a comprehensive job search in the biotech industry.
 - Launching your Academic Job Search
 - This seminar will present information on how to put together a successful academic job search, including the various components of an application package. Review the timeline for the job search process. Learn how to construct or improve your CV and gain tips for writing a cover letter and research statement that will present you in the most positive light possible. Finally, learn about the critical components of the mysterious Statement of Teaching Philosophy. This session focuses on the job search in the U.S.
 - Should have time to schedule one-on-one or group sessions to discuss your CVs

- Events will be open to all graduate students as well as post-docs
- The Postdoctoral Association may be able to help with honorarium costs
- Certificate program in 'bio-business'
 - Dr. Daniel Monaghan (Professor, PEN; Director, B RTP program) is wanting input on the possibility of setting-up a certificate program in 'bio-business'
 - A UNMC Ph.D. student could take a few courses in business (intro to finance, marketing, management, etc.) at UNO and get a certificate in this program.
 - Nearly half of bio PhDs go into the business/private sector and it would be helpful to have 'some lay of the land' and perhaps give a competitive edge in the job seeking process.
 - Money would be made available to cover UNO tuition.
 - 2 things that he needs to know:
 - Would there be enough interest in such a program to make it worthwhile?
 - If so, can we identify a small group of students willing to help flesh out the details of the program?
- Portfolios Due Feb 1st, submit via Blackboard using the organization: Graduate Studies
 - Every student should check their ability to submit this document prior to Feb 1st. If one cannot access the organization or personal subfolder in the portfolio section, then email or call Dan Teet (dteet@unmc.edu, 559-6531, ARS 2029)
- Assistantship competition deadline is Feb 15th for those students who submitted a LOI.
 - Please follow the directions on blackboard. Any delay in processing the applications will in turn cause a delay in scoring and results.
- GSA Social Events – Jessica Hutter
- Blackboard course – Graduate Education at UNMC – 'pre-mat site'
 - Those interested in overhauling the GSA website (particularly the GSA survival guide for incoming students) and the pre-mat site should stay after the meeting. All updates need to be finalized by July 1st in an attempt to get them fixed for next year's incoming class.
- Other business
- Adjourn