GSA Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2008
5:00 PM
Scheduled for Wittson Hall 3042

Members present: Haley Capek, Tara Nordgren, Agnes Constantino, Stephanie Kraft-Terry, Jessica Hutter, Jyoti Iyer, Saili Moghe, Tess Eidem, Carly Ninemire, Erin Rosenbaugh, Kelly Long, Paula Klutho, Brianna Ormsbee, Joel Michalski, Heidi Johnson, Tomas Helikar, Ash Prakash, Marc Ueda, and Mike Gleason.

James Randazzo presided.

GSA blog
- Needs bloggers to post (Agnes Constantino, Tara Nordgren, Miriam Menezes, Joel Michalski, Tess Eidem, Jessica Hutter, James Randazzo, and Austin Jelcick)
- There have only been two posts since August
- Directions are on the GSA website
- After posting contact James Randazzo

Past speakers
- Nadia Loskutoff from Henry Doorly Zoo
  - Spoke on research at the zoo
  - She is willing to do zoo tours, which we may do later in the year
- Harvey Holmes from CDC
  - Discussion of research activities within the Division of Bioterrorism, the type of candidates and qualifications we seek, as well as career paths at the CDC based on his own experiences
  - Presentation will be posted online

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
- Most of the graduate student were present at the GSA meeting

Student portfolios/fellowships
- Letter of intent (LOI)
  - Submission on blackboard (BB) December 16th
  - No one in the meeting had issues submitting, but there were reports in students not following guidelines; the students were given time to fix the formatting issues before re-submitting
- Portfolios due Feb. 1st; submit via BB
  - If trouble to accessing BB contact Dan Teet
  - Suggested to submit Feb. 15th with fellowship
- Fellowship competition
Deadline is Feb 15th for those who submitted LOI
Follow the directions on BB and the Graduate Studies website

Spring semester speaker - Bill Lindstaedt from UCSF
- Scheduled for February 26th to give two 75 minute presentations
- Job Hunting for PhD level Scientists (9-10:30 AM)
  - Prepare resumes and cover letters for your
  - Job search strategies
  - Understand how to conduct the four job hunting techniques that comprise a comprehensive job search in the biotech industry.
- Scheduled one-on-one meetings (10:30 AM – 12 PM)
- Lunch with Students (12 -1 PM)
- Launching your academic Career (1:30 – 3 PM)
  - 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
  - Construct or improve your CV
  - Tips for writing a cover letter and research statement
  - Learn about the critical components Statement of Teaching Philosophy
- Events will be open to all graduate students as well as post-docs
- The Postdoctoral Association will help with honorarium costs
- Tess will make the poster

Certificate program in 'bio-business'
- Dr. Monaghan wants input on the possibility of setting-up a certificate program in 'bio-business'
- Nearly half of bio Ph.D.s go into the business/private sector
- 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
- Money would be made available to cover UNO tuition
- Concerns about conflict with student fellowships, because it is outside Ph.D. area.
- Some interest in dual enrolling in a Masters of Public Health and a Ph.D.
- Student group to meet with Dr. Monaghan about this possible program: Mike Gleason, Erin Rosenbaugh, Tara Nordgren, Jessica Hutter, and James Randazzo

Blackboard course Graduate education at UNMC “Pre-matriculation site”
- Suggested to take the contents off of BB and move to GSA website
- Better because new students need a password to get onto BB, but they do not need one to access the website
- Voluneteers to move documents: Tess Eidem, Agnes Constantino, James Randazzo
- All updates need to be finalized by July 1st for next year’s students
GSA possible spring social events
  • Skiing at Crescent
    o Need 40 people to get discount
    o $25/student; $30/guest
    o Could carpool
    o James will send an e-mail to see the interest, then in Feb. meeting we will decide if there will be enough people.
  • Sledding/ice skating at Mahoney State Park
  • Bowling
  • Go karts/LASER tag

Submitted by,
Tess Eidem