GSA meeting minutes
Tuesday, January 11th 5:30
WH 3042


- Minutes from December meeting approved
- Old business
  - Philanthropy Event
    - Health fair that will include entire campus
    - Date changed to April 9th (originally planned for Martin Luther King Day)
    - Contact Stephanie, or Anh in interested in helping.
  - MSBRF – February 19, 2011
    - Location: Mike and Josie Harper Center for Student Life and Learning at Creighton University
  - Fellowships
    - Applications due February 15th
    - If you submitted a LOI you should have received an email confirmation. If not, contact Rachel.
  - Portfolios are due February 1st
  - UNMC Prom
    - Was held Jan 8th, hosted by Student Senate
    - Does not appear like many graduate students attended
    - One problem was short notice. Also, it was held prior to classes beginning for graduate students.
    - For graduate students, holding it later in the month or in the spring may be better for turnout.
- New Business
  - Parkinson’s Skate-a-Thon Fundraiser
    - 24 hour event January 28-29
    - $10 to register – registration is online (phdomaha.org)
    - 1 hour time slots to sign up.
    - All proceeds goes to UNMC Parkinson’s research and treatment
  - New policy on food and beverages in the lab
    - No food/drinks are allowed in the lab. This applies to all labs on campus.
    - Most buildings have or allow a small table, cabinet, or bookshelves in the hallway to set drinks on right outside of the lab
    - This is not allowed in DRC due to fire codes. Food/drinks must be stored in the kitchen areas. This is very inconvenient. Is it possible to get some sort of shelf/cabinet put outside of the lab for drinks?
Many people work at their computers over lunch. Not being able to do this hurts productivity. Is it possible to at least get more internet ports or wifi in some common eating areas for people with laptops to connect to the internet?

Many common eating areas are full during lunch time. It would be nice to have a student lounge somewhere, or at least more tables in many of the buildings.

Stephanie will bring these concerns to the next Graduate Council meeting.

- **Spring Seminar(s)**
  - **Nancy Sneiderman**
    - Stephanie has not been able to contact her.
    - Stephanie brought up the idea of Student Senate helping to fund at the Student Senate exec meeting. Student Senate is hesitant to help fund, but may begin hosting their own seminar series.
    - GSA will not continue to try to invite Nancy Sneiderman in the hopes that Student Senate will sponsor the seminar next year. This also allows additional time to contact her and schedule the seminar.

- **Benchwork in Industry**
  - Multiple graduate students on campus currently have experience in industry.
  - Trying to get a panel of these students together for a seminar, possibly in March.
  - Stephanie will contact Dave Jenson (headhunter) if he knows of any good speakers to invite on the topic.

- **Other ideas:** Student who is getting his law degree while in graduate school, Self start up labs.

- **CV review** – Stephanie is trying to get the career councilor from UNO back for another 2 days of 30 min sessions.
  - She is also checking to see if UNMC students can utilize UNO’s career service center.

- **Social Activities**
  - **Bowling**
    - Last year was held at West Lanes. Venue seemed to work well.
    - Jamie and Amanda will contact them and possibly Maplewood lanes about getting a bowling night set up, preferably for a Friday night in April (not Good Friday though).
    - Concern with Maplewood Lanes is that they are farther from campus. In the past, the closer the event is to campus the better the turnout. One possibility would be to get a bus or Olley the Trolley to go to/from campus that night. Daniel will look into the cost of a bus or trolley.
- Other ideas- Movie Night, Dave and Busters, lazertag (Zap or Family Fun Center), Mini golf, roller skating, zoo- behind the scene tour. Jamie and Amanda will look into other ideas and report back.
  - Student interest group in neuroscience
    - Feb 2nd, noon-1pm, Sorrell 1005
    - They will be discussing Parkinson’s treatments and advances
    - Dr. Gendelman will be speaking.
    - Looking for graduate students to add to the discussion of the research side
    - If interested, email dha@unmc.edu, please RSVP to him even if you would just like to attend.
- Other business
  - Stephanie would like to step down from the Student Senate GSA representative spot. Jamie will attend the next meeting. If any one is interested in covering this position, contact Stephanie. Preferably an officer of GSA, but may be able to have an active member of GSA that is not an officer if necessary.
- Meeting adjourned

Submitted by Paula Klutho