

Graduate Student Association (GSA)
Wednesday, October 21, 2009

- Meeting was called to order by President Beth Rauhaus at 5:30 pm.
- The agenda for October's meeting and the minutes from the September meeting were passed out.
 - Beth asked those in attendance to review the minutes from the last meeting and make comments; minutes were adopted at 5:33.
- Beth mentioned the graduate student survey, which can be found on the Office of the Graduate School's website. Beth also noted that the link wasn't working for the survey and that students should copy and paste it in order to open it. Dr. D'Abramo, who was in attendance, suggested that students complete the survey as it would benefit them and the Graduate School. He said it takes about 10 minutes to complete.
- Beth discussed the upcoming GSA symposium, which will be held in the union on November 6. She asked that participants dress professionally for the symposium and that they be on time to register and/or prepare for their presentations. She noted that time slots are approximate and that students should be prepared to go early.
 - Rules for the Symposium:
 - 12 minutes to present
 - 3 minutes for Q&A
 - Other Symposium notes: GSA provides tacks, not clips to hang posters, and posters should be 4 ft x 4ft at max. Julie said that additional information will be posted on the website by the end of the week.
 - Beth asked for volunteers to help at the symposium; one student volunteered.
- Beth introduced the guest speakers who were representatives from the Career Center.
 - Speakers introduced themselves and passed out career planning booklets.
 - Speakers said when students visit the Career Center, they should bring resumes, and/or CVs for review. They also said that students should participate in mock interviews and that behavioral questions were the most difficult questions for interviewees to answer well.
 - Speakers mentioned the upcoming Graduate and Professional School Information Day. It will be held on October 29th.
 - The speakers mentioned other outreach activities. One program is their dinner etiquette program, which is held once each semester. The dinner is a five course meal that costs \$10.

- They also mentioned that Jane Fitzgerald in their office (1st floor, Montgomery Hall) helps with alumni student services.
- One student asked the speakers to elaborate on CVs, their uses, and the need for them.
- Dr. D'Abramo asked a question about the importance of graduate students having business cards, based on the fact that he has noticed that today, graduate students have business cards at conferences more often than they used to.
- The speakers concluded their presentation at 5:52.
- Beth asked those in attendance to suggest a place to have the November meeting, which will be a social, instead of a formal meeting. The social will be on November 23rd.
- At 5:55, Beth opened the floor for Dr. D'Abramo to make comments.
 - One student asked Dr. D'Abramo about parking during football games. He said that he would check with parking services to see if those with permits might be allowed to park in a designated area on game days. But, he said, he was sure that students will not be allowed to park in their regular spaces on game days.
 - One student commended Dr. D'Abramo and OGS for their hard work. This student also had a question about preliminary written and oral exams.
 - Dr. D'Abramo reminded students about the dinner etiquette training opportunity hosted by the career center and commented that it would be a good learning opportunity.
 - Another student asked about graduate student fees and wanted to know if Dr. D'Abramo could inform the students on where the money was going.
 - Dr. D'Abramo completed his talk at 6:05.
- Beth opened the floor for final questions about the symposium and concluded the meeting at 6:15.