

Graduate Student Association (GSA)
Wednesday, February 24, 2010

- GSA meeting was called to order by President Rauhaus at 5:31 pm
- Cards with everyone's names were collected for door prize and two students received coffee mugs from the Office of the Graduate School
- Announcements from President Rauhaus:
 - All officer positions are open for the upcoming academic year. Anyone would be interested in becoming an officer of GSA should contact one of the previous officers for information on the duties for each position.
 - Grievance policy: President Rauhaus has been working with a subcommittee of the Graduate Council to establish a grievance policy for graduate students who are possibly abused or intimidated by major professors. The intent of the policy is to give graduate students who believe they have been wronged an avenue to remedy the situation. Discussion followed. It was noted that students with assistantships are only suppose to work 20 hours a week, and professors cannot force more hours on students. President Rauhaus asked for students to provide her with feedback to take back to the subcommittee.
 - The Starkville Multi-cultural Lions Club is publishing a cookbook and is asking for students to email recipes from all places (globally). Those interested in submitting a recipe for the cookbook should contact President Rauhaus for further details.
 - The Annual Graduate Student Awards Banquet will be held in April. President Rauhaus announced the awards banquet for April, in which faculty can nominate RA's, TA's, and SA's for awards as an outstanding graduate assistant of the year. The Graduate Research Symposium winners will also be recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet
- President Rauhaus opened the floor for questions and general discussion:
 - Can a student defend in the summer and not pay the graduate fees? Answer: as of now that is not possible but it has been addressed; This matter was opened for discussion
 - What does the GSA Constitution say about officer elections? Answer: as of now the Constitution is being revised so we are working under a non-constitutional basis
 - The students inquired where the "fee" portion of tuition and fees is spent each semester. Dr. D'Abramo said that he would inquire and provide this information to the students at the next meeting.
- Guest speaker, Dr. Hank Flick, did not attend the meeting. Therefore, the meeting was adjourned by President Rauhaus at 5:51 pm.