

GSS: Goals for 2008-2009 Academic Year

Communication

Goal: *Keep graduate students informed of meetings, news, and events*

- Create a weekly or biweekly email or newsletter
- Improve communication between officers, senators, committees, and constituents
 1. Create process to ensure GSS has direct method to email grad students
 2. Implement SOPs, create GSS email list, and post regular committee updates (solicited by VP if needed)
 3. Ensure that committee members can easily post updates or news
 4. Regularly update website to feature current grad news or events
- Improve communication with the administration, staff, and other student groups
 1. Increase meeting frequency with SGS Deans, Administration
 2. Meet with other student group presidents
- Clearly explain how a budget works at the 1st general assembly
- Increase visibility and GSS name recognition
 1. Create advertising guidelines and clear logo
- Encourage each cost center exec meet with their dean and cost center senators

Representation and Participation

Goal: *Increase and Improve the number of people represented by the GSS and participating in the GSS*

- Work to increase senator representation to 100% of departments
 1. Update senator roster
 2. Go to each department to recruit new senators and/or committee members
- Make sure all cost centers are represented on the exec committee
- Increase the number of distinct people participating on committees
 1. Reach out to new people not involved in GSS (and not on the exec board) via broader emails and communications to all grad students
- Increase more openness and transparency along with allowing people to have more input
- Improve committee participation and reporting
- Improve senator activity
 1. Develop handbook to provide templates and suggestions for them be effective senators



Activities

Goal: *Enhance the professional development and social activities*

- Have one recreational activity and one professional development seminar organized or directly sponsored by the GSS for each month of the year
- Establish bi-weekly GSS meetings as forums where non-GSS members are brought in to bolster discussion about specific topics
- Have smaller scale, more regular social activities for graduate students.
- Increase advertising for events organized by the committees for our constituents
- Have a few recreational or professional activities sponsored by external sources of funding

GSS Procedural Improvements

Goal: *Affirm procedures and relationships to increase effectiveness of GSS*

- Use Robert's Rules consistently in the GA to expedite discussions
- Grow relationships with University to improve interaction with the university
- Modify bylaws or make a procedural document that is realistic and applicable (in time and action)
- Move the GSS meetings to a central location that would be more inviting to people from all parts of campus
- Create yearlong GSS strategic goals

GSS Resolutions and Chief Grad Student Concerns

Goal: *Investigate and push University bodies to implement change to alleviate the concerns of the graduate student population*

- Create a monthly billing program for Grad students
- Grad Student Mentoring
 1. Pass the Faculty Mentoring Handbook through the Faculty Senate
 2. Create the Student Mentoring Handbook
- Continue to seek resolution to IT fee issue