



30 November 2006

To: GSS Executive Board

Re: Report on participation at NAGPS National Conference

20th Annual National Conference of NAGPS

15 – 19 November, 2006

Graduate Professional Student Senate,

University of Washington (Host)

Seattle, Washington

- **Notes** are attached in brief (Hillary Melchiors). Conference website will be available December 17, 2006, providing details about the various presentations and meeting minutes.
- **Goals** of GSS representation:
 - Networking. We both exchanged information and ideas with 100 other graduate-professional students.
 - We promoted Case and GSS through our booth at the Information Fair.
 - Liz was elected CEO & President of NAGPS for the coming year.
 - Gained many new ideas and resources for graduate student leadership here at Case.
 - Engaged a first year student (Hillary) in the National association for the purposes of building leaders here at Case.
 - Promoted Regional Conference being hosted at Case in March and recruited participation and attendance from major universities like University of Minnesota, Western Michigan University, Ohio State University, and other big schools in our region.
- **NAGPS Priorities, 2006-2007:**
 - Strengthen and build membership.
 - Legislative Action Days.
 - Graduate-Professional Student Appreciation Week.
 - Membership survey.
 - Increase resources available online.
 - Improve website.

Additional information... NAGPS and Conference websites:

www.nagps.org

<http://www.nagps.org/2006conference/>

EXPENSES SUBMITTED TO GSS

| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| \$333.19 | Airfare (HM) |
| \$250.00 | Conference Registration Fee (HM) |
| \$46.04 | Meals (HM) |
| \$504.00 | Hotel (HM) |
| \$47.00 | Transportation (HM) |
| \$125.28 | Total meals and reception (LO) |

\$1305.51 Total Expense to GSS

Respectfully submitted by:

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BREIF NOTES

20th Annual National Conference of NAGPS

15 – 19 November, 2006

Seattle, Washington

(Hillary Melchiors, Liz Olson)

Thursday

- Networking opportunity with fellow attendees at happy hour.

Friday

- Welcome Breakfast
- Midwest Regional Committee Meeting
 - Run by Liz Olson
 - Reports & elections
 - Discussion of regional conference March 22-25 @ Case
 - Events/Ideas exchange
- Panel: The National Conference on Graduate Student Leadership
 - Panelists: Blaine Maley & Elaine Berland from Washington U in St. Louis
 - Conference where graduate leaders meet directly with administrative representatives from their university and exchange ideas→service needs for graduates, improve processes, etc.
 - ~19 schools involved.
 - website full of ideas and follow-ups for how they were translated:
 - **<http://www.ncgsl.wustl.edu>**
 - Also received a book with the proceedings
- Working Lunch
 - Creative & Innovative Graduate Programs—Blaine Maley from Wash U
 - How we organize—Katie Vahey from U of Colorado-Boulder
 - Creative things for international students—Galina Sairheichyk from U of Colorado - Boulder
 - Grants—Jim Masterson U of Cincinnati
 - Research & Creativity Forum—Armen Shomian from U of Miami
 - Received book of presenters & procedures
- Legislative Concerns Committee Meeting
 - Legislative Platform: International Students, Student Loans, Higher education funding, Tax Policy, Educational Policy.
 - Legislative Agenda: Higher Education Affordability & Equity Act Student Borrower Bill of Rights, National Tuition Endowment Act, Coalition for Higher Education Act Reform
- Panel: EURODOC & NAGPS—similarities & differences
 - Only National Association Memberships w/ 2 reps from each
 - Board Members meet 2-3 times per year—all from different countries making meetings very challenging, most often conduct everything via e-mail.
 - Partners: Euro. Commission, Euro. University Assoc., UK Grad Program,

- Financial supporters: Euro. Science Foundation, Euro. Molecular Biology Organization, Socrates Program, Curie University—no member fees= no constant income.
- Policy Consultants for European Commission—Bologna Process (Standardizing education across Europe), Career Paths, labor conditions, financial & gender issues.
- www.eurodoc.net ←with links to each member country’s website too.
- Focused on PhD/Research issues: working to build a smoother transition from MA to PhD
- Use their conference for lobbying meeting as well!
- Panel: Duke Graduate & Professional Student Council: Unique Programming & Leadership Development
 - Panelists: Gautham Pandiyan & Julie Roy
 - Leadership Retreat & Basketball Camp-out Event
- Featured Speaker: Dr. Michael Nettles
 - Discussed his book “Three Magic Letters: Getting to PhD”
- Informational Cruise
 - Presentation by Graduate Leverage about services for loan consolidation
 - Information tables from other graduate schools & corporate sponsors

Saturday

- Business Meeting
 - Officer Reports
 - Officer Elections
- Legislative Lunch
 - Presentation of NAGPS legislative platform
 - Action Ideas from the University of Washington
- Business Meeting continued
 - New Business motions presented, debated, & voted on
- Graduate Gala Awards Dinner—at Burke Museum with key speaker: Jorge Cham