

**Graduate Student Association
General Assembly Meeting
September 8, 2016
SOE Building, Room 118
3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

GSA Minutes 9/8/16
Call to order: 3:00pm
Unanimous pass of agenda 3:05pm

I. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

University wide committees:

Any and all senators can sit on a University-wide committee. Please email gsapres@uncg.edu if you are interested in a committee to serve for the 2016-2017 academic year. Please seriously consider joining a committee, this will help GSA be more visible on campus.

1.) Alumni Teaching Excellence Award, Reviewing of award nominees:

• More information: <http://utlc.uncg.edu/teaching/teaching-excellence-awards>

• Commitment: Review programs from late November-December 1st. The group will convene from December 1st-4th.

2.) Faculty Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics:

• About: This Committee is concerned about the academics of student athletes and the overall welfare of Intercollegiate Athletics. This committee reports to the Faculty Senate. The committee meets to talk about any concerns or challenges for Intercollegiate Athletics. Areas of particular concern include financial aid, admission policies, academic progress for student athletes, equity, and scheduling.

• Commitment: 3:30pm on selected Wednesday afternoons in Curry 315.

3.) Tuition and Finance Committee:

• Delegates will meet with Senior Administrators to talk about tuition and fees. Changes will be made by votes within the committee.

• Commitment: Selected Friday Mornings throughout the academic year.

****More information to come****

4.) Student Government Association:

- Voice the concerns of your peers to the Senate and administration
- Build up your resume in a co-curricular activity
- Represent UNCG's most prestigious and premier organization on campus
- Learn to write legislation, addressing important issues on campus, on the Legislative Committee

- Learn how to allocate funding and balance a budget for student organization funding on the Finance Committee
- Take part in SGA's outreach events to talk to students about their campus life on the Current Concerns Committee
- Obtain marketing and promotional experience on the Publicity Committee
- Organize and orchestrate the Spring and Fall elections period on the Elections Committee
- Meet and work with other students who want to make UNCG a better place
- Become familiar with Roberts Rule's of Order (RONR) and Parliamentary Procedure
- Commitment: Every Tuesday Night at 7:00pm, starting September 13th 2016

5.) Graduate Studies Committee:

- The Graduate Studies Committee shall be an agency of the Senate that serves as the representative body of the Graduate Faculty on all aspects of graduate education and advises the Faculty Senate on matters relating to graduate education. 18 people sit on the board for voting purposes.
- Commitment: Selected Fridays from 10:15-11:45am. Specific dates and times can be found here: <https://grs.uncg.edu/faculty/gsc/gsc-calendar/>

6.) The Grievance Committee: needs 6 Graduate Students to sit on a committee and vote about Grievance reports. Students (undergraduate and graduate) students write Grievance reports against a program or organization. This committee hears these reports and votes on them. This is a very important committee. Dr. Brett Carter (The Dean of Students) is the head of this committee

II. VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

- Attendance is mandatory. Only 1 representative is required for attendance at monthly meetings in order to have access to GSA funding
- Senators should sign in on the sign in sheet at every meeting
- Meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month (9/8, 10/13, and 11/10 for the fall 2016 semester) from 3-4pm in the School of Education Building, 118
- Minutes of the meeting will be delivered monthly after each meeting (no more than 4 business days after meeting is held)
- Each representative is responsible for communicating the minutes/any pertinent information to his or her respective academic department. This can take any form you wish (i.e. email the minutes to your department head who then emails the entire department, in-person announcements, departmental listserv, etc.), but YOU are responsible for dispersing the GSA information to your respective departments. Copying the VP of PR is

not required. We trust that you will deliver the information to your department in the most timely and effective way possible. You can also refer to our website for additional information regarding upcoming events, executive board contact information, funding questions, etc.

- Graduate Student Mixer was held on 9/8/16 at Weatherspoon Art Museum.

III. VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMMING REPORT

Passed out survey to gauge interest in the following possible programs ideas:

- Kneaded energy: invite of apprentice massage therapists to campus to give free massages
- Self-defense workshop: a class session teaching various martial art techniques to defend one's self in case of physical attack.
- Oxfam America Hunger Banquet® At this interactive event, the place where you sit, and the meal that you eat, are determined by the luck of the draw—just as in real life some of us are born into relative prosperity and others into poverty.
- Fitness class: Schedule a class of fitness activity for a Saturday morning.
- Dear World: An interactive, award-winning portrait project that explores the subtle and powerful connections between students, faculty and staff. Dear World distinct message-on-skin style.
- Comfort Animals: An emotional support animal is an animal is an animal (typically a dog or cat, though this can include other species) that provides a therapeutic benefit to its owner through companionship. The animal provides emotional support and comfort to individuals with psychiatric disabilities and other mental impairments. NOTE—you do not have to a disability or impairment to enjoy a comfort animal

Survey also included a section to write one's own worthwhile ideas. Anyone who has any ideas for programs they would like to see presented by the GSA this year OR anyone who is interested in serving on the Programming Committee please contact the VP of Programming at gsavppgm@uncg.edu.

IV. VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE REPORT

The following funds and grants are available to graduate students.

Funding Forms: paperwork to be completed

<https://graduatestudentassociation.uncg.edu/funding-forms/>

Professional Development Fund

*A new form was added (TRV) which helps determine if a student is benefiting the University from said PDF.

- Awardees receive up to \$400.00 per grant

<https://graduatestudentassociation.uncg.edu/professional-development-fund/>

Research Travel Grant Information

- 1 given out per semester

- 2 given out during the summer sessions
- This grant is awarded at an amount up to \$1,000.00
<https://graduatestudentassociation.uncg.edu/research-travel-grant/>

Thesis Dissertation Fund

- Awarded on a 'first come first serve' basis up to \$400.00
<https://graduatestudentassociation.uncg.edu/thesis-dissertation-fund/>

- Community Engagement Grant was asked about. The VP of Finance is working to find out more information.

Any senator who is interested in joining the finance committee should email gsafinvp@uncg.edu. The VP of Finance will send out an information email to the committee shortly.

The 2016-2017 GSA Expense Report is attached to this email for your review.

Other Announcements & Upcoming Events

- Service initiatives were inquired about; we will not do service initiatives this year
- The Black Graduate Student Union was re-established at UNCG in March of 2016. BGSU gives students of color opportunities for professional development and networking. BGSU and the Black Faculty & Staff Association co-hosted a mixer Friday, September 9th at Stephanie's. For more information about BGSU contact uncg.bgsu@gmail.com. Their Facebook page can be located at <https://www.facebook.com/uncgbgsu/>.
- If anyone has an idea for a speaker they would like to come speak at a future general assembly meeting please email gsapres@uncg.edu.
- Final Fridays begin this month at Old Town Draught House on September 30th and will take place the Final Friday evening of the month throughout the school year. Time for this event is yet to be determined.

Link to GSA website: <https://graduatestudentassociation.uncg.edu/>

Link to GSA facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uncggsa/>

Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016 @ 3:00pm, SOEB 118

