

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: DECEMBER 6, 2012

MELISSA KIZINA MOTSCH, PRESIDENT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



GSO sends 4 to NAGPS; all are elected to regional and national positions

From November 1st to November 4th, members of the GSO attended the annual meeting of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Each of us in attendance ran for and were elected to regional and national representative positions, with Brandon Milonovich securing the position of NAGPS Vice President. Brandon is a University Senator and serves as the Webmaster of the GSO, and was chair of the Northeast Region in NAGPS last year.

The GSO's involvement in this organization is most valuable because it allows us to connect with students in leadership roles in graduate programs across the United States. These connections offer rich opportunities for networking and provide our GSO with fruitful ideas and sets of best practices that we can and are already putting to use in the way we govern our student senate. In order to more firmly solidify our position in this organization, the Executive Board of the GSO will ask the graduate student senate for funding to become a Legacy Member in NAGPS at our Third Regular Business Meeting in December. This one time fee would secure SU's membership in NAGPS for life.

New Standards for Committee and Senate Reporting in the GSO

Towards our goal of more efficient recordkeeping and in an effort to bolster the institutional memory of our organization, I have implemented a new system of goal setting and progress reporting for each GSO committee chair and liaison. Committee chairs were asked to submit a Goals Statement at the beginning of the semester, and will have their first Progress Report due on December 7th. At the end of spring semester, they will submit a Final Report to the Executive Board. The purpose of these reports is to have committees commit their goals to paper and to stay on task throughout the year. Another aim of this new system is to assist future committee members in assessing past goals and accomplishments, enabling them to more seamlessly continue or redirect previous efforts.

I have also asked our Vice President of Internal Affairs to compile an overarching Report on the Activities of the Graduate Student Organization for the 2012-2013 Academic Year. This Report will contain a general summary of all of the major undertakings of the Senate, as well as short summaries of each committee and liaison's Final Report.

I have tasked our Webmaster with creating a password protected area on the GSO's website for these reports that will be accessible to our Senators. It is my hope that these institutional records will strengthen the GSO, as future leaders will have easier access to the goings-on of previous years.

GSO Senate to Vote on Appointment to Chancellor's Search Committee

Bruce Carter has asked the GSO to appoint one graduate student to serve on the search committee for our new chancellor. We have several students interested in serving on this committee, so we will call for nominations at our next meeting and take a vote to determine who will represent the GSO. I will relay the results of that election and the name of the person who is chosen in my next report.

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As always, I appreciate the opportunity to report to the Board and am grateful for your continued investment in the opinions and experiences of Syracuse students. May you all have a warm and festive holiday season and celebrate a happy new year!