



Report of the Graduate Student Representative to the Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees Executive Committee, October 8, 2015

Can Aslan, Graduate Student Organization President

“Enough is Enough” Legislation Requirements

The GSO Executive Board will be working with SVP and Dean Rebecca Reed Kantrowitz and Office of Health Promotion on the requirements of the recently passed “Enough is Enough” legislation, “a new, uniform sexual assault policy to protect New York’s college students.” The legislation requires all officers of registered student organizations (RSOs) to complete a sexual and relationship violence training prior to recognition. We will prepare a GSO policy and put together a system, as soon as possible, to have all current and future officers of registered organizations to go through the training.

National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) National Conference

The NAGPS is a student-run national, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of graduate and professional students across the U.S. The GSO is getting ready to participate in the 29th Annual National Conference of NAGPS that will be held at the University of Southern California at the end of October. We have GSO officers and senators in the NAGPS Board of Directors and Committees, and always send delegation to NAGPS events to represent the GSO and the University.

SUNY-ESF Graduate Student Association (GSA) and GSO Conversations

The GSO and SUNY-ESF GSA have initiated conversations to improve communication and collaboration between the two graduate student organizations. ESF graduate students pay \$30 per academic year (compared to \$80 per year paid by SU graduate students) to get access to certain services and events offered by the GSO. We are looking into ways to improve collaboration and student involvement through joint meetings and events.

Organizational Improvements

The GSO Executive Board is working on several improvements in the structure, functions, and services of the GSO. We are reaching out to service providers and registered student organizations (RSOs) to engage in conversations and collaborations to better serve the graduate students, while improving engagement and involvement. Examples include improvement to and possible additions of services offered by the Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services (OCCS) and Career Services, and better accommodation of dietary choices of graduate students by Food Services (i.e., vegan options). In addition, we believe that organizational (internal) improvements and/or changes will significantly improve efficiency of our functions and quality of our services.