

Graduate Student Representative's Report for the Board of Trustees

Executive Committee Meeting, March 8, 2012

Melissa Welshans, President of the Graduate Student Organization

As we move deeper into the Spring 2012 semester, the GSO continues to work on some of our main goals as planned for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Primarily, the GSO Executive Board is focused on finishing initiatives for 2011-2012 to prepare for the upcoming academic year. One such initiative is to increase the clarity regarding registered graduate student organizations and their relationship to Student Activities and the Graduate School. With much help from Student Activities and Student Centers and Programming Services, the GSO is working with the Graduate School to adapt a document that will advise all graduate student groups on any relevant university policies, including fundraising and campus space reservation. This is a new direction for the GSO, where our organization and the Graduate School will be primarily in charge of all registered graduate organizations on the Syracuse campus. We look forward to adapting current SU policies to meet the needs of these graduate groups.

Also, as the semester progresses we continue to increase our social offerings to graduate students. We recently brought karaoke to the Inn Complete with great success, as well as hosted an ice skating and pizza party in conjunction with the Graduate Student Association of SUNY-ESF. With the institution of a Vice President for External Affairs on next year's GSO Executive Board, we are confident that we can continue providing graduate students with inexpensive opportunities to unwind from their studies and meet other graduate students. Through such events, we hope to continue increasing a sense of SU community engagement among all graduate student constituencies.

Finally, as I have mentioned in earlier reports, the GSO remains dedicated to advocating for the University Libraries. We are very pleased that the Board is involved in discussions regarding internal library management and staffing, and it is our hope that the Trustees will continue their interest in the library as the most recent endowment effort comes to a close.

Thank you very much for your continuing support of the GSO, and I look forward to our meeting on the 8th.