

Graduate Student Representative's Report for the Board of Trustees

Executive Committee Meeting, April 19, 2012

Melissa Welshans, President of the Graduate Student Organization

Since we last spoke, the GSO has undertaken some exciting new initiatives as well as finalized some ongoing projects.

First, we are pleased to be offering Graduate Students discounted tickets to this year's Mayfest end-of-the-year celebration. I was contacted by the Student Association's President, Dylan Lustig, to see if we could help make Mayfest a celebration for the entire campus student community and not just undergraduates. Therefore, the GSO will subsidize half of the cost of the tickets allotted for graduate students so they may attend the festivities with minimal personal cost. We think this is a great idea and commend SA for their new vision for Mayfest. We hope this is the beginning of many collaborative events between SA and the GSO.

Second, we have finished our negotiations with the Law School and the GSO's various service providers and are happy to announce that as of Fall 2012, students in the College of Law will pay a small fee to the GSO for discounts at Drumlins, the Inn Complete, and the Bernice Wright Childcare Center, as well as have part of their fee support the Early Education and Childcare Center of SU. This relationship could not have come to fruition without excellent communication with the Law School Student Bar Association and the respective Directors of each service provider involved. We will be sure to report to the Board as this relationship evolves.

Third, as I have described in previous reports, the GSO is finalizing documents that will help the GSO and the Graduate School serve graduate student-only organizations in the coming year. We recently finished drafting a manual for graduate student-only organizations (something we previously did not have) and are hard at work creating the proper forms and procedures for student organization processes. This will greatly enhance our ability to serve graduate student organizations, and are pleased to be so close to finishing this year's long project.

Finally, the GSO will be holding its last meeting of the year on April 25, 2012. After that time I will inform you of our 2012-2013 GSO Executive Board. I have chosen not to run for re-election as GSO President, but have gained much experience from my year in this position and I will remain involved in the GSO during my remaining years at SU.

Thank you very much for your continuing support of the GSO, and I look forward to our meeting on the 19th.