ROLL CALL:

**COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

Applied Statistics  
N/A

Bioinformatics  
N/A

Biological Sciences  
Sean Conway P

Chemistry  
Anne Fischer P

Clinical Psychology  
David Marra A

Alana McVey P

Computational Sci.  
Brian Bergner P

Computing  
N/A

English  
Catherine Simmerer P

Foreign Lang. & Lit.  
N/A

History  
Sam Harshner

International Affairs  
N/A

Math for 2nd School  
N/A

Neuroscience  
Sean Conway P

Philosophy  
Daniel Adsett P

Political Science  
N/A

Public Service Admin.  
Erin Wissler P

Theology  
Jodie Scordo P

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Jack Senefeld P

Erin Wissler P

Brice Cleland P


**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

Biomedical Engineering  
Dylan Snyder P

Civ., Con., Environ. Eng.  
Pravin Dhakal P

Elec. & Computer Eng.  
Pintu Adhikari P

Functional Imaging  
Olesya Motovylyak P

N/A

Mechanical Engin.  
Jeff Lajeunesse P


**COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

CTRH  
Jack Senefeld P

Brice Cleland P

Physical Therapy  
Kenneth Banting P

Patrizia Rin P

Allison Budreick P

Physician’s Assistant  
Katelyn Willfahrt

Aly Backhaus P


**COLLEGE OF COMM.**

Communication  
Allysa Michaelsen P


**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Counselor Educ.  
Ryan Warner P

Counseling Psych.  
Ryan Warner P

Educational Admin.  
N/A

N/A

Stud. Affairs  
Jorge Zuniga


**COLLEGE OF NURSING**

Nursing  
Caitlyn Bastable

Kellie Greenwood

Austin Rondou P

GRAD. SCHOOL OF MANAG.  
Accounting  
N/A

Applied Economics  
N/A

Corporate Comm.  
N/A

Executive MBA  
N/A

Human Resources  
N/A

Interdisciplinary  
N/A

Leadership  
N/A

MBA  
N/A

STEM-MBA  
N/A

LAW SCHOOL  
Law  
Jillian Lukens P

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY  
N/A

Dental Biomaterials  
Divya Mishra

Endodontics  
N/A

Orthodontics  
Alex Schwab

Jason Meinhardt

Periodontics  
N/A

Prosthodontics  
N/A

N/A = seat vacancy

P = present

A = absent
1. **UPDATE ON CURRENT INITIATIVES**
   a. Introduction to GSO & Workflow
   b. Health Insurance 2016-2017 AY Update
   c. New positions—Communications and Logistics Chairs
   d. Access to Employee Wellness classes for Graduate Students
   e. 3-minute Thesis competition—February 24, 2017

2. **LOGISTICAL CONCERNS**
   a. Law, Physical Therapy, and MCCS students are not receiving emails. We need to make sure they are getting these. The Graduate School of Management and/or Dentistry may also not be receiving our emails.
   b. There was support to start using Facebook for communicating GSO events. This could allow graduate students to communicate with each other, allow us to advertise events, and provide more information about things included in the newsletter.
   c. It was suggested that we carry over some of the key details from the newsletter to the email to which it is attached. Additionally, we should add some sort of index to the newsletter so someone can jump directly to information that is interesting/important to them.
   d. There was a suggestion to have name tags at GSO events to facilitate interaction between graduate students. Additionally, we discussed that Council members don’t know each other. We may want to facilitate these relationships in conjunction with or even outside of normal GSO events.

3. **CURRENT CLIMATE/ CURRENT ISSUES**
   a. One issue that several departments are experiencing is that funding for travel has been dropping significantly. Travel to conferences is very important for many graduate programs but can be costly without any assistance. We suggested that students look to the Graduate School and potentially to their college for matching funding. We also discussed trying to get the Graduate School to provide non-matching funds. This would allow individuals who are not in a program with money for travel to still obtain some funds from the graduate school. We also discussed trying to solicit donations from alumni (e.g. engineering industry members) to help with this. If many important people are at the 3-minute thesis competition, this might be a place to solicit donations. There was also a brief discussion about potentially trying to do some fundraising for the GSO to fund these sorts of initiatives.
   b. There was a brief discussion about the fact that several universities have had graduate students unionize.

4. **FUTURE INITIATIVES**
   a. We had a discussion about having a study area or a study session for graduate students from multiple programs/departments. There is a fair amount of interest in being able to intermingle with other graduate students. Additionally, we may benefit from being able to get insight from people in other disciplines. We discussed trying to get a designated space for graduate students. One place that we have pursued/are pursuing is the old Medical Library. Other suggestions were to have a study session held in an existing space on campus. Potential places include the Cramer Hall basement lounge, multiple areas within the Law School, and the library. Also mentioned was that students can reserve library carrels.
   b. We discussed potentially having a colloquium or some other series where everyone can hear graduate students talk about the work they are doing. This could be a unique thing hosted by the GSO. We would also like for program representatives to let the GSO know when they have events such as this within the program. We could then advertise this to all graduate students.
also discussed the 3-minute thesis competition as an opportunity to serve this purpose. We could also host a colloquium type series as a warmup for the 3-minute thesis competition.

c. We discussed some ways to provide connections between undergraduate and graduate students. Graduate students could provide information and answer questions about graduate school from undergraduate students. This could work as some sort of panel/event. The GSO Council members are natural choices for this type of resource.

d. The Nursing program brought up an issue with the scarcity of designated kitchen spaces. This would include a microwave and a fridge for graduate students to use. Although some programs have their own facilities like this, many do not. This makes it difficult, particularly for commuting students who bring their lunch. This sort of initiative could correspond with obtaining designated space for graduate students.

GSO Fall 2016 Council Meetings • 5:00 – 6:00 PM • Cudahy Room 120
Monday, September 12, 2016