

## Graduate Student Advisory Council

November 19<sup>th</sup> 2009, 12:00 PM

Paris Room, MLK Jr. Union

### Meeting Minutes

**Executive Board Members Present:** Amanda Fountain, Meghan Glow, Madeline Landes, Zach Thuring

**Advisors Present:** Bill Elliot

**Graduate Assistant:** Jiwon Sung

**Members Present:** Bridget Purdy, Allen Rotart

#### I. Graduate Expo (Zach Thuring)

- A. Involvement - Discussion occurred about the strategies of involvement for the Grad Expo. Zach mentioned that the Executive Board had spoke with Laurie Henderson from the Graduate School in helping us to create and distribute invitations for the event to the EIU President, Provost, and other administrators of the University. Additionally, the discussion of distributing surveys to students, staff, and graduate coordinators were discussed with Laurie and general members. The goal is to showcase the work that the members of the Eastern community are doing while still drawing more people into this event. It was mentioned that GSAC invite members of Lake Land Community College to come and maybe intrigue these students to come to Eastern while still involving the Undergraduate population. Incentives and guidelines for undergraduates to attend the event were also discussed. Such aspects include points in class for coming, writing a reflection of the event for a class, and a dress code for the event (semi-formal).
- B. Event Format - Meghan brought members information on the graduate expo that she had attended at Notre Dame. Meghan suggested mirroring some of their events, such as having a charitable aspect to the EIU Grad. Expo. This would allow the work and accomplishments of the Graduate School and its members to be showcased through the community. Though Eastern's budget for such an event may be less that Notre Dame, community involvement may bring more money into EIU budget for the Grad Expo.
- C. Surveys - Amanda is working on the Grad. Expo survey that will be distributed to graduate students and graduate coordinators. Amanda asked that she be given a program from the event last year for a baseline for content of the survey. Jiwon and Zack offered to assist in getting Amanda a program from last year.

#### II. Fundraising Opportunities

- A. Bridgett Purdy met with EIU Community Service Coordinator, Rachel Fisher. Bridget approached Rachel on the procedures for volunteering for an event and some opportunities available for volunteering. Coordination of volunteers must be done with Rachel at least 2 weeks in advance if not more.

- B. Some places that volunteers are often utilized are as followed:
- Teen Reach
  - EIU Family Fun Tailgate
  - Big Brother/ Big Sister
  - DCFS Project Backpack
  - Camp New Hope
  - Salvation Army Bell Ringers
  - Nursing Home Christmas Caroling
  - Douglas Heart Nature Center
  - Habitat for Humanity
  - Catholic Charities
- III. Student Insurance - December 15<sup>th</sup> will be the meeting regarding the Graduate Student Insurance situation. This meeting will include Dean Augustine, Bill Elliott, President Perry, Vice President Nadler, VPAA Blair Lord alongside Lennie Heddins from Student Insurance and graduate student Aaron Hacker. Bill will provide a report to GSAC members at the next GSAC meeting in January.
- IV. Parking - Kate is still looking for volunteers for the student parking committee. If you are able to donate an hour of your time to begin to move this issue forward it would be appreciated. Please contact Kate ([kbhale@eiu.edu](mailto:kbhale@eiu.edu)) or a GSAC Executive Board member if you are interested in volunteering. Currently, there has only been one volunteer. Discussion at the next general meeting will occur to ensure that graduate student parking is still a concern of the graduate population.
- V. T-Shirts - Discussion on obtaining GSAC t-shirts is in the works. Bridgett Purdy gained some pricing information to add to Kate's pricing efforts. Bridget spoke to Jeff at *Fit to a Tee* and found that one color on the front and back would be around \$6. Six colors on a shirt would cost around \$10. Kate and Tina are also looking into The Shirt Factory and Galina Graphics in Charleston on T-shirt pricing and options. If this issue is pursued the Executive Board will decide the ordering and cost on shirts. A submission for designs will then be open to GSAC members. Amanda reminded members that to use the EIU logo we must first contact University Communications. Bill also suggested having the Graduate School Publicity Director, Laurie Henderson, help in designing the shirts. Ideas for submissions could be sent or dropped off to Bill. Members would like to have design submissions in by the end of the first week back from Christmas Break.
- VI. Meeting Dates - Bill asked that members bring their tentative work and school schedules to the GSAC Meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 so planning for meeting times and locations for next semester can begin. Meeting dates, times, and locations will be posted on the GSAC website alongside e-mail reminders from Bill. Meeting dates for Spring semester would also like to be posted on the EIU Events Calendar.
- VII. Adjourn

*\*Minutes Taken and Submitted by Madeline Landes, GSAC Executive Board Secretary*