

Graduate Student Advisory Council
Executive Board Meeting Agenda
January 23th 2012
Effingham Room: MLK Jr. University Union
Eastern Illinois University
Advisors: Dr. Dale and Bill Elliott

- I. 10 :05 Call to Order by VP Administrative Activities – Pauline Matthey
- II. Attendance
 - a. Kim Ensign, Catherine Bocke, and Nicole Mangiaracina are absent
 - b. Dr. Dale was absent
 - c. Sign-up sheet for the members present
- III. Old Business
 - a. Better Communication with Graduate Student
 - i. PantherPalooza – Wrap Up
 1. Attendance/ Thank You's – everyone came and we even had extra people
 2. Little space available – Bill Elliott took note
 3. It is important that we get our name out there and that we remain visible. But Panther Palooza might not have been the best place to do that. We had a few people who expressed some interest in graduate school and even fewer who stopped to talk to us about GSAC.
 4. Dr. Dale had suggested we participate in “Info Day” but nobody at the meeting was very sure what those might be or when they might be.
 5. We talked about participating in the Open House on campus. But it is on February 20th and if we do, we need to move our next meeting. We need to look into it.
 - ii. Graduate Coordinator Half Day Session
 1. Bill explained that he and Dr. Dale had a panel during the half day session and that it was a great opportunity to speak about what we do.
 2. He mentioned that people who attended, including Dean Augustine, showed great interest and were very enthusiastic about what we do... so YAY ☺
- IV. New Business
 - a. Outreach Programs/Philanthropic Events for the semester
 - i. BBBS Easter Egg Hunt?
 1. We discussed some of the disadvantages of this event, including the little participation from last year, the fact that some were disappointed to receive only a few eggs, the cost.
 2. We announced that we can still do it but that the executive board had thought of additional or alternative options
 - ii. Relay for Life (Alex Dressen)
 1. April 13th-14th It is to support the idea that cancer never sleeps

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2. Already organized but we would need to pay a fee to participate but at this point, there was no further information available online.
- iii. Panther Service Day
 1. April 21st this year
 2. We can participate as a group or as individuals
- iv. Commodity Drive
 1. We discussed the possibility of doing a commodity drive like we did this past semester
- v. We then asked for people's input, feedback or suggestions
 1. We reminded everyone that these activities, especially Panther Service Day or Relay for Life are most definitely open to all grad students.
 2. We did not have much of a reaction but the assembly seemed to agree that it would be easier to go with something that is already organized.
 3. The Math department is going to be busy on the weekend of Relay for Life but it consists of 5 students only.
 4. We asked the members to think about those different options and try to ask their friends what they might be most interested in and we told them that we would either email them for their opinion or talk about it next time.
- b. Survey (Alex Dressen)
 - i. Alex announced that a survey had been sent out to all grad students to gather information about their interests and priorities
 - ii. We encouraged everyone to take it and reminded them of the importance of their help.... And of the incentives (Raffle and pizza party) ☺
 - iii. Alex explained that there were some challenges in getting the survey to everyone. He is still working with IT to see how they can work it out. But we also mentioned that we might have to ask all grad coordinators to send it to their own students.
 - iv. We reminded them that the survey link is available on the facebook page and that it will be on Twitter too.
- c. Issues of Graduate Students
 - i. We asked Bill for an update on the meeting with the Dean in regards to some of the issues and concerns that had been brought up last semester. He explained that the meeting had not been scheduled yet.
 - ii. Bill explained that the Graduate School had received a large grant for its proposal and that we should be proud. He also explained that some of that money might be helpful to GSAC
 - iii. Graduation

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1. There currently is no clear announcement at graduation for people who receive a certificate in addition to their degree and/or who graduate with distinction.
 2. We asked the assembly if they felt GSAC should look into it. Some people explained that their departments do that.
 3. The executive board will see if we could have programs that shows distinction for the students who have achieved it.
 - 4.
- V. Open Floor(Comments, Suggestions, Discussion)
- a. The contract for GA had confusing start and end date for certain departments (FCS/gerontology including) – Bill noted that
 - b. Vance Wood reminded us that since we had talked about recycling at our last, he had contacted Bryan who emailed Kim with information
 - i. Kim has not mentioned it yet. But we will discuss the info with her and keep everyone updated.
 - c. People in the Math department were paid on the day that tuition was due, which makes it hard to keep up financially. Additionally, PAWS and cashnet were not displaying the accurate information and some of us had to make some phonecalls in order to be able to pay their bills as it was not possible to pay online since the amount due was showing nothing.
 - i. Kortney explained that sometimes when you add a class, you need to go to financial aid and ask for a form about credit course load.
 - d. We thanked everyone for coming and encouraged everyone to remind their friends how important it is to attend the meetings as well. We are excited for a new semester
- VI. 10:37 am - Adjournment by VP Administrative Activities Pauline Matthey