

Executive summary of NAGPS national conference:
By Chad Cross

Overall our GSAC is in excellent shape compared to other schools. Many are still fighting the administration or Student Government for graduate student organizations. However, many schools with larger populations have much bigger budgets and fees to support them. Overall, the biggest problems are attendance or a lack of involvement from busy students. The following is a list of some things that schools around the country are doing that might serve to enhance our GSAC and address these problems:

- Surviving your MA or MS workshop in the first few weeks of classes, with existing student, faculty, etc. passing on first hand knowledge to new students.
- Host a family movie night social with popcorn and soda for graduate students with families.
- Promote effective GSAC organization by supplying a binder to each representative on the first day with information on Roberts Rules of Order/procedure for introducing resolution etc. Also this would serve as a place to keep agendas, handouts and contact info as they are handed out.
- Host a graduate student picnic sponsored by GSAC as a social.
- Hold up to three socials a semester for Graduate Student with alcohol being served (schools that have served alcohol and stopped have seen dramatic drops in attendance).
- Host a Friday afternoon happy hour social for Graduate Students (mixology club).
- Obtain corporate or community business sponsors for Expo.
- Continue with our web presence. Many schools are online now and the NAGPS website gets over 100,000 hits per month.
- Some schools dismiss non-attending members and replace them (attendance is a universal problem, with students agreeing to be the representative for a resume line and not following through). Also continue with pizza at least for the first meeting (many other schools also do it)
- Maternity and Paternity leave for graduate assistants (pushed by the University of Colorado GSA and implemented by the administration).
- Host a GSAC welcome table in the Union or in Blair Hall lobby with food/info during the first week of classes.
- Amend the new constitution to elect a NAGPS liaison officer to stay abreast of national trends and attend the conference.
- Continue to give seats on GSAC to other RSOs that represent graduate students (BGSA for example).