Graduate School Advisory Council
Friday, January 21, 2022
11AM – Martinsville Room & Online via Zoom

A. Next Meeting: February 4th in Rath Loft @ 11am & Online via Zoom

II. Executive Reports
A. President- Brooke Gibson
1. Welcome Back Check In! involved stories of an awesome family nerf war, line dancing, finishing a cosplay and even an engagement!
2. Bobbi Kingery will be at the next meeting (4/4/22)
   a) Bobbi is the director of Career Services and will be here to give some tips and answer your questions about your resumes, cover letters, and career development. Come with questions!
3. RSVP for the Ph.D. Panel!
   a) It will be Thursday, February 10th, 3-5pm, in the 1895 room on the 2nd floor of the Union
   b) We will have 4 people on the panel from various departments (some who have recently graduated as well) answering your questions about Ph.D. programs and sharing their experiences.
4. Use GroupMe for updates and questions! Also, add your friends!
5. GSAC has a Scholarship Opportunity! Scan the QR code for details!
   a) There is a prompt that you will answer to earn a scholarship for Eastern!
   b) There are 2, $250 scholarships for each of the 4 colleges that will be going out. (1 will go to an in-person student and 1 will go to an online student in each of the colleges)

B. Graduate Student Dean – Faisal Tariq
1. Presented the results of the online graduate student survey to the Council on Graduate Studies
   a) Will be sharing the infographic soon!
2. 3 Action steps on Online Graduate Survey:
   a) Partnering with Career Services
   b) Partnering with the Counseling Clinic
   c) Partnering with the Library to make services more known
3. Best Practice Videos will be coming soon!
   a) These will show case student voices and their experiences with finding the best ways to enhance online learning!

4. GSAC Spotlight Video
   a) We are looking to spotlight Graduate students that are doing awesome things in their departments possibly each week! You can nominate anyone from your departments!

C. VP of Administrative Activities - Natalie Roberson - no update

D. VP of Programming - Anders Voss
   1. GSAC Programing Survey
      a) This survey will give us insight into what went well last semester and how we can do even better when planning events moving forward.
      b) Under review, will hopefully be sent out next week!
   2. Thanks for coming to the Holiday Mixer!
      a) The turnout was amazing, and the reviews of the mixer have been wonderful!
   3. Online Events!
      a) Codenames will be the next online event held next Friday, January 28th at 6pm via Zoom! Watch out for that link!

E. VP of Public Relations - Justin Richards
   1. GSAC Spring 2022 Newsletter
      a) Please send me details of what’s happening in your departments and any important things that you would like to be published in the Spring Newsletter.
   2. Pop-A-Shot w/the President (Student Government
      a) This next Thursday, January 27th, 12 noon-5pm in the glass bridge lounge in the Union

F. VP of Diversity and Inclusion - Dahlia Martinez
   1. Welcome Back!
   2. Mindfulness: be mindful of yourself by taking it easy and easing your way into the new year. Also, be mindful of others and their boundaries concerning covid.
   3. At-Home Covid Tests
      a) There are at-home covid tests that can be sent out to you! An email with the details will be sent out soon!

G. Graduate Student Liaison - Austin Eichhorn
   1. New D2L layout to facilitate communication and foster community across departments on campus!
a) Now on D2L, we are called Grad Life at EIU!
b) All Grad students will be added this upcoming Monday! This is the place for you to post events and resources and view the GSAC updates!
c) If you cannot find it on your D2L, click the “All” tab and you will see all your classes, including Grad Life at EIU.

III. Department Updates

A. Updates from your department? Updates from students in your program? Upcoming events?

1. Communication Studies: there are some scholarships open to the communication students
2. School Psychology: First years are in their practicum w/teachers while second years are in their practicum with other school psychologist. They have decided to boycott the state School Psychology association meetings due to various issues. Looking for GA’s!
3. Business Administration: there are some scholarships open to business students
4. Political Science: hiring a new faculty member for next fall
5. English: looking for new faculty members and the writing center is open online for those who need some help
6. Education: Sam is working hard on her thesis, and there is a conference in February that they will be attending
7. CDS: they have a conference in February that they will be attending
8. CSA: students are in their internships, 2nd years are finishing their thesis, and this spring 12 online students will be graduating
9. Human Services: students are in their internships and their child lab is now open with an increase of children
10. Sustainability: they are a small population of 5 people on campus in their program, but hopefully 2 more people will be joining soon
11. Counseling: 1st years started their practicum and 2nd years are completing their internships and some are getting ready to take the NCE in the spring
12. Biology: second years are working on their thesis, BSGSA will be having a bowling night soon and a bar crawl part 2 soon that anyone can attend as well
13. History: hiring a new professor for Latin History

B. Vote for next PowerPoint theme

1. Frogs or Cats?
   a) Cats were the winner!