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"Hello fellow graduate students! I hope that you are working hard during this spring semester!

I would like to reflect briefly on how much the GSAC has grown in just the Fall semester and what we have planned for the spring! During the fall 2017 semester, GSAC established a weekly feature of a graduate student as well as a monthly feature of a graduate faculty member. This has been received very well and it helps to promote the awesome things that you, graduate students, and graduate faculty are doing! Next, we have increased our graduate student representation across all graduate level organizations on campus! This is super great for GSAC because it continues to give graduate students a voice. We had a great turn-out for the Graduate Network for Undergraduates (GN4U) event that took place as a mentoring project! Each fall semester we hope to generate even more undergrads to attend this event, plus there is free pizza and giveaways as an incentive if needed! In connection to networking, graduate students also dedicated their time to helping out in the community through various volunteer activities. We even competed in the Pumpkin Painting with the Prez Contest in hopes to win but fell short.

By far the biggest accomplishment of the fall semester was receiving a prestigious national award. Sarah Dodoo, Graduate Student Dean, and I attended the National Association for Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS) Conference in Syracuse, New York and were able to have been chosen and honored as the Midwest Region Members of the Year! We humbly accepted the plaque and it sits in the Graduate School Office if you should ever want to take a gander at its beauty. A huge thank you to previous GSAC President, Samantha Young, for nominating EIU GSAC for this award.

So here we are, now fully immersed into the spring 2018 semester and we have great things to accomplish! We have one of EIU’s very own Alumni, Habeeb Habeeb, coming to speak at our meeting on March 23rd! It is a sure not-to-miss event! Along with our various professional speakers that will discuss such topics as financial aid, diversity, poverty, health, inspiration, and career tips, we have continued our outreach in the community. We plan to volunteer at the Newman Food Pantry, the Coles Count Animal Shelter, and make crafts for the Volunteer Office as a Service-To-Go project.

Next, we are launching our GSAC Scholarship this semester! It has been three years since the scholarship has been in action, but we are bringing it back full throttle! Committee members have met to discuss the award amount, criteria, and selection process. I encourage you to apply! The biggest event we have for this semester is the Graduate Student Expo! If you would like to showcase your research or are receiving an award, we encourage you to attend! GSAC is starting a new annual event called the Graduate Student Network Night in which all graduate students and faculty are invited to attend and network together. This is a great opportunity to get to know each other in an informal format.

And finally, we hope you would think about attending one (or all!) of our social events to keep that positive, up-beat energy going in to the end of the semester! See our calendar for details!"

-Charity Huwe, Graduate Student Advisory Council President
# Spring 2018 Schedule

All meetings begin at noon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Location</th>
<th>Topic/ Guest of the Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 19, 2018</td>
<td>Rathskeller Loft, MLK Union</td>
<td>GA, Office of Financial Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 9, 2018</td>
<td>Rathskeller Loft, MLK Union</td>
<td>Dr. Davenport, Minority Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jessica Ward, GSD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 23, 2018</td>
<td>Martinsville Room, MLK Union</td>
<td>Michael Gillespie, Poverty Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2, 2018</td>
<td>Rathskeller Loft, MLK Union</td>
<td>HERC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23, 2018</td>
<td>Rathskeller Loft, MLK Union</td>
<td>Alumni Speaker, Habeeb Habeeb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2018</td>
<td>Rathskeller Loft, MLK Union</td>
<td>Voting for New President; Constitutional Changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27, 2018</td>
<td>Rathskeller Loft, MLK Union</td>
<td>Paper Meeting; Career Tips w/ Mr. Stevens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meetings are streamed live on the GSAC Facebook Page! Check our page on meeting days to watch if you can’t attend!

Want to read the meeting minutes? Contact your representative! They have access to all meeting minutes through D2L.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 7th 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>GSAC Networking Night 7th Street Underground Dinner Provided!</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/machform/view.php?id=12523">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/machform/view.php?id=12523</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 9th 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grant Application Deadline</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_competitive/student.php#research_activity">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_competitive/student.php#research_activity</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 9th 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Williams Travel Grant Application Deadline</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_competitive/student.php#williams">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_competitive/student.php#williams</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 23rd</td>
<td>Graduate School Scholarships Application Deadline</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_scholarships.php">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/students_awards_scholarships.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 1st</td>
<td>GSAC Scholarship Application Deadline</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/machform/view.php?id=27">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/machform/view.php?id=27</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 15th</td>
<td>Scholarship Search Engine Application Deadline</td>
<td><a href="https://eiu.academicworks.com/users/sign_in">https://eiu.academicworks.com/users/sign_in</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 23rd</td>
<td>Graduate Expo Research Exhibit Poster and Digital Presentation Deadline</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/gradexpo_exhibitform.php">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/gradexpo_exhibitform.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 23rd</td>
<td>2018 Awards for Excellence in Student Research and Creativity Application Deadline</td>
<td><a href="http://library.eiu.edu/awards/form/excellence/">http://library.eiu.edu/awards/form/excellence/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 27th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 29th  4:00 – 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 4th  3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Graduate Expo Research Poster and Digital Presentation Exhibit Doudna Fine Arts Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/gradexpo.php">http://www.eiu.edu/graduate/gradexpo.php</a></td>
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Thesis Research 101

Booth Library faculty Steve Brantley, Kirstin Duffin and Ellen Corrigan, in cooperation with the Graduate Student Advisory Council, will again offer three Thesis Research 101 workshops.

**Thesis 101 Seminar 1:**
Researching the Literature with Steve Brantley will be offered from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. February 6th and again from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. February 7th.

**Thesis 101 Seminar 2:**
Organizing Your References Using Citation Management Software with Kirstin Duffin will be offered from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. February 13th and again from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. February 14th.

**Thesis 101 Seminar 3:**
Presenting Your Thesis (to the World) with Ellen Corrigan will be offered from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. February 20th and again from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. February 21st.

All sessions will meet in Room 4450 at Booth Library. Register for the free seminars here: http://library.eiu.edu/instruction/thesis101.html

For more information contact Steve Brantley, head of Reference Services, at 581-7542 or jsbrantley@eiu.edu.
Alumni Speaker, Habeeb Habeeb

Bibliography from Habeeb Habeeb’s website: http://www.habeebhabeeb.com/official-biography/

“Habeeb Habeeb is the CEO and Principal of BPC, an employee benefits administration firm. BPC is a repeat winner (4 times) of "Best Places to Work" in Illinois.

Habeeb is also the founder of the H-Squared Leadership Institute, an organization focused on helping people take the good in life to a higher level and to inspire them to pursue excellence while making the world a kinder, gentler, and more positive place. He is featured on the radio with his Motivational Minute featuring uplifting messages and with his Devotional Minute featuring scriptural messages.

Habeeb came to Illinois in 1973 from his home country of Lebanon to attend Olivet Nazarene University. After civil war broke out in Lebanon, Habeeb was separated from his family and had to remain in the US. He started working at Arby's in Bradley, Illinois starting from nothing. He later finished his education as an adult and earned his Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from Eastern Illinois University. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the National Honor Society for Collegiate Schools of Business. Habeeb was named a Distinguished Alumnus of EIU in 2015.

Habeeb frequently speaks to organizations, businesses, and universities on topics such as overcoming adversity, ethics, and creating a service-based corporate culture, customer service, keeping the faith when things go bad, appreciating the goodness of America and more. He was the commencement speaker for Eastern Illinois University in 2014 and for Lincoln Christian University in 2017. He was a featured speaker for the Ronald Reagan Leadership Program at Eureka College, home of President Ronald Reagan.

Habeeb has held volunteer leadership roles in various community and industry organizations such as the Illinois Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, The Illinois Chamber Healthcare Council and the Employer’s Council on Flexible Compensation Board of Directors. He served as Conference Chairman for ECFC for multiple years. He previously served as board chairman for Champaign County First and as a member of the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He was the first immigrant elected as Chairman of Champaign County Republican Party and has been active in advocating for flexible benefits legislation on Capitol Hill. Habeeb previously served as Chairman of the Elders for First Christian Church in Champaign. Habeeb currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Lincoln Christian University in Lincoln, Illinois.

Habeeb and his wife Joy reside in Champaign, Illinois. They have two adult children.”

LinkedIn: LinkedIn.com/in/habeebhabeeb
Facebook: www.facebook.com/HabeebSquared
Twitter: twitter.com/habeebhabeeb

Habeeb Habeeb will be speaking to GSAC at the March 23rd meeting! Don’t miss out!
Faculty Member of the Month

GSAC aims to give recognition where it is due. One way that our organization does this is by allowing graduate students to nominate and vote for a deserving faculty member for our Graduate Faculty of the Month Award! This award was created in September 2017 to recognize Dean Hendrickson for his work to advance graduate students’ education here at EIU! Here are some of the previous winners! If interested in nominating a faculty member for Faculty Member of the Month, contact the GSAC representative for your program and let them know!

September 2017
Dean Ryan Hendrickson
Graduate School
Nominated by GSAC

October 2017
Dr. Angie Yoder
Counseling and Student Development Department
Nominated by Maliya Smith

November 2017
Dr. Russel Gruber
Psychology Department
Nominated by Gianna White

December 2017
Dr. Jay Bickford
Early Childhood, Elementary, & Middle Level Education Department
Nominated by Charity Huwe

Read the nomination statements for the Graduate Faculty of the Month winners on our Facebook page!
Meet the GSAC Executive Board!

Charity Huwe
President

Hanna Hobson
Vice President of Administrative Activities

Sydney Menigoz
Vice President of Programming

Kali Harris
Vice President of Public Relations

Amber Webb
Vice President of Member Recruitment and Retention

Sarah Dodoo
Graduate Student Dean

If you are interested in becoming GSAC President for the 2018 – 2019 school year, please contact GSAC at eiugsac@eiu.edu!
Contact Information

Graduate Student Advisory Council, eiugsac@eiu.edu
Charity Huwe, President, crhuwe@eiu.edu
Dr. Dianne Timm, Faculty Advisor, dtimm@eiu.edu
Lori Henderson, Grad School Staff Advisor, lahenderson@eiu.edu
GSAC EIU Webpage, http://castle.eiu.edu/~eiugsac/

Follow us for announcements and updates!

EIU Graduate Student Advisory Council
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