Welcome new students! We are so excited to have everyone here, and we hope you will feel welcome at Rice. The Graduate Student Association is made up of graduate students at Rice, and the GSA mission is to enrich the graduate student experience and to represent, support, and promote graduate student interests and values. An integral and essential part of the Rice community, the GSA provides programs and services aiding in recruitment and retention of graduate students, represents graduate student interests to the University administration, and builds a strong sense of community both on and off campus. The 2016-2017 GSA Executive board has made Wellbeing, Inclusion, and Advocacy the goal for improving graduate student life.

Visit our NEW website for more information about GSA and check out the New Student page: [http://gsa.rice.edu/](http://gsa.rice.edu/)

**Upcoming Events:**

- Orientation picnic: Tonight!!
- Volunteer at the Harris County Animal Shelter
  - Saturday, Aug. 20th; 9:30 – 2:30 pm
- Innovation Symposium
  - Friday, Sept 9th; 12 – 7 pm
- Career and Internship Expo
  - Tuesday, Sept 13th; 10 – 3 pm

**Recent Events:**

- Olympic-Themed Summer Picnic
- Karaoke Night
- GSA Awards Ceremony
- 90 Second Thesis Competition
- Speed Networking
- Monthly Coffee Breaks
- International Culture Night

Stay up to date on GSA events by following the weekly GSA Announcements, the GSA Website, and on the Official GSA Calendar!

**How to get involved in GSA:**

- Join Rice University committees to help Rice administration make important decisions about student life
- Join GSA Committees to help plan and coordinate GSA events and funding
- Get involved in your department GSA
- Run for a GSA officer position!

Follow us on Twitter (@RiceGSA), Instagram (rice_gsa), and Facebook!