GSA Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 16, 2013, 6:00 pm
Minutes

Representatives: Bioengineering, Alex Tatara; Chem. & Biomolec. Engineering, Lauren Popp; Chemistry, Andrea Schlather; Earth Sciences, Michael Farner; Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Kim Vincent; English, Rachel Conrad; MLS, Marissa Knowles and John King; Mathematics, Miriam Kuzbary; Philosophy, Christopher Dohna; Physics and Astronomy, Jacob Wahlen-Strothman; Psychology, Debshila Mallick; Sociology, Lynn Fahey; Statistics, Sarah Tooth.

Officers: Navid Sakhavand, Anne Hellebust, Melissa Venator, Goat Domeracki, Kiri Kilpatrick, Michelle Downey.

Guests: Diane Glick, Sarah Cain, Richard Gaut, John Varghese, Scott McGill.

1. New Business

1.1. University Committees:

1.1.1. Athletics Committee (1). Elected: John King (MLS)

1.1.2. Graduate Council (1). Elected: Sarah Cain (Linguistics)

1.1.3. Teaching Committee (1). Elected Christopher Dohna (Philosophy)

1.1.4. Center for Career Development Committee (1). Elected: Diane Glick (MLS)

1.1.5. Commencement Speaker Committee (2). Elected: Marissa Knowles (MLS), John Varghese (Bioscience Research and Health Policy)

1.1.6. Environmental Health Committee (1). Elected: Andrea “Andi” Schlather (Chem.)

1.1.7. Health Insurance Committee (2). Elected: Sarah Tooth (Statistics), John Varghese (Bioscience Research and Health Policy)

1.1.8. IT Advisory Committee (2). Jacob Wahlen-Strothman (Physics and Astronomy)

1.1.9. Diversity and Inclusion Committee (1). Elected: Emily Thomas (BCB)

1.1.10. Student Activities and President’s Programming Fund Allocation Committee (1). Elected: Melissa Venator (Art Hist.)

1.1.11. Center for Teaching Excellence Graduate Liaison (1). Elected: Richard Gaut (Jones)

1.1.12. Texas Medical Center Advisory Committee (2). Elected: Lynn Fahey (Sociology), Alexander Tatara (Bioengineering)

1.1.13. Wellbeing Center Graduate Representative (2). Michelle Downey (EEB), Miriam Kuzbary (Math.)
1.1.14. Student Center Advisory Committee (1). Appointed: Sarah Cain (Linguistics)

1.1.15. Honor Council (4). Elected: Michael Farner (Earth Sci), John King (MLS), Sarah Tooth (Statistics), Lynn Fahey (Sociology)

2. Upcoming Events

2.1. Summer Picnic - Friday, July 26. In conversations with Coney Island to have it catered, as well as Ice-ees and water-centered activities.

2.2. Coffee Break - Wednesday, July 31, 3-5pm

2.3. New Graduate Student Orientation - Wednesday, August 21. We need volunteers for Breakout Sessions and Discussion Panels. Clubs can sign up for a booth at the Activities Fair that will be held Wednesday afternoon. We are asking for volunteers to schedule school-wide social mixers for Thursday night. We will provide food; we just want people to organize it. If you are interested, contact Anne Hellebust (ah16@rice.edu).

3. Past Events

3.1. Department Coordinator Luncheon - Tuesday, July 16. Took place earlier today and was a great success.

3.2. Ice Cream Pool Party - Friday, July 12. Ice cream by the pool.