Graduate Student Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 1, 2015

I. Call to Order- 12:00 PM: Tamanna Shanta, President

II. Adoption of Agenda: Yes

III. Approval of minutes: No minutes of previous meetings discussed in committee meeting

IV. Officers report

4.1 President’s report- Tamanna Shanta

V. Standing committee reports

5.1.1 Symposium committee - Hunter Cooke
- 7 categories for event was discussed
- First and second prizes for both oral and poster; prize amounts will be the same
- Submission form will be open early in November and will close later January; with grace period of the first week in February
- Don’t sure on monetary value of prizes yet
- Door prizes; planning on giving t-shirts
- Please help to recruit faculty members to be judges
  o Need for both poster and oral
- Tamanna – SOF fund; had her interview; is waiting to hear back
- Before the next meeting, will have a guideline and categories set up on the Graduate School website

5.1.2 Social committee - Molly Chaffin
- GSS website is being updated
- Social media – Facebook page
  o Department of the Week Highlights
- Molly – any feedback would be appreciated

5.1.3 Bylaws committee - John Mortimer
- Taking out the Journal Chair
- Add in the Social Committee Chair
- Will be making several other minor changes
- Will be putting the new edited bylaws on the website
- Attendance policy has changed from last year
Instead of 4 meetings per year; only 2 missed meetings is allowed

VI. Announcements

6.1 Next meeting - Thursday, October 29 (12:00 - 1:00 pm)

6.2 Black and Gold Day - Saturday, October 3 (12:15 - 4:00 pm), Thad Cochran Center (3rd floor ballrooms); Setup - Friday, October 2 (4:00 - 5:00 pm)
   - Karen signed up for set up on Oct. 2nd
   - Isaac – be there at 12:00 for Saturday set-up
   - Business casual; black and gold is encouraged
   - 2nd Black and Gold day will be Oct. 31st

6.2.1 – Karen signed up for set up on Oct. 2nd
6.2.2 – Isaac – be there at 12:00 for Saturday set-up
6.2.3 – Business casual; black and gold is encouraged
6.2.4 – 2nd Black and Gold day will be Oct. 31st

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6.3 "Communicating Effectively without Fear" with Mandi Stanley - Friday, October 9 (1:00 - 5:00 pm), Thad Ballrooms 1&2 (change in location)
   - Please get the word out to your department about this event!

6.3.1 – Please get the word out to your department about this event!

6.4 Homecoming Week (http://www.usm.edu/homecoming/sga-homecoming-events) - Week of October 12
   - Tamanna signed up the week
   - We need 10 volunteers to help with the week’s events

6.5 GSS Homecoming Tailgate - October 17
   - 3:00 to 5:30; we need all GSS Senators there at 1:30 pm; spread the word to departments and faculty
   - Food will be provided
   - Tamanna will be sending out an email before the event

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6.6 Second Annual 3MT Competition - November 4-6 (2:00 pm), Trent Lott Center (first floor A-D)
   - Dr. Coats will answer questions about the event
   - Has to be an on-going project that was started during your current program here at USM

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VII. Q&A with the Dean

- Isaac asked about the 3MT competition
- Alicia – Start-Up Weekend

VIII. Adjournment- 1:00 PM