COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA PACKET

OCTOBER 25 (THURSDAY)

6:30 PM

LAFORETUNE BALLROOM (2ND FLOOR)

THE FOOD PROVIDED FOR THE MEETING WILL BE FROM
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FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

NOVEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 6, 2012

OCTOBER 25, 2012 – COUNCIL AGENDA

Meetings held at 6:30PM in the LaFortune Ballroom (2nd Floor)

- Roll Call/Sign-In
- Approval of the Minutes (September 27, 2012)
- Executive Committee’s Report: Doug Rice, Kate Rueff, Kevin Mueller
- Break-Out Committees
- Committee Reports
  - Academic Affairs – Zack Terranova
  - External Affairs – Hilary Davidson
  - Health Care – Ricky Klee, Lindsey Turnbull
  - Marketing/Merchandising Specialist – Mayra Duarte
  - Orientation & Electronic Resources – Diana LaTorre
  - Professional Development – Erin Drew
  - Publicity & Procedures – Kyle Watson
  - Quality of Life – Tony Cunningham
  - Social – Kara Harmatys, Sydney Blevins
- University Committees
  - Academic Council – Zack Terranova
  - Academic Technologies – Diana LaTorre
  - Ad-Hoc Funding Committee – Tony Cunningham
  - Energy & Environmental Issues – Kyle Beam
  - Faculty Senate – Kevin Mueller
  - Graduate Council – Doug Rice, Kate Rueff
  - Library Committee – Zack Terranova
  - LaFortune Tenants – Kara Harmatys, Sydney Blevins
  - Professional Development TREC Committee – Erin Drew
  - Traffic Appeals – Tony Cunningham
  - University Healthcare – Ricky Klee, Lindsey Turnbull
  - Women Faculty & Students – Jade Avelis, Catherine Rastovski
- New Business
  - GSU Concession Stand November 17 at Wake Forest
- Old Business
- Adjournment
Minutes

September 27, 2012

OFFICERS: Doug Rice, Chemistry and Biochemistry (GSU President); Kevin Mueller, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Co-Vice President); Kate Rueff, Physics (GSU Co-Vice President).

CHAIRS: Zack Terranova, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Academic Affairs); Lindsey Turnbull, Biological Science (Health Care); Hilary Davidson, Sociology (External Affairs); Mayra Duarte, Art, Art History & Design (Marketing and Merchandising); Diana LaTorre, Biological Sciences (Orientation/Electronic Resources); Erin Drew, English (Professional Development); Kyle Watson, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Publicities and Procedures); Tony Cunningham, Psychology (Quality of Life); Kara Harmatys, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Social); Sydney Blevins, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Social).

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES: Zack Terranova (Academic Council and Library Committee); Diana Latorre (Academic Technologies); Kevin Mueller (Faculty Senate); Doug Rice (Graduate Council); Kate Rueff (Graduate Council); Kara Harmatys (LAFO Tenant Committee); Sydney Blevins (LAFO Tenant Committee); Erin Drew (Professional Development); Tony Cunningham (Traffic Appeals); Lindsey Turnbull (University Healthcare Committee); Kyle Beam (Energy and Environmental Issues); Jade Avelis (Women Faculty and Students); Catherine Rastovski (Women Faculty and Students).

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Temistocle Grenga (Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering); Amy Buchmann (Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics); Kelsie Hoke (Architecture); Katherine Torvinen (Architecture); Justin Barfield (Art, Art History and Design); Amanda Joseph (Art, Art History and Design); Ericka Kistner (Biological Sciences); Quintin Sheridan (Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering); Steven Marczak (Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering); Doug Hines (Chemistry and Biochemistry); Kristi Pellegrini (Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences); Clare Brogan (Classics); Eva Van Leemput (Economics); Peng Li (Electrical Engineering); Erin Drew (English); Mackenzie Dome (Global Health Program); Colleen McKenna (Global Health Program); Bry Martin (History); Hannah Zdansky (Literature Program Ph.D); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Doug Smith (Mathematics); Brandon Cook (Medieval Institute); Megan Welton (Medieval Institute); Patrick Gamez (Philosophy); Kyle Beam (Political Science); Jeremy Castle (Political Science); Emmanuelle Pardilla-Delgado (Psychology); Lori Petersen (Psychology); Mario Antonio CossioOlavide (Romance Language and Literature); Jade Avelis (Sociology); Sarah Schreiber (Theology Ph.D); Lorraine Cuddeback (Theology Ph.D).

FISCHER O’HARE GRACE RESIDENCE – INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES – UNIVERSITY VILLAGE RESIDENCE: Peter Campbell (University Village).

1. Doug Rice, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.
2. Doug Rice announced all future meetings will be in LaFortune Ballroom as scheduled.
3. Jade Avals, Sociology, moved to approve the minutes from April 12, 2012.
5. Doug Rice proceeded with the voting and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Doug Rice introduced himself.
8. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, introduced herself.
9. Mimi Beck, *Graduate Student Life Program Director*, introduced herself. She commented on her grad life weekly newsletter to be sent out each Monday.
12. Doug Rice mentioned Donna Frahn is the Administrative Assistant to the GSU.
13. Doug Rice discussed duties of the representatives including, being a voice for the departments. Further, please bring any concerns to the meetings. Also, if a representative cannot come to the meetings, please send a replacement and let the executive board know 24 hours in advance. Quorum must be met to vote on any resolutions so attendance is very important. If you would like to write a resolution or need help, you can email the executive board.
14. Doug Rice announced that all meetings will follow Robert’s Rules of Order.
15. Doug Rice proceeded to Committee Reports:
   a. Zack Terranova, *Academic Affairs*, introduced himself and mentioned that he also serves on the Academic Council Committee, which discusses relevant academic material. He announced that the committee is starting to think about the graduate school symposium.
   b. Hilary Davidson, *External Affairs*, introduced herself. She announced that the committee wants to facilitate the flow of information between the city of South Bend and the graduate students. She also stated that the committee also wants to be able to determine how graduate students can use their talents to help the city of South Bend. She is open to suggestions from anyone. The committee is starting to target the Robinson Center to help develop graduate student run activities. There is a program where local kids can learn about opportunities in college and what sort of majors there are and what to do after college.
   c. Lindsey Turnbull, *Healthcare*, introduced herself and mentioned that the committee’s job is to work to improve the health and wellness and access to healthcare for all graduate students. There will be a re-negotiation with Aetna about the healthcare plan. If you have any suggestions, please contact the committee chairs. She mentioned that the new wellness center is for spouses and dependents. The committee is hoping to put on a healthcare fair in the spring. Ricky Klee, *Healthcare*, has been working with the university with how to incorporate the catholic mission.
      i. Jeremy Castle, *Political Science*, mentioned that last week there were free flu shots, however, when he got there, there were no more shots. He asked if there are plans to get more.
      ii. Lindsey Turnbull, said she will look into that.
      iii. Nathan, *History*, said that there are faculty shots in October, and perhaps there can be something worked out.
      iv. Peng Li, *Electrical Engineering*, asked how students can know when to use the wellness center and not.
      v. Lindsey Turnbull, *Healthcare*, said that not all of the details are worked out. She said that if St Liam is not open, students can go to the wellness center for prescriptions, for example. However, if St. Liam’s hall is open, our insurance requires that everyone go there first. If no places are open at all, students are free to go to any hospital covered under the plan. She also stated that the Wellness Center is only for dependents, spouses, and faculty.
      vi. Kathleen Ansaldi, *Mathematics*, mentioned that when the pharmacy isn’t open, students can go to Walgreens, but have to pay out of pocket. She asked if this was still the case with the Wellness Center’s pharmacy.
      vii. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, mentioned that the pharmacy at the Wellness Center is disconnected from St. Liam’s. It is just like going to Walgreens so the out of pocket expense is the same.
viii. Zack Terranova, Academic Affairs, asked if there was any clarification about contraceptive care and the conflicts with the school’s Catholic stance.

ix. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, stated that as far as she is aware, students are only allowed to have contraceptive care if there is a medical reason. If it is not medically needed, the insurance will not cover.

x. Jade Avelis, Sociology, mentioned that there is a place called the Olive Street Health Center where you can get contraception on a sliding pay scale.

xi. Erin Drew, Professional Development, mentioned that on Wednesday, October 3rd at 5:00pm in Eck 3130 there will be a discussion about the University’s lawsuit against “Obamacare.”

d. Mayra Duarte, Marketing and Merchandising, introduced herself. She commented that the committee wants to work with the different chairs to strengthen the communication of the GSU.

i. Erin Drew, Professional Development, commented that the TV display in LaFortune can be used for advertisements. To advertise, go to saolcd@nd.edu with a PDF of the flyer to be posted.

e. Diana LaTorre, Orientation and Electronic Resources, introduced herself. She said that the committee ran an orientation fair in August followed by a prayer session.

i. Katherine Torvinen, Architecture, stated that the Architecture students didn’t get connected with orientation. She asked if there can be more effort to get the information to all the schools.

ii. Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, stated that Architecture is separate from the grad school, but is still under GSU because they pay an activity fee. Next year, the committee will try to work on making sure that all students hear the information. The committee will send out at least the information fair info to all graduate students.

iii. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, stated that there will be a program called “reorientation” later in the year where people who missed orientation or need more can meet and get what they need.

f. Erin Drew, Professional Development, introduced herself and passed out a handout containing the mission statement for the TREC committee. The TREC committee is made up of grad students who are interested in professional development. She discussed the cupcake event, and the professional development fair, which had representatives from around the campus to answer questions about what resources are available. She commented that there is an upcoming event on 10/11/12 titled “grad school game plan” about goal setting. She said that the location is now in the Notre Dame room in LaFortune. Finally, the committee is actively recruiting people for the TREC committee. The committee would like to get representatives from all over the graduate school.

g. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, introduced himself and stated that his report stands.

i. Erin Drew, Professional Development, stated that a contact at the Kaneb Center would like to see Kaneb Center events on the calendar and in the newsletter.

ii. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, stated that he will be sure to include those events on the calendar and in future publications.

h. Tony Cunningham, Quality of Life, introduced himself. He stated that the committee wants to accomplish a faith fair next month. They want to have a bunch of different institutions to come and give information about where students can practice different religions. Stated that the committee is hosting a “Graduate Problem Resolution Hour” (GRPR) hour once a week on Wednesday where people can come and ask literally any question about grad life. He asked that representatives please tell all people about it. Also, the committee is looking for graduate student ambassadors who can go to faculty meetings to relate how it is being a grad student and discuss if our needs are or are not being met. It is an opportunity to educate the different departments about what we want as graduate students. He stated that LGBTQ committee had an opportunity to participate with the undergrad ally training. The committee wants to have an ally
training specifically for graduate students in the Spring. If anyone is interested in helping with this, please let him know. Also, DuLac, the handbook with all regulations regarding student life on campus, has grad students lumped in with undergrads. The committee would like to take an approach to separate from the undergrads. The committee wants to go through DuLac and see where we need to be separated from the undergrads and then prepare a report. It is a big project and we have support. If you are interested, please contact the chair. Further, the committee wants to continue addressing housing and insurance issues. They are hard to change, but the committee wants to keep the conversation going and find ways where they can help graduate students now. Finally, he stated that he is also in charge of traffic appeals, although there have been no submissions.

i. Kristi Pellegrini, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences, stated that there was a very catholic emphasis during the ally training and asked if there will be changes?

ii. Tony Cunningham, Quality of Life, said that there will be changes, but the training was very undergrad focused. The committee is hoping to look into broadening the scope.

iii. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice Chair, stated that the university will not do LGBTQ that is not catholic based. If that is what is desired, the committee will have to bring in their own people to help.

iv. Kelsie Hoke, Architecture, asked if the committee will keep a list of questions asked during the GRPR hour for future reference.

v. Tony Cunningham, Quality of Life, said that when the committee gets more than one, a list will be posted.

vi. Kelsie Hoke, Architecture, asked if the ambassadors have to be GSU representatives or if any student can do it.

vii. Tony Cunningham, Quality of Life, said that the ambassadors can be any student willing to help.

i. Sydney Blevins and Kara Harmatys, Social Co-Chairs, introduced themselves and said that the committee’s job is to plan social events for graduate students. They discussed the Hamlet Festival, the Silver Hawks baseball game, and the game watch for the Navy football game at Legends. Kara, Co-Social Chair, stated that the dog park outing did not have a very good showing. Perhaps the committee will do it again in the spring when it is warmer. Kara commented that Trivia night also did not have as good a turnout as expected. The committee did a survey to get ideas about future events. The committee is planning to do a wine tasting event in SW Michigan on 10/21/12. Further, upcoming events in the Spring will include: Shrek the Musical for 2/9/13, and Wicked for 5/11/12. It was also discussed that there will be a Compton Family Ice Center event in the future. Sydney, Co-Social Chair, commented that the committee is working on having a Halloween costume event on 10/28/12 at Corby’s. There will be a costume contest, and lots of decorations.

i. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, asked if the event was only for grad students

ii. Sydney, Social Co-Chair, said that there will be a section specifically for students but that the committee can’t keep other people from being in Corby’s.

iii. Kristi Pellegrini, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Science, commented that the dog park event needed all dogs to be registered in St. Joe County. There is a fee for registering and a fee for breaking the code.

iv. Sydney Blevins, Social Co-Chair, asked if the advertisements were seen and if people are hearing about the events.

v. Peter Campbell, University Village, asked if the skating events will also be for kids.

vi. Sydney Blevins, Social Co-Chair, responded in the affirmative.

vii. Lindsey Turnbull, Health Care Chair, asked if all events are open to spouses and families.
ix. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, stated that some events require that you be 21.
x. Patrick Gamez, *Philosophy*, asked if the survey can be done later.
xi. Sydney Blevins, *Social Co-Chair*, stated that there will be an incentive where a drawing for prizes will be done for all those who complete the survey.
xii. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, stated that the emails of all chairs should be sent out to the representatives.

a. Kevin Mueller, *Co-Vice President*, announced that every month the Conference Presentation Grant (CPG) committee will have the same amount of funds. Now applicants need to provide a budget and a personal statement about the experience. Under the new application system, students can apply to the GSU and to the grad school for funding at the same time.
i. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, requested that a short bullet-point summary of the new system be sent out to students.
ii. Kevin Mueller, *Co-Vice President*, said that this will be sent out.
iii. Ericka Kistner, *Biological Sciences*, stated that the reviewers for the graduate school give more preference to speaking engagements as opposed to giving a poster presentation.
iv. Kevin Muller, *Co-Vice President*, mentioned that the endowment has been growing so there is more money now.
v. Temistocle Grenga, *Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering*, mentioned that the process is really long.
vi. Kevin Mueller, *Co-Vice President*, stated that the committee didn’t want to redo everything. They made the concession to have all the questions on the grad school application so that students can apply to both at the same time.
vii. Kristi Pellegrini, *Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences*, mentioned that there have been problems in the past where food is not covered.
viii. Kevin Muller, *Co-Vice President*, stated that food will be covered.
ix. Mayra Duarte, *Marketing and Merchandising*, commented that a friend doesn’t want to apply because she is international and doesn’t want to get denied. Further, there is a fear for not receiving funding.
x. Kelsie Hoke, *Architecture*, asked if students in the Architecture program can apply.
xi. Kevin Mueller, *Co-Vice Chair*, stated that the committee can’t deny a request because you pay into the CPG fund.
b. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, stated that her report stands.
c. Doug Rice, *President*, discussed the committees he sits on. He mentioned the accreditation committee that will meet later in the year. He also commented on the Grad Life committee that meets biweekly to discuss concerns. The committee wants to look at the five dimensions of wellness. The committee is looking to create grad life grants so that students can develop their own events.
i. Peng Li, *Electrical Engineering*, asked if there is a cap for clubs to apply for funding.
ii. Doug Rice, *President*, stated that there is a discretionary fund for these requests, however, there isn’t a structure to look at applications and approve as of now.
iii. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, explained that a group can be a departmentally recognized group where the department gives $100 and the GSU will give $200. This option requires that a club constitution be drafted. Alternatively, an outside group can request funding.

17. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, pointed out that in the future the chairs will not usually go through their whole report. Rather, they will say that the report stands and then also discuss any modifications or adjustments.

18. Patrick Gamez, *Philosophy*, asked if committees are open to any grad students.
19. Kevin Muller, *Co-Vice President* stated that any students can join and come to meetings.
20. Tony Cunningham, *Quality of Life*, mentioned that the committee would like the GPRP to be exclusively GSU members.
21. Doug Rice, *President*, stated that there was no old business and proceeded on to new business and introduced Mimi Beck, the Director of Graduate Student Life.
22. Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*, introduced herself. She discussed the new graduate life grant. Any graduate student can apply. It is for a group of people to build community for the graduate students. The idea is to put creative power in the hands of the students. The application will be available 10/1/12 and are due 11/15/12. There will be an info session 11/1/12. The hope is that these funds will be able to build a great sense of community among the graduate students. She went on to discuss “reorientation.” The goal of this program is to supplement the orientation in August. She wants to offer another opportunity to learn about key resources for graduate students. This will be the Wednesday of Fall Break. The central event is lunch with subject librarians. They will have two different breakout sessions where students can pick to attend two of four available presentations, each dealing with one of the 5 pillars of wellness. For example, the emotional wellness presentation “If I knew then what I know now” will have experienced graduate students on hand to talk about issues that they faced when they were first starting. If you are a third year or more and are interested on sitting on that panel, speak to Mimi.
   a. Justin Barfield, *Art, Art History and Design*, asked if there is a cap for an individual proposal with the graduate life grants
   b. Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*, said that the caps are $2000 for one year or $3000 over two years to accommodate two events.
23. Doug Rice, *President*, talked about the GSU concession stand during the Pittsburg football game. Volunteers are needed. Proceeds will go to charity to be decided at the next GSU meeting.
   a. Kevin Mueller, *Co-Vice President*, mentioned that students can get free food from the GSU concession stand with their student IDs.
24. Tony Cunningham, *Quality of Life*, motioned to adjourn.
27. Meeting adjourned 7:59PM.

Minutes Submitted by Kyle Watson
Executive Committee Report  
October 2012  
Submitted by Doug Rice, Kevin Mueller and Kate Rueff  

Faculty Senate  
Faculty Senate met on October 2, 2012. However, the announcement, agenda, and location were not sent out nor were they made known to the members of the senate ahead of time, as is the usual protocol. As a result, many of the members were unaware of the meeting including the GSU representative to the senate. The next scheduled meeting is November 6th, 2012.

Graduate Council  
The Graduate Council met on October 2, 2012. Kate Rueff was elected to the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council as the student representative. Last semester, the graduate council approved the Family Accommodation Policy Amendment and during this meeting the policy was amended to additionally allow for students to enact the accommodation during the summer months. Several proposals were heard for new programs, both Ph.D. and Masters level and were voted on by the council. The council approved the creation of a PhD Program in Anthropology, a Master of Science in Business (1 yr. program), and a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA). Also, the council approved the transferring of the MSAM degree to ACIVIS and updating the title and requirements to reflect current standards and its dual purpose, as well as updating the title of the doctoral and master’s degrees in Civil & Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences.

Grad Life Team  
The Grad Life Team met on October 10, 2012. We discussed a Graduate Student Services Report submitted by Mimi Beck. This report outlined areas for grad life improvement as determined from graduate student surveys and details other grad life programs from similar universities that may be useful for our university to adopt. We also looked at ways the university performs data tracking and analysis and how these strategies could be useful to our respective organizations.

Family Prayer Service  
October is Respect Life Month. As part of Notre Dame’s celebration of family life and the right to life, the GSU is co-hosting a prayer service and reception for student-families with the office for University Life Initiatives on Sunday, October 28th. This is a family-friendly event which will begin at 3 PM in the Geddes Hall Chapel. Fr. Michael Heintz (director of ND’s M.Div. program) will lead us in prayer. The prayer service will be followed by an open-house reception in the Geddes Hall Coffeehouse until 5 PM.
Graduate Life Grants
Next Thursday November 1st, we will be hosting an event to brainstorm potential graduate life grants. This event is intended to bring individuals who are interested in the grad life grant process together to encourage the discussion of ideas and to inform students how to draft a grant by the November 15th deadline. Pizza and drinks will be provided. The exact event details will be sent out sometime this week.
Academic Affairs
October 2012
Submitted by Zack Terranova (zterrano@nd.edu)

Academic Council & Advanced Studies Committee
Our meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2012.

University Committee on Libraries
The first UCL meeting was held on October 4, 2012 where the agenda was defined for the year, specifically we will be addressing the Master Building Plan, develop Digital Scholarship at ND and discussing how to make the libraries present themselves as a unified center of information.

I volunteered to poll the graduate school on relevant topics in an attempt to get a better understanding on how the library can better serve the students. The last poll was conducted in 2010 and was helpful in the redesign of the first floor. Since we are now discussing the possible renovation of the total library, we would like to get input from the students on what changes they would like to see come to the libraries. If anyone has comments or concerns about the upcoming library changes, I urge you to contact me at zterrano@nd.edu.

Symposium
Unless I receive any objections, the fifth annual Graduate Student Research Symposium will be held on February 23, 2013, pending the availability of Jordan Hall of Science. I am working with incorporating postdoctoral students in the symposium, as suggested by Mary Sajini Devadas, a representative of the postdoc community. I explained that all costs for postdoctoral posters and prizes would have to be covered by their newly formed committee, as well as shared costs of advertising and food.

I met with Alisa Zornig, the Coordinator of Academic Community Engagement, on September 26th 2012 to discuss a potential collaboration between their annual STEM outreach Forum and our GSU Symposium. The Symposium is traditionally held on Friday afternoon, while the STEM Forum is held on a Saturday. We decided that we do not want to target high school teachers, the typical attendees for their Forum, for the Friday Symposium. In the past, graduate students willing to return to campus on Saturday morning have displayed their posters in the Galleria across from the Forum. We will continue with this format for the 2013 Symposium.

We will be sending out the ‘call for abstracts’ in late November/early December, and we are in need of abstract judges from different divisions. In the past we have relied on nominations from GSU members. Please recommend any professor you feel would serve
the GSU well as a judge of the abstracts, the gatekeeper to the Symposium, by October 30, 2012. Lastly, please contact me if you would like to be a member of the GSU Symposium planning subcommittee.
External Affairs
October 2012
Submitted by Hilary Davidson

An Insider’s Guide to Notre Dame for Graduate Students
I am continuing to collaborate with Law School students to make a guide to off-campus living and leisure. But to make this effort a success, I’d like to work with a committee of graduate students to crowd source information about South Bend living. I will be holding two weekday evening meetings in November designated for graduate students to come and share the best of what they know about South Bend. The goal is to get this product ready in time for recruited students to review as they make their decision about whether or not ND would be a good fit academically and socially.

The Common Good Initiative 2013
Looking for a way to share your time and talent beyond the academic arena? The Common Good Initiative is a fully-funded experiential learning program for graduate students at the university offering both 8-week internships in communities facing poverty and marginalization in the summer months, as well as 7-10 day immersion trips in late May/early June. All costs are covered by the Common Good Initiative apart from a modest participation fee. Applications are due on November 20th. More information on internships, immersion trips, and application procedures can be found at: http://theology.nd.edu/common-good-initiative.

RCLC Writing Center and Volunteer Opportunities
I am currently recruiting graduate students to collaborate in the development of a community writing center at the RCLC. Interested students should email me at hdavidso@nd.edu; I will be setting up tours and meetings in the month of November.

The Office of Sustainability
First, the Office of Sustainability is offering to donate $7/hour to the GSU (which will be funneled to the RCLC Writing Center or an organization on campus of your choice) for each person who helps out with Game Day Recycling. Volunteers are still needed for the Wake Forest home game. Please email sustainability@nd.edu and look for posters in the coming weeks for more information. Football games bring thousands of fans onto campus but that also means generating tons of trash, much of which is recyclable. At each home game, student volunteers circulate through the tailgate lots, distributing blue recycling bags to fans and answering questions about single stream recycling. Volunteers also receive a tee-shirt, snacks, and drinks.

If you haven’t already (or even if you have), please encourage graduate students in your department to sign up to take the Office of Sustainability’s 2030 Challenge! In 2010, ND set goals to work towards becoming a greener campus in 20 years, and students are invited
to take part in this. The OS also has tips for green living off-campus, which will be of interest to many grads (http://green.nd.edu/sustainability-in-action/graduate-students/). They will even send you a free tool kit to help you get started. There are lots of opportunities to get involved and the Office of Sustainability is looking for people who are interested in creating change on our campus in our community.

Again, graduate students who are conducting research related to sustainability (in any discipline) can submit a 200-word write-up to sustainability@nd.edu about their work. This is a great way to increase the visibility of a personal research agenda as well as keeping others in the know about sustainability efforts at ND.
Healthcare
October 2012
Submitted by Lindsey B. Turnbull & Richard Klee

Graduate Student Blood Drive November 14
Blood Donations will be collected through the South Bend Medical Center. Participants wishing to donate will be able to sign up for a time using an online calendar. Walk-ins are also welcome. The first 50 students who sign up online will receive a free Chipotle burrito when they come in to donate. All blood donors will receive free tee shirts, and be able to help themselves to cookies and juice. The event will be held in the La Fortune Ballroom from 10AM – 4PM.

Influenza Vaccination Update
In response to the concern at last month’s meeting about the shortage of vaccines at the student drive, we have confirmed that there are a limited number of vaccines available at University Health Services (St. Liam’s Hall). Graduate students still needing a vaccine will be able to get one free of charge on a first-come first-served basis while the remaining stocks last. Alternatively, vaccines are available for a fee at many local pharmacies (i.e. Walgreens accepts walk-ins and charges $32).

Discussion of Health Care as a Human Right
We have contacted a medical ethicist to address the University’s Student Health Care Committee to study access to health care as a human right in the Catholic tradition, as well as to learn more about imperatives to ensure access to quality health care for psychological and physical needs for all members of the University student community. This Committee has yet to meet this year to begin negotiations on the following years’ student health plan.
Marketing and Merchandising
October 2012
Submitted by Mayra Duarte

Halloween Poster
I designed the poster below for the GSU Halloween Party on October 27th. Same format as the other 8x5 x 11 posters. The posters are in the newsletter and on the GSU Facebook page.

Thanksgiving Brunch
I am designing a flyer for the GSU Thanksgiving Brunch on November, 22nd. I started communication with SAO to be able to show it in LaFortune on the LCD screens. If it works out, then there is a high chance that the upcoming posters will show up on the LCD screens as well.
Orientation and Electronic Resources
October 2012
Submitted by Diana LaTorre

Orientation and Electronic Resources
The committee did not meet this month. However, we are open to suggestions for next year’s orientation, please email me at dlatorre@nd.edu.

UCAT
The UCAT meeting is scheduled for October 30th. I will update the committee with relevant information at the next meeting.

Library (Grad Area)
Also please let me know if there is anything needed in the graduate student area in the library, or if you have any recommendations for improvement.
Professional Development
October 2012
Submitted by Erin Drew

TREC Committee
The TREC Committee met on October 18 to discuss what events we might offer during the Spring 2013 semester. TREC will sponsor one large and one small event in the spring. There are three possibilities for the large spring event: (1) repeat of last year's Picture Day event; (2) a scavenger hunt activity in which grad students would win prizes for completing portions of the professional development checklist within a set timeframe (perhaps a month or even a semester); or (3) a mock interview workshop at which students could sign up to do short mock interviews with real professionals from academia and industry and receive feedback.

The small event will be either a panel/workshop on networking via social media or a panel featuring recent graduates from ND's grad school talking about their experiences during their first year or two on the job. It would feature graduates from both academia and industry.

If any of these events appeals to you or fits the needs of grad students in your department especially well, please let me know (edrew@nd.edu). TREC will make our final decision on spring events at our November committee meeting.

We are still actively recruiting new members, particularly from departments not currently represented on the committee. Currently, we have members from Political Science, Sociology, Art, Art History and Design, Biology, Electrical Engineering, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Chemistry, Psychology and Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences.

Recent TREC-sponsored events
The first Grad School Game Plan event took place October 11 at 5pm in LaFortune, co-sponsored and moderated by John Lubker, Associate Dean of Students for the Graduate School, and Mandy Albrecht, TREC member. John led the students through a series of activities focused on improving their goal-setting skills. Five students attended.

Upcoming TREC-sponsored events
The next Grad School Game Plan event will take place on November 8 in the LaFortune Notre Dame Room (2nd floor). This time, John will coach students on techniques for improving concentration and focus.
Publicity and Procedures
October 2012
Submitted by Kyle D. Watson

Website
I have been updating the GSU website/calendar of events on a weekly basis as new events are announced. I have also been adding other events to the calendar that are pertinent to graduate students. I have also been going through the pages of the website and updating information as needed. Also, on the “Meet the GSU” page, all of the names and email addresses of the representatives have been updated. Finally, I have been working on posting archives of last years minutes and meeting packets. If you have any suggestions, please let me know at kwatson2@nd.edu.

Newsletter
I have continued to send out a weekly newsletter on Mondays. The last newsletter was sent on 15 October 2012. It was opened by 32% of the recipients (833 students). We had 1 individual unsubscribe and 4 total for the month. Overall, the newsletter is sent out to 2598 students. If there are any events that you would like mentioned in the newsletter, please get them to me (kwatson2@nd.edu) by the end of Friday for the upcoming Monday newsletter. If you have any suggestions on how the newsletter could be improved, please let me know.

Facebook & Twitter
As of 18 October 2012, there are 294 people who “like” and follow the GSU Facebook page. If you have any events you would like posted on the Facebook page, let me know. I am also open to suggestions for how to improve the page.

The Twitter page has 51 followers.
Quality of Life
October 2012
Submitted by Tony Cunningham

The QoL Committee had a pretty good month of recruiting and organizing the six various subcommittees it now oversees. We have recruited enough members for the LGBTQ, GRPR Hour, and Faith Fair committees. We request that the Department Reps continue to help recruit for the Housing and Insurance, Ambassador, and du Lac subcommittees. If there are any interested parties, they can contact Tony Cunningham at acunnin1@nd.edu.

LGBTQ Subcommittee (9 members)
First official meeting is scheduled to be the week of 10/22. Further plans will be established at this meeting.

Graduate Resource and Problem Resolution (GRPR) Hour (5 members)
Traffic is starting to pick up for the GRPR office hours. We have had a few more people with questions come in and are creating a system for dealing with the questions as well as a contact list for who might be able to help. A subcommittee has been established to man the office hours for the rest of this semester.

Graduate Student Faith Fair (4 members)
The Faith Fair is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 14th from 6:30-8:30pm in the Stepan Center. Once time and location request has been verified we will begin to heavily recruit institutions in the area to attend and start to heavily publicize the event amongst the graduate school.

Housing and Insurance Subcommittee (3 members)
We are still looking for additional members to fill out this subcommittee. We would like a minimum of 6-8 members. Our first meeting will probably be in early November. Please contact acunnin1@nd.edu if interested.

Graduate School Ambassador Subcommittee (3 members)
Again we need a few more committee members to make this worthwhile. Members would just be asked to visit departments and give their story of what it is like to be a graduate student at Notre Dame. No special stories or extravagant preparation needed. If you are interested please contact acunnin1@nd.edu.
Du Lac subcommittee (1 member)
We absolutely need more people to help with this group. We have a great opportunity to actually get some of the policies changed to better serve the graduate student population. Dean Lubker is giving us his direct support for this group. For more information or if you are interested in joining this subcommittee please contact acunmin1@nd.edu.
Social Report
October 2012
Submitted by Kara Harmatys and Sydney Blevins

Fall Events 2012

Dog Park Outing
Sunday, September 23rd, 2012 from 12:00 to 3:00 PM. We reserved a pavilion at the Prickett Marina Park in Mishawaka. Light refreshments and snacks purchased from Wal-Mart were provided for both humans and dogs. This event was free for students. This event was not well attended due to cold weather, distance from campus, and because it was held the morning after the Michigan home football game.

Trivia Night
Monday, September 24th, 2012 from 8:00 to 11:30 PM. We reserved the Legend’s club area to host a team trivia challenge. Food was provided through Legends Catering along with a cash bar. Trivia services were provided by Brain Blaster Trivia. Visa gift cards of $100 and $50 were awarded to both the first and second place teams, respectively. Additionally, a short survey about interest in future social events was given out; as an incentive, one $10 Chipotle gift card was randomly drawn from survey participants. This event was free for students. The event was not as well-attended as expected (around 40 students attended). This might also be due to this event happening right after a home football game. In the future, we should try to avoid scheduling events directly after a home football game.

Halloween Costume Party
Saturday, October 27th, 2012 from 9:00 to 12:00 AM. We will be having a Halloween costume party for all graduate students, spouses, and their guests to be held at Corby’s Irish Pub. We will be purchasing pizza, soda, and candy to hand out to the students for free. We also purchased Halloween decorations. Corby’s will be offering cheap drink specials throughout the night, along with plenty of TV’s to watch the Notre Dame-Oklahoma football game. A $100 visa gift card will be awarded to the best costume (second place will receive a $10 Chipotle gift card). Corby’s has agreed to provide us with our own private space and all grad students (and guests) will receive wristbands to access the room and back patio reserved for grad students and their guests. This event will be free for students. If students wish to travel from campus, the 7A Transpo bus (Midnight Express) leaves from the library circle every 20 minutes from 10 PM to 2:35 AM and is free with a Notre Dame ID.

Ice Skating Event at Compton Family Ice Arena
Sunday, November 11th from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. We have reserved the arena at the Compton Family Ice Center for graduate students, spouses, children, and guests. We have covered
the cost of skate rental. Compton skating waivers will be available to sign at the rink. We will provide hot chocolate and cookies from Catering-By-Design. This event will be free for students and their guests.

**Pre-planned Future Events**

**Christmas Party**  
**Friday, December 7th from 8:00 to 11:00 PM.** We have reserved Legend’s club area for graduate students and guests. Food will be provided through Legends as well as a cash bar. Activities include ugly Christmas sweater contest, gingerbread house contest, and there will be both Christmas and current/popular music.

Tickets for the following events next spring have already been purchased:  
- **Shrek the Musical:** February 9th at 2:00 PM. We purchased 60 tickets ($47 each) and will sell them for $25 each. Two tickets per ID.  
- **Wicked:** Saturday, May 11th at 8:00 PM. We purchased 60 tickets ($68 each) and will sell them for $30 each. Two tickets per ID.

Reservations for skating at the Compton Family Ice Center have been made for Sunday, February 24th.
Women Faculty & Students
October 2012
Submitted by Catherine Rastovski and Jade Avelis

Memorandum

The Women Faculty and Students Committee recently had their opening meeting for the year on October 8, 2012. The main goals of the meeting were to elect a new chair and set priorities for the coming year.

Susan Ohmer, the director of Digital ND, was elected to chair the committee this year. She has chaired the committee in past years and is again looking forward to leading the WFS Committee.

Several items on last year's agenda were brought up as agenda items again this year. The status of the updated faculty leave policy, which the WFS committee advised on last year, will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting, as will the status of the Climate Survey conducted by the Office of Strategic Planning. The committee expressed a desire to ask about mentoring on campus and also how our environment might be made more welcoming.

Other topics on this year's agenda are: the ECDC website that has been in the works; work-life balance; mentoring for graduate students as they move into faculty positions or post-docs; community engagement; thinking about our proximity to Chicago in new ways; and women and senior leadership roles.

The next WFS Committee meeting is planned for Friday, December 7.