COUNCIL AGENDA PACKET

NOVEMBER 15 (THURSDAY)

6:30 PM

NOTRE DAME ROOM (2ND FLOOR)

FOOD PROVIDED FOR THE MEETING
Papa Murphy’s Pizza – 316 W. Cleveland Rd. - Granger, IN - (574) 272-0072

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

DECEMBER 6, 2012

January 24 – February 28 – March 21 – April 25, 2013
November 15, 2012 – Council Agenda

Meetings held at 6:30PM in the Notre Dame Room (2nd Floor)

• Roll Call/Sign-In

• Approval of the Minutes (October 25, 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

• Old Business
  • GSU Concession Stand November 17th vs. Wake Forest

• Adjournment
October 25, 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); Ricky Klee, Theology (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); Ricky Klee (University Healthcare Committee); Hilary Davidson (Energy and Environmental Issues); Jade Avelis (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); Ali Raja (Biological Sciences); Ericka Kistner (Biological Sciences); Doug Hines (Chemistry and Biochemistry); Ann Dallman (Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences); Eva Van Leemput (Economics); Peng Li (Electrical Engineering); Mingming Cai (Electrical Engineering); Garrett Seelinger (English); Colleen McKenna (Global Health Program); Bry Martin (History); Hannah Zdansky (Literature Program PhD); Maria Giulia Genghini (Literature Program, Ph.D.); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Doug Smith (Mathematics); Brandon Cook (Medieval Institute); Brian Long (Medieval Institute); Fengqiao Jiao (Physics); Edward Lamere (Physics); Kyle Beam (Political Science); Jeremy Castle (Political Science); Enmanuelle Pardilla-Delgado (Psychology); Lori Petersen (Psychology); Mario Antonio CossioOlavide (Romance Language and Literature); Jade Avelis (Sociology); Stefani Wellons (Sociology); Sarah Schreiber (Theology PhD); Lorraine Cuddeback (Theology PhD).

FISCHER O’HARE GRACE RESIDENCE – UNIVERSITY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES – UNIVERSITY VILLAGE RESIDENCE: Peter Campbell (University Village).
1. Doug Rice, **President**, called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM.
2. Doug Rice announced all future meetings would be in the Notre Dame Room in LaFortune.
3. Zack Terranova, **Academic Affairs**, moved to approve the minutes from September 27, 2012.
4. Sydney Blevins, **Social**, seconds.
5. Doug Rice proceeded with the voting and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Doug Rice proceeded to executive committee reports:
   a. Doug stated that his report stands and added that there will be a meeting next week to talk about the Grad Life Gants. The deadline is November 15, 2012. The Grad Life Committee would like to hold an event for people to come and brainstorm about potential Grad Life Grant Events.
   b. Kate Rueff, **Co-Vice President**, stated that her report stands.
   c. Kevin Mueller, **Co-Vice President**, stated that his report stands. He also mentioned that the GSU would be offering the t-shirts from graduate student orientation online. The shirts will be offered at cost.
7. Doug Rice proceeded to Committee reports:
   a. Zack Terranova, **Academic Affairs**, stated that his report stands.
   b. Hilary Davidson, **External Affairs**, stated that her report stands.
   c. Lindsey Turnbull, **Healthcare**, stated that her report stands. She also mentioned that the GSU blood drive will be November 13th in the LaFortune Ballroom from 10am-5pm. Chipotle will donate 50 free burritos. Ricky Klee, **Healthcare**, introduced himself and mentioned that he is working especially on the insurance plan. The committee will start the process in about a month. If anyone is interested in working on insurance, please contact him (rklee2@nd.edu).
      i. Peng Li, **Electrical Engineering**, asked if the Graduate School would ever subsidize spousal insurance.
      ii. Ricky Klee, **Healthcare**, stated that it might happen in the future. He mentioned that if the Football team is very successful, that the money brought in could be applied there. He also mentioned that if there are issues, it is very important to submit them in writing so that there is a record of grievances/comments from the graduate students.
   d. Mayra Duarte, **Marketing and Merchandising**, stated that her report stands and mentioned that the committee will display posters on the screens in LaFortune.
      i. Lindsey Turnbull, **Healthcare**, asked if other posters not created by the committee could be included.
      ii. Mayra Duarte responded in the affirmative.
   e. Diana LaTorre, **Orientation and Electronic Resources**, stated that her report stands.
   f. Erin Drew, **Professional Development**, stated that her report stands. She also mentioned that the final event of the Ethics Café Series would be on November 1st from 12:30-1:30pm. She said that the organizers of the event have asked for the GSU to advertise. She handed out posters and asked that the representatives post them in their respective buildings.
      i. Kelsie Hoke, **Architecture**, asked if there were still spots available.
      ii. Erin Drew responded in the affirmative.
   g. Kyle Watson, **Publicity and Procedures**, stated that his report stands.
h. Tony Cunningham, *Quality of Life*, stated that his report stands and that the committee needs more ambassadors. The committee also needs a lot of help with the duLac subcommittee, as the Vice President of Student Affairs would like the GSU’s input about potential changes.

i. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, stated that the current alcohol policy makes it so that no events on campus can be held without catering, which is very expensive. We would like that changed so that graduate students do not need to follow this mandate. This is an example of policy that is specifically designed for undergraduates that also cause issues for graduate students because there are not currently distinctions.

i. Sydney Blevins and Kara Harmatys, *Social*, stated that their report stands. They also asked that the representatives not forget about the upcoming Halloween party at Corby’s. Also, the wine tour trip was cancelled because of issues with bus scheduling. The trip will be held in the spring.


9. Doug Rice, *President*, called for new business:

a. The GSU has moved its scheduled concession stand to the Wake Forest game. We will donate the money earned to the Pregnancy and Parent Fund designed to help graduate students help defer the cost of having and raising children on a graduate student stipend. Doug mentioned that anyone who signs up to help will get a free hat and anyone who signs up for 4 hours will get a $10 Starbucks gift card. Also, any graduate students who stop by the concessions stand will be able to get free food.

i. Brandon Cook, *Medieval Studies*, asked where the concessions stand will be located.

ii. Doug Rice mentioned that the stand will be located close to the Radiation Laboratory East of the library.

10. Doug Rice, *President*, proceeded to University Committees:


b. Diana LaTorre, *Academic Technologies*, stated that the committee has yet to meet this year.

c. Tony Cunningham, *Ad-Hoc Funding Committee*, The committee hasn’t met yet.

d. Hilary Davidson, *Energy and Environmental Issues*, mentioned that she will be taking over this committee from Kyle Beam (*Political Science*). She stated that the game-day recycling program is fantastic and that anyone who helps out will get free food, and a t-shirt. Also, the university will donate $7/hour to GSU charities for each representative who contributes.

e. Kate Rueff, *Faculty Senate*, stated that her report stands.

f. Kate Rueff, *Graduate Council*, stated that her report stands.

g. Zack Terranova, *Library Committee*, stated that his report stands and mentioned that the committee will be polling graduate students on their desires on the upcoming library renovations. If you have any questions you would like included in the poll, please email him [zterrano@nd.edu](mailto:zterrano@nd.edu). All questions submitted will have to go through an approval process.

i. Doug Rice, *President*, asked when the poll will likely go out to the graduate students.

ii. Zack Terranova stated that the poll should be sent out post-Thanksgiving.

iii. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, asked when the questions for the poll need
iv. Zack Terranova responded that the questions for the poll need to be submitted by November 6th.

h. Kara Harmatys and Sydney Blevins, *LaFortune Tenants*, stated that their report stands.

i. Erin Drew, *TREC*, stated that the committee is planning on putting together a cross-disciplinary writing group for dissertations. If you are interested, keep an eye out for a future emails.
   i. Stefanie Wellons, *Sociology*, asked if it will only be for dissertations or if master’s theses will also be included in the group.
   ii. Erin Drew stated that she thinks it should be both. She will ask about it at the committee meeting about making it available for both.

j. Tony Cunningham, *Traffic Appeals*, stated that the committee has not met yet.

k. Lindsey Turnbull and Ricky Klee, *Healthcare*, stated that the committee hasn’t met yet.

l. Jade Avelis, *Women Faculty and Students*, stated that her report stands.

11. Doug Rice, *President*, introduced Mimi Beck

12. Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*, stated that the Grad Life grants are a way to put money in the hands of the students for an idea for an event that will provide cross-disciplinary interactions. The events will be those that will run from January 2013 through July 2013. If you want to apply, find the application online at [www.gradlife.nd.edu](http://www.gradlife.nd.edu) The department will have two informational meetings on November 1st at 3:30 pm and 7:00 pm. The location will be posted in the Grad Life Weekly newsletter. Also, any student can set up an individual appointment with Mimi to talk about ideas or for help with applications. Finally, she mentioned that the Writing Center and the Library will be setting up a dissertation writing support group.

a. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, asked what the typical turnaround for the grants is.

b. Mimi Beck said that the funds will be available on January 2nd. The awards will be announced before December 18th. This year, the office is only doing half of the year. The next proposals will likely be due in March and will correspond to funding opportunities from August 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014.

c. Tony Cunningham, *Quality of Life*, asked what the longest project term can be.

d. Mimi Beck responded that the idea is that the grants can be used as “seed money” to help student groups form so long as the groups are apart from departmental lines. It has to gather people around an idea of interest. If you want this to be a long-term project, you will need to have a plan for continuity of leadership. When you do a renewal application, you will need to answer these questions.

e. Hilary Davidson, *External Affairs*, mentioned that a lot of departments are somewhat isolated and asked if the office would be willing to put people with similar interests and ideas in touch with each other.

f. Mimi Beck responded in the affirmative.

g. Kelsie Hoke, *Architecture*, said that a report was submitted to the Grad Life Office regarding the surveys from graduate students. She asked if there were any interesting suggestions.

h. Mimi Beck stated that we will need to improve communication across the board. There is a list of several things and the office will make that list available to the GSU. Further, she will check to see if the entire document can be shared.

13. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, stated that last year, the Village tried to advocate
about having a crossing at Douglass Rd. The city of South Bend is waiting to tear Douglas up and rebuild it. Someone put a letter in the observer saying that this decision was in direct contrast to the wishes of those living in the Village. The plan calls for the road to be twice as large. The issues raised by the residents include the potential danger of crossing the road, the potential crime, and the noise. The university wants to “maximize land capture” so there really isn’t any flexibility. Further, psychologically, it separates and isolates the Village from the rest of the campus. After the residents voiced concerns, we met with representatives from the university and they assured us that student family housing has a future at Notre Dame. They asked from proposals on how the road will likely affect residents. The plan to alter the road is just a proposal and hasn’t been approved by the county yet. However, it likely will be approved. If there are any questions, please contact Peter [Peter.P.Campbell.118@nd.edu].

a. Temistocle Grenga, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, asked how the change will affect research facilities at White Field.
b. Peter Campbell responded that the route of the road will actually enclose White Field inside of the campus limits. It is the goal to bring the research facilities in the campus.
c. Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, asked if it would suffice to have the road built directly north of the Village.
d. Peter Campbell stated that one of the reactions that the university is hesitant is because the University Village will likely not be there in the future. It has been there since 1972. The buildings need to be replaced and if that is in the long-term plan, they likely won’t accommodate the Village because the road is going to far outlive the current building. However, the issue is that there are more than 100 children living in the Village and their safety is being impacted.
e. Erin Drew, Professional Development, asked if the city does decide to build this road, will the residents of the village have to cross the four-lane road to get to campus.
f. Peter Campbell responded in the affirmative. He said that the city won’t build an underpass and can’t build an overpass. Finally, he stated that the letter in the observer said that the university has done nothing to accommodate the concerns of the Village, and that is not technically true.

14. Hilary Davidson, External Affairs, motioned to adjourn
15. Doug Rice, Chemistry and Biochemistry, seconds.
16. Doug Rice, President, proceeds to vote. Motion passes unopposed.
17. Meeting adjourned 7:24PM.

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

Conference Presentation Grants
There will be a new limit of three CPG applications per academic year. Each application takes time to process, print, and then be reviewed by the CPG Review Committee. Since some students keep declining the funding only to apply once again for various reasons (didn't want to attend, got other funding, etc...), we are setting this limit to make the entire process more efficient. Of course only one conference can be funded per academic year, so please be conscience about what conferences you choose to apply for.

Grad Life Team
The Grad Life team met on November 7th. We discussed ways our team could contribute to the Graduate Student Appreciation Week taking place in February. The GSU will be hosting a party at the end of the appreciation week.

Accreditation Committee
The accreditation committee on ‘Ethical and Responsible Conduct’ met last week to begin gathering materials involving the ethical measures our university takes while conducting education and research. Doug was asked to put together a report which details the honor codes in the MBA, Law and graduate programs which is due before Christmas.

Concession Stand
We will be manning a concession stand this Saturday, November 17th during the Wake Forest game. All profits will go to the Pregnant and Parenting fund. The arrangements for the stand have been made we just need a few more volunteers to ensure there is enough people to maintain the stand throughout the afternoon. All volunteers get a free ND hat and those who volunteer for 4 hours or more get a $10 Starbucks gift card.

Faculty Senate
Faculty Senate met on October 30, 2012. During the subcommittee time Kate presented the Student Affairs committee with a list of four bullet points that the GSU Health Care Chair, Ricky Klee, had outlined as a means for a new health care resolution. The four points were "Health Care as a Human Right", "Being comparable & competitive with Peer Institutions", "Necessary accounting of uninsured and under-insured dependents", and "Use of University funds to subsidize costs". The discussion of these points as valid terms for revisiting the needs of graduate health care were voted on and the subcommittee voted to endorse the spirit of these points. The points were then brought to the full Faculty Senate to evaluate and discuss, after which the Senate recommended that these points be drafted into a full resolution that would be eligible for a vote at the next meeting.
Graduate Council
The Graduate Council meeting for November 12, 2012 was canceled due to lack of significant business requiring the full council. The next scheduled meeting is January 30th, 2013.

Restructuring the Graduate School (Roche Committee)
Since the summer Kate has been meeting on a weekly basis with a group of committee members regarding the future restructuring of the Graduate School. This committee is led by Mark Roche and includes directors of graduate studies, associate Deans, and the Acting Dean, Chris Maziar. Through the course of these meetings two keys changes are significant to graduate students for the future. Firstly, the committee is recommending that the stipends previously administered by the Graduate School will be decentralized into the individual colleges. Those colleges (Arts & Letters, Engineering, and Science) will be responsible for the processing and monetary records of the funds allocated for stipends. The Deans of the colleges will be in charge of allocating stipends and individual program development. Additionally, many of the prestigious Fellowships will be decentralized to the college levels for awarding; however, some will still be awarded via the Graduate School due to the eligibility of students across all colleges. Secondly, the committee reviewed the purpose, title, and role of Dean of the Graduate School. The committee recommends that the position be changed to an Associate Provost and that they would be housed in the Provost’s Office. However, the title of Dean of the Graduate School would still be used for representation of the Graduate School when warranted. This position would now be selected by the Provost, rather than according to the guidelines from appointment of the college deans. If you have questions on the restructuring committee, please see Kate or email krueff@nd.edu.
Academic Affairs
November 2012
Submitted by Zack Terranova  
zterrano@nd.edu

Academic Council & Advanced Studies Committee
Our meeting was held on October 23, 2012 where we approved a Ph.D. program in Anthropology, Doctor of Musical Arts, and a Proposal for a Master of Science in Business Program, pending a name change. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2012.

University Committee on Libraries
I presented the proposed Graduate Student and Postdoc Satisfaction survey on November 8, 2012 at the UCL meeting. All questions were approved with minor tweaking necessary. I am also working with members of the Law School to try and design questions specifically for law students. The proposed date for the survey is November 26, the Monday after Thanksgiving. The survey will tentatively be open until December 5, 2012 pending an adequate number of respondents. We will be offering a $50 incentive, funded by the GSU, to answer the ~32 question survey, funded by the GSU.

Symposium
I am currently compiling a list of potential Abstract and Poster judges from the four divisions for the fifth annual Graduate Student Research Symposium. We are going to host the event in Jordan Galleria on Friday February 22, 2013. Mary Sajini Devada, a representative of the postdoc community, and I, are collaborating our efforts and funding for this event which will host 24 graduate and 24 postdoc posters.

The Call for Abstracts will be for the entire month of December, with emails and posters being dispersed during that timeframe. The AA subcommittee will be meeting to discuss advertising, catering, and program design.
External Affairs
November 2012
Submitted by Hilary Davidson

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](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. We met on November 6 to discuss vision, a timeline, and details. We are tentatively opening the center in February. Graduate students are especially encouraged to serve as mentors and volunteers. We are starting small with an afterschool program for middle and high school students focused on a specific topic (i.e. Civic Engagement). In part, the purpose of this center is to increase the efficacy and agency of students, while also encouraging the transposable skills and cultural capital that writing offers. Over time, we hope to expand the services we offer—ideally, anyone would be able to bring any piece of writing to the center—a poem, letter to the utility company, note to a teacher, resume, college application, etc. In addition, we hope to collaborate with the South Bend Civil Rights Museum to facilitate projects such as family and oral histories.

If you are interested or have ideas, please email me. We are working hard to provide a good service to the community, while also taking stock of the special talents and skills that graduate students in particular may bring to the center. Tours of the RCLC specifically for graduate students will be available on **Monday November 26 at 11:30am** and **Thursday November 29 at 2pm**.

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.
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 interested in creating change on our campus in our community.
Healthcare
November 2012
Submitted by Lindsey B. Turnbull & Richard Klee

Graduate Student Blood Drive November 13
Over 100 people signed up to donate blood with the South Bend Medical Center. Total number of units collected is yet to be determined.

University Committee on Student Health Insurance
The university committee to negotiate a new student insurance package has not met yet. We are still in the process of setting up a meeting with a bioethicist to talk about ways of discerning priorities in funding an insurance package with limited means. We are also working with the Faculty Senate on a resolution in response to Dean Sterling’s reply to their resolution last year regarding the need to improve student health insurance. This past week I met with the University Vice President for Catholic Mission, Fr. Bill Lies, regarding the need for better student dependent coverage owing to Catholic teaching that health care is a human right. I also met with Interim Dean Chris Maziar, who agreed to seek an independent analysis of the actual costs involved in providing insurance access to uninsured student dependents.

Health Care Committee
The members of the healthcare committee will be meeting later this month to discuss ideas for a graduate student health fair, improvements to the health insurance plan, and to brainstorm ideas for gathering information about broader graduate student health care needs.
Marketing and Merchandise Specialist
November 2012
Submitted by Mayra Duarte

How to submit a poster design
We have started a new system of submitting poster design orders.

All posters requests will be sent to Doug Rice first with at least 1 week advance notice before you need it designed. We're in the process of putting together a form to input information so for now, send the poster specifics that you see necessary to Doug and he'll forward them to me. If you are unsure whether your event can be put on the list for a designed poster or not, you can contact Doug. There are times where I have a big amount in list and there are other times there is more space in the list. So even if your event is targeting a small niche, there are chances we can work together to come up with a design.

Other ways of advertising
Lately we have included LaFortune LCD displays to extend the reach of our designed posters. I am open to listen to your suggestions and questions regarding what other kind of media we can design in order to maximize the attendance to your events. As a graphic designer there is a variety of printed materials I could develop besides posters and flyers. Think of other traditional ways of advertising around campus such as table tents, t-shirts, stickers, etc. First, I would encourage making a revision of the printing budget before requesting a new idea. I believe there are situations that may require a different approach. Also I want to point out that we have a Facebook page for the GSU, where you can create an event to invite graduate students who already “liked” our page. You can also use the FB page wall to make reminder posts before the day of the event. We could even “design” a post to put on the wall that will match the design of the printed poster.

Thanksgiving Brunch poster
I designed a poster for the GSU Thanksgiving Brunch on November 22nd. Same format as the others 8x5” x 11”. The poster was uploaded to the LCD displays at LaFortune.
Orientation and Electronic Resources
November 2012
Submitted by Diana La Torre

Orientation and Electronic Resources Committee
We are looking into getting a printer for University Village. I brought up this topic at the UCAT meeting in October. It will be taken into consideration and we will discuss it further in our next meeting.

STATA will be installed on the ND computers by Spring/Summer.

For all TA’s, there will be some more info sessions/ tutorials on the new version of Sakai. The new version of Sakai has new advances that can be very useful in the classroom.

There is a new Director of sustainability. We are trying to reduce printing and paper spending substantially. If anyone has any suggestions, please let me know.

Please also contact me with any other issues pertaining to resources.
Professional Development
November 2012
Submitted by Erin Drew

TREC Committee
The TREC Committee has not met since the last GSU meeting. We will meet again later this month to decide on next semester’s events.

Recent TREC-sponsored events
The second Grad School Game Plan event took place November 8 at 5pm in LaFortune, co-sponsored and moderated by John Lubker, Associate Dean of Students for the Graduate School. John led the students through a series of activities focused on improving concentration and focus. 25 students attended. Special thanks to Kyle Watson, publicity chair, for sending out an extra email advertising the event the day before. Over half the students who registered for the event did so after the email was sent out on November 7.

Upcoming TREC-sponsored events
The next Grad School Game Plan event will take place in December in the Notre Dame Room at LaFortune, and will focus on relaxation and stress management.

In consultation with Ann Moran in the Career Center, preliminary plans have started for a graduate student mock interview event for Spring 2013. The event will tentatively take place at the end of February, and will allow students to sign up for 10-minute mock interviews with industry and academic professionals from the area who are not directly affiliated with Notre Dame. The TREC committee has yet to vote on this event. More details will be forthcoming after TREC has officially decided whether or not to pursue this opportunity.
Publicity and Procedures
November 2012
Submitted by Kyle D. Watson

Website
I have been continually updating the calendar of events. We recently received some housing offerings to graduate students from alumni and faculty. We are hoping to set up a link on the website that can list some offerings like this in the future. 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 November 5, 2012. It was opened by 31% of the recipients (768 students). There were 2 unsubscriptions for the month. Overall, the newsletter is sent to 2,586 students. Also, it was discussed that there is a lot of overlapping of the events listed on the GSU newsletter and the Grad Life weekly newsletter. Because of this, it was decided that events already listed on the Grad Life newsletter will not be repeated on the GSU newsletter unless it is an event specifically planned by the GSU. If there are any events that you would like to mention 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 12 November 2012, there are 298 people who “like” and follow the GSU Facebook page. So far this month, I have advertised some professional development events and the blood drive. 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 53 followers.
Quality of Life
November 2012
Submitted by Tony Cunningham

The QoL subcommittees are now pretty much set! Now that we finally have the numbers
we have commenced meeting and creating action plans.

Graduate Student Faith Fair (5 members)
The Fair has been the major focus of attention this last month. The Faith Fair is Nov. 14th
from 6:30-8:30pm in the Stepan Center. Thirty-one different community and on campus
organizations signed up to represent their faith or group thus far. Quite a bit of effort was
put into promoting the event so hopefully we will get a good turnout.

LGBTQ Subcommittee (10 members)
The committee held its first official meeting on 10/23. Mostly a brainstorming meeting to
get the ball rolling. Decided the first event will be an Ally Training for graduate and
professional students in early spring, and would like to have one additional event just
before the summer, even if it is just a brief get together for Allies in the department to come
and meet for awhile. Plan to schedule another meeting towards the beginning of December.

Graduate Resource and Problem Resolution (GRPR) Hour (7 members)
Traffic has tapered off but we have managed to resolve a few cases. Plan to keep plugging
along to provide a resource to the graduate school community. We would like to develop a
FAQ and important contact list.

Housing and Insurance Subcommittee (6 members)
Currently in the stages of planning its first meeting (should be right before or after the
Thanksgiving Break). The itinerary will be to discuss what the MOST important needs are
for graduate student housing in order to have a report prepared for when the VP of student
affairs contacts us.

Graduate School Ambassador Subcommittee (3 members)
We could still use a few more volunteers. 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 (6 members)
First meeting will be this Friday at noon under the guidance of Dean Lubker. Itinerary will
be to set realistic goals and to begin making a plan of action to work towards them.
Social Report
November 2012
Submitted by Kara Harmatys and Sydney Blevins

Fall Events 2012

Halloween Costume Party
Saturday, October 27 (9:00pm to 12:00am)
GSU sponsored a Halloween costume party for graduate students and spouses/guests. It coincided with an away Notre Dame Football game which turned out to make for a very successful game watch/party. We provided pizza and Halloween candy and decorated the space that Corby’s provided for us to use. We also held a costume contest that was decided by audience applause. Overall, this was an extremely successful event. We had well over 100 students attend and we received many compliments on the event. We would highly recommend having a Halloween party again next year. Additionally, Corby’s was very accommodating and provided us with the space and security personnel at no charge. Future social chairs might want to look into having a game watch for an away game at Corby’s because the atmosphere there was very fun and the pizza was good as well.

Ice Skating Event at Compton Family Ice Arena
Sunday, November 11 (4:00 to 6:00pm)
We reserved the arena at the Compton Family Ice Center for graduate students, spouses, children, and guests to go skating. We covered the cost of skate rental and provided students and their guests with cookies and hot chocolate from Catering by Design. As usual, this was a very popular event and we had a little over 100 attendees. This event was free for students and their guests.

Thanksgiving Brunch
Thursday, November 22 (12:00 to 3:30pm)
GSU through the LaFortune Box Office printed tickets for the annual Thanksgiving Day Brunch in the North Dining hall. These can be purchased for a reduced price of $5 from the ticket office in LaFortune Student Center. A valid graduate student ID is required for purchase and two tickets can be purchased per ID.

Christmas Party
Friday, December 7 (8:00 to 11:00pm)
We have reserved Legend’s club area for graduate students and spouses/guests. Legends will provide us with both hot and cold appetizers, water, and lemonade. A cash bar will also be available. We encourage everyone to wear their favorite ugly Christmas sweater and participate in the Christmas sweater contest (winner will receive a gift card prize). We will also have a gingerbread house contest, with the winning team receiving a gift card.
prize. There will be supplies for students to make Christmas cards that we will deliver to a local nursing home. Additionally, we will be collecting monetary donations to send to the Red Cross to help with relief for Hurricane Sandy.

**Children’s Christmas Party**
Saturday, December 8 (9:30am to 12:00pm)
We will have a Christmas party for the children of graduate students at the Community Center at University Village. We will have hot chocolate, juice, and cookies and the children will be decorating Christmas cards for family members. We will show a children’s Christmas movie and we will have a visit from Santa to give each child a small gift.

**Spring Events 2013**

**Morris Performing Arts Center**
- *Shrek the Musical*: February 9 at 2:00pm. We purchased 60 tickets ($47 each) and will sell them for $25 each. Two tickets per ID.
- *Wicked*: Saturday, May 11 at 8:00pm. We purchased 60 tickets ($68 each) and will sell them for $30 each. Two tickets per ID.

**Ice Skating Event at Compton Family Ice Arena**
- Reservations for skating at the Compton Family Ice Center have been made for Sunday February 24.
University Committee on Women Faculty and Students
November 2012
Submitted by Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski

The UCWFS held their second meeting of the semester on Monday, November 12.

A new undergraduate member of the committee was introduced.

Mapother Lunches, which take place twice a semester among the Provost and two female faculty members, were discussed. Faculty members who have attended in previous semesters expressed some confusion about what the goal or aim of these lunches is. Committee members suggested that in the future, the professors who are attending the lunch should meet beforehand, to discuss what topics they would like to cover with the Provost during the meal. Committee members also suggested several junior female faculty who they thought would be good candidates for the lunches.

Female faculty suggested a climate survey of ND in May 2011 and the UCWFS made a similar suggestion in 2008, and one will be conducted soon. Three representatives from the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Research were present to discuss the survey as it now stands. The Committee went through the survey and made suggestions for changes and additions. Although the instrument still needs to be finalized, it looks like this survey will take place this coming spring.