COUNCIL AGENDA PACKET

JANUARY 24 (THURSDAY)

6:30 PM

NOTRE DAME ROOM (2ND FLOOR)

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FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2013:
FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 21 – APRIL 25
JANUARY 24, 2013 – COUNCIL AGENDA

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

• Roll Call/Sign-In

• Approval of the Minutes (December 6, 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 – Hilary Davidson
  • 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
  • 2012-2013 GSU Budget

• Adjournment
Minutes

December 6, 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*); 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*); 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*); Hilary Davidson (*Energy and Environmental Issues*); Jade Avelis (*Women Faculty and Students*); Catherine Rastovski (*Women Faculty and Students*).


**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 6:36 p.m.
2. Doug Rice, *President*, called for any additions or changes to the meeting minutes from November 15, 2012.
5. Doug Rice, *President*, proceeded with the voting and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Doug Rice proceeded to executive committee reports:
Doug Rice, President, stated his report stands.

- There is a disputed amount earned from the concession stand sales. The report shows $1200. The budget shows $3000. We will need to clarify the amount earned. There is no thought of foul play. There is a profit overall and the amount will be reported once settled. Doug mentioned that if there is anyone who did not get the Starbucks cards, you can get them from Donna.

Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, stated her report stands.

- Added that faculty senate met this week. The committee brought a healthcare provision. It is being considered by the subdivision. It is in the first stages for a new resolution. Any questions, please contact Ricky Klee. (rklee2@nd.edu)

Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, absent.

Doug Rice, President, called for a 15-minute breakout for committees.

Doug Rice proceeded to Committee reports:

- Zack Terranova, Academic Affairs, stated that his report stands.
  - He further states that he is in charge of the library survey and requested that everyone fill it out.

- Hilary Davidson, External Affairs, stated that her report stands.

- Lindsey Turnbull, Healthcare, stated that her report stands.

- Mayra Duarte, Marketing and Merchandising, absent

- Diana LaTorre, Orientation and Electronic Resources, report stands.

- Erin Drew, Professional Development, stated that her report stands.

- Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, stated that his report stands.

- Tony Cunningham, Quality of Life, stated that his report stands.

- Sydney Blevins and Kara Harmatys, Social, stated that their report stands.
  - They stated that they have some updates for the annual charity gala which will be held on SATURDAY APRIL 13, 2012. It will be held at the Century Center downtown. Gala funds will be contributed to St. Margaret’s House this year. This organization provides assistance for local women and children. [http://www.stmargaretshouse.org/](http://www.stmargaretshouse.org/) Finally, they asked that everyone not forget about the Christmas party tomorrow. The Children’s party is the following day.
  - Douglas Smith, Mathematics, asked for more information about the upcoming musicals at the Morris and asked about when the tickets will be available.
  - Sydney Blevins, Social, stated that tickets for Shrek the Musical will be available in January. Tickets for Wicked will be available for purchase in late February or early March.

Doug Rice, President, proceeded to University Committees:

- Zack Terranova, Academic Council, stated that his report stands.

- Diana LaTorre, Academic Technologies, report stands.

- Tony Cunningham, Ad-Hoc Funding Committee, stated that his report stands.

- Hilary Davidson, Energy and Environmental Issues, stated that her report stands.

- Kate Rueff, Faculty Senate, stated that her report stands.

- Kate Rueff, Graduate Council, stated that her report stands.

- Zack Terranova, Library Committee, stated that his report stands.

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

- Erin Drew, TREC, stated that her report stands
j. Tony Cunningham, *Traffic Appeals*, stated report stands
k. Lindsey Turnbull, *Healthcare*, stated that the report stands.
l. Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski, *Women Faculty and Students*, stated that their report stands.
   i. Further, they stated that the meeting was cancelled for the month.
   ii. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, asked if there will be a rescheduled meeting.
   iii. Jade Avelis, *WFS*, responded in the negative.

10. Doug Rice, *President*, called for new business:
   a. Doug presented the budget for the upcoming year. He stated that the major difference is that there was a conference budget that was cut.
   b. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, mentioned that the funds for the computer cluster in the library cannot be touched as of now. However, the executive committee is working on changing that. The chairs have outlined information that will be given later. It was noted that the budget forms are confidential and will need to be returned.
   c. Doug opened the floor for discussions on the budget.
      i. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, said that the computer cluster has 10 computers and one printer. There is a large TV in the room that he has never seen used.
      ii. Erin Drew, *Professional Development*, said that it was connected to a computer.
      iii. Zack Terranova, *Academic Affairs*, mentioned that it is setup for presentations.
      iv. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, said that the space is supposed to be for quiet study.
      v. Zack Terranova, *Academic Affairs*, said that the survey that went out will try to address the issue of having quiet and non-quiet study spaces.
      vi. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, stated that he thought that it was always a quiet study area.
      vii. Zack Terranova, *Academic Affairs*, said that there have been several complaints because there isn’t actually a designated quite area in the library. Through the survey, the committee wants to address everyone’s needs. Eventually, the committee plans on labeling areas as quiet so people know.
      viii. Garrett Seelinger, *English*, asked if the funding for the cluster is something that we have to pay regularly. He also inquired about what the funds were used for.
      ix. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, said that keys were necessary for access to the cluster and these fees helped to keep the cluster updated. However, a key is not needed now. The committee would like to find out what the funds are for and if the funds can be modified in the future. However, the funds on this year’s budget cannot be altered.
      x. Ricky Klee, *Healthcare*, asked if it is possible to raise the executive committee salaries as it would provide more incentive for future candidates.
      xi. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, said that the goal would be to increase the overall stipend for the executive committee: $1800 for each Vice President and $2600 for the President. The raises would not take effect until next year.
      xii. Jade Avelis, *Sociology*, asked what the estimated hours for the positions are
and stated that the pay is about $200 a month before taxes.

xiii. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, said that the hours vary per week. She said that the position is also more volunteering.

xiv. Doug Rice, President, said that he enjoys serving the position and that the money is not the reason for serving.

xv. Ann Dallman, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences, said that inspiring people to serve because of the money is a bad idea.

xvi. Lori Peterson, Psychology, said that students don’t necessarily know that the Executive board and Committee chairs receive a stipend.

xvii. Nathan Smith, Art, asked what the responsibilities for the summer are.

xviii. Doug Rice, President, said that a lot of it is trying to get everything going. There is a lot of required time in the fall and spring.

xix. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, said that the PIs of the chairs and executive committee members can have the GSU stipend deducted from the RA and TA stipends.

xx. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President said that the stipends are paid at the end of the year so that this might be avoided.

d. Doug Hines, Chemistry and Biochemistry, moved to approve the budget as presented.

e. Jade Avelis, Sociology, seconded.

f. Doug Rice, President, proceeded to the vote and the motion passed.

11. Doug Rice, President, called for any other business

12. Peter Campbell, University Village, stated that the county voted 7-0 to approve the building of the road. The road will have 4 lanes and have a speed limit of 40 mph. One caveat is that they will put in a hawk beacon in three different locations. These crosswalks will actually stop traffic for crossers. The locations will be: one at the village, one at Twyckenham, and one at Vaness (Clover Apartments). The University will determine any plans. Some safety concerns have been answered by this system. Further, he would like to thank the GSU for their support in this manner.

a. Hilary Davidson, External Affairs, said that the graduate students don’t really have a lot of power in this situation. She wonders if it might be worthwhile to put together a demonstration to generate interest and put the University on the spot if some of the safety concerns are not met.

b. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, asked if it is illegal to demonstrate on the campus.

c. Peter Campbell, University Village, said that they are paying to put the road in, but all of the space on the campus side of the road will be part of the University. We have done interviews with news sources to talk about the concerns. His hesitation in doing the protest is that it may not be wise to try and force the University’s hand. If it is not going to cause anything other than Indignation it might not be worthwhile.

d. Jeremy Castle, Political Science, said that putting the stops in should appease the safety concerns. He asked if this was the consensus at the Village.

e. Peter Campbell, University Village, said that putting the crosswalks in was the way to address some of the concerns, but not all of them. They don’t know what the road will do to affect the property value of the village. Tenants at the Village said that they are disillusioned.

f. Ricky Klee, Healthcare, said that you can demonstrate on the campus as long as it is approved by the University. It may be a good way to provide attention and bring
questions regarding the University’s “family oriented” values.
g. Peggy Hnatusko, *GSU Advisor*, said that if you are part of a recognized student club or organization, you can register an event where you can do a demonstration. The duLac allows for individual students to have a demonstration through the safety office. As long as there is someone there from the Village, it should be okay.
h. Bry Martin, *History*, suggested that we look into what the people at the Village would feel about it. Perhaps Peter Campbell can ask what the village feels before we proceed with any demonstrations.
i. Erin Drew, *Professional Development*, said that there is a graduate student appreciation event in February. Perhaps it would be good to provide feedback that the graduate students are not being heard.
j. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, suggested that Hilary Davidson stay in contact with Peter Campbell about this.
k. Doug Rice, *President*, moved to table this discussion until the next meeting.
l. Kristi Pellegrini, *Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences*, seconded.
m. Doug Rice, *President*, proceeded to the vote and the motion passed.
13. Ricky Klee, *Healthcare*, asked Dean Lubker about the recent donation to the parenting fund.
a. Dean Lubker said that the funds would be for those students in crisis or need. If someone needs assistance, they can be put in contact with the office through referral.
b. Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*, said that they are not trying to hide anything; they just have limited funds and want DGSs to suggest people to prevent overburdening the funds. They currently want to use the referral process.
17. Doug Rice, *President*, proceeds to vote. Motion passes unopposed.
18. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Minutes Submitted by Kyle Watson
Executive Committee Report  
January 2013
Submitted by Doug Rice, Kevin Mueller and Kate Rueff

President away from campus: Research Internship
Doug will be away from campus from January 13th – February 13th on a research internship at the University Of Massachusetts School Of Medicine. The best way to contact him is through email [drice1@nd.edu](mailto:drice1@nd.edu).

Conference Presentation Grants
There is consensus between the various professional development funding agencies on campus that a common application system be developed. The information that all sources want will be on the main application and any additional information will only be needed if the student selects to include that particular source. This new system would allow the student to save their application in progress and keep all previous applications in one system. This new application would also require all funding sources to keep similar deadlines and can result in much faster turnaround after applying.

CSAP: Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention
The Committee on Sexual Prevention (CSAP) would like to expand its membership to include a graduate student. They meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 8:15am to 9:15am in the Notre Dame Room of the LaFortune Center. A link to their website for your review is [http://csap.nd.edu/](http://csap.nd.edu/). The GSU exec board is looking for a graduate student who wants to sit on this committee. Please let Kevin [kmuelle4@nd.edu](mailto:kmuelle4@nd.edu) know if you or someone that you know is interested.

Executive Graduate Council Meeting
The executive board of the graduate council met on January 16th. Kate is the GSU representative and attended the meeting. The distinguished alumni was selected for the 2013 commencement ceremonies. Additionally the agenda for January 30th was established and will consist of changing the name of the current ACMS to a Masters of Science in Interdisciplinary Mathematics, discussing the Doublecounting of Undergraduate and Graduate Credits and a Report of the Committee on Professional Masters Programs. Additionally the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Graduate School will be discussed during the meeting.

Faculty Senate
The next monthly meeting will take place on February 5th.
Ad Hoc Committee on the Graduate School

Kate was a part of the Ad Hoc committee and would like to point graduate students to the report and letter from Tom Burish that was sent out earlier this month. The report is available online here: [http://provost.nd.edu/committees/ad-hoc-graduate-school-committee/](http://provost.nd.edu/committees/ad-hoc-graduate-school-committee/).

The main changes will be 1.) The graduate stipends, starting with the 2014-2015 incoming class, will be administered by the individual colleges. 2.) Many of the prize fellowship awards will be moved from the graduate school to the colleges for selection. Some will stay within the graduate school due to restrictions on the funds. 3.) The position of Dean of the Graduate school will be attached through the Provost’s office and retitled as an Associate Provost, while still maintaining the title of Dean for official business. This position will now be selected by the Provost and not from the Deans of the colleges. 4.) Once the colleges have all the funds from the graduate school, they will have a subset of new "internal research and professional development grants/funding” that are only for graduate students to apply.

For further questions, we invite you to reference the report, beyond which all questions can be directed towards Kate [krueff@nd.edu](mailto:krueff@nd.edu).
Academic Affairs
January 2013
Submitted by Zack Terranova zterran@nd.edu

Academic Council & Advanced Studies Committee
The Academic Council met on December 4, 2012. Due to an overwhelming agenda, the Advanced Studies Committee did not meet at that time. We are planning on having an Advanced Studies Committee meeting on January 21, 2013. At the Academic Council meeting we finalized our reviews and accepted the proposal for a Joint Physics Program with Bethel and St. Mary’s College, a Ph.D. program in Anthropology, a Doctor of Musical Arts program, and Masters of Management program. We also reviewed the Revised Academic Code of the Graduate Business Programs as well as the Conflict of Commitment Policy, which were accepted after minor changes.

University Committee on Libraries
Two of the subcommittees presented reports at this meeting, the Digital Scholarship Committee and the Space Planning Committee. The Digital Scholarship subcommittee presented their agenda for 2013, which include the establishment of a commons area and a production facility within Hesburgh. The further development of a Digital Scholarship Center is drawing from a few key reports and surveys that have taken place over the years, as well as looking at peer institutions and what they offer.

The Space Planning Subcommittee, of which I am a member, is working on the renovation of Hesburgh Library. Based on shared university and library goals, industry trends, internal assessments and suggestions from students and faculties, we are developing an initial list of the kinds of space we anticipate should be included in the new library renovation to meet the changing needs of the 21st century scholar. We are in the process of collecting and compiling this important information for the architect.

A key component that gauges graduate students’ attitudes towards the library was the Graduate and Postdoc Library Satisfaction Survey. The survey was sent out to all graduate students and postdocs beginning November 26 and closing on December 10, 2012. There was a ~26% response rate among graduate students, which was enough to draw conclusions and recommendations to aid in the future development of the library. I have included the conclusions and recommendations from the survey, though if the entire report is desired please contact me at zterran@nd.edu.

Symposium
The Symposium planning is coming along, though not without a few setbacks. Our budget is currently being revised, so it is unclear what funds will be available for the upcoming Symposium, which is scheduled for February 27, 2013.
The call for abstracts originally had been open for the entire month of December; however, we received some requests to extend the deadline. We allowed an extension for an additional two weeks, which surprisingly garnered more abstract submissions than the entirety of the month of December. Perhaps a recommendation for future symposium planning would be to adjust the call for abstracts to take place during the month of January, post-holiday for many. This year we received 58 abstract submissions, of which 19 are postdocs. All of the abstracts we received are currently being judged by impartial professors within the author’s departments, and winners will be notified on January 23, 2013.

Conclusions and Recommendations

This survey was designed to provide the University Library Committee a baseline of the post-baccalaureate satisfaction with the University of Notre Dame libraries. Approximately one quarter of the population of graduate students, masters, postdocs, and law students responded to the online survey, and the responses they supplied are summarized here. This survey aspires to aid in the future development of the libraries.

Overall, the survey participants indicated they are satisfied with the library and the services provided by the libraries. In the free response questions, many expressed praise and gratitude at the direction the library is moving, for example the installation of Au Bon Pain and extending the hours.

Below reflects five initiatives that are drawn from the survey results.

1. Within one year, the libraries should designate specific areas/floors as silent study or loud study.
2. Within one to five years, the library should look into increasing book collections, both physically and online. Obtaining library licenses that allow library lending for e-readers should be explored, using Duke University as a model.
3. Within two to five years, the library should increase the number of journal subscriptions.
4. Within two to five years, the library should offer more support for digitizing material and creating digital projects.
5. Within five years, Hesburgh library should be renovated to better accommodate student needs, such as increased electrical outlets, more natural lighting, and improved study spaces.
External Affairs
January 2013
Submitted by Hilary Davidson

Notre Dame Center for Arts and Culture
The NDCAC— the new center that houses ND’s downtown offices, a print studio, art
gallery featuring Latino artists, and an educational center—is now open in the historic
district of downtown South Bend. Currently, the NDCAC is looking for graduate student
after-school tutors between 3 and 4pm Mondays-Thursdays and graduate students who can
provide an hour of enrichment programming following tutoring (Shakespeare, science,
architecture, you name it) for students in grades 1-6. The program will run February 11 -
April 25 (Spring Breaks for ND and public schools will be off). For tutors, they are looking
for a M/W, T/R, or M/T/W/R commitment for the sake of maintaining consistency with the
students and fostering relationships between tutors and students. Commitments to the
enrichment hour are more flexible.

Community Writing Centers
I met with the community writing center planning committee twice in December. We
are working to secure programming and space for a center that will gladly incorporate graduate
student involvement.

St. Margaret’s Winter Walk
The annual St. Margaret’s Winter Walk will take place on Sunday February 17 at 2:30.
Every winter, we walk in solidarity with women and children whose everyday means of
transportation is their feet, in any kind of weather. The funds raised help St. Margaret’s
House improve the lives of women who struggle with economic poverty. St. Margaret’s
House is a safe, hospitable place where women and children can receive a hot meal,
clothing, and help to discover their gifts, learn new skills, and create a better life for
themselves and their families. I will recruit for a team-base of 4 people (the more the
merrier!) at our Thursday meeting and establish a GSU team to walk the mile. More
information can be found at: [http://www.stmargaretshouse.org/winterwalk/](http://www.stmargaretshouse.org/winterwalk/)

Peaceful Demonstration during Grad Student Appreciation Week?
We tabled this discussion from our meeting in December. Peaceful protests and
demonstrations have proven to be effective tactics for groups with little access to formal
lines of power, including graduate student communities. If we as a community are not
satisfied with the care taken by the university to ensure the safety of pedestrians (and
playful children who may wander near the road) in light of the expansion of Douglas Road,
I would be happy to organize a peaceful demonstration to communicate our concerns and
advocate our needs.
Healthcare
January 2013
Submitted by Lindsey B. Turnbull & Richard Klee

Graduate Student Healthcare Survey
We are currently putting together a healthcare satisfaction and response survey that will be sent out to the graduate students later this month. The purpose of this survey will be to determine how many graduate students and their dependents typically enroll in the University sponsored health insurance plan, how satisfied students are with the current plan, and what students see as the biggest areas for improvement. The responses for the survey will be helpful in upcoming conversations and negotiations with Aetna Student Health as the University prepares to renew insurance contracts.

University Committee on Student Health Insurance
The university committee to negotiate a new student insurance package will meet for the first time on Thursday, January 24.

Spring Graduate Student Blood Drive
The Spring Blood Drive is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 21 from 10AM – 5PM in the La Fortune Ballroom.
Marketing and Merchandise Specialist
January 2013
Submitted by Mayra Duarte

GSU Symposium 2013
I designed two posters for the GSU Symposium 2013, one for the Call for Abstracts and the second one for the day of the event.

Remember that you can submit poster requests for your events to Doug Rice at drice1@nd.edu.
Orientation and Resources Committee
The University Council for academic technologies has decided to install printers in University Village and Fischer, O’Hara-Grace Graduate Residences. They should be installed by the end of January.

Also, we will no longer be using Adobe key server, the contract for an enterprise license was too expensive and the need for all the adobe programs is not visible on campus. The council is deciding which adobe programs are most used on campus and will attempt to renew contracts for a select number of adobe programs. Discussions with Adobe are still underway and new development will be announced.

Please feel free to contact me dlatorre@nd.edu with any other issues pertaining to resources.
Professional Development
January 2013
Submitted by Erin Drew

TREC Committee
The committee met on December 18 to discuss details of the upcoming mock interview event. See “Upcoming Events” below.

Recent TREC-sponsored events
TREC sponsored the first Grad School Game Plan session of the semester on January 17.

Upcoming TREC-sponsored Events
The Mock Interview Day will take place Monday, February 25. Times TBD, location is tentatively the LaFortune Ballroom. The event will give students the opportunity to sign up for short mock interviews with professionals from several different areas in academia, government and industry. We are working to locate several interviewers appropriate for each career path and Ph.D. specialty/division. Slots will be LIMITED—no more than two mock interviews per student. We anticipate having around 30 slots available total, depending on employer response and availability.

Students will be required to submit a CV or resume prior to the mock interview. They will receive a packet of information on CV/resume writing upon registration, and the Career Center will be available for CV/resume consultations. Depending on the turnout, students may receive an ND Career Center “padfolio” as a gift for participating, or may be eligible to win one in a post-event raffle.

In addition to the mock interviews, TREC will sponsor an “Interview Dos and Don’ts” workshop with Ann Moran from the Career Center on February 6, 12-1pm as preparation/advertising for the mock interview event. There will be free pizza and drinks!
Publicity and Procedures
January 2013
Submitted by Kyle D. Watson

Website
We have put together a page for listing off-campus housing opportunities offered by fellow students, alumni, and friends of the university. The new webpage is a subpage of the quality of life section of the website and is listed as “graduate student housing.” On the page, there is a link where someone can put in a request to list his or her potential rental information. We have already received one request and it is now available on the page. If you know of anyone interested in renting to graduate students, please let them know about this site. Finally, so not to impose bias, it is stated on the page that the GSU does not endorse or support any of the properties listed on the page. It is the goal of this page to help with communication about these opportunities for graduate students only. If you have any suggestions about the webpage, please let me know [kwatson2@nd.edu].

Newsletter
I have continued to send out a weekly newsletter on Mondays. The last newsletter was sent on 15 January 2013. It was opened by 37% of the recipients (869 students). Overall, the newsletter is sent out to 2377 students. 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 the day on 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 29 November 2012, there are 303 people who “like” and follow the GSU Facebook page. This month, I have advertised for the new website discussed above. 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 60 followers.
Quality of Life
January 2013
Submitted by Tony Cunningham

QoL SPECIAL REQUEST
Over the break I had the following question posed.

*Is there a service or something where spouses of graduate students can meet and talk about the strain of grad school on everything? Almost like a support group? My wife has been having a hard time recently with my long hours. I just didn’t know if there was a service already in place for something like that.*

After some research it appears as though there is nothing in place for a group like this. However the creation of something like this has the full support of QoL, Mimi Beck and the Grad Life Department. We are looking for volunteers to spearhead a group and/or activity. Further discussion is planned during the GSU meeting.

LGBTQ Subcommittee (10 members)
The committee decided to kick off the semester with the Ellen and Eddie Comedy and Coffee Hour. This event will be used to garner additional support for putting on a comprehensive and worthwhile Graduate Ally training. The event is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 19th from 7-8pm but the location is TBD. This event will be a part of Graduate Student Appreciation Week. The subcommittee is now in full planning mode. If you would like to assist with this effort please contact me at the meeting or via email [acunnin1@nd.edu](mailto:acunnin1@nd.edu).

Graduate Resource and Problem Resolution (GRPR) Hour (7 members)
GRPR has recommenced this semester. We are working on taking it to a higher traffic area (i.e. a table on the first floor of LaFortune) in order to increase visibility of both GRPR and graduate students. Could use it as an additional measure of advertisement for upcoming events (e.g. each week the table could be stocked with fliers/calendars to hand out to graduate student passersby).

Housing Subcommittee (6 members)
Communication on housing concerns continues. No major progress to date. Committee working on having Graduate Student concerns for Erin Hoffmann Harding when she gets to focus on her housing committee. Currently working with Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures to create a database of Graduate student sponsored Housing opportunities (will explain further in meeting). Additional volunteers are welcome!

Graduate School Ambassador Subcommittee (3 members)
STILL NEEDS ADDITIONAL 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 (7 members)  
Meeting scheduled to discuss our assessment of du Lac the week of 2/4. Also, we recruited the Law School to potentially help out our cause. They replied with initial interest but still waiting to hear back further.
Social Report  
January 2013  
Submitted by Kara Harmatys and Sydney Blevins

Spring Events 2013

**Tiempo Libre** - Friday, January 25th at 7:00 PM  
GSU purchased 30 tickets to sell to graduate students at a price of $5 (original price $10). It was brought to the GSU’s attention that The Graduate School also purchased 150 tickets. We have since combined the tickets and The Graduate School will cover the cost of the tickets purchased by GSU. Students can obtain the tickets for **FREE** courtesy of the Graduate School. Stay after for a Latin dance party with Michiana’s salsa King, David Seymour!

**David Parsons Dance** – Thursday, February 7th at 7:00 PM  
The Graduate School is also offering **FREE** tickets to this exciting, contemporary dance performance (150 tickets available).

**Shrek the Musical** – Saturday, February 9th at 2:00 PM  
GSU purchased 60 tickets ($47 each) and will sell them for $25 each. There is a limit of two tickets per ID. Tickets go on sale Wednesday, January 23rd.

Future Spring Events

**Family Ice Skating** - Sunday, February 10th from 4:00 to 6:00 PM  
The main arena at Compton has been reserved for open skate. The cost of skate rental will be covered. **FREE** hot chocolate and cookies will be provided. You must bring your ID for skate rental. There is a limit of two rentals per ID (children unlimited).

**Snite Museum of Art Tour** – Wednesday, February 7th (time TBD)  
The museum will be open for all Graduate students and families to appreciate the wonderful art it has to display. Cold appetizers and drink refreshments will be provided. Attendance will be free.

**Southwest Michigan Winery Tour** - Date TBA (Tentatively Saturday, March 23rd)  
A charter bus will pick up students (max capacity 48 students) on campus and transport them to three different wineries in the SW Michigan area. A boxed lunch will be provided. Students will be dropped off early evening near campus. There is a limit of two tickets per ID ($10 per ticket). Bus ride and lunch are included in that cost.
**Annual Charity Gala** - Saturday, April 13th from 7:00 to 11:00 PM
A deposit has been made for the Century Center located downtown. The proceeds will go to Saint Margaret’s House in South Bend. A theme is yet to be decided (general), but will focus on formal attire. Raffle prizes will be purchased. Food and decorations are also on the to-do list. Info on St. Margaret’s House can be found at [http://www.stmargaretshouse.org/](http://www.stmargaretshouse.org/)

**Wicked** - Saturday, May 11th at 8:00 PM
We purchased 60 tickets ($68 each) and will sell them for $30 each. There is a limit of two tickets per ID. Tickets will go on sale in April.
University Committee on Women Faculty and Students
January 2013
Submitted by Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski

The University Committee on Women Faculty and Students has not met since the last GSU meeting. There are no updates to report.