COUNCIL AGENDA PACKET

MARCH 21 (THURSDAY)

6:30 PM

NOTRE DAME ROOM (2ND FLOOR)

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FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2013
April 25
MARCH 21, 2013 – COUNCIL AGENDA

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

- Roll Call/Sign-In

- Approval of the Minutes (February 28, 2013)

- 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
  - ISLA Travel Funding

- Adjournment
Minutes

February 28, 2013

OFFICERS: Kevin Mueller, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Acting 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); 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); 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).

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Amy Buchmann (Applied and Computational Math and Statistics); Steven Marczak (Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering); Eva Van Leemput (Economics); Mingming Cai (Electrical Engineering); Garrett Seelinger (English); Bry Martin (History); Hannah Zdansky (Literature Program PhD); Brandon Cook (Medieval Studies); Edward Lamere (Physics); Jeremy Castle (Political Science); Enmanuelle Pardilla-Delgado (Psychology); Jade Avelis (Sociology); Sarah Schreiber (Theology PhD).

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

1. Kevin Mueller, Acting President, called the meeting to order at 6:42 PM.
2. Kevin Mueller, Acting President, called for any additions or changes to the meeting minutes from January 24, 2013.
   a. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, stated that Ricky Klee, Health Care, was incorrectly marked as absent and the minutes should be changed to reflect this.
   b. Because of the lack of quorum, the approval of the minutes will be tabled until next time.
3. Kevin Mueller, Acting President, proceeded to executive committee reports:
   a. Doug Rice, President, absent. However, his report stands.
   b. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, stated her report stands.
      i. Faculty senate is supposed to meet next week, but there is no new business so the meeting is cancelled until April.
   c. Kevin Mueller, Acting President, stated his report stands.
Kevin Mueller, *Acting President*, proceeded to Committee reports:


b. Hilary Davidson, *External Affairs*, stated that her report stands.

c. Lindsey Turnbull, *Healthcare*, stated that her report stands.

i. The health insurance committee had an impromptu meeting yesterday. It looks like the numbers that were given last meeting will be the same with the exception that the coverage limit will now be unlimited. However, Aetna is covering the cost of the increase in coverage so the cost will not go up for students.

ii. Mimi Beck, *Director Graduate Student Life*, said that the dental insurance is going away because not enough people are getting it and it is costing too much for Aetna to carry. She stated that the options were to either give everyone dental coverage or provide a savings card that will cost $25 and will be a discount card. She also said that the new healthcare act required that unlimited coverage be offered as of 2014; however, Aetna is going ahead with the increase a year early.


iv. Mimi Beck, *Director Graduate Student Life*, stated that the limit is currently $500K for total costs covered. The new unlimited coverage will no longer have a limit.


e. Diana LaTorre, *Orientation and Electronic Resources*, report stands.


i. She also stated that this coming Monday is the new ethics café. If you are interested in learning more about conflict resolution, please come and mention it to your department. The Professional Development team is going to put together a FAQ page on the website. If you have any FAQs, please send them to her.

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

h. Tony Cunningham, *Quality of Life*, absent.

i. Sydney Blevins and Kara Harmatys, *Social*, stated that their report stands.

i. They stated that the tickets for the winery tour will be sold starting next Monday.

Also, they mentioned that the wicked tickets sold out in two hours.

5. Kevin Mueller, *Acting President*, proceeded to University Committees:


e. Kevin, *Faculty Senate*, stated that his report stands.

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

g. Zack Terranova, *Library Committee*, stated that his report stands.

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

i. Erin Drew, *TREC*, stated that her report stands


i. However, Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, recommends that everyone read his report.

k. Lindsey Turnbull, *Healthcare*, stated that her report stands.

l. Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski, *Women Faculty and Students*, stated that their report stands.
6. Breakout for committee
   a. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, said thank you to all of the reps who showed up for the meeting.

7. Kevin Mueller, Acting President, introduced John Lubker, Associate Dean of Students.
   a. John Lubker, Associate Dean of Students, commented that Mimi Beck, Director Graduate Student Life, did a wonderful job on Graduate Student Appreciation Week.
   b. John Lubker, Associate Dean for Students, asked two questions:
      i. He asked about food at commencement - last year, the food cost more than a stipend. Because of this, the graduate school is no longer going to offer this food at commencement. He asked how students felt about this and what alternative suggestions there might be
         1. Jade Avelis, Sociology, said that she didn’t know there was food available.
         2. Zack Terranova, Academic Affairs, asked who provided the food.
         3. Dean Lubker said that it was the graduate school that provided the food.
         4. Hilary Davidson, External Affairs, said that for the undergraduate commencement, the school offers boxed lunches for purchase. She said that perhaps this could be an alternative.
         5. Dean Lubker said that the commencement ends right after lunch and people usually want to go out to eat. He said that ideally, there would be light refreshments for people to enjoy while they talked.
         6. Erin Drew, Professional Development, said that she liked the idea of the boxed lunches and agrees that they could be a good alternative.
         7. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, said that since this is the last time to hang out with your colleagues, lunch on campus might be a good idea.
         8. Diana LaTorre, Orientation, said that perhaps there could be a subsidized lunch for people to help defer some of the cost of providing lunch for everyone.
         9. Dean Lubker said that, logistically, he doesn’t know if this would work.
        10. Garrett Seelinger, English, said that he went to commencement last year to support friends. He said that because of the provided lunch he could mingle with his colleague’s family.
        11. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, suggested that perhaps something small could be offered instead of the full lunch.
        12. Dean Lubker asked if there were thoughts about what else could be offered.
        13. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, suggested that coffee could be offered.
        14. Mimi Beck, Director Graduate Student Life, noted that because the commencement was at Compton Family Ice Arena, the cost would be more because the catering ruled of the facility would have to be followed. She asked if people would oppose having it outside.
        15. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, said that it can be really hot.
      ii. John Lubker, Associate Dean for Students, asked about DPAC events. He said that there are usually more requests for tickets than the graduate school offers. However, there is usually only half attendance the day of the events. He asked if there were options to try and prevent this from happening.
         1. Lindsey Turnbull, Healthcare, asked if there was a call list to contact people who didn’t get tickets.
         2. Dean Lubker said that he doesn’t know if DPAC would allow this.
3. Garrett Seelinger, *English,* asked if the graduate school knows who shows up to the events.
4. Dean Lubker said yes.
5. Hilary Davidson, *External Affairs,* asked if we can charge $5 for the tickets to help incentivize people to actually come to the events that they get tickets for.
6. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President,* suggested that people get emails to confirm tickets.
7. Kevin Mueller, *Acting President,* said that people can put a deposit down on the tickets and get the money back when they show up.
8. Mimi Beck, *Director Graduate Student Life,* asked if people are not coming because of time commitments, time management, or because RSVPs are not important to students.
9. Garrett Seelinger, *English,* said that people who prioritize things may drop entertainment events if other things come up.
10. Erin Drew, *Professional Development,* said that if people have to pay a small amount, fewer people will be impulsive about getting the tickets and be more likely to plan correctly and come to the events.
11. Jade Avelis, *Sociology,* said that a small fee would not deter people from not going if something else comes up.
12. Erin Drew, *Professional Development,* asked if the tickets are available at the Graduate School office.
13. Dean Lubker said yes.
14. Diana LaTorre, *Orientation,* said that blacklisting people would be a good idea. Further, she said that if there was a negative consequence, like getting in trouble for not going, perhaps people would want to not get blacklisted and not get tickets to events they aren’t sure about.
15. Eva Van Leemput, *Economics,* said that she didn’t like the idea of blacklisting people. There are going to be times where people will have honest issues come up and prevent them from going to the event. This might be especially true for graduate students who are also parents.
16. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President,* said that because we are all graduate students, we need to be respectful and give unused tickets back.
17. Lindsey Turnbull, *Healthcare,* said that perhaps making the ticket pickup later would make people more knowledgeable about their schedule.
18. Sydney Blevins, *Social,* agreed. She also suggested that we offer the tickets at the door of the event.
19. Peggy Hnatusko, *GSU Advisor,* stated that DPAC doesn’t allow general admission seating.
20. Erin Drew, *Professional Development,* said that Lindsey’s idea is good. Perhaps a list of interest would be good.
21. Kyle Watson, *Publicity and Procedures,* said that they should just give away the tickets the day of the event so that people do not need to wait to be emailed.
22. Jade Avelis, *Sociology,* reminded everyone that parents might not like that. If they don’t have the tickets already, getting a sitter might not be easy.
23. Mimi Beck, *Director Graduate Student Life,* said that if people wait too long to give away the ticket, there isn’t enough time to fill the extra empty tickets. She said that she knows that people can get emails to remind people to go to
events. Also, she said that if there were individualized emails, this would help with the lack of people coming.

24. Garrett Seelinger, *English*, said that anything that adds to the contact between people and the ticket sales would help to improve people coming.

25. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, also said that people could send the tickets back to the graduate school through campus mail.

26. Mingming Cai, *Electrical Engineering*, asked who would maintain the list. He said that this would be done for hundreds of people and wonders who would have the time to take care of it. Further, he said that the office could just offer fewer tickets.

27. Dean Lubker said that the demand is high and they can’t just offer fewer tickets because the tickets are free and 50% will still show up.

28. Kate Rueff, *Co-Vice President*, said that people can email Dean Lubker for additional questions.

29. Dean Lubker also asked people to fill out the graduate student survey.

8. Kevin Mueller, *Acting President*, called for new business:

   a. Nolan Noble, *Economics*, discussed the institute for scholarship in the liberal arts. It is for people in the arts and social sciences. It is a travel grant award. It used to be completely separate and run by ISLA and now the program is run by the graduate school. All of the old deadlines will now coincide with the grad school deadlines. The GSU CPG approval committee is aware of this and as the approval committee goes forward, this will be kept in mind. Now, you can apply to both the grad school and ISLA, but it will have to be treated as an external request. The chance of getting two awards is much less now.

   i. Kevin Mueller, *Acting President*, said that if people cannot find anything available, they can go to Gretchen Busl, *Associate Program Director of Grants and Fellowships*, and find out if there is anything else available. If all other avenues have been exhausted, students can then apply again and it will be considered an external request.


   a. Jeremy Castle, *Political Science*, commented on the committee about sexual assault prevention. He updated what the committee is working on now. The university considers sexual assault on campus a problem and is working on correcting this. There was a survey sent out about what students knew about sexual assault on campus. The committee has broken up to a series of subcommittees to do some research. The committees are looking to make the system more fair and useful and better. There is a subcommittee working on selecting and implementing bystander training. The goal being to get students to come and learn about how to be advocates on campus and be put in place to help prevent sexual assault. There is a subcommittee looking at other institutions and what can be translated to ND. There is also a committee looking at what the university is doing. The idea is to look at what all of the other departments are doing and how to help centralize the process. There is another committee meeting in the future. If there are any questions, please feel to email him [Jeremiah.J.Castle.8@nd.edu].

   i. Kevin Mueller, *Acting President*, said that there may be a subcommittee next year as part of the GSU.

11. Mimi Beck, *Director Graduate Student Life*, said that there are still shirts from grad appreciation week available. Come to the grad school office to get some.

15. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

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

Graduate Council
The final meeting of the Graduate Council is Tuesday, March 19th. The Graduate Council will discuss the redefinition of the student assistantships and fellowships to better adhere to the federal tax codes and to compare with our peer institutions. Additionally, discussions will be held on the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Graduate School Committee for proposed revisions to the Academic Code, including dissolving the Graduate Council and changing the title of the head of graduate studies from dean to associate provost.

Faculty Senate
The Faculty Senate will meet on April 9th for the 2nd to last meeting of the semester. Kate Rueff will be attending as the GSU representative and serving on the student affairs subcommittee. If there are any resolutions to be proposed to the Senate for this meeting please email krueff@nd.edu by Friday, April 5th.

Campus Ministry Graduate Student Team
Under the direction of Fr. Jim King, C.S.C, the Office of Campus Ministry has been working hard to address the needs of Graduate Students. During the first semester, their organization performed an extensive self-evaluation of past and current services to the Graduate community. After many meetings and consultations with personnel from both inside and outside of the Notre Dame community, they have devised a strategic plan for the 2013-2014 School Year which involves the formation of a Campus Ministry Graduate Student Team. The team first convened on March 5th which is comprised of student leaders across campus. Doug Rice and Tony Cunningham attended the meeting as GSU representatives. Previous years events and ways to improve outreach to graduate students were discussed. Another meeting will take place in April and will continue throughout next year.

Grad Life Team
The Graduate Life Team met on March 6th to receive updates from organizations across campus and discuss new business. We discussed initial responses from the Grad Life Survey as well as the Grad Life Appreciation Week Survey which appeared to be great success based on survey responses. A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges) analysis of the Grad Life Survey will begin in late March and conclude in mid-May with a written assessment of graduate life based on the survey. We also discussed the potential for improving institutional and departmental welcome services.
Academic Affairs
March 2013
Submitted by Zack Terranova [zterrano@nd.edu]

Academic Council & Advanced Studies Committee
The Advanced Studies Committee has not met since January 21, 2013. Our next meeting is March 25, 2013.

University Committee on Libraries
The University Committee on Libraries met on Thursday March 7, 2013 where we discussed the results of the undergraduate satisfaction survey, the inner workings of the interlibrary loan services, and the library response to the Graduate Student Survey Recommendations.

The undergraduate survey on the libraries echoed many of the same concerns shared by the graduate students, namely that the library is in need of a renovation. Achieving approximately a 25% response rate, though notably missing a large percentage of freshmen due to an email technical issue, the students voiced concerns about natural lighting, electrical outlets, and the need for more individualized study spaces. In a word map generated by submitted responses the top words to describe the library were ‘dated’ and ‘old’ whereas they would prefer a library that is comfortable and modern.

Lou Jordan responded to the recommendations put forth by the Graduate Student Survey put forth last year (2012), which are:

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.

He made special mention of the fact that the library has been investing in their collection, showing the amount spent and volume acquired of both subscription series and books physically and digitally, and renovation plans are in the works for 2013.
External Affairs
March 2013
Submitted by Hilary Davidson

Notre Dame Center for Arts and Culture Open House
The NDCAC— the new center that houses ND’s community relations office, the Segura Fine Arts Studio, the Notre Dame Crossroads Gallery for Contemporary Art, and programming, including tutoring, art education, public lectures, a summer youth innovation camp and other events— will be hosting an open house on Wednesday March 27. There will be refreshments and guided tours from 10am-2pm and 3-7pm. The Center for Arts and Culture has graciously offered to give a special tour to graduate students and to discuss opportunities for graduate students to become involved at the NDCAC. We will meet at 6:00pm at the Center. The NDCAC is located in the historic district of downtown South Bend, 1045 West Washington Street.

IgniteMichiana
Ignite Michiana is an evening of 5-minute talks on a variety of topics presented by a variety of speakers looking to ignite and inspire. Each presentation is composed of 20 slides that automatically advance every 15 seconds. On March 28 the theme is sustainability and innovation. Join fellow grads for this event at the State Theatre in downtown South Bend (214 1/2 S Michigan St, South Bend, Indiana 46601). Presentations range from how to be a locavore to smart sewer systems to cloud computing to solar lamps. Doors open at 6:00 pm and the evening begins at 6:30pm. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at the door or in advance from Idle Hours bookstore or Brew Werks. For more information: [http://ignitemichiana.com/]

CommUniversity Day at the State Theatre
CommUniversity Day is an annual event bringing together college and graduate students from the local community to participate in service projects. The day begins with the Homeward Bound Walk/5K Run, which benefits local agencies that fight homelessness. That event takes place at the Robinson Center, with registration beginning at 8:30am [http://homewardboundindiana.org/st-joseph-county]. Children can enjoy an afternoon of activities at the Irish Experience Kids Festival on campus.

This year ND graduate students will be spending the afternoon of Saturday April 6 at the State Theatre (214 1/2 S Michigan St, South Bend, Indiana 46601). We will start our day with a tour of the Theatre at 11:30am given by the manager, Drew Elegante. After the tour, we’ll get to work on restoring the theatre’s art studios (giving the walls a fresh coat of paint, clearing out rubbish, etc.). This is a great chance to learn more about the community beyond ND while helping to bring this national historic landmark back to prominence as the ‘Pride of South Bend’. For more information about the theatre: [http://www.thestatesb.com/] The day culminates with a picnic for all participants at 3pm at the Robinson Center - plenty of food, music, and fun for all!
Healthcare
March 2013
Submitted by Lindsey B. Turnbull & Richard Klee

Graduate Student Blood Drive March 26
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 100 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 – 5PM. To schedule an appointment go online to: [www.givebloodnow.com](http://www.givebloodnow.com) and use sponsor code: IRISH. Select the Graduate Student Blood Drive.

Health Insurance Committee
The Health Insurance Committee met on February 27. We decided to change the student insurance plan for next year in the follow ways:

- There will be no lifetime maximum payout limits on the insurance plan. Unlimited coverage would have been required under the new healthcare law beginning in 2014-2015. Rather than incrementally increase the coverage, Notre Dame will move to unlimited coverage beginning this August. This will not, however, increase the premium as Aetna has agreed to waive the extra $18-20 per person for this coverage.

- Dental Insurance will no longer be offered. Instead students can choose to purchase a dental savings card for $25. This savings card will be valid for the entire insurance coverage period and usable at a wider range of dental practices than were previously covered under the dental policy. The exact details of all the savings possible with this card are not yet available. However, students who only visit the dentist twice a year for cleanings and check-ups would save more than the cost of the savings card.

- Starting this August for the 2013-14 academic year, students who are graduating in the fall semester will be able to enroll for insurance only during the fall semester. These students will only be charged for the fall semester portion of the premium. However, if a student enrolls for only the fall plan and then does not graduate, they will be automatically re-enrolled in January for the Spring/Summer portion of the plan and subsequently charged the remaining insurance premium. Students graduating in the Spring will need to enroll for the entire year.

The next insurance committee meeting has not yet been scheduled. We are waiting for the results from the Graduate Student Life Survey so that we can make recommendations to the committee on behalf of the graduate student body.
Orientation and Resources
March 2013
Submitted by Diana La Torre

Orientation and Electronic Resources Chair
The University Council for Academic Technologies will meet again on March 20th. If there are any concerns, questions, or comments please let me know so I can bring it up at the meeting. We will hopefully, have an update in regards to the email account termination policy after graduation.

Commencement Committee
The graduate school is working very hard to deliver a great commencement for graduating graduate students. Please let us know if you have any input or suggestions for the ceremony.
Professional Development
March 2013
Submitted by Erin Drew

TREC Committee
TREC has not met since the last report.

Recent TREC-sponsored events
The GSU Mock Interview Day took place Monday, February 25. Twenty students registered for 20-minute mock interviews with professionals from academia, the private sector, the non-profit sector, and university administration. Eighteen attended; one cancelled and one no-showed. Students and employers reported having a very positive experience. Students received helpful advice on how to improve their resumes/CVs and interview skills, and employers said they enjoyed meeting with students and getting to know about their experiences and skills.

The Interview Do’s and Don’ts panel that preceded the Mock Interview event has been added to the Graduate School Professional Development event catalogue. It is scheduled to take place annually in the spring. The Mock Interview event is not scheduled to be a recurring event currently, but we would recommend TREC consider offering it again in the future. If it should be offered again, students and employers recommended extending the interview slots to at least 30 minutes.

Upcoming TREC-sponsored Events
TREC currently has no future events scheduled.
Publicity and Procedures
March 2013
Submitted by Kyle D. Watson

Website
I am continuing to check the submission survey every week for additional submissions to the housing website. If you have any suggestions about the webpage, please let me know: kwatson2@nd.edu.

Newsletter
The last newsletter was sent on 12 March 2013. It was opened by 36% of the recipients (855 students). Overall, the newsletter is sent out to 2351 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 Friday for the upcoming Monday newsletter. If you have any suggestions on how the newsletter could be improved, please let me know.

Facebook & Twitter
I have created a page to help advertise for the Charity Gala. I also advertised for the most recent Ethics Café and some of the graduate student appreciation events. As of 17 March 2013, there are 313 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 69 followers.
Quality of Life
March 2013
Submitted by Tony Cunningham

LGBTQ Subcommittee (10 members)
Graduate Student Ally Training planning continues. First meeting of both LGBTQ subcommittee members and outside support is this week. The training is scheduled for 4/18/2013 in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune from 6:30-8:30pm.

Graduate Resource and Problem Resolution (GRPR) Hour (7 members)
GRPR Hour is still in the Elevator Lobby of LaFortune every Wednesday from 4:30-5:30pm. FREE COFFEE will be provided and a new email address has been created for students to submit problems and concerns while remaining otherwise anonymous if desired (nd.grpr@gmail.com). To submit an event to be advertised at GRPR Hour please send an email with flier to epardill@nd.edu by Tuesday afternoon.

Housing Subcommittee (6 members)
We would like to continue to promote the Housing page on the Quality of Life website. Any ideas would be much appreciated. Kelsie Hoke (khoke1@nd.edu) has offered to help out with the housing battle. Any ideas, concerns, questions or complaints can be directed toward her (and CC: acunnin1@nd.edu).

Du Lac subcommittee (7 members)
Next du Lac subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for 3/25/2013. If you are interested in helping out with this committee please contact acunnin1@nd.edu.

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.

Faith Fair
Contacted Priscilla Wong and Scott Boyle this week in Campus Ministries to begin planning phases of NEXT year’s Faith Fair. If you are interested in helping out with this event please contact acunnin1@nd.edu.

Spousal Support
We had mentioned having one of the committee members take over the role of Spousal Support for graduate students. Maybe help plan events or get-togethers or at least be a contact person for them. I would like to keep this conversation going.
Social Report
March 2013
Submitted by Kara Harmatys and Sydney Blevins

Spring Events 2013

Southwest Michigan Winery Tour - Sunday, March 24th (11:15 AM to 6:30 PM)
A charter bus will pick up students (max capacity 24 students) on campus from the library circle and transport them to three different wineries in the SW Michigan area. These wineries include Lemon Creek, Round Barn, and Hickory Creek. A boxed lunch will be provided for all attendees at Round Barn. Students will be dropped off early evening at the library circle. Limit of two tickets per ID ($10 per ticket). Bus ride and lunch are included in that cost. All tickets have been sold.

Update for this event: GSU now has a 47 passenger bus and will open ticket sales for an additional 23 students. Tickets go on sale 3/20 and will be available through 3/23.

Easter Brunch - Sunday, March 31st (11:30 AM - 3:30 PM)
The Graduate Student Union has purchased 450 tickets for the annual Easter Brunch at the South Dining Hall on campus. The tickets are on sale for $5 each at the La Fortune box office (this reduced price is not available at the door the day of the brunch!!). Limit of two tickets per Graduate Student/Spouse ID.

Annual Charity Gala - Saturday, April 13th (7:00 - 11:00 PM)
This event will be held at the Century Center in Downtown South Bend. We have finalized our dinner menu and our DJ services. We are currently collecting gift certificate donations from local businesses to be given away during the prize raffle. A Kindle Fire HD has been purchased for the grand prize. Tickets can be purchased at the La Fortune box office for $20 per ticket (2 tickets per Graduate Student/Spouse ID allowed). Additionally, you can purchase tickets the day of the event (April 13) for $25 at the box office. HALF OF THE TICKET SALES AND ALL MONEY FROM PRIZE RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE DONATED TO ST. MARGARET'S HOUSE. Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance of the event from the GSU office or at the event (Cash or Check only!). You do not need to be present at the gala to win.

Wicked Saturday - May 11th (8:00 PM)
GSU purchased 60 tickets for this event ($68) and sold them at a reduced price ($35). All tickets have been sold.