GSA E-Board Goals and Responsibilities 2016-2017

Current asks of admin from the GSA

• **Housing crisis**
  o Housing issue is large and unwieldy. No one person created it, no one person can solve it. We as grads aren’t in charge of fixing it.
  o We can make clear to the administration that charging over 40% of the TA wage for a bed on campus is unacceptable, and that they need to find ways to subsidize grad student housing without unfairly burdening undergrads
    ▪ Current wage is ~$1950/month, so 40% is ~$780/month. According to HUD, paying over 30% of a family's income in rent makes the family “cost-burdened.” 30% of the TA wage is $585.
  o We can also make clear to the administration that grads do not want Family Student Housing to go away. In fact, we would like to see more housing that is like Family Student Housing.
  o We can encourage UCSC to work with the city to bring “granny” or “mother-in-law” units up to code *without* displacing grad students
  o We would like to hear from the admin about the following proposals from grads:
    ▪ Co-op housing
    ▪ Investing in the trailer park
    ▪ Increasing shuttles/buses to outlying communities
    ▪ Adding grad student housing in Ranch View Terrace
  o We would like to propose building a fund for grads who need assistance in relocating to Santa Cruz area (for deposit, moving costs, etc) and for grads who need assistance moving due to displacement from zoning enforcement or unsafe housing conditions
    ▪ See City of Oakland program for a model
    ▪ Possible partners in this could be Grad Div, departments, and Dean of Students

• **Non-resident fee remission for international grads with financial hardship**
  o A new policy only serves new incoming grads; we would like to ask if they can extend it to international grads with demonstrated financial risk of dropping out of school
  o See letter drafted by IGSC

• Solidarity officers are interested in creating *a fund to support undocumented grad students*

• **Protect students from sexual assault and harassment**, particularly from faculty members (this work is on-going from last year)
This is firstly a demand for answers about how the university is going to protect students in the future. IE, what policy changes have they implemented or will they implement?

- Support/seek funding for a study by two Psychology Grads on student experiences with campus resources
- Grad student input on policy and process – what structures can we put in place to ensure this?
- Grad student prevention education program – we need one
- Self-defense training that is not at the police station
- GSR for Title IX Office

Other projects that have been suggested:
- Push back on student growth, and grad growth in particular
- Cota-Robles and student of color mentorship program
  - Alexandra and Brittany have model programs to look at?
- Support Muslim Student Association in securing prayer space on campus
  - should we reach out to them and invite to a meeting?

Asks that have stalled out/need help reframing
- Five-year funding packages
  - There is serious resistance to this from Grad Div, where do we go with this?
- Removing responsible employee status from grads (mandated to report sexual assault and harassment)
  - Chancellor said we would need to take this to Napolitano

Responsibilities of the E-Board outlined in Constitution and Bylaws:
- Recruit Council members and maintain communication with Council members
- Host at least 3 Council meetings per quarter
- Host annual Solidarity Orientation and Power and Privilege Training (Solidarity)
- Recruit and support grads to serve as representatives on Academic Senate committees
- Maintain contact with the Grad Division and Graduate Dean (one meeting per quarter), the Chancellor (~two meetings per year), and the Executive Vice Chancellor (~two meetings per year)
- Send a representative (EVP) to UCSA
- Send a representative (President) to the UC Council of Presidents
- Send a representative (President) to Academic Senate and Grad Council
- Send a representative (IVP or proxy) to the Committee on Planning and Budget
- Send a representative (Solidarity Officer) to the Chancellor’s Diversity Action Council

Regularized obligations of E-Board (not outlined in Constitution)
- Maintain a web site of information for grad students (Secretary)
- Distribute GSA travel grants (travel grant coordinator and committee)
- Host tax seminars (Treasurer)
- Facilitate the allocation of funds to grad student programming
- Support the work of the International Graduate Student Committee and Coordinator

**Special projects for improving the GSA Structure (aka President’s Goals):**

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<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>Pass Constitutional and by-laws revisions via referendum</td>
<td>Initial draft available for review; will vote on at March 1 meeting</td>
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<td>• Add Chair of Council position</td>
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<td>• Add language about how to elect people to vacant positions</td>
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<td>• Remove specific stipend amounts</td>
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<td>Second to last meeting of the year</td>
<td>Create a sustainable budget while raising rep and E-Board pay</td>
<td>Per discussion with Grad Div and accounting office, suggested 2 times per year, late April and early Nov</td>
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<td>• Inspect current budget for areas to trim</td>
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<td>• Generate possible strategies for raising additional money for increased rep stipends</td>
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<td>• Generate possible strategies for forming a rainy day reserve</td>
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<td>Revise GSA Travel Grant timetable so that Grads get paid within 6 weeks</td>
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<td>Figure out how to improve transitions between Executive Boards</td>
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<td>• Purchase laptops for Secretary, President, and EVP?</td>
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<td>• Consolidate current manuals, notes, and template files for easy pass along</td>
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<td>• Conduct at least one meeting with incoming and outgoing Boards prior to the end of the school year</td>
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<td>• Clearly outline required summer work for each position and summer pay</td>
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<td>Create sign-up process for set up and clean up at each Council meeting</td>
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