

**Florida International University**  
**Chemistry Graduate Students Organization**  
**General Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 26, 2005, 2:30 PM**  
**Chemistry Conference Room**  
**MINUTES** - Prepared by Sheena Szuri

**Members Present**

Ross Harper, Stephanie Bell, Sheena Szuri, Josh Cloutier, Michael Macias, Ashley Phillips, Megan Bottegal, Jessica Hieser, Ben Naes, Simrat Singh, Lorraine Edwards

**Members Absent**

Allison Curran, Richard Snyder

**Topics for Discussion**

- Last Semester's Events
- Budget
- Events ideas for this semester
- Elections
- Upcoming GSA events

**Last Semester's Events**

The Department of Chemistry Octoberfest was a huge success in the fall. The combination wine and cheese and barbeque appealed to many people. The audio/visual entertainment by Sheena really set the German tone. We should definitely make it an annual event. People were quite satisfied with the raffle prizes, including the "I love Pathersoft" T-shirt. Thank you cards were sent to the gift contributors.

**Budget** – Joshua Cloutier

Last semester we received \$125.00 from the GSA, of which we spent \$60.00. This semester we have been granted an additional \$145.00, leaving us with around \$210 to use for this semester's events.

**Event for This Semester**

This first GSO meeting of the semester is to generate some ideas of possible activities for this semester.

- 1.) Elections- 50% of the GSO membership needs to be present for a majority vote, we are discussing plans to get a publix purchase order to cater the event to ensure a good turnout! Elections should be held early (February) as many of the graduate students will be traveling and at conferences in the month
- 2.) Hosting a gradskellar – may or may not be a possibility for this semester. Can we organize a committee to come up with a theme? Josh will handle this.

- 3.) Ice Cream Social – Stephanie said this was a popular event at her school, relatively inexpensive event. Good for when the weather gets warm.
- 4.) End of Semester Barbeque – last summer’s barbeque was a success, and was put on entirely by the faculty of the department. This year, the department and the chemistry GSO should co-host.

## **Elections**

- Tentative Date: February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Stephanie will reserve conference room.
- Email with nomination sheet will be sent around by Ross next week, and a nomination sheet will be posted on the GSO board in the foyer.
- There are 50-60 chemistry and forensics graduate students, who should all be GSO members!!!! We have to get more people involved!!!
- □ Positions that need to be filled are:
  - 1.) President
  - 2.) Vice President, Chemistry
  - 3.) Vice President, Forensics
  - 4.) Treasurer
  - 5.) Secretary
  - 6.) FIU GSA Liaison

- Responsibilities of the GSO include the following:
  - Keeping our graduate students informed about GSA happenings
  - Organizing events to encourage grad student spirit!
  - Submitting meeting minutes to FIU GSA
  - Establishing a budget based on funding received from GSA and other sources and utilize available funds in the best possible way.

Sheena and Stephanie will handle the advertising, Ross and Josh will handle the food and emails. We will have an executive meeting next week to check progress.

## **Upcoming GSA events**

Competitive Edge Series, Thursday, January 27 12-1 GC 150

Gradsbellars! Friday Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **Items on the next Agenda:**

Handle elections, discuss future of GSO in 2005.

**Meeting Adjourned @ 3:40 pm by Ross**