



Executive Committee Strategic Plan, 2006-2007

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We, the GSG Executive Committee, plan to accomplish the following items in the following year:

1. Assembly Participation

- A) Ensure that all graduate students are aware of their right to participate in and elect their own representatives to the GSG.
- B) Increase Assembly attendance by at least 25% relative to last year's average.
- C) Investigate the possibility of holding GSG Assembly elections in April concurrent with GSG Executive Elections and Graduate Senator elections in order to increase visibility for all elections.
- D) Establish an informal, open discussion time during Assembly meetings to allow all who are present an opportunity to voice comments and concerns in a non-intimidating manner.
- E) Create a web-based, anonymous feedback form on the GSG website to offer graduate students another venue in which to express their concerns.

2. Financial

We will continue our commitment to fiscal transparency in the GSG by making sure that the most current financial information is always available to all graduate students in the following ways:

- A) Report on the state of the GSG finances at each general Assembly meeting.
- B) Post all Event Funding Requests (EFR's), the Budget and Finance Committee's decisions on each EFR, and any other relevant information on the GSG web site's Forum in a timely manner.
- C) Post all financial affairs legislation and the current budget on the financial affairs portion of the GSG web site.
- D) Review and update any fiscal policies that are deemed to be misleading or confusing.

3. Community Development and Outreach

- A) Establish Executive Committee presence at college and departmental level orientations for new graduate students.
- B) Strengthen relationships between the GSG and graduate student organizations so as to better represent our diverse graduate student population.
- C) Identify areas in which the University needs to improve resources for international graduate students.
- D) Appoint two new presidential advisors on Diversity Issues and Disability Issues.

E) Actively seek coverage in the Diamondback by informing the news desk about events involving graduate students, and also by writing letters to the editor about issues of concern for graduate students.

F) Attend various campus meetings, such as University Senate meetings, Student Government Association meetings, and others.

G) Pursue speaking opportunities at these meetings and any others where we may address issues of concern to graduate students.

4. Communication

A) Design and create a cleaner and more user-friendly web site.

B) Establish the GSG web site as the cornerstone of our communication strategy with graduate students. Ensure that the GSG web site has current and pertinent information on legislative and budget issues, as well as other issues of concern to graduate students.

C) Communicate regularly with the graduate student population about news, events and issues of concern by issuing press statements, sending regular global emails, and by placing signs in key locations on campus.

D) Encourage Assembly representatives to disseminate information to their constituents.

E) Communicate with key decision-makers (University officials, University System of Maryland officials, Board of Regents, and state lawmakers) about issues impacting graduate students.

5. Social Life

A) Expand social opportunities.

B) Continue to support on-going social programming series.

C) Actively seek out sponsorship for Graduate Pub and other social and recreational events.

D) Communicate social and recreational opportunities for graduate students.

6. Quality of Life

A) Collaborate with the University administration on any new housing projects, including the East Campus Initiative.

B) Disseminate information about a variety of housing options to graduate students through cooperation with off-campus housing, and the Coordinator for Graduate Student Life. Provide prominent data and links on the GSG web site.

C) Partner with Graduate Legal Aid to ensure the transmission of accurate information about landlords to graduate students.

D) Support the creation and activities of a tenants' association at Graduate Hills and Graduate Gardens.

E) Pursue a higher minimum stipend for graduate assistants approaching a level comparable to our peer institutions, adjusted for cost of living.