

November 2008
GSAC members,

As you know, we have been discussing the graduate student fee that provides the funding for GSAC each year. Currently, it is a \$2 prorated fee that provides around \$4,000 each fiscal year for GSAC activities such as the Graduate Exposition, National Association of Graduate and Professional Student membership, graduate social activities, etc. Please note that the fee has not increased since 2004. As our discussion has continued for the semester, we have concluded that an increase is needed to assist with future activities and to limit the funds needed from the Graduate School to supplement our current activities. Also, based on conversations and research from other GSA organizations, our budget is not adequate for our organizations goals. However, we have not come to a conclusion as to the amount we should try to increase the fee which is the reason for this email.

Based on the discussions in the general assembly, the group has recommended an increase to a total \$10 which would mean we are asking for an increase of \$8. We have estimated that a one dollar increase would potentially break us even with our expected expenditures as they are currently. A \$3 increase would potentially alleviate the majority of the burden on the Graduate School to supplement our activities. The group decided to vote on an \$8 increase due to the reasons listed below:

1. This gives us room to negotiate with the reviewers.
2. This makes up for the absence of an increase since 2004.
3. This will make our organization self-sufficient.
4. This will allow GSAC room to grow.
5. This allows GSAC to provide additional resources to graduate students
 - Additional travel awards
 - Additional scholarships
 - Additional graduate stipends
 - Additional orientation and social activities
 - Leadership retreats, forums, recitals, seminars, etc

The motion at the meeting was for an electronic vote on the following:

GSAC will request a fee increase of \$8 for the next academic year.

You may vote yes for the increase, no for the increase, or abstain for whatever reason you feel.

Please submit your vote by 4PM Wednesday, November 19 for the amount of the increase via email to [REDACTED] I will compile the results and if the motion is successful, the Executive Committee will work on the proposal so we can review and have a final vote on the entire proposal during our next GSAC meeting on December 5 from 12-1:30. Attendance and participation in the discussion is extremely important. We need to complete and vote on the proposal at our next meeting in order to submit the fee increase proposal to the Office of Student Affairs for the rest of the review process. Please email me if you have any questions regarding this matter.