

Attending: Bly, Weber, Wieczorek, and approximately 18 other graduate students.

1. Summary of past activities

- a. PDLs, Donuts, T-shirts, Professor Awards, Elections.
- b. End of Year Picnic: please help by listing beverages to buy.
- c. Budget: \$1300/yr from Math Enrichment Fund. Same budget proposal for next year.
- d. Profit from donuts (\$67.08) and t-shirts (\$193.96) totaled \$261.04.

2. Planned Future Activities

- a. Staff potluck during spring semester, before spring break.
- b. 597: Grad Student Seminar will run next year. Needs someone to run it. Cara mentioned she would love to do it. Panels and flexibility of timing can be to the advantage of the coordinator.
- c. 520: Internship course allows grad students to have internship experience show up on their transcript.
- d. Colloquium: attendance is down, and grad students can help. Department is considering a certain number of colloquium attendances per semester. We would like a schedule as in advance as possible to plan our Fridays. A bigger room may also be necessary if these will be well attended now. Grad Students will be given an opportunity to nominate and vote on the attendance of one speaker per year.
- e. Peer review of Teaching and Research statements: this can be done in a Google Drive folder, as long as everyone would agree to participate in at least a 1-to-1 manor.
- f. Jump Jam: this is being proposed for the Saturday after prelims. We will email out to communicate how to order your tickets for the event.
- g. Future PDL ideas: Art of Negotiation, University Structure (beyond just department and College of A&S), Liberal Arts School Throwdown.
- h. Confirmation of RSVPs for PDLs emailed out automatically would be nice!! Can be done with Google Docs.
- i. DGSAC: survey about stipends was successful. Math department may be high in the College of A&S in terms of pay.

3. Open floor questions and dialogue

- a. Stipend Discrepancy: the raise for attaining 18hrs of completed coursework has been cancelled. The website still states otherwise. First-years had no reason to suspect such until contracts for next year were sent out to be signed. Communication needs to be better about this. Discussions with department prior to accepting offer to enroll were that, "GTA stipends usually increase each year." Perhaps written remarks regarding pay bonuses available for each class of grad students needs to be more carefully communicated in writing. There are a number of questions about what the new plan with stipends is.
- b. GSS: a self-nomination process for our department senator has been implemented this year. Cara will be emailing out for nominations. If no other nominees, she will retain her position.
- c. Keeping tabs on graduates: it may be useful to formalize the process of keeping tabs on graduates for the sake of networking. Student Services does this extensively and might have some techniques and tactics they would be willing to share to make a formalization process simpler to accommodate.