

THE GARNET GRADUATE

The Graduate Student Association Newsletter
of the
University of South Carolina

Welcome Back

On behalf of the Graduate Student Association, welcome back to USC! I trust that you have had a great summer. The GSA especially welcomes our new graduate students into our Carolina family. This semester, our current graduate enrollment is over 6,500 students. USC graduate students are pursuing a variety of degrees and studying interests in everything from Accounting to Women's and Gender Studies. The GSA looks forward to providing special programs throughout the upcoming year that will support your academic endeavors. I encourage you to attend these seminars and workshops and perhaps seek out additional opportunities to become involved at your University. As always, if the GSA can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Wishes,
Andrew Dorsey
GSA President

Upcoming Events

❖ Welcome Reception for Dr. Lacy Ford

Join us on **Wednesday, August 31st at 4:30 p.m. in the Thomas Cooper Library (Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library Program Room)** as we welcome Dr. Lacy Ford, our new Dean of Graduate Studies. President Pastides will speak and university deans will be in attendance. This reception provides a wonderful opportunity for you to meet and greet our new dean, other university faculty and staff, and fellow students. All graduate students are encouraged to attend.

Welcome
Dr. Lacy Ford!



❖ Graduate Student Financial Literacy Seminar

On **Tuesday, September 27th from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** in the Russell House (room number to be determined), the GSA will sponsor a financial literacy seminar conducted by Ms. Catherine Sale, Coordinator of financial literacy at USC's Student Success Center. Ms. Sale will present information on how to manage graduate student debt, how to live on a budget, and how to set financial goals. If you plan to attend this event, please email your name and program of study to sogsa@mailbox.sc.edu to register for this very popular seminar! Space is limited and spots fill quickly so email us today. The registration deadline is *Tuesday, September 20th*.



❖ South Carolina Graduate Student Health Insurance Summit

During the month of **October** (date and time to be determined), the graduate student associations of USC, Clemson, and the Medical University of South Carolina will gather on USC's campus to discuss health insurance issues with university administrators as they work to write a new bid for health insurance. This is your opportunity to provide input on the Pearce and Pearce health insurance. More details to come!



Graduate Student
Association
Your Advocates at Carolina

Graduate Student Orientation

GSA's annual graduate student fair and new student orientation was quite a success. Over 200 new students participated in the fair and orientation that was held on Thursday, August 11th in the Russell House. The new graduate students heard information about academic policies and procedures, student health services, academic integrity, campus safety, library services, and much more. During the fair, students had an opportunity to learn about the variety of student services offered by the University. There were a large number of university offices represented including the Quick Copy Center, Student Life, Technology Services, the Carolina Card, the Student Health Center, and Parking Services. A special thank you to everyone who worked to make orientation such a great event for our new students!



Over 200 new students attended the fair and orientation!



Graduate Student Jobs

The GSA often receives information about jobs available on campus and in the community specifically for graduate students. Please stop by the GSA Office in Russell House 227 to see current job openings that have been sent to us. You may also email us at sogsa@mailbox.sc.edu for more information about these positions.

New Job Posts:

- *Mentor, Tutor, and Attendance Monitor* with USC Athletics Department
- *Campus Ministry Associate*, Methodist Student Network

GSA Positions Available

The GSA Executive Committee has several positions available and we want you to consider joining us on our mission of serving as advocates at Carolina. In particular, we are looking for graduate students to serve in the following positions:

- Spouse and Family Liaison
- TA/GA Liaison

By joining the GSA Executive Committee, you will have unique opportunities to interact with University administrators and faculty as we work together to improve the graduate school experience here at USC. If you are interested in joining us on this mission or would like more information, please contact the GSA at sogsa@mailbox.sc.edu

GSA Meeting

The GSA will hold its monthly meeting on **Tuesday, August 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Thomas Cooper Library, Room 204.** All graduate students are welcome to attend. There will be an opportunity for graduate students to speak during the public forum portion of the meeting.



Special offer only for USC Graduate Students

**Ready for a life-changing approach to feeling healthy and well?
Join a MBSM Class this fall!**

How can you get the MOST out of your studies, work and time at USC? Learn skills and practices for mindful living! **Mindfulness-based Stress Management (MBSM) classes begin September 26th!**

“Mindfulness” is relating directly to what is happening in your life right now. Become aware of the ways you can affect your own health and well-being, and be skilled at working with and balancing the demands of a chaotic world – **and as graduate students we KNOW the world is chaotic.**

This **8-week program** is offered **FREE** to USC graduate students – there is a **SPECIAL session just for graduate and professional students** on Friday mornings. The GSA is excited about this special program and we encourage you to register today! For more information or to register: www.sa.sc.edu/shs/cw/mindfulness/ or contact Laura Rooney (777-9369 or rooneylj@mailbox.sc.edu).



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