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President’s Welcome

Welcome back graduate students and welcome to the incoming graduate students!

The GSA has several events and opportunities planned for you this year, from the informative to the fun! On page 8 you will find a tentative list of Fall events that we will be hosting.

First, I am extremely excited to announce that we will be hosting a Welcome Back Event to kick off the new school year at River Rat Brewery (page 7)! We will have delicious barbecue and live music, so come down and enjoy some amazing craft beer on Tuesday, September 9th from 5pm-8pm. This is a great opportunity to connect with other graduate students before the semester gets hectic.

We also have several vacancies for Cabinet positions that we are looking to fill. Details about these positions and how to apply can be found on page 5. To those of you who are new to USC, don’t be shy! We are looking for a diverse group of graduate student to serve, including different degrees, departments, and experience levels. We are also looking for graduate students to serve on the GSA’s Finance Committee (page 13).

If you haven’t already, please connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We share important and useful information for graduate students. As always, if you have any questions or if the GSA can support you in any way please email us.

I am looking forward to what I know will be a fantastic year.

Go Gamecocks!

Sincerely,

Brittany Walter
NEW GSA OFFICERS

Brittany S. Walter,  
President | walterbs@email.sc.edu

Brittany Walter is the President of the Graduate Student Association and a third year doctoral student studying biological anthropology in the Department of Anthropology. Her research involves investigating the effects of urbanization on past populations of medieval London using skeletal remains. Before coming to USC as a Presidential Fellow in 2012, Brittany received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Florida as a Florida Opportunity Scholar and her Master of Arts degree as a Dean’s Fellow from the University of Central Florida. She was also chosen as a student spotlight for the USC No Limits campaign.

Brittany has served as the Graduate Council Representative, Programming Liaison, and also as member of the Graduate Finance Committee. She is a member of the Provost’s Advisory Committee on Women’s Issues, Graduate Women’s Committee, and has assisted with several events and policies for graduate students at USC through the GSA since her entrance to USC. Upon her election as President, Brittany has pledged to represent and work on behalf of the diverse and unique nature of graduate student interests, and to build on the legacy GSA has recreated thus far. She looks forward to ensuring that current, effective policies are maintained and that new, exciting ideas are successfully implemented in the coming year.

Meagan Conway,  
Vice President | conwaymk@email.sc.edu

Meagan Conway is a third year doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology. Her current research interests include colonialism and cultural change, materialization of identity, and household dynamics in frontier spaces. She is originally from Newport News, VA, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and English from the University of Notre Dame. She received a Master of Arts degree in Historical Archaeology from the University of Massachusetts Boston. Meagan has served as GSA Treasurer, and also on the Finance Committee. Through this role, she has worked on many different events and programs. She also serves as supervisory staff on the Cultural Landscapes of the Irish Coast Archaeology Project, which explores thousands of years of island heritage through archaeological excavations, archival work, and oral histories.
NEW GSA OFFICERS

Brianna E. Hughes, 
Treasurer | behughes@email.sc.edu
Brianna Hughes currently serves as the Treasurer for the University of South Carolina Graduate Student Association. She is originally from Baltimore, Maryland and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and History from St. Mary’s College of Maryland, in Southern Maryland. Brianna is in the Library and Information Science program at USC and is pursuing her MLIS degree with a concentration in archives and digital collections. Additionally, she is working towards completion of the Museum Management Certificate. Brianna is the recipient of the Martha Jane Zachert Scholarship and also serves as the graduate student representative to the South Carolina Archival Association and the Thomas Cooper Society. Brianna currently is serving as the Graduate Assistant in the Folklife Resource Center at McKissick Museum. In that role, she is working on the digitization of the Center’s vast oral history collection. She is also a Special Projects Assistant in the Digital Collections Department and the Irvin Department of Special Collections and Rare Books at USC. Prior to her election as treasurer, Brianna served as the Student Health Insurance Liaison.

Danielle E. Schoffman, Graduate Council Representative | schoffmd@email.sc.edu
Danielle E. Schoffman currently serves as the Graduate Council Representative of the USC GSA. A native of the San Francisco Bay Area, Danielle received a dual Bachelor of Arts Degree from Stanford University majoring in Human Biology and Anthropological Sciences. After graduation, Danielle worked as a project coordinator at the Stanford Prevention Research Center, managing clinical trials for behavioral weight management. In the fall of 2011, she entered the Arnold School of Public Health’s Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior PhD program, and was awarded a Presidential Doctoral Fellowship. Danielle’s research interests include family interventions for obesity prevention and the use of mobile technologies in health behavior research. She is a Graduate Research Assistant for the USC Prevention Research Center, where she works on research projects related to community-engaged physical activity interventions. Danielle has been involved in GSA leadership for the past 3 years; prior to serving as the Graduate Council Representative, Danielle held the positions of President (1.5 years), Graduate Assistant Liaison (1 year), Programming Liaison (5 months), and Vice President (1 month).
VACANT CABINET POSITIONS

There are several vacant cabinet positions open for the 2014-15 school year. Brief descriptions for available positions can be found below. If you are interested in a vacant Cabinet position, the application can be found HERE.

Interviews for Cabinet positions will take place in early September and decisions for appointment by the President will be made shortly after. We welcome incoming students to apply for Cabinet positions as well. Please direct any questions to Meagan Conway at conwaymk@email.sc.edu.

Financial Committee Chair
The Finance Committee Chair serves as the leader of the Finance Committee of the GSA, advising committee members and enforcing on allocation regulations. The Finance Committee makes decisions on budget requests submitted from all graduate student organizations and clubs for GSA funding of their events and activities. This position will oversee allocation responsibilities of the Committee and will work closely with the Treasurer in ensuring that graduate organizations are aware of how to request and be reimbursed for events through the GSA.

Diversity Affairs Liaison
The Diversity Affairs Liaison creates and maintains meaningful connections with organizations and populations around the University that promote a diverse campus (e.g. The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, LGBT Programs, and the Black Graduate Student Association). This liaison strives to maintain an environment at USC that promotes inclusion and appreciation for differences, multiple points of views, and opinions. The Diversity Affairs Liaison should be dedicated to fostering an inclusive environment within the USC community by educating about diversity in its complexities and exposing students to new experiences. This liaison should strive to be responsive to the need of civility and cultural awareness on campus by hosting various programs that embrace differences, celebrate unity, and commit to social justice.

Health Liaison
The Health Liaison helps to ensure that graduate students have access to support for healthy lifestyles. A major part of this position will be working with the staff of Healthy Carolina to represent the graduate student population on a number of university committees. Other projects will flexible and can be defined by the liaison as need and interest arise. This liaison maintains a relationship with the Student Health Center to communicate concerns held by graduate students about their health. This liaison will also help to make graduate students aware of resources (e.g. stress workshops, nutritional counseling), and host events that promote a healthy lifestyle. This liaison will also work with the Executive Council on a health literacy initiative this year.

Graduate Assistant Liaison
The Graduate Assistant Liaison strives to help students locate resources for potential GA positions and aid current or potential GA’s in resolving any issues that may arise within their assistantships. The Graduate and Assistant Liaison also serves as an advocate for GA’s whenever necessary and seeks to promote a sense of community and support amongst GA’s across the University. Time will be dedicated to planning workshops and forums based on topics that graduate assistants have expressed interest in learning more about, as well as including tips for potential and current GA’s in the GSA newsletter.
Teaching Assistant Liaison
The role of the Teaching Assistant Liaison is to represent the concerns and needs of TA’s across the university. As specific issues arise, the teaching assistant liaison is responsible for researching and presenting any student concerns to the GSA President and Graduate Council Representative, as well as assisting in the preparation of white papers to voice GSA positions on these issues. This position will work with the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Career Center to hold workshops and other events aimed at the needs of TA’s on campus, including attending TA orientations. The liaison will also work with TA’s on dealing with issues such as classroom management, ethics, and looking for other available teaching positions throughout the summer and rest of the school year.

Spouse and Family Liaison
The Spouse and Family Liaison advocates for the many graduate students who are also spouses and/or parents. Spouses and children of graduate students often experience many of the pressures that graduate students also face. This liaison supports graduate students and their families while they make the transition to USC, and works to increase social and professional development events on campus that recognize this multi-faceted nature of graduate students and their families. This position provides opportunities for graduate students and their families to participate together in activities on campus to better include the families of graduate students in the USC campus community.

University Affairs Liaison
The University Affairs Liaison acts to coordinate between the Graduate Student Association, the Undergraduate Student Government, and Student Life, assisting with collaborative initiatives and fostering communication between the organizations. This liaison will work closely with the President and Executive Committee to ensure that GSA goals and events are effectively shared with the Student Government, and likewise that GSA is aware of general university events and opportunities. Additionally, the liaison will assist with two new initiatives to increase student collaboration across the state of South Carolina and across the SEC. The responsibilities of this position include attending SGA meetings as necessary to further the needs and goals of graduate students and to share undergraduate goals with the GSA. This liaison is a valuable asset for increased communication between the undergraduate and graduate communities.

Graduate Organization Liaison
The Graduate Organization Liaison advocates for the registered graduate student organizations. This role is responsible for informing student organizations about the support they have through the GSA as well as the resources offered through Student Organizations. This position also reaches out to organizations to elicit feedback on the GSA in order to better understand how to improve communication and how to facilitate resources to organizations to assist them in functioning efficiently. This liaison will work closely with the Diversity Affairs Liaison to reach out to various campus organizations and create programming to best support the graduate student community. Additionally, this liaison assists in networking organizations with similar interests and goals to further the goals, which is communicated to GSA, USC Student Organizations and the Graduate School.

Community Service Officer
The Community Service Officer coordinates and creates community services opportunities for and by graduate students. This officer keep the graduate student community informed of these opportunities and keeps graduate students engaged with the needs of the larger campus and Columbia community. This officer also serves as a liaison between the Director for Community Service Programs in the Student Organizations office and the graduate student body. This officer seeks to bring people together to increase open communication and foster effective interactions among community members.
Graduate Student Association
University of South Carolina

WELCOME BACK EVENT!
The Graduate Student Association invites you to start off the new school year right at River Rat Brewery with GREAT BEER, FREE FOOD, and LIVE MUSIC!

LOCAL CRAFT BEER!

TUESDAY
September 9th
5:00 - 8:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC by GEORGE FETNER and THE STRAYS

FREE BBQ!

Meet your fellow grad students and find out more about resources the GSA has to offer you!

231 Shop Rd | Near the stadium

@uscgsa

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In addition to the Welcome Back event at the River Rat Brewery, we have several events planned for the Fall semester and more will be added. We hope you can join us to relax and meet other graduate students! Please view our Google Calendar and add it to see the most up-to-date GSA event info.

**Graduate Resource Fair**  August 29th  |  9am-12pm  |  Hollings Facility at the TCL

**First GSA meeting**  September 15th  |  TBA  |  Location TBA

**Football Tailgate**  vs Missouri  |  September 27th  |  Time TBA  |  Location TBA

**Intramural Sports** - Softball  |  Starts Mid-September

**Halloween Happy Hour**  October 30th  |  5-7 pm at Thirsty Fellow

**Fall Feedback Forum**  Mid-November  |  Location TBA

To view our calendar at any time (without subscribing) please [click here](#).

To ADD our calendar to your list of calendars, please complete the following steps:

1. Log in to your Google Calendar
2. On the left click on the arrow next to “Other calendars”
3. Choose “Add by URL”
4. Paste the following link into the box: [https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/pjn1pbgtohm5apf80ck6p72ag4%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics](https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/pjn1pbgtohm5apf80ck6p72ag4%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics)
5. The GSA Calendar should now show in your list of calendars. You can toggle it on/off by clicking on the colored square to the left of the calendar.
The Graduate School is hosting their annual Graduate Resource Fair! Come out to see all of the useful services provided to the graduate students at USC. The GSA will be there and light refreshments will be provided. You won’t want to miss this one!

If so, consider playing intramural sports with the Graduate Student Association (GSA). We are currently looking for men and women to play on the GSA softball team, and can form teams for other sports if there is enough interest. Teams are funded by GSA, so there is no cost to playing. The season starts mid September and lasts 4-6 weeks.

Email Dom by September 3rd at casali@email.sc.edu if you are interested!
TOBACCO FREE USC

We are fast approaching the new academic year and wanted to send a reminder to continue support of the university’s Tobacco-free campus policy by educating the community, referring them to cessation programs and enforcing the policy - Tell, Treat and Train. The policy went into effect January 1, 2014 and while we are making great progress we need everyone to take an active part in this endeavor. For the health and well-being of all Gamecocks, USC Columbia campus is a completely tobacco free campus. All forms of tobacco use are prohibited on all USC leased, owned and controlled property and in vehicles parked on USC property. For more information on the policy and the Tobacco Free Initiative, including tobacco cessation programs, please visit our Web site at www.sc.edu/tobaccofreeusc.

Also, please be aware the use of e-cigarettes is on the rise and you may encounter students, faculty or staff who are not aware these are banned under the policy. If asked why please let them know that the FDA acknowledges them as a tobacco product (do not regulate them yet) and they are not approved as a tobacco treatment option by the FDA at this time. The vapor/smoke from the e-cigs can cause people to think they can smoke on campus, and therefore they are banned.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Symposium on the 2014 Gubernatorial Campaign and Election

When: Thursday, August 21, 2014 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Where: Capstone House, Campus Room 902 Barnwell Street
Cost: Free
Description: Five of South Carolina’s top political science scholars, including UofSC professor Todd Shaw, will discuss South Carolina’s gubernatorial election. Moderated by Charles Bierbauer, dean of the College of Mass Communication and Information Studies, the panel will address the rematch of candidates, party politics, polls and changing landscape of politics in the Palmetto State.
Contact: College of Arts and Sciences 803-777-7161
The Gamecock Pantry is open to serve! Because attending the University and paying for housing is expensive, we know that it is hard to make ends meet, and the campus food pantry is here to help. Any current USC student with a valid Carolina Card is able to receive 10 food items each week. The Client Intake Information form can be found online under the "register" link at http://www.sa.sc.edu/sg/gamecockpantry/

If you have any questions, please email gamecockpantry@sc.edu

Fall semester hours begin the first full week of school
Tuesdays 6-8 pm
Wednesdays 5-7 pm
Thursdays 8-9:30 am
Location: McBryde Quadrangle A - on the corner of Sumter Street and Blossom, behind Thomas Cooper Library, across from the Honors Residence, and next to Market 101.

Sexual Assault Resource Info

At the University of South Carolina, we care about the safety and well-being of all members of our community. Every student has a role to play in keeping the campus community safe and free of sexual misconduct, discrimination and harassment of any form. If you see something, say something. Step in and speak up. UofSC has resources to help you and members of your support network. Visit www.sc.edu/sexualassault for information.
SPARC GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

The Office of the Vice President for Research will accept 2014-2015 SPARC graduate research grant applications through Wednesday, October 8. All graduate students who apply for a SPARC must attend an application workshop prior to submitting their proposals. The Office of Research will hold several of these workshops in August and September, with the first one on Wednesday, August 27, at 10:00 a.m. in the Russell House, room 315. Please visit http://www.sc.edu/vpresearch/sparc.shtml for more information about this funding opportunity.

NEED FUNDING FOR YOUR ORG?

Attention all Graduate Student Clubs and Organizations!

The GSA has a fund for you to apply for money to aid you in putting on your events and activities. We are on an all-rolling process this year, so we just ask that you apply at least 4 weeks ahead of time to give the Finance Committee time to process your requests. Please email Brianna Hughes, GSA Treasurer at behughes@email.sc.edu with questions.

- If you ask for more than $1,000, we ask for you to schedule a time to come in for a dialogue.
- If you are charging for an event, any money you ask for is a loan which must be paid back!
- If an event you applied for in the past was rejected, we encourage you to apply again, taking into account the comments from the committee about why it was not awarded initially.
- We can only allocate for certain things. Please check the Treasurer’s Manual for more information.
SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

University Libraries Committee

The GSA is looking for a diverse group of graduate students to form a committee concerning graduate needs in the Thomas Cooper Library. Students will meet 2-3 times a semester with Library Administration. Please email sogsa@mailbox.sc.edu if you are interested in serving!

Graduate Finance Committee

The GSA is looking for graduate students to help the GSA allocate funds to registered graduate organizations! No accounting or finance experience is necessary. The Committee meets ones to two times a month and is a great way to get involved with the GSA! If you are interested please email Treasurer Brianna Hughes at behughes@email.sc.edu

Welcome an International Student to USC by Participating in Buddies Beyond Borders!

The University of South Carolina hosts more than 1,300 international students from over 100 countries. BuddiesBeyond Borders provides both international and American students/staff at the University of South Carolina an opportunity for connection and friendship. Americans who participate in Buddies Beyond Borders are expected to meet with their International buddy at least four times a semester based upon your schedules. To help with this, two events are hosted by International Student Services which you are welcome to join. Relationships can be further developed through shared meals, community programs, sightseeing, and holiday celebrations. Ultimately, the level of commitment is up to you and there are no outside required meetings as the aim is to foster friendships and assist with the transition for international students to the U.S./Columbia area. At this time we are focusing on recruiting graduate students and encourage you to participate for cultural exchanges and a broadened perspective of the world through Buddies Beyond Borders.

American students/staff seeking an international buddy should apply via: https://uscips.wufoo.com/forms/buddies-beyond-borders-request-form-fall-2014/

Any questions? Please contact Ashley Jaramillo at jaramia@mailbox.sc.edu
The Garnet Graduate
Graduate Student Association

Connect with us! Stay up to date on the latest graduate school news.

gradschool.sc.edu/gsa
instagram.com/uscgsa
facebook.com/uscgsa
twitter.com/uscgsa

University of South Carolina Graduate Student Association

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University Affairs Liaison
Vacant

Graduate Organization Liaison
Vacant

Community Service Officer
Vacant