GSG Meeting 2/8/17

Meeting called to order 12:03 PM

Minutes from 1/25/17 approved by apparent majority

Guest Speakers

 Andrea Morehouse- volunteers needed for expanding horizons conference, program helps educate 7th and 8th grade girls, email Andrea if interested

 Zachary Wood et al- volunteers needed to advertise symposium through posters, interviews, etc

 Dr. Ali Abedi- considering reducing number of awards for the symposium to simplify things, let him know your thoughts on the matter

 Scott Delcourt- VPRDGS candidates coming to visit with grad students, see last page for schedule and Provost website for public presentation times

President

Plan to fix grad insurance overbilling:

a. Address current medical claims in process

Formal request to hold all Cutler Health Center medical claims for GA/TA student health insurance policy holders from this year's policy year not be sent to collections.

b. Address status of all claims in the system

Currently identifying all GA/TA insurance policyholders from Aug 1, 2016 to Feb 7, 2017 who have a claim in the Cutler Health billing system and the status of each.

c. Request to assist the process:

If there are GA/TA, student's with a notice their claim is being sent to collection please have them contact Dick Young at ryoung@maine.edu so he can work to delay the collection process.

Hooding ceremony volunteers (including a grad student to sing the national anthem) still needed, contact any of the GSG officers if interested.

Graduate regional scholarships coming up, these will help cover the cost of tuition for incoming grad students that would otherwise pay out-of-state tuition.

Electronic thesis submission has been approved, there is no longer a fee to publish your UMaine thesis. Can publish open access, maine,edu users only, or hold on publishing (embargo).

Vice President

Need judges, clean crew, and marketing volunteers for symposium. See link on GSG website to symposium site.

March 10th is faculty mentor award deadline, see GSG website for details

Need to decide whether Gala should be day before symposium or on day after. Email Ashley.

Reduce grad symposium awards down to 9? Email Ashley with thoughts.

Board of Trustees Rep

UMaine is asking for emergency funding (6 milllion) from legislature, happening in March

Pay increase needed for maintenance staff

UMaine Machias merge will be happening the 1st of July, means lots of opportunities for grad students (teaching, new courses to take, research opportunities, etc)

GA/TA stipend was increased

Grants

Grants deadline is final, link shuts down 2/10/17 at 5pm

You can regain eligibility for grants by volunteering to help with symposium

More people needed on grants committee

Outreach and Professional Development

 Resume/CV workshop is Feb 15th

Secretary

 Faculty senate is on board with UMM merge

 Faculty senate voted on and passed a statement regarding Trump’s travel ban, it will be available in their minutes a few weeks from now

New Business

School of Biology and Ecology Graduate Organization recognized by apparent majority

 If interested contact Zach Wood at zachary.t.wood@maine.edu

**VPRDGS Candidate Meetings with Graduate Students (GSG senators and other interested graduate students)**

**Charles Amlaner**

February 14 (moved from Feb 13th due to snow)

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

48 Stodder Hall

**Donald Peterson**

February 17

11:00 a.m. - 12:00

48 Stodder Hall

**Carol Kim**

February 21

9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

48 Stodder Hall

**Kody Varahramyan**

February 23

11:00 a.m. - 12:00