



Graduate & Professional Student Organization

APRIL 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week: April 4-9**
- **Relay for Life: April 9-10**
- **Annual Garden Party: April 22**

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Moderator's Message

Dear Graduate and Professional Students at IU Bloomington:

As we near the end of the 2004/05 academic year, the GPSO would like to provide you with an update and share information about exciting year-end events. As your student government, the GPSO performs many important functions. We serve as a liaison between students and the administration, we provide input on changes in University policies, we advocate for graduate student interests in Indiana and nationally, we acquire and award travel and research funding for students, and we seek to provide a better academic and social community at IU Bloomington.

As you read through this newsletter, you will see that we are working hard to advocate for new benefits, such as dental insurance for Student Academic Appointees. We are working to provide programming for your academic interests, such as an upcoming coffee talk on publishing in academic journals. We are engaged in discussions to improve graduate education at Indiana University. With all this work, we use

the help of many volunteers. If you'd like to join us on any project, please contact us. Working together, we can help make Indiana University even better.

This newsletter is an attempt to provide you with information about policy and programming in a new and different format. This edition of the newsletter has been delivered to you electrically. In the future, we hope to provide a paper newsletter through the U.S. mail to your local address. We are always looking for new methods of communication to help you learn more about what is going on in the graduate and professional student community at Indiana University. If you have ideas about how we can improve communication within the community, or if you have feedback on this newsletter, please contact me at gpsomod@indiana.edu. I look forward to hearing from you on any issues that might be of concern!

Eric S. Zeemering

GPSO Moderator – 2005

Department of Political Science

The GPSO would like to thank the University Graduate School for making this Newsletter possible.



The 2005-2006 GPSO executive Committee (L-R)
Matt Curtis, Recorder;
Joe Link, Campus Liaison;
Leslie Harlacker, Parliamentarian;
Eric Zeemering, Moderator;
Leann Terry, Treasurer;
Carla Aguilar-Thoele, NAGPS Liaison;
Reem Sweiss, PR Director;
Kimberly James, Office Coordinator;
Jodi Shepherd, Assistant Moderator;
photo by Yolanda Treviño, Ombudsperson for GPSO.

Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week

APRIL 4-9, 2005

For more information
contact:
gpsopr@indiana.edu



For this schedule and
more check out the
GPSO website at
www.indiana.edu

~gpso



Monday, April 4th: Diversity Spring Retreat

Dean Slattery's Residence - 7:00-8:30PM

An event to bring graduate student leaders to interact and share ideas.

Please note that this event is by invitation only

Tuesday, April 5th: Happy Hour

The Irish Lion - 6:00-8:00PM (212 West Kirkwood)

Join us for free appetizers and a chance to chat with other graduate students!

This event is cosponsored by the GPSO, MESA, Crossroads and the BGSA.

Wednesday, April 6th: GPSO Coffee Talk

Oak Room, IMU - 4:30-6:00PM

Come learn about "How to Publish in Academic Journals" from a diverse panel! Refreshments will be provided.

Thursday, April 7th: Wine Tasting

Tutto Bene Wine Café - 7:00-9:00PM (Corner of 3rd and Rogers)

Start your weekend early with five different wine and appetizer pairings! (Tickets are for \$10 with a chance to win a gift certificate to this fine café!)

All proceeds will go the GPSO Book Scholarship .

Friday, April 8th: TGIF!

Mathers Museum of World Cultures- 3:00-4:00PM (416 North Indiana Avenue)

Take a guided tour of this wonderful museum! Meet us at the main entrance on 9th Street and Indiana Avenue. Free refreshments after the tour.

Free Movie Night, Whittenberger Auditorium, IMU: 8:00 – 10:00PM
(1st floor, IMU)

Enjoy watching the winning Student Film Festival movies. Free popcorn for graduate students!

Results of the winning movies will be announced on April 1st, 2005 at <http://www.indiana.edu/~filmfest/>



Saturday, April 9th

Trip to Wonderlab – 10:30AM – 12:30PM (308 West Fourth Street)

Discounted price for adults and children! Free refreshments after the amazing and fun tour! Discount ticket price: \$4.25

Please RSVP to gpsopr@indiana.edu, indicating which event(s) you will be attending. Please note that some events have limited space. Friends and family are welcome!

Thank you to The University Graduate School (TUGS) for all their support!

GPSO Committee Reports



Programming: What's new with Programming? On April 4-9, we will be hosting a variety of events in appreciation of Graduate and Professional students at IU, including museum tours, a coffee talk on how to publish in an academic journal, a wine tasting, and much

more! Keep a lookout for the upcoming Garden Party on April 22, which will include good food, music, and a drawing for prizes from our local businesses! Also, if your interested in colloquia outside your department check out our C-Link website, <http://mypage.iu.edu/~adpotter/clinkhome.html>. ~ Submitted by Winter Mason, Programming Chair

Funding: The GPSO Funding Committee awards numerous scholarships and grants each year: Research Grants, Travel Grants, Book Scholarships, and the Remak Award. For the 2004-2005 academic year the GPSO will award over \$10,000 to promote the professional development of graduate and professional students at IUB. For more information, please see: <http://www.indiana.edu/~gpso/funding.html> ~ Submitted by Leann Terry and Amber Smallwood, Funding Co-Chairs

University Life: The University Life committee is working on several projects - assisting the graduate school with a campus-wide survey of graduate student concerns to be given in Fall 2005, planning an Indiana statewide graduate leadership conference, setting up a week of wellness activities in September 2005 with the theme of "Surviving Graduate School" and advocating for the establishment of a graduate student center space. ~ Submitted by Joe Link, U Life Chair

Campus Affairs: The function of the Campus Affairs Committee is to cultivate relationships with other university student organizations, university committees, and appropriate wider audiences (e.g. the city of Bloomington, other Big Ten universities, the state legislature). This year the committee has been working to gain broader representation within GPSO and have seen more consistent representation recently from Law, Optometry, HPER, and Music in particular. The Committee monitors relevant state and national legislation that affects higher education, calling for participation in letter-writing campaigns and lobbying events as well as communicating graduate student opinion regarding important legislation directly to state and national legislators. The Committee is also working to resurrect the GPSO Mentoring Program and looks forward to matching undergraduates with graduate student mentors starting in the fall semester 2005. ~ Submitted by Kimberly James, Campus Affairs Chair

Graduate Benefits: Graduate benefits has been actively participating in health insurance and specifically attaining dental benefits for graduate students. This committee addresses the policies and mandates of health care and other graduate specific benefit issues. SAA benefits are of particular note in this committee. ~ Submitted by Jodi Shepherd, Assistant Moderator

2005-2006 REPRESENTATIVES

- Make sure your department is represented for the 2005-2006 academic year.
- Contact GPSO gpso@indiana.edu if you have any questions or concerns about your department's representation.

Midwest Crossroads AGEP

Indiana University, Purdue University and Northwestern University received a National Science Foundation Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) grant entitled "The Midwest Crossroads Program" this academic year. The alliance universities are committed to diversifying their science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) graduate programs by increasing their minority student PhD graduation rates. The general strategy is to empower student peer mentors and faculty mentors in recruitment, retention and enrichment activities. To facilitate the transition to graduate studies in Bloomington, we are taking steps to ensure that incoming graduate students have an instant peer network. The University Graduate School is working to develop and expand organized study groups focused around interdisciplinary topics. To reach these goals, graduate minority organizations on campus are being invited to become part of the peer network. To learn more, contact Dr. Yolanda Treviño, AGEP Campus Director and Assistant Dean, Indiana University Graduate School by e-mail (ytrevino@indiana.edu).

Annual Garden Party ~ April 22nd



Relay For Life

Students from GPSO are forming a graduate team to participate in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life

on April 9th & 10th at Gladstein Fieldhouse. The event begins at 12 noon on Saturday and ends at 10 AM on Sunday. Participants in the Relay collect donations for the American Cancer Society and then honor those who have had cancer by keeping one member of their team walking a track for a 22-hour period. The Relay is intended to be a community event bringing together students and Bloomington residents to fight a disease that has touched every family in some way. The event is supported by some wonderful entertainment including several local bands. The graduate team is actively looking for more members. If you could take a shift of our 22-hour walking stint, that would be fantastic! Contact gpso@indiana.edu if you want to join us.

Save the date for the annual Garden Party sponsored by GPSO. It will be held at the DeVault Alumni Center Tent from 5-8 PM. In addition to light fare and door prizes the winners of the Remak and Faculty Mentor awards will be announced.

www.indiana.edu/~gpso



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GPSO

**Be sure to look for this publication in
your home mailbox Fall 2005!!**

What Has The GPSO Done For You

Our leadership team and volunteers are engaged in discussions about many important policies at Indiana University. Here's just a sample of what we are working on:

- Advocating for dental insurance for student academic appointees
- Ongoing advocacy for improvements in health insurance
- Formulating a survey about health insurance plans
- Undertaking efforts to expand diversity within the GPSO and partner with student organizations across campus
- Formulating a general survey on graduate and professional student concerns
- Outlining plans for improved associate instructor office space and community space to foster collaboration among graduate students in multiple departments
- Discussing the structure of fellowships and financial aid for dissertation writing
- Participating in multiple search and screen committees and advisory groups within the University
- Participated in discussions on the review of The University Graduate School
- Searching out new and expanded sources of funding for the GPSO Travel Grant
- Worked with the Graduate School and Registrar to allow students to pay fees over the course of the semester rather than in one lump sum