

Dear Grads,

In this week's newsletter, you'll find information regarding:

- 1. GSA Council Meeting - Tonight!!!**
- 2. Grad Bash – this Friday (May 9th)**
- 3. GSA Research Conference Call for Abstracts**
- 4. GSA Special Election for the 2008-2009 School Year**
- 5. Days of Action for Fighting Student Fee Hikes! May 14th and 19th, 2008**
- 6. Grad and Professional Students Testimonials about Financial Aid-Fill out one Today!**

Please read below for more information.

1. GSA Council Meeting - Tonight!!!

Come join us tonight for GSA council meeting at 6pm in the Senate Chambers in the Commons. Be sure to drop by the GSA office for free pizza at 5:30pm.

2. Grad Bash – this Friday (May 9th)

Come join the GSA Party Committee for our last Grad Bash of the year!

On Friday, May 9th, from 5-7pm, at the Getaway Cafe, we'll have free pizzas and snacks for grad students (while they last! Please be sure to bring your ID.

3. GSA Research Conference Call for Abstracts

The GSA is currently conducting a call for abstracts for our annual research conference. The conference will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2008 in the UCR commons, rooms 302A, 355, 383. Registration is free. We are giving out \$3,000 in awards for best poster presentation and talk (per college and discipline). We are currently accepting abstracts for both poster presentations and talks. The conference is open to both UCR graduate students and graduate students from other universities. However, only UCR graduate students are eligible for receiving cash awards. Everyone in attendance will be eligible for winning raffle prizes. Breakfast, lunch, and an evening reception will be provided at no cost. Abstracts should be less than 1000 words and include the title of the presentation, all authors' names, all authors' departments, and whether you are interested in giving a talk, presenting a poster, or both.

Please submit your abstract to the following e-mail address:

UCRGSAResearchConference@gmail.com

4. GSA Special Election for the 2008-2009 School Year

The positions for GSA President and Finance Officer are still open for the 2008-2009 school year. There will be a special election held at the June 4th Council meeting. For more information about each position and for an application form please visit the GSA website at <http://gsa.ucr.edu/>

To apply for candidacy, please fill out an application form and email it to gsaelection@yahoo.com by the deadline of May 21st, 2008 6pm. If you have any questions, please contact the GSA EVP Louise Hendrickson at evp.gsaur@yahoo.com.

5. Days of Action for Fighting Student Fee Hikes! May 14th and 19th, 2008

Big decisions are going to be made in the next two weeks about the future of fees at the UC. UCSA is planning two key actions for this and we need your help to let both the UC Regents and State lawmakers that we don't want to see your fees raised. The first is on for the UC Regents meeting on May 14th at UCLA and will focus on turning out students to show the Regents we don't want our fees raised. The second is a "study-in" May 19th on the steps of the State Capital to show lawmakers that they need to prioritize funding for higher education in the state budget.

If you are interested in taking part in these actions, or want more information, please contact our Legislative Liaison at UCRsociologyTA@gmail.com

6. Grad and Professional Students Testimonials about Financial Aid-Fill out one Today!

Are you a grad student greatly impacted by student debt? Do you pay your own fees or take out loans to pay for grad school? Do you care about how your financial aid package is administered? GSA is collecting surveys from grad and professional students about how they would prefer their financial aid packages to be administered! Fill out a loan testimonial at a GSA event, at the GSA office or online at the GSA website: <http://www.gsa.ucr.edu/UCSA.html> Make sure your voice and your experience is heard!

For more information please contact the GSA Campus Organizing Director Ching-In Chen at echen014@student.ucr.edu

If you would like more information, please go to the GSA website or contact the GSA at gsaur@yahoo.com.

Graduate Student Association

203 Commons
University of California Riverside
Riverside, CA 92521