



# The Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

August 25, 2014

The Graduate Council met on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

**Graduate Council members present:** Dr. Stacy Fritz, Chair; Drs. Jennifer Arns, Matt Brown, Nancy Brown, Erik Drasgow, Jerry Hilbish, Thomas Kramer, Julia Lopez-Robertson, DeAnne Messias, Caroline Nagel, David Tedeschi, Terrance Weik, Tracey Weldon-Stewart, Susan Yeargin; Danielle Schoffman, GSA Representative

**Graduate Council Members Absent:** Drs. Alexander Beecroft, Minuette Floyd, Elena Osokina and James Ritter

**Graduate School Representatives:** Dr. Jessica Elfenbein, Dr. Murray Mitchell, Dale Moore and Teresa Smith

**Provost Office Representative:** Dr. Kristia Finnigan

**Guests:** None

***NOTE: These minutes will become final on September 22, 2014, if not challenged.***

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Dr. Fritz)

Dr. Fritz called the meeting to order at 2:00PM.

2. **Approval of Minutes for the meeting on May 27, 2014.**

The minutes were reviewed electronically and approved by the Council. Minutes are on file at [The Graduate School website](#).

3. **Report of the Chair** (Dr. Fritz)

Chair Fritz asked each member to introduce themselves.

4. **Report of the Dean of The Graduate School** (Jessica Elfenbein)

On behalf of Dr. Ford, Dr. Elfenbein mentioned that the Graduate School is making great strides as illustrated in the Graduate School 2013-2014 Fact Sheet distributed to members during the meeting. Dr. Elfenbein suggested that the members take copies of the Fact Sheet for display in departments.

The fact sheet illustrates that 1/3 of the student population at University are doctoral students and 2/3 masters students. From the Graduate School's perspective, we want to empower our graduate students. There is such an emphasis placed on the Undergraduate population. However, The Graduate School is partnering with the GSA and working with Administration on several initiatives across campus to place emphasis on Graduate Students as well.

The Graduate School is also partnering with the African American Professors Program. It is a program that has been on campus since the late 1990s. It can be utilized as recruiting tool. The program has money available to students of color, in addition to the funds provided by the department. It funds part-time and fulltime students. Fulltime doctoral students receive \$6000 a year for 4 years. Part-time doctoral students receive \$3000 a year for 6 years. Funding is also available for MFA students. Please help The Graduate School get the word out about this great AAP Program. It will serve the campus community much better going forward.

These publications were designed by a very talented Public Information Director, Hannah Spicher. She has left the Graduate School to return to her fulltime PhD studies. The Graduate School is pleased to have Emily Rendeck as our new Public Information Specialist. If there are announcements of interest to graduate students, please send the information to Dr. Jessica Elfenbein and it will be forwarded to the GSA and to Emily Rendeck for publishing on behalf of the Graduate School.

**5. Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council (Murray Mitchell)**

The first item of business is to identify a Vice Chair. The guidelines of Graduate Council suggest that the Vice Chair subsequently assumes the role as Chair and will step in when the Chair is unavailable for a meeting. Julia Lopez-Robertson has been nominated for Vice Chair. Dr. Mitchell opened the floor for other nominations. With no additional nominations, Dr. Mitchell closed the nominations and requested a vote of Council. The Council unanimously voted to elect Julia Lopez-Robertson as Vice Chair.

One of the additional responsibilities of the Vice Chair is to sit as Chair of the Academic Policies and Practices Committee. The guidelines state that Chairs of Graduate Council Committees must be members of Graduate Council. Otherwise, members have to be graduate faculty. There is one more committee chair to identify. As soon as that Chair is identified, Dr. Mitchell will inform Council of all committees.

Next is an issue carried over from the Spring semester—the residency requirement. There is a residency requirement for doctoral programs. There are more Distance Delivery and online programs being offered, and the residency requirement is becoming problematic regarding the interpretation of what ‘residency’ means, what should it mean, what value it holds, and, therefore, what should the policy be going forward. There are two competing possibilities for considering that issue. One is that the Academic Policies and Practices Committee will consider the residency issue. The other is that an Ad Hoc Committee would be charged specifically with that issue.

Dr. Mitchell asked the Council for recommendations for moving forward regarding the Academic Policies and Practices committee or an Ad Hoc committee.

Dr. Fritz asked what would be the advantage of an Ad Hoc Committee versus an Academic Policies and Practices Committee. Dr. Mitchell answered that the Residency issue would be the only charge for this committee. People expressing an interest to participate in that committee would be specifically focused on that particular policy and the implications that it might have for their own program and other academic programs across campus.

Academic Policies and Practices committee has more breadth of responsibility. Either group will bring back recommendations to Council.

The Ad Hoc Committee will have a limited focus, and therefore, people who have an interest in the task can apply themselves in shorter term fashion.

Dr. Nancy Brown asked what research will the Ad Hoc committee be doing in the departments to learn enough about the issue to meet, have a discussion and formulate a recommendation to Council regarding the residency requirement for distance delivery and online programs.

Dr. Mitchell stated that a part of the issue would be to identify best practice data from peer and peer aspirant institutions, but also solicitation from units around the University about this policy. The implications are significant as we shift to more distance delivery programs. Dr. Mitchell asked if any council member is interested in being on the Ad Hoc Committee to investigate a residency requirement for distance delivery graduate programs. With no response from Council, Dr. Mitchell tabled the residency issue until the next meeting.

Dr. Mitchell added that Graduate Council is a body that advises the Dean of Graduate Studies. Please be aware of any issues that might warrant further discussion by this body so that we might offer that insight to the Dean to take action to enhance Graduate Programs at the University of South Carolina. Graduate Council is potentially an influential body to control or influence the direction of Graduate Studies at this institution. If there are substantive issues that are arising in your program, bringing those issues back to Council would be a most helpful way to make this worth your time and energy to be a participant.

Dr. Mitchell mentioned that he had an opportunity to visit two Canadian institutions on the West Coast to review their doctoral programs. Of the Doctoral graduates, 75% are going to positions other than in Academia. Although, their doctoral programs continue to prepare their students for positions in academic appointments. They are exploring how to do a better job of understanding where their graduates are going to prepare them for alternative careers.

At USC, this is being done to some extent by partnering with the GSA in designing and delivering professional development opportunities. At present, there is less data to support percentages of destinations of graduate students here in the United States. Dr. Mitchell described that policy-wise, that might be offered as direction, guidance and support in paying attention to where our graduates are going to learn if USC is doing them a service or disservice in the way that the University is preparing them for a future career.

**6. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Danielle Schoffman)**

Danielle Schoffman reported that the GSA is being recognized more and more as the best representation of Graduate Students on campus. They plan to build on that momentum.

Students want to get involved in campus culture. The GSA is continuing the Professional Development workshops so graduate students have tangible professional development skills. They are also continuing to partner with the Graduate School to optimize graduate student opportunities available.

The GSA was invited to orientation and presented to new graduate students. They are looking for new cabinet members. It was mentioned in the GSA newsletter. They are having a Semester opening event at the River Rat, one of the local Craft Breweries. The GSA is planning more events such as tailgating and other sports related activities. All graduate students are invited to attend these social events. Please circulate the GSA newsletter to notify graduate students.

**7. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Julia Lopez-Robertson)**

No report.

**8. Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education and Special Courses (Murray Mitchell)**

A listing of 500/600 Level Courses was presented to Council. The list was presented to the Council for informational purposes only. New courses and Course Change Proposals are vetted by Course and Curriculum Committee of faculty senate. Distance education courses are vetted by the Instruction Development Committee of Faculty Senate. Dr. Mitchell attends both meetings for 500-600 graduate level courses that must have accommodations for Graduate Students as well as Undergraduate students for credit.

New Course Proposal

[ARTH 551 Special Topics in Film and Media Studies](#) (3)

Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by title. ARTH 551 is proposed as a new course to crosslist with newly revised MART 591 and FILM 511. Crosslisting MART 591, FILM 511, and ARTH 551 will capitalize on faculty expertise that cuts across disciplinary boundaries, allowing students in three undergraduate majors (Art History, Film and Media Studies, Media Arts) to take advantage of these courses.

[Prerequisites: FILM 240 or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: MART 591 and FILM 511]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[ARTH 555 History of Documentary Film](#) (3)

ARTH 555 History of Documentary film is no longer taught or needed in the Art History degree program. It will remain as FILM 555 and MART 595 as parts of the Film and Media Studies and Media Arts degree programs.

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[ARTH 569 Topics in Film History](#) (3)

**Current:** ARTH 569 Topics in Film History

Prerequisites: ~~One film course [FILM 240 or MART 270 or ENGL 565 or 566 or THSP 580]~~ or consent of instructor-

~~**Note:** course content varies and will be announced in the schedule of courses by suffix and title.~~

**Proposed:** ARTH 569 – Special Topics in Film and Media Histories (3)

Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media history. May be repeated as content varies by title.

[Prerequisites: FILM 300 or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: FILM 510, MART 592]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

New Course Proposal

[MART 595 Documentary Film and Media Studies](#) (3)

History, theory, and practices of documentary film and media. This course already exists as FILM 555. We are simply proposing to create a new course number in Media Arts (MART 595) to allow us to cross list this important course for the development of documentary filmmakers in our degree program.

[Prerequisites: MART 110, FILM 240, or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: FILM 555]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[MART 595A Media Arts Research: Media Theory](#) (3)

**Current:** The number, title, and prerequisite for MART 595A is changing  
**Proposed:** MART 591 – Special Topics in Film and Media Studies (3)  
Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by title.  
[Prerequisites: MART 110, 210, Film 240; or instructor permission]  
[Crosslisting: FILM 511 and ARTH 551]  
[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[MART 595B Media Arts Research: Media History](#) (3)

**Current:** The number, title, and prerequisite for MART 595B is changing  
**Proposed:** MART 592 - Special Topics in Film and Media Studies (3)  
Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by titles.  
[Prerequisites: MART 110, 210, Film 300; or instructor permission]  
[Crosslisting: FILM 510 and ARTH 569]  
[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[MART 595C Media Arts Research: Media Aesthetics](#) (3)

**Current:** The number, title, and prerequisite for MART 595C is changing  
**Proposed:** MART 593 - Special Topics in Film and Media Studies (3)  
Intensive study of a specific US topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by title. The title and description change allows the course to be more disciplinarily salient to current students in the field.  
[Prerequisites: MART 110 and 210, Film 240; or instructor permission]  
[Crosslisting: FILM 566 and ENGL 566]  
[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[MART 595E Media Arts Research: Media Management and Distribution](#) (3)

**Current:** The number, title, and prerequisite for MART 595E is changing  
**Proposed:** MART 598 - Special Topics in Film and Media Studies (3)  
Research in media management and distribution.  
[Prerequisites: MART 110 and 210; or instructor permission]  
[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[ENGL 566 Topics in US Film and Media](#) (3)

**Current:** ~~Intensive study of a specific US topic in film and media studies.~~  
**Proposed:** ENGL 566 Special Topics in US Film and Media.  
Intensive study of a specific US topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by title.  
[Prerequisite: FILM 240 or consent of instructor]  
[Crosslisting: FILM 566, MART 593]  
[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[FILM 510 Topics in Film and Media Histories](#) (3)

~~**Current:** Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media history. Course content varies and will be announced in the schedule of courses by suffix and title. May be repeated as topics vary.~~

**Proposed:** Special Topics in Film and Media Histories (3)

Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media history. May be repeated as content varies by title.

[Prerequisite: FILM 300 or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: ARTH 569, MART 592]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[FILM 511 Topics in Film and Media](#) (3)

~~**Current:** Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media history. Course content varies and will be announced in the schedule of courses by suffix and title. May be repeated as topics vary.~~

**Proposed:** Special Topics in Film and Media Studies (3)

Intensive study of a specific topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by title.

[Prerequisite: FILM 240 or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: ARTH 551, MART 591]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[FILM 555 History of Documentary Film](#) (3)

~~**Current:** History of documentary film. History, theory, and practices of documentary film studied via screenings, readings, and lectures.~~

~~Cross-listed ARTH 555~~

**Proposed:** FILM 555 Documentary Film and Media Studies (3)

History, theory, and practices of documentary film and media.

[Prerequisite: MART 110, FILM 240 or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: MART 595]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal

[FILM 566 Topics in US Film and Media](#) (3)

~~**Current:** Intensive study of a specific US topic in film and media studies. Course content varies and will be announced in the schedule of courses by suffix and title.~~

~~Crosslisting: ENGL 566~~

**Proposed:** Special Topics in US Film and Media (3)

Intensive study of a specific US topic in film and media studies. May be repeated as content varies by title.

[Prerequisite: FILM 240 or consent of instructor]

[Crosslisting: ENGL 566, MART 593]

[Effective: Fall 2015]

**9. Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations (Murray Mitchell)**

There are currently three categories for graduate faculty. Newly appointed tenured or tenure track faculty members get vetted by their program are nominated for regular graduate faculty. There are term appointments for three years for faculty who don't qualify for regular graduate faculty, but who have expertise in their field that will be of value to masters or doctoral students. Term appointed faculty may not Chair thesis or dissertation committees and may not serve on Graduate Council. The third and newest category is Associate Graduate Faculty. Nomination for this category is appropriate for people in programs such as Research Associates and Clinical Faculty members and who are active scholars with an expertise that was not being fully utilized. They are eligible for appointments of up to six years and are eligible for reappointment. Associate Graduate Faculty may chair and serve on thesis and dissertation committees. They can also serve on Graduate Council. The nomination process is similar to the Term Appointment. Graduate Council will be asked to vote in support of nominations, after the Associate Dean reviews materials presented in nominations—these materials will be available in the tracking chart under the Graduate Council tab on The Graduate School web page. In the case of the candidate listed below, she meets these criteria. Dr. Mitchell recommended a vote in support of this faculty member.

Dr. Messias asked if the Council vote is all that is needed for the approval of a nominee to become an Associate Graduate Faculty Member.

Dr. Mitchell responded that once Council votes, the nominee is an Associate Graduate Faculty member.

Dr. Fritz asked the Council for a vote. Graduate Council voted unanimously to approve the Associate Graduate Faculty member.

Name: [Mila Tasseva-Kurktchieva](#)  
Program: Linguistics Program  
Term: Fall 2014 – Fall 2020

**10. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee (Murray Mitchell)**

Dr. Mitchell stated that a Chair is still needed for this committee. Dr. Elfenbein added that the Chair of this committee will get to work with outstanding graduate students across campus as well as Wright Culpepper from the Graduate School who provides excellent support. The Chair will screen students for the SREB. Dr. Elfenbein supports this group and Wayne Carver, who chaired last year will continue to serve. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Mitchell.

**11. Report of the Science, Math, and Related Professional Program Committee (DeAnne Messias)**

No report.



**12. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional (Matt Brown)**

No report.

**13. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Erik Drasgow)**

No report

**14. Other Committee Reports**

No report

**15. Old Business**

No report

**16. New Business**

Dr. Drasgow asked about proposals that list 'consent of the instructor' who monitors that registration process. Dr. Matt Brown responded that when a student registers in banner, the registrar's office has control. The registrar notifies the department and the college confirms if the student is eligible to register. Regarding proposals, Dr. Mitchell added, going forward the plan is to use the language "Instructor's permission" rather than "consent of the instructor."

**17. Good of the Order**

Dr. Mitchell reminded the members to sign the attendance sheet before each meeting to account for accurate attendance.

**18. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:32PM. The next meeting will be September 22, 2014.

**Murray Mitchell, Secretary**

cc:

President Harris Pastides

Senior Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies Lacy Ford

Provost Michael Amiridis

Deans

Department Chairs

Graduate Directors

Aaron Marterer, University Registrar

Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar

Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar

Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance

University of South Carolina

# THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

2013-2014 Fact Sheet

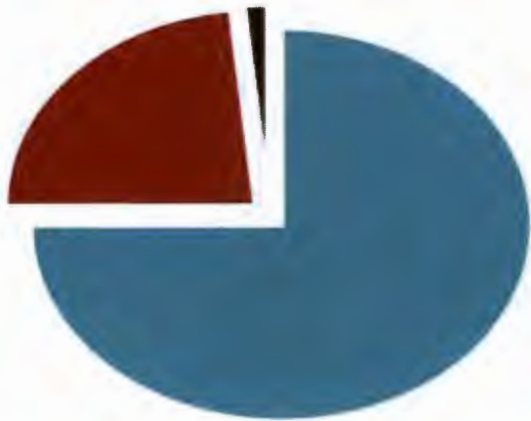
## GRADUATE STUDENTS

# 6259

Graduate and professional students makeup **23%** of the total student body at USC Columbia

# 1

Ph.D. program created in 2013  
Sport & Entertainment Management



# 2181

degrees awarded in 2012-2013

USC COLUMBIA STUDENT BODY 31,964

- Graduate, Post Bacc. and Professional 7,470
- Non-Degree 507
- Undergraduate 23,987

## DEGREE SEEKING

- Master's 3702
- Doctoral 2083
- Non-Degree 314
- Certificate 160

## DEGREE & CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

# 246

[gradschool.sc.edu](http://gradschool.sc.edu)



31

average graduate student age

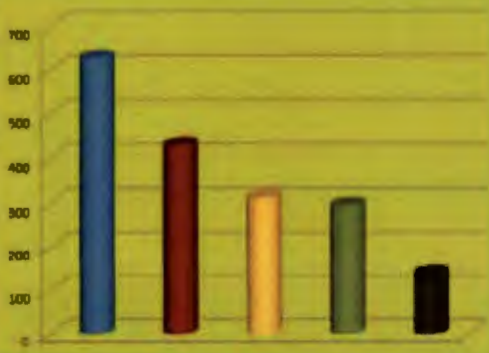
# \$928,060

GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS  
The Graduate School, 2013

## TOP 5

PROGRAMS BY ENROLLMENT

- Master of Social Work 629
- Master of Business Administration 432
- Master of Education 314
- Master of Library & Information Science 296
- Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry & Biochemistry 141



# 31%

of doctoral students are international



### Top places students call home

# 328

doctoral degrees conferred

# + 84

tenure track positions awarded to students graduating in 2012-2013

- SOUTH CAROLINA**
- North Carolina
- Georgia
- China**
- Virginia
- Pennsylvania
- Florida
- India**
- Maryland
- Texas
- Ohio
- Mexico**

Award-winning Presidential Fellowship program brings together

# 30+

different disciplines

in any given year

# forty percent

of graduate students are awarded assistantships

# 315

TRAVEL GRANTS  
awarded to graduate students in 2013

Dr. Brian L. Johnson



7th President, Tuskegee University  
Tuskegee, Alabama  
College of Liberal Arts, PhD, English  
University of South Carolina, 2003  
AAPP Alumnus

Dr. Dorinda J. Gallant



Associate Professor and Chair Quantitative Research, Evaluation & Measurement  
The Ohio State University  
College of Education, PhD, Research & Measurement  
University of South Carolina, 2005  
AAPP Alumna

## Application Process

All new Scholars must show outstanding promise for doctoral or MFA study and a commitment to joining the professoriate as evidenced by a personal statement, two reference letters (including a nomination from the academic program at USC), formal notification of admission from The Graduate School, financial support from academic programs at USC, and academic achievement with prior GPAs at 3.4 or higher. Whenever there are multiple applicants from a single academic discipline, the appropriate Graduate Director will be asked to rank applicants. Scholars will be selected by AAPP in consultation with the Graduate Council's Fellowship and Scholarship Committee. Interviews may be required. *The deadline for applications is April 1.* Notifications will be made by May 15. To get started, fill out the AAPP application at [sc.edu/provost/aapp/](http://sc.edu/provost/aapp/).

## Contact Us

The African American Professors Program  
University of South Carolina  
901 Sumter Street  
Byrnes Building, Suite 614  
Columbia, SC 29208  
803-777-5553 or 888-211-4531

[sc.edu/provost/aapp](http://sc.edu/provost/aapp)



The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics, sexual orientation or veteran status.





The African American Professors Program at the University of South Carolina was created in 1997 to address the underrepresentation of minorities in the professoriate. Originally focused on science, technology, engineering, and math, the program has since expanded to include underrepresented scholars from across the disciplines, including the arts, humanities, education, social sciences, library science, and business. Participants receive a stipend to supplement their departmental assistantships, faculty mentors, and extensive professional development opportunities. Recognized for its “impressive” results and “vital impact,” AAPP was recently featured in *Insight into Diversity Magazine*, the nation’s oldest and largest diversity magazine and website in higher education.



## Faculty Mentor

Each student selects a mentor professor who will guide the student through the academic program and provide varied learning experiences, which may include opportunities to team teach, coauthor publications, and engage in a range of activities that characterize professional life in academia.

## Professional Development

During the academic year, AAPP Scholars meet once a month to interface with academic and community leaders. Recent events and workshops include:

- AAPP Graduate Research Seminar
- Grant Writing
- Life after the Dissertation Panel
- Optimizing Finances
- Community Service Projects:  
Harvest Hope Food Bank  
Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Annual Think Tank

## Monograph Series

Published once a year, the AAPP Monograph Series features the latest in AAPP Scholar, alumni, and faculty research.

## Preparing Future Faculty

All AAPP Scholars participate in USC’s Preparing Future Faculty Program (PFF), a national program which provides training, experience, and credentialing for a diverse and competitive academic job market. Learn more at: [sc.edu/ctl/PreparingFutureFaculty.php](http://sc.edu/ctl/PreparingFutureFaculty.php)

## Alumni Network

AAPP alumni are currently employed in dozens of higher education institutions and agencies across the country including: Emory University, Oklahoma State University, Benedict College, Montclair State University, NASA, and National Wildlife Federation.

## Program Guidelines

1. Annual stipends are: \$3,000 for part-time and \$6,000 for full-time Scholars
2. Full-time AAPP Scholars are funded for five years at the doctoral level and five semesters for masters
3. Part-time AAPP Scholars are funded up to three years at the doctoral level and seven semesters for masters
4. AAPP Scholars must participate in USC’s Future Faculty Program (PFF)
5. Scholars are required to publish two articles in AAPP’s Monograph Series
6. AAPP Scholars are required to participate in one community service project per year
7. Every AAPP Scholar must have a Faculty Mentor
8. All newly funded Scholars must be doctoral students entering their first or second year
9. Designation as an AAPP Scholar allows for reduced tuition rates, a valuable benefit for out-of-state students

AAPP Scholars present their research at a spring Graduate Research Seminar and publish in an annual Monograph Series





# THE GARNETT GRADUATE

USC Graduate  
Student Association

August 21, 2014 Newsletter

## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Welcome	Page 2
New GSA Officers	Page 3
Vacant GSA Positions	Page 5
GSA Fall Welcome Back Event	Page 7
GSA Events	Page 8
Graduate Resource Fair	Page 9
GSA Intramural Sports Info	Page 9
Tobacco Free USC	Page 10
Campus Events	Page 10
Campus Resources	Page 11
SPARC Graduate Fellowship Info	Page 12
Funding for Grad Student Orgs	Page 12
Service Opportunities	Page 13



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH  
CAROLINA**  
GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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  
**9<sup>th</sup>**

**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

# FALL EVENTS

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>

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.



# GRADUATE RESOURCE FAIR

Friday, August 29th

9AM - 12PM

Hollings Facility at the Thomas Cooper  
Library

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!

The Graduate School & Graduate Student Association  
University of South Carolina

## Graduate Student Resource Fair



# INTRAMURAL SIGN UP INFO



Are you looking to...

Meet other graduate students?

Engage in physical activity?

Take a break from classes and research?

Do all of the above things for free?

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](mailto:casali@email.sc.edu) if you are interested!

## TOBACCO FREE USC

### TOBACCO FREE USC

A Healthy Campus to Live, Learn, Work and Play

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](http://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

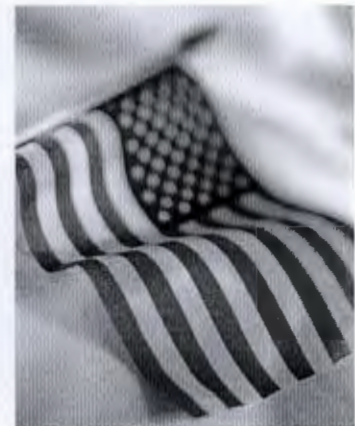
**When:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**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





## CAMPUS RESOURCES



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](mailto: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](http://www.sc.edu/sexualassault) for information.



# SPARC GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP



**Office of the Vice  
President for Research**  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:behughes@email.sc.edu)



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

## 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](mailto:jaramia@mailbox.sc.edu)

# The Garnet Graduate Student Association

sogsa@mailbox.sc.edu

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



[gradschool.sc.edu/gsa](http://gradschool.sc.edu/gsa)



[instagram.com/uscgsa](https://www.instagram.com/uscgsa)



[facebook.com/uscgsa](https://www.facebook.com/uscgsa)



[twitter.com/uscgsa](https://twitter.com/uscgsa)



[University of South Carolina Graduate Student Association](http://University of South Carolina Graduate Student Association)

<p><b>USC Graduate Student Association</b>                  304 Byrnes Building                  Columbia, SC 29208                  Office: (803) 777-2631                  Fax: (803) 777-7132  <a href="http://www.gradschool.sc.edu/gsa">www.gradschool.sc.edu/gsa</a></p> <p><b>President</b>                  Brittany S. Walter  <a href="mailto:walterbs@email.sc.edu">walterbs@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Vice President</b>                  Meagan Conway  <a href="mailto:conwaymk@email.sc.edu">conwaymk@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Treasurer</b>                  Brianna Hughes  <a href="mailto:behughes@email.sc.edu">behughes@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Graduate Council Representative</b>                  Danielle Schoffman  <a href="mailto:schoffmd@email.sc.edu">schoffmd@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Secretary</b>                  Michaela Schenkelberg  <a href="mailto:Schenkm@email.sc.edu">Schenkm@email.sc.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Financial Committee Chair</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Communications Coordinator</b>                  Emily Garnett  <a href="mailto:garnette@email.sc.edu">garnette@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Diversity Affairs Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Health Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Graduate Assistant Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Teaching Assistant Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Event Coordinator</b>                  Dominic Casili  <a href="mailto:casali@email.sc.edu">casali@email.sc.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Military Affairs Liaison</b>                  Aubrey L. Sejuit  <a href="mailto:astover@email.sc.edu">astover@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>International Affairs Liaison</b>                  Md Hassan Zamir  <a href="mailto:zamir@email.sc.edu">zamir@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Social Media Coordinator</b>                  Anais Parada  <a href="mailto:paradaa@email.sc.edu">paradaa@email.sc.edu</a></p> <p><b>Spouse and Family Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>University Affairs Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Graduate Organization Liaison</b>                  Vacant</p> <p><b>Community Service Officer</b>                  Vacant</p>
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