**School of Natural Resources Graduate Student Association**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 9/18/15 at 12pm**

**Items of Business:**

1. Workshop Ideas and Workshops to Attend
	* Resume, CV, Professional writing in Natural Resources
	* Student/Adviser Relations
	* Portfolio and Professional Academic Compositions
	* UNL GSA hosts events too. We could explore having them set up a workshop for us one afternoon if we can’t make it to their workshops.
	* SNR Professional Development Seminars: 2nd Floor Lobby 12-1pm on Sept. 25

***Creating and Presenting Award-Winning Posters***.

* + GSA Professional Development Workshop: Unity Room (212) on Oct. 8th 9-11am. Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center. ***Writing for Publication Workshop***.
1. Job Fair
	* UNL GSA planning one in February at Innovation Campus
	* If anyone wants to participate in planning that contact Maggi to be on the committee at: maggi.sliwinski@huskers.unl.edu
2. Committee SNR GSA Representative
	* SNR Wellness Team
	* Staff Advancement and Professional Development (meets once a month for 1 hour—first meeting is Thursday, Sept. 24 10:00-11:00 AM if you want to check it out!)
	* Email the SNR GSA if interested: snrgsa@unl.edu
3. Social Ideas
	* Once a month socials to hang out, relax, and chat.
	* First Friday Art Walks?
	* Weekly Coffee Meetings at Cultiva?
	* Email the SNR GSA if interested in joining the social committee to plan socials and share events with the group: snrgsa@unl.edu
	* Look for events, scholarships, and publications on the bulletin board in the cubicle hallway. Email the SNR GSA if interested in contributing to the board : snrgsa@unl.edu
	* Find us on Facebook to learn more about social events at **UNL SNR GSA**
4. Fall Seminar Series
	* If interested in the 1-credit course (NRES 891-002) associated with the Fall Seminar Series with Dr. Jenny Dauer, fill out a Schedule Adjustment form (located outside Patty Swanson’s office 102 Hardin Hall) and take it to the Graduate Studies office on City Campus. The requirements of the course include attending all of the seminars and completing a short assignment associated with each one. Email Jenny Dauer at jenny.dauer@unl.edu

**Fall Seminar Schedule**

* + October 14, 2015 - Duane Woodward, Central Platte NRD (host Ayse Irmak)
	+ October 28, 2015 - Jerry Vaske, Colorado State (host Mary Bomberger Brown)
	+ November 4, 2015 - Jason Vokoun (host Christopher Chizinski)
	+ November 11, 2015 - Anthony Schulz (host Katie Pekarek)
	+ November 18, 2015 - Tara Troy, Lehigh University (host Trenton Franz)
	+ December 9, 2015 - Mary Bomberger Brown (host Johnica Morrow)
1. Travel Grants
	* SNR GSA has travel grants for conferences or research purposes available
	* $250.00, 2 per semester (one MS and one PhD)
	* Applications open in October and are due November
2. Field Trips
	* Ideas for fall field trip?
	* Spring Field Trip –going to see the cranes
3. Fundraising
	* Ideas for Fundraising? Pint Glasses, SNR Polo shirts…
	* Past: Bake Sale with Poster Session at the Elevator Speech Competition
4. Graduate Committee Meeting Updates
	* Awards
		+ Some CASNR graduate student awards due date October 1st.
		+ Folsom Distinguished Masters Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation awards; Outstanding GTA, Outstanding GRA, and the Dean's Award for Excellence in Graduate Education.
		+ If you think you would be competitive in one of these awards, talk to your advisor about nominating you.
* UNL GTA Workshop
	+ If you are a SNR grad student TAing or teaching this year, you needed to attend the UNL GTA workshop in late August.
	+ If you attended and didn’t sign in, email Patty Swanson at: pswanson2@unl.edu
	+ The Grad Committee has a new Chair, Betty Walter-Shea; and a new Co-Chair, David Wishart
	+ **MANDATORY training**
	+ Speak Up: Understanding and Preventing Sexual Misconduct training due by Ocotber 1st.
	+ You can’t sign up for Spring Semester without completing the training online (You received an email about it on Sept. 1st
* Incomplete Course Marks
	+ If the work isn't completed during the course of a semester, rather than assigning an "I" (Incomplete), the professor must use one of the following options:
		- IP (In Progress): indicates satisfactory work in progress.  The IP would stand until the final examination, at which time a grade of "P" or a letter grade for all research, thesis or dissertation hours is submitted to the registrar.
		- XP (No Progress): indicates the student is not making adequate progress on research, thesis or dissertation work.
	+ If XP is placed on your record, federal funding can be put on hold. However, there is an appeal process, which can take 2-4 weeks.
* Increasing Graduate Student Pay
	+ Dr. Carroll has charged the Grad Committee with taking on the issue of low pay and/or inequitable pay.
	+ Read this article from The Chronicle of Higher Education:  <http://chronicle.com/article/The-PhD-Pay-Gap/230041/>
	+ If you have any suggestions or want to get involved, email SNR GSA at snrgsa@unl.edu

**Past Events:**

1. Branch Oak Lake Clean Up
	* Future clean up in a few weeks

**Upcoming Events:**

1. NaturePalooza – September 29th 3-8pm.
	* Need volunteers for our booth about birds
	* To volunteer, email snrgsa@unl.edu
2. Hazardous Waste Clean Up- Oct 24th.
3. Staff Appreciation Breakfast – TBA
	* 1 event a semester (last semester: custodial staff appreciation)
	* This Fall, we’d like to show appreciation for the support staff
	* More information on this to come