



**Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum Education Wing  
April 10, 2013 5:30pm – 7:30pm**

- I. Approval of Agenda**
  - Agenda approved
- II. \*\*Approval of Minutes from March's Full Council Meeting (Attachment 1)**
  - Minutes from the March meeting approved
- III. Remarks from the Graduate School (Dean Klomparens)**
  - Congratulations to all for the Graduate Student Appreciation Week!
- IV. Remarks from COGS Faculty Advisor (Dr. Davis)**
  - Happy 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary COGS
- V. Presentation from Michigan State University President (Dr. Lou Anna K. Simon)**
  - Suzanne recognized as an inspiration for involvement as a graduate student
  - Discussed the budget planning for the university
  - Boldness by design: take heritage and goals to position ourselves as top university
    - Strategic planning to improve university
    - Document will be released with these goals and plans at end of this semester
    - Can view more here: <http://boldnessbydesign.msu.edu/>
  - Addressed various questions from graduate students on a number of topics
- VI. Presentation from MSU Human Resources (Alice Smith, HR Assistant Director of Benefits and Tabatha Dixon, Senior Human Resources Professional I/S)**
  - Health care reform: there will be changes in the benefits, for more information see their website
    - <http://www.hr.msu.edu/benefits/>
  - Rate renewal with AETNA, plan effected by health reform
  - Quarterly option will be available to students
- VII. Presentation from the Graduate Employees Union (Amber True & Claire Yates)**
  - Discussing the relationship between COGS and GEU, collaboration goals
  - Looking for stewards from unrepresented departments
- VIII. Executive Board Remarks**
  - a. President (12/13, 13/14 Stefan Fletcher)
    - i. COGS 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Remarks from former presidents and Dean of Graduate School
      - Rachel: discussed the growth of COGS to improvement graduate experience
      - Dennis: discussed COGS in the late 80's, progress that was made in that era
      - Dean Klomparens: discussed uniqueness of this program, success

-Recognized Rebecca Mizell for great work as COGS Office Manager

- ii. COGS Events Update
  - Football seating for grads and professional students expanded by 20%
  - Thanks to Lexi and Rebecca for their work organizing events
  - “Get Chitt Done” 5k, April 27: see site for information
  - Provost search looking for students to serve on committee, email if interested and attach resume
- iii. COGS Tax Referendum
  - Voting to determine whether COGS will receive tax from grad students, continues until April 15th
- iv. Mid Semester Course Evaluations
- b. Vice President for Internal Affairs (12/13 Patrick True, 13/14 Kent Kovac)
  - i. Strategic Visioning Plan (see below)
- c. Vice President for External Affairs (12/13 Suzanne Borkowski, 13/14 Dionisia Quiroga)
  - i. SAGE Update
    - Meeting to discuss immigration, indebtedness and research funding for graduate students
- d. Treasurer (12/13, 13/14 Chris Harvey)
  - i. \*\*Spring 2013 Event Funding Requests
    - Recommendations and funding approved
  - ii. \*\*Summer 2013 Conference Grants
    - Funding approved
  - iii. \*\*2013-2014 COGS Budget
    - Changes in the budget can be seen in attachments, event and grant funding increased
    - Budget approved
- e. Recording Secretary (12/13 Jennifer Wray, 13/14 Katy Meyers)
- f. Law College Liaison (12/13 Jason Bart, 13/14 Michala Welch)
- g. Medical Colleges Liaison (12/13 Jane Christman, 13/14 Kiro Malek)
- h. Parliamentarian (12/13 Shannon Demlow)

**IX. Unfinished Business**

- a. \*\*Strategic Planning (Kent Kovac) (Attachment 2)
  - Goals include increasing online presence, increase communication between programs, and improve community
  - See attachment for more information

**X. New Business**

- a. **\*\*Confirm Kiro Malek (College of Human Medicine) to the Executive Board position of Medical Colleges Liaison**  
-Approved as Medical Colleges Liaison
- b. **\*\*Confirm Michala Welch (College of Law) to the Executive Board position of Law College Liaison**  
-Approved as Law College Liaison
- c. **\*\*Confirm Shannon Demlow to the Executive Board position of Parliamentarian**  
-Approved as Parliamentarian
- d. **\*\*2013-2014 Committee Elections (Kent Kovac)**  
-All committee seats approved

**XI. Member's Privilege**

-Shout out to members who have served COGS for a number of years

**XII. Adjourn**

**\*\* COGS Full Council Action Required**

Minutes taken by Katy Meyers

The Council of Graduate Students (COGS) is the constitutionally authorized government representing all graduate and professional students at Michigan State University. COGS actively promotes the improvement of both the individual and collective graduate experience by working with university administrators on a multitude of graduate student issues that range from degree requirements to housing to health care.