



**Gamma Sigma Delta  
Fall Business Meeting Minutes  
October 4, 2007**

Twenty-nine Gamma Sigma Delta members of the Tennessee Chapter helped themselves to sandwiches, sides and drinks for lunch during the Fall Business Meeting on October 4, 2007.

The meeting was called to order by Ernie Bazen, President.

The minutes of the 2007 Winter Business meeting (February 20, 2007) were reviewed and approved.

The Treasurer's report was distributed and reviewed by Willie Hart.

1. The chapter is still doing well financially, however we did spend more than was taken in since the last report.
2. It was noted and discussed that un-cashed/lost checks to an EURCA winner, issued Spring 2007, caused the \$150 discrepancy between the actual and recorded UT FCU balance.
  - a. Willie Hart suggested we deduct the stop check fee from the award and reissue the check to resolve the issue.
  - b. There was no discussion, a motion was made that the award check be reissued less the stop check fee, and received a second.

**Committee Reports:**

Executive Committee – no report

Audit Committee – Will perform an audit this year.

Greetings Committee – Ernie Bazen stated that Jim Wills will serve on the committee.

Constitution Review Committee – Covered under old business by Fred Allen.

Awards Committee – Ernie Bazen reminded the membership that all award information and application material is available on the GSD website.

Publicity Committee – Margot Emery stated that the committee will publicize events as usual.

Project Committee – Ernie Bazen reported for Carrie Fritz, committee chair, to forward any ideas to her.

Nominating Committee – Hank Kattesh suggested that the committee look to expand diversity on the committees.

Banquet and Luncheon Committee – In Mike Buschermohle's absence, Ernie Bazen and his kind fiancée arranged lunch for Fall Business Meeting. The group was also reminded about the luncheon donation jar.

Finance Committee

1. Fall Awards Banquet: Willie Hart stated that our 'regular' caterer, The Entertainer, was not available. However, Anderson Farms was contacted and scheduled to caterer the banquet.
2. EURCA Awards:
  - a. Willie Hart mentioned that we should track EURCA entries for overlap between CASNR and College of Engineering. EURCA winners receive \$50 whereas CASNR/CE award winners receive \$100.
  - b. The membership discussed the number of awards the chapter could comfortably offer and support. The membership decided that they would like to support as many as possible awarding one \$50 award per ten entries.

Membership Committee – Discussion of new student, faculty and staff members covered under new business.

**Fall Banquet:**

1. The Fall Banquet is set for November 15, 2007 at 6:30 pm in 156/157 Plant Bio Technology Building. Dr. Caula Beyl will be the evening's guest speaker.
2. As discussed under the Finance Committee report, Anderson Farms will cater the event.

**International Activities:**

- a. John Riley, International Secretary, shared that the International Chapter is providing funding to a graduate student via the International Foundation. They would like to expand this opportunity and noted that all donations are tax deductible.

**Old Business:**

Constitution and Bylaws – changes to ARTICLE VII, Awards, Section 2, 4(d) Graduate Student Award  
Fred Allen distributed the current and proposed passages to the membership.

Current Bylaw Language:

d. Graduate Student Award

- a. Recipient has demonstrated significant impact of research achievements with publications based on original research and presentations to professional societies OR displayed exceptional creative achievement developing innovative materials and technologies. The nominee's cumulative GPA and service to his or her department and UTIA will also be given strong consideration.
- b. Only one Graduate Student Award will be given annually and it will be presented at the spring initiation meeting.

Proposed Bylaw Language:

d. Graduate Student Award

- a. Recipient will have demonstrated significant creative and original accomplishments in either research, teaching, Extension. The nominee's cumulative GPA, service activities in the department and beyond, and their involvement in professional activities will be given strong consideration.
- b. One Graduate Student Award may be given annually to a Ph.D. candidate and one Graduate Student Award may be given annually to a M.S. candidate. The Award(s) will be presented at the spring initiation meeting.

All suggestions were forwarded to and compiled by Fred Allen and Bonnie Ownley. The floor was opened for discussion. The possibility of members voting on-line was suggested. Ernie Bazen voiced concern over the on-line voting method of members voting more than once. Bonnie Ownley and Larry Wilson inquired about quorum rules and voting during meetings while voicing concerns of reaching the required 2/3 membership with an on-line vote. The membership also discussed GTA/GRA graduate students verses students working to complete a creative component. A motion was made to accept the proposed language as written and second was received. David Golden then added a friendly amendment to replace 'will have' to 'has' and 'their' to 'his/her' in section D, a. A motion was made and a second received.

**New Business:**

New members: Two faculty members completed the initial nomination procedure. The floor was opened to for additional nominations. Faculty, staff and student nominee listings were distributed and reviewed. There was brief discussion about nominating Extension professionals that were not located on the Knoxville campus as well as extending membership invitations to undergraduate students. A motion was made that the list be accepted, a second was received and the motion carried with the provision that student membership may be adjusted on an as needed basis. Departmental representatives were asked to pick up packets and hand-deliver invitations to faculty and students.

Chapter Enrichment Grant Program: Emily L. Tipton discussed the Chapter Enrichment Grant program and encouraged members to take advantage of this opportunity. If interested, additional information and proposal forms can be forwarded to you.

There was further discussion concerning the EURCA awards. It was suggested to remove the cap and award all first place winners up to 200. A motion was made and a second receive. It was suggested to recognize winners at the GSD Spring Reception and Initiation. It was noted that GSD member, David Golden currently serves as EURCA representative. Margot Emery said that she and the Publicity Committee will publicize winners in hometown newspapers.

A reminder announcement was made about the upcoming GSD events:

- Luncheon and Business Meeting – February 21, 2008 at noon
- Spring Reception and Initiation – April 10, 2008 at noon

**Announcements:**

The departmental representatives were reminded to pick up their nomination packets.

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Emily L. Tipton, Secretary.