



## Gamma Sigma Delta Fall Business Meeting Minutes September 25, 2008

Nineteen Gamma Sigma Delta members of the Tennessee Chapter helped themselves to sandwiches, sides and drinks for lunch during the Fall Business Meeting on September 25, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by Kelly Robbins, President-Elect in the absence of President Fred Allen.

The minutes of the 2008 Winter Business meeting (February 21, 2008) were reviewed and approved.

A reminder announcement was made about the upcoming GSD events and deadlines. All dates, times and locations are available on the GSD website.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Initiating Junior Students: The Executive Committee's recommendation to invite junior students to join Gamma Sigma Delta was brought before the membership for discussion. The committee believes that this will not only increase the Chapter's total membership but provide an opportunity for students to become more involved with the Chapter. Kelly Robbins distributed the current and proposed change to Article III, Membership, Section 1, A. Undergraduate Students.

Current Constitution Language:

A. Undergraduate students

- (1.) Have been in residence at least one academic year before selection;
- (2.) Are in the upper 15% of the senior class of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural resources (CASNR);
- (3.) Have attained a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or better for all university work (out of a possible 4.0);
- (4.) Have completed at least 90 semester hours (i.e., senior status) at the time the student is nominated for election into the society; and
- (5.) Have been nominated on the prescribed form...

Proposed Constitution Language:

A. Undergraduate students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR).

No more than 15% of the senior class can be members;

- (1.) Juniors (at least 60 semester hours completed) or seniors (at least 90 semester hours completed) who have been in residence at least one academic year before election and have attained a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or better for all university work (out of a possible 4.0);
- (2.) Rank in the upper 5% of the junior class if juniors or in the upper 15% of the senior class if seniors;
- (3.) Have been nominated on the prescribed form...

The proposed changes were reviewed by the membership and will be voted upon at the next business meeting.

New Activities: Two new activities discussed during the Executive meeting to promote the chapter as well as increase student involvement was brought before the membership.

Spring Poster Event: Provide graduate students an opportunity to prepare/present material in preparation for professional meetings as well as promote GSD to students.

Fall Career Event: Provide an informative session on resumes, interview and career fair skills to undergraduates prior to the CASNR Career Fair. Possibly partner with Career Services.

There was brief discussion on the proposed events. Concerns about having enough students to sponsor the event were voiced. Jim Brace suggested partnering with an established event (*will get details*) held in mid-June for the

graduate student event while Mary Albrecht suggested an informative session on 'Preparing for Graduate School' as an undergraduate event.

New Members: Undergraduate, graduate and College of Veterinary Medicine student nominee listings were distributed and reviewed. A motion was made that the list be accepted, a second was received and the motion carried. Departmental representatives were asked to pick up packets and hand-deliver invitations to students. There was brief discussion about the reduced number of faculty and staff nominations over the past two years. The membership was encouraged to further consider any potential faculty or staff nominees and forward to Emily L. Tipton or John Riley as soon as possible.

Chapter Enrichment Grant Program: Emily L. Tipton discussed the Chapter Enrichment Grant program and encouraged members to take advantage of this opportunity.

Committee Assignments: New committee chairs were briefly discussed and Kelly Robbins entertained volunteers for the open Project Committee chair.

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

The Chapter bank account continues to decrease. There was brief discussion on the amount spent on awards for SASEF and EURCA. It was noted that the net change noted on the 2007-2008 financial statement reflects the income and expenses for the current year. The report was reviewed and approved.

**International News:**

John Riley, International Secretary, congratulated the group for receiving the Gold Chapter Award for 2007-2008. This is the second Gold Award in as many years. He mentioned that the chapter should be proud of the report submitted and of the events conducted throughout the year.

**Announcements:**

GSD Polo Shirt Drawing: In an effort to increase member participation and meeting attendance, the Executive Committee decided to give away a GSD polo shirt during each business meeting. Congratulations to the Chapter's first winner Emily Gray.

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

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Emily L. Tipton, Secretary.