



**Gamma Sigma Delta
Winter Business Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2008**

Twenty-six Gamma Sigma Delta members of the Tennessee Chapter helped themselves to sandwiches, sides and drinks for lunch during the Winter Business Meeting on February 21, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by Ernie Bazen. President Bazen thanked Mike Buschermohle for planning and organizing such a wonderful lunch for the Chapter.

The minutes of the 2007 Fall Business meeting (October 4, 2007) were reviewed and approved.

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

1. The +\$88.54 net change does not accurately reflect the Chapter's status.
2. The decline in membership was discussed and Dr. Hart indicated that banquet ticket prices remain 'okay' but the Chapter is spending more money for EURCA awards.
3. However, the Chapter's savings account balance is good with an interest gain of \$22.54.

The report was reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee – No report

Audit Committee – No report

Constitution Review Committee – No report

Awards Committee – No report

Publicity Committee – Patty McDaniels reported that they will cover the Spring Initiation in Third Thursday and Tennessee Today.

Project Committee – No report

Nominating Committee – Hank Kattesh said that the committee didn't formally meet but Kelly Robbins was contacted concerning the President-Elect officer position.

Banquet and Luncheon Committee – No report but the membership was reminded to contribute to the 'lunch donation' container.

Greetings Committee – No report

Finance Committee – The membership was again reminded that business meeting luncheons are funded by donations.

Membership Committee – Covered under New Business

Spring Initiation and Awards Reception:

Note: The date has changed from Thursday, April 10 to Tuesday, April 15!

The Spring Initiation and Awards Reception set for Tuesday, April 15 at 12:00 pm in 156 PBT.

The Spring Reception was moved to a noon luncheon to increase attendance. The general membership fee will be \$5, payable at the door.

International Activities:

1. The next International Conclave will be hosted by University of Kentucky, June 18-20, 2008. The Conclave format was changed to a weekday format rather than a weekend. International will pay for the official chapter delegate and will pay \$250 toward their transportation. All chapters are encouraged to send at least one delegate to attend.

2. The International GSD website remains in the process of transitioning to a more user-friendly format.
3. International GSD is also seeing a decline in initiates and is 'running in the red.' They have seen their initiation numbers drop from 2,500 to approximately 1,700 recently.

Old Business:

Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement (EURCA): Mary Albrecht mentioned that the EURCA competition will take place on April 2, 2008. She encouraged the membership to contact David Golden for more details. Willie Hart asked the membership if the Chapter should invite the winners to the Spring Reception.

New Business:

New Members: Graduate and undergraduate student nominee listings as well as three faculty members that completed the initial nomination procedures were distributed and reviewed. The floor was opened to for additional nominations. It was suggested that all departmental representatives review the listing for accuracy. It was also suggested that the graduate student listing be checked against other university memberships. Dr. Riley explained that it would be a very difficult process to do so. A motion was made that the list be accepted, a second was received and the motion carried. A listing of eligible College of Veterinary Medicine students was not available at the time of the meeting. However, Dr. Brace will work with Dr. Riley to identify and notify those eligible. Due to the Spring Reception date change, all nomination packets will be distributed to departmental representatives as soon as the invitation letters are re-printed.

Chapter Enrichment Grant: Bonnie Ownley announced that she and her co-applicants applied and received a grant for \$450 for use in Increasing Interest of Middle- and High-School Students in Agricultural Sciences and Engineering at the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair by providing awards. Dr. Caula Beyl matched the award money to extend the project for two years. Bonnie also encouraged GSD members to become involved as judges as this is a great mentoring opportunity. This project will increase interactions with science interested students. Mary Albrecht also encouraged graduate students to consider serving as judges.

Election of New Officers: Hank Kattesh, Nominating Committee Chair, shared the proposed slate of officers: President Elect – Kelly Robbins, Treasurer – Willie Hart, Secretary – Emily L. Tipton, Historian – Emily Gray. The floor was opened to additional nominations and then it was moved and accepted to close. A motion was made to accept the nominated slate of officers as stated, a second was received and the motion carried.

Other Business: None

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Emily L. Tipton, Secretary.