

## GSA Meeting Minutes

### March 14, 2018

1. Committee updates
  - a. Welcome - prospective students have finished visiting, thank you to all who came to lunch and dinner
  - b. Social - the Madcap game was ok, always looking for new ideas; March basketball bracket is out now, no prize but all the glory; Beer-oclinic happy hour is next Friday
  - c. Outreach - AOS open house sometime next month, ask Maria or Jess
  - d. Faculty - qual feedback was well received given the circumstances, and the **faculty are open to suggestions**
    - i. Short term changes to make students less stressed about it, ideas include clearer core concepts, more inclusion with classes, possible practice included in core courses for those who want it
    - ii. Long term debate on what the qual is meant to be/how important it is
      1. "The qual is only one measure for becoming a PhD candidate, not the end all be all"
  - e. Seminar - full schedule until the end of the semester, including lots of masters defenses that you should attend to support each other!
  - f. Graduation - this committee needs to be formed - Ashtin, Maggie, Zoe, Julia have volunteered
    - i. Graduation is Saturday May 12
    - ii. \*should bring up to faculty that the admins should be planning graduation **not** grad students
2. Open call
  - a. Fundraising
    - i. Currently have a SaladsUp (15%) that may or may not happen
    - ii. Debate about using a GoFundMe and/or ask alumni
    - iii. Should we coordinate with undergrads since they're supposed to fundraise for the solstice party?
    - iv. Include dues for GSA?
    - v. BUT what exactly is this money going towards? There was some debate over this, still ongoing
  - b. Softball game
    - i. Building softball game and cookout with AOS/SSEC/CIMS/CCR
    - ii. Sometime end of April? Be on the lookout for more info