Present: Nathan, Monika, Becca, Ellen, Vinson, Ryan, Chenin

Seminars (Chenin and Ryan)
Speakers are all set, titles are in. Will take place each Friday in Aiken 102. There is a link to the PDF of the seminar schedule on the homepage. Students need to be reminded that they need to tell Chenin about their name being put in the lottery for going to dinner with the speaker after.

GSS – Graduate Student Senate (Vinson)
Wednesday was the first meeting, attended by Vinson and Christine from RSENR. The meeting covered the breakdown of how GSS works, the various committees (Financial, Social, Student Services), the process for starting a grad student club. We should have three slots in the GSS, so there is room for one more graduate student. Voting will occur if/when there are more than the allotted numbers of senator candidates.

Mentoring (Becca)
We have about 20 grad students signed up, and about 20 undergrads signed up. The goal is for every grad student to have one mentee. The budget is $500 - there will be an account set up at Henderson’s. Coffee dates would start in October. If mentors want to meet more often, that’s great - but the minimum is once a month. For pairings, we are going to have a committee making the pairings.

Treasurer (Kate)
Current budget is $2,125 for the Fall Semester. Mini-grants: $400 have already been committed, and $800 will also be distributed this semester. That leaves $925 for the operating budget of RGSA for the fall semester. We should budget about $150 for each of the social events.

MINI-GRANTS Timeline: Wait until after the GSS process (Sept 28). Process for deciding will be to set up the applications anonymously and have them ranked. If anyone on the RGSA Executive Committee applies, they can’t be part of the selection process.

President (Nathan)
ALL-MEMBERS Meeting: A proposal is to have it less like a traditional meeting (sit down and have a session), and have it more like an open house. We’ll identify a day, get coffee, snacks, etc. We’ll take a big meeting room and be available from 10:00am - 2:00pm. We’ll have any relevant information students will need, and it would be the opportunity for students to voice concerns or issues they’d like to address, talk with their senators. Possible dates: within first couple weeks of October (time to ask questions before the mini-grants, and we may be able to time it with the Grad Forum, to be about two weeks beforehand.

PARTICIPATION IN THE DEAN SEARCH: Nathan will craft a letter so that someone from RGSA has participation in the search.

GRAD FORUM: Nathan will approach Kimberly Wallin and Allan Strong about scheduling it.

Social Activities (Ellen)
One each month, including a holiday party in December.
September date/location: Friday, Sept 28th at 5:00pm at Das Bierhaus or Farmhouse. Ellen will contact to make sure that we don’t get charged for the room. We want to bring in more faculty members to the Happy Hours.

CHILI COOK-OFF: Funds raised can be split 50/50 between a donation to an organization, and using the other half for a keg for the holiday party.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, Sept 20th at 3:30pm