**RGSA Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2013 | 12:00 – 12:30**

**Present:** Sarah Pears (SP), Christine Peterson (CP), Clare Crosby (CC), Jeff O'Donnell (JO), Monika Derrien, Bess Perry, Stephanie Juice, Ariana Cano, Eliese Dykstra.

**Opportunities for Grad Involvement**

**Mentoring Program**
The mentoring program is looking for a co-chair. The co-chair would help match undergrads with grads. CP is expecting more undergrads to sign-up at Doc Donnelly day, so we'll likely need more grads. Bess expressed an interest in helping CP with the program.

**Diversity Task Force**
Marie Vea-Fagnant is looking for a grad to co-chair (along with one faculty and one undergrad) the Rubenstein Diversity Task Force. Please contact Marie ([Marie.Vea-Fagnant@uvm.edu](mailto:Marie.Vea-Fagnant@uvm.edu)) if you are interested.

**Graduate Student Senate (GSS)**
GSS elections are coming up. RSENR has 3 seats. Senators liaison between GSS and RGSA/RSENR. Contact Sarah Pears ([spears@uvm.edu](mailto:spears@uvm.edu)) for more information.

**Faculty Advisor**
RGSA is looking for a faculty advisor. If anyone has recommendations, please send them to [RGSA@uvm.edu](mailto:RGSA@uvm.edu). The Exec. Committee will be reaching out to faculty soon.

**RGSA All Member Meeting**
SP - RGSA meets once a year with the Dean, Graduate Program Coordinator, and Graduate Program Student Services Specialist. In previous years, the Dean’s Forum has been held in the spring. We will plan on doing it in the spring again this year. SP is meeting with Dean Erickson to discuss RGSA and the 2013-14 school year.

**Happy Hours**
CC – The first happy hour is scheduled for September 19th. CP – RGSA would like to increase faculty attendance, so encourage your advisors to attend. SP – We should spread happy hours around geographically. Monika and Elise agreed, provided that locations are within biking distance. SP – Look for an RGSA calendar events to be coming out via e-mail. We will also post flyers in Aiken. CC and JO will coordinate.

**Fall Seminar Series**
As part of the seminar series, Monika (Seminar Series Co-Chair) reminded everyone that grad students can have dinner out with speakers. Dinner is on the school. First come, first serve. Email Monika ([mderrien@uvm.edu](mailto:mderrien@uvm.edu)) if there is a speaker you would like to dine with.

**Other Business**
SP – Reminded everyone that RGSA Exec. meetings are open to all, and we encourage students to attend. Please bring any ideas to the meeting or e-mail us.