Present: Sarah Pears (SP), Christine Peterson (CP), Clare Crosby (CC), Jeff O'Donnell (JO), Monika Derrien (MD)

Chair Updates:
SP – JO to send out mini-grant e-mail with application. Mini grants will be due Friday, October 25th. The Exec. Committee will review via e-mail for a one-week turnaround.

SP - State of the School is confirmed for October 28th from 12 to 1 p.m. Dean’s Forum is scheduled for Nov. 21st from 2:30 to 4:00 in Aiken 103. Mark your calendars. RGSA Exec. Committee is working on a survey of possible topics to be distributed to grads by the end of this month.

SP – Carolyn suggested Dec. 5th at 9:30 am for a presentation for grad students re: “checking in” on what forms need to be filed when and other graduation requirements.

SP – Donna Parrish is interested in being an RGSA faculty advisor. Donna suggested Brennan’s or the Rosa Parks room as happy hour locations likely to attract more faculty and staff due to their proximity to Aiken.

CC – October happy hour is in the works. Chili cook-off reminder e-mail will be sent soon.

MD – Seminar series is going well. The post-seminar dinner with Pat Parenteau went well. Five students will be having dinner with Gil Livingston this Thursday.

Chili Cook-off
SP – RGSA should identify the charity before sending out the flier and be more clear about where the proceeds will be going. Chili cook-off proceeds in previous years have been a 50/50 split between charity and refreshments for the RGSA holiday party.

Holiday Party Planning
The Committee discussed possible venue options (ArtsRiot, FlynnDog, Magliano, North End Studios). All agreed the location should be walkable, bikable, or on bus line. Possible dates include December 12, 13, or 14 from 7 to 10 p.m. CC will reach out to venues for availability. Discussions of food centered around placing a focus on desserts.

Mentoring Program Update
CP - The meet and greet went well. Undergrads and grads mingled. The Henderson’s Rubenstein Mentoring gift card has been refilled. Most baristas should know about the card (it’s in the middle draw). The RSENR Stewards / RGSA grad school information proposal is moving forward. CP is meeting with the Stewards and will report back.

GSS Update
CP – President Sullivan met with GSS. There is a plan to expand graduate education. It’s still in the planning stages. He’s hoping most money to expand graduate education will come from gifts and scholarships. New employment hub in Davis Center is open. You can schedule half hour meetings to meet with an advisor. There may be some grad student focused presentation. Grad specific networking: Oct. 3, 11:45 – 1:00. JO will pull out GSS grad-specific notices for RGSA reminder e-mails.