GSC Vice President Report for April 13th

Graduate Council – met on the 7th. Our proposal to gain a voting seat on the Graduate Council passed unanimously with one abstention – the person who abstained wrongly thought they needed 7 votes for it to pass since that was the number for a quorum, but, alas, it only needed to be a majority so we gained a voting seat on the group. Dr. Flinchbaugh told the group the Graduate School is working to get Gas the same percentage increase in raises as other employees – though that was questioned in the UAC meeting this week. More on that in a second. The Graduate School is also moving to call what GAs get paid a “stipend” rather than a “salary” – since “salary” gives the impression that GAs are employees. The Graduate School is also still undecided on whether to offer GAs insurance – a lot is up in the air as talk of the union continues. They’re also working with HR to reconfigure the salary scale for GAs with designations of G1, G2, and G3 to change. More should be coming up on that in the summer.

Graduate Leadership meeting

Sadly, I was the only one who showed up for the Graduate Leadership meeting. I’ll be sending out reminders of those meetings going forward. Please put the next one scheduled for May 2nd on your calendars. During that meeting Dr. Flinchbaugh and I discussed the changes to the salary schedule and the potential for pay for the GSC to work over the summer to plan the Graduate Research & Arts Symposium for the fall. She indicated she would also see us do more work with the Graduate Wellness Initiative and encouraged us to partner with other groups for panels and such. She also reminded me of the grad/faculty breakfast coming up on the 21st at 7:30a.

University Administrative Council

The UAC discussed upcoming raises for NMSU staff and reiterated that those raises will not be going to student employees. Student workers (non-GAs) will be getting raises to $12/hr effective January 1st when the minimum wage increases. Dr. Gena Jones from HR reiterated that student raises were not included in the legislation. Raises for GAs are tied to increases for faculty – which is still in discussions.

I’ve also been appointed to the university’s Climate Action Team…. And the only student on the group. If there are any issues you would like raised – please email me and I’ll pass them on.