

# Graduate Assistants United

## **Exec-Board Present:**

Kelly Joanna Karena Sam Kathryn

## **Brief GAU Introduction (for those who have never attended):**

1. We are the GA union on campus; we bargain with the administration for GA rights.
2. For example, we have obtained health insurance (in 2013), increased minimum stipends for the last two years, won fee deferment, etc.
3. We also provide legal representation in any employment dispute, but only if you are a member at the time of the incident.
4. Senators attend the twice-annual UFF meeting, which is composed of GAs from other Florida colleges and Florida faculty; there, we motion and vote for policies that UFF will advocate for in the Florida Legislature.

## **Governance**

1. Approval of the February and March meeting minutes...because, uh, we didn't do this last time. Eep...
  - a. Approved
2. Elections
  - a. Done, essentially, because no one ran against anyone else... but we still need a Communications Chair and Legislative Outreach Chair!
    - i. Communications more important of the two

## **Bargaining**

## **Finance**

## **Organizing**

1. Wear red every Weds (statewide FEA-UFF action) and post a picture to social media with #FundOurFutureFL
  - a. Put in an order for red shirts for next year
2. Summary of Senate organizing meeting and rally
  - a. Mark calendars for April 10th UFF Higher Ed Day of Action
3. To get more involved with legislative actions, attend organizing meetings (April 23rd, 6:30-7:30 in NEC 300A).

### **Communications**

1. Sexual harassment survey in the works!
2. Karena is stepping down at the end of April.
  - a. RIP
  - b. Postdoc at Emery!
3. Poster contest: regardless of how many (if any) submissions we receive
  - a. Put up posters before the start of Fall semester so when students see emails start showing up, they have a visual anchor to remind them who we are
  - b. Joanna has done some research on changing social norms that we should implement in our advertising etc
  - c. Make flyers describing what we want to achieve in bargaining.
    - i. According to a study Karena saw, USF is among the top 10 for highest graduate fees in the US at about \$2,000 per year

### **Legislative Affairs**

### **Miscellaneous**

1. Are there any concerns you have for your department? How can GAU serve you?
2. LAST member social - April 18 (next Thursday), 6 - 8 p.m., at World of Beer!
3. Meeting attendance weak:
  - a. Next year let's get better meeting locations so people are more likely to actually show up. Use more prominent locations: MSC preferably, or cooper, ENB, BSN, etc
4. Orientations
  - a. PGSO presentations?
  - b. Signup sheet for volunteers
    - i. At least pass around the signup sheet thing
5. Fridge is low on Coke, Dr Pepper
6. Write up a general description of position
7. Google drive is a mess. Organize and write up an index? Tanya Kathryn, JB, Kelly, Sam should have a meeting