LETTER FROM THE GSA PRESIDENT

Fellow Graduate Students,

A few weeks ago, the GSA ran a survey on the programs and services provided by the association. I want to assure you that your opinions matter, and we have started to increase the information you want to know on our website. If you take a look at our Officers page, you will see new pages for each officer. On my page, you will find correspondence I have sent to University officials; on the Treasurer’s page, you will find our operating budget and monthly budget reports; and on the various committee chair pages, you will find monthly reports on their activities.

Take a look at our site. We continue to add information to increase transparency and awareness. If you have any suggestions on how we can further this cause, please contact me. I look forward to hearing from you and serving you throughout this academic year.

Yours in Service,

James J. Lewis
President, Graduate Student Association

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE INCREASE

Based on official results of the referendum, 58% of the graduate student body would support a $5 increase to the Student Activity Fee. A letter has been sent to the Vice President of Student Life, Sue Pervi, requesting the fee be increased to $45 per semester starting in the Fall 2012 semester. A copy of the letter can be found on the GSA website. Thank you to the students who participated in the referendum and let their voice be heard.

EMERGENCY CONFERENCE FUND

The GSA Conference Committee is pleased to announce the creation of an Emergency Conference Fund, to assist graduate students who will be presenting during the Spring 2012 semester. A special thank you to the following schools and departments for donating a portion of their rebate
money to this fund: Canon Law, History, Modern Languages, Music, Philosophy, Physics and Politics. Complete guidelines on how to apply for these new resources have been posted to our website. We will begin accepting applications December 1.

UPDATED LECTURES GUIDELINES

The GSA Lectures Committee has revised its guidelines for funding. We now have guidelines for GSA Lectures, which are meant to appeal to the general graduate student population, and Department Lectures, which department-specific lectures. We have also added a survey to better assess the use of funding. Revised guidelines can now be found online and take effect today, November 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS

This Saturday, November 5, 9 AM. Tour: George Washington Masonic Memorial. Receive a personal tour of the memorial across the Potomac in Alexandria, VA. Learn about George Washington and the many roles he played in founding this country.

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A Christmas Carol at Ford’s Theatre. 7pm, December 1. Watch Dickens’ classic tale at the historic Ford’s Theatre.

Contact Brian Rice for tickets.