

The Graduate Student Society

Meeting Date: September 15th, 2025

Meeting Time: 4:00 PM

Meeting Location: Graduate Student Success Center

This document summarizes key concerns identified by students and outlines actionable recommendations to strengthen communication, community, career development, funding, and alumni relations.

1. Communication & Community

Concerns:

- Lack of communication and program-wide updates
- Limited connection between students, cohorts, and faculty
- Difficulty navigating resources without clear guidance

Recommendations:

- Establish regular communication channels (monthly newsletter, group chat, or bulletin board)
- Host more structured social events, particularly at the start of each semester
- Develop a Faculty/Staff Guidebook to help students understand available support and resources
- Organize informal mixers to connect students with faculty

2. Events & Engagement

Concerns:

- Limited social and networking opportunities
- Few graduate-level events or trips
- Underutilized social media presence

Recommendations:

- Plan consistent monthly or quarterly social mixers to build community
- Organize semester kickoff events and graduate trips to foster engagement
- Increase Instagram promotion of events, student achievements, and available resources

3. Career Development

Concerns:

- Career fair lacks follow-through with opportunities
- Insufficient support for graduate students in career exploration
- Limited visibility of student job opportunities

Recommendations:

- Strengthen employer partnerships and ensure graduate student inclusion in fairs
- Provide clear follow-up after career events (feedback, job postings, mentorship)
- Expand and centralize student job postings for easy access

4. Funding & Resources**Concerns:**

- Insufficient funding and financial support opportunities

Recommendations:

- Advocate for additional scholarships, grants, and student support funds
- Improve transparency on funding options and application processes

5. Alumni Relations**Concerns:**

- Weak connections between current students and alumni
- Limited promotion of alumni success and involvement

Recommendations:

- Launch alumni-student networking events and mentorship programs
- Highlight alumni achievements through newsletters and social media
- Create structured pathways for alumni to give back (career talks, panels, donations)

Conclusion

Addressing these concerns will foster stronger communication, improve student support, enhance career development, and build a more connected community across students, faculty, and alumni.