6:30: Meeting Begins, Announcements

- Next Thursday, Humanities Grad Mixer open to all at Six Plates, 9pm (Sarah Denes)
- Spring dates for GA Meeting are posted on the GPSC Website

6:31: Last week’s meeting minutes approved as written.

6:32: Invited Speaker, Anna Salinas (Duke Student Health)

- If you are going to graduate in December, you need to terminate your Duke health insurance by December 31st. There are three options: (1) terminate and purchase a continuation for your health insurance directly from UHCSR or elsewhere, (2) pay the balance on your bursar’s account and keep the coverage until 7/31/11, or (3) Students enrolled in Duke SMIP at least 6 months can purchase a continuation of coverage for up to 6 months. Look at www.uhcsr.com/duke for forms. If you do not do not terminate by 12/31/10, you will stay enrolled until 7/31/11.
- If students are moving to their parent’s insurance for those under 26, please fill out an “Age 26 petition to terminate” form (www.uhcsr.com/duke) and turn in February 1st. The plan must be comparable or better than the Duke insurance. Make sure as well that your Health Insurance Provider is complying with new regulations before terminating the Duke plan.
- If you are moving or changing addresses, even across town, you need to notify Duke Medicine at 919-620-4555 so they can update your billing address.
- Some maternity testing benefits are being denied through UHCSR, so please review what benefits are covered before ordering tests, and talk over options with your health provider.
- From December 23rd to January 4th Duke Student Health will be closed, so please try to have paperwork submitted before that time so they can process it and give you confirmation before the deadline. Feel free to call or email Anna Salinas with any questions.

6:47: Retreat Registration Open

- Registration for the GPSC Retreat 1/22/11 at the Cotton Room is open now at http://tinyurl.com/GPSC-Retreat and will be posted on Buzz. A ten dollar deposit via flex or the OSAF office is required to enroll, which will be returned after the event. Please encourage student leaders and GPSC reps to attend! Contact Felicia Hawthorne for more info.

6:51: Report from NAGPS (David Kahler & Ali Saaem)

of 2010, S.1373/H.R.5037: Federal Research Public Access Act of 2009. Consider asking your representatives to endorse these bills. Other legislative concerns are H1-B Visas and other visas, and taxation of graduate student stipends. Contact Ali Saaem if you want to participate in NAGPS events such as Legislative Action Days.

- David and Ali hosted a health insurance roundtable at the event. Predatory plans are still around under health insurance reform. MIT & UC both have interesting insurance plans possibly worth emulating. It took UC 2 years to move forward on their model, we are still working on it after 3 years. GPSC has endorsed this plan, and David recommends reaffirming it resolution in favor of the model.

- Explanation of Benefits (EOB) can be used to get benefits that have been covered in the past under BCBS. If you know people who have had benefits paid under BCBS, especially in the realm of maternity, and are willing to expound these benefits anonymously, we can use their experiences to help other graduate students get their services covered. Contact David Kahler and/or Anna Salinas with information.

- **MOTION:** Melissa Kirkpatrick (CMB) moves, Stephanie Holmer (Cell Biology) seconds: Reaffirm GPSC resolution in favor of pursuing a self funded model. Motion Passes.

7:15PM: Meeting Adjourned

*These Minutes taken by Daniel Griffin, GPSC President*