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Newsletter
March 2014

Message from the Executive Committee

Each month, GAPSA sends out this newsletter to keep graduate students informed about upcoming events and ways to get involved with our community. During March, grad students can enjoy Spring Break, film screenings, guest lecturers, and study sessions. At the end of March, we kick off Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week, details for which can be found below.

GAPSA exists to serve the graduate student community on all four Mason campuses. If you want to get involved, socialize with other students, organize an event, or think your community has an important need, contact GAPSA to see how we can help.

Planning Survey

Recently, Dr. Cabrera sent out a message about the development of the new campus master plan for the university. Please take the time to complete the survey! The results are very important and it is our responsibility to make graduate student life better here at Mason! The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. To provide further incentive, you have a chance to be selected for a \$100 Amazon Gift Card for participating. To get started, please visit the following link: <http://myc.sasakistrategies.com/branches/george-mason/landing.html>

The survey will close Wednesday, March 12. Please look for future opportunities to participate in the Master Planning process; additional details forthcoming in March.

Upcoming Events

Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week

March 31st through April 4th

Grad Appreciation Week is a series of programs that are dedicated to our graduate and professional students at Mason that is co-sponsored by GAPSA and Graduate Student Life. During this week graduate students are celebrated through a variety of fun events, free food, massages, etc. We want you to know how much the university appreciates all that you do.

Any events that you might like to see please email Sara Morrisroe, Associate Director for Student Involvement at smorrisr@gmu.edu



March 22

Study Space (Free coffee and snacks provided)

Where: **To be announced**

When: **To be announced**

Come out to the GAPSA study space, reserved for graduate students to work in communal space and share resources. We are also offering free editing and proofreading on a first come, first served basis with our Director of Communications. Stay tuned for more information by visiting our Facebook group, Mason GAPSA

The Journal of Mason Graduate Research is planning for next year and looking for interested students to be editors and peer reviewers. Contact Josh St. Louis for more information at [jstlou1 \[at\] gmu.edu](mailto:jstlou1@gmu.edu)

Arlington

March 7

International Women's Day Special Film Showing, "Miss Representation"

Where: **Founders Room 466**

When: **6:00-9:00pm**

Join us for a special movie screening of the documentary Miss Representation. This award winning and highly-acclaimed documentary demonstrates the media's influence as a cause of the under-representation of women in positions of power in America. This year, the theme of International Women's Day is Inspiring Change, and we will welcome an open dialogue after the movie about the contributions that we can make to effect a positive change for women around the world. All students and professors, both men and women, are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served!

Check out the film's website: <http://film.missrepresentation.org>

Contact Rachel Schott, rschott@gmu.edu, for details or questions

April 3 (rescheduled from February 13)

Homecoming Happy Hour

Where: **O'Sullivan's Irish Pub in Clarendon**

When: **6:00-9:00 pm**

Come celebrate with alumni and other students, and show your Mason spirit!

Free food and free giveaways!

Contact: Rachel Schott, rschott@gmu.edu for questions or comments.

Loudoun

March 20 (rescheduled from February 27)

Guest Lecturer, Dr. Rashid Chotani, "Students of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow"

Where: **Loudoun Campus, Sterling, VA**

When: **7:00-8:30pm**

GAPSA presents this one of a kind networking event with Dr. Chotani, a successful industry professional. Participants will not only hear success stories but can also have one-to-one discussion with the speaker. The event will be followed by refreshments.

For more information, visit the Eventbrite site: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/students-of-today-leaders-of-tomorrow-dr-rashid-chotani-tickets-10474484465>



Campus Assemblies

George Mason University operates four campuses in Northern Virginia, Fairfax, Prince William, Arlington, and Loudoun. Representatives from the Executive Committee of GAPSA organize assemblies for each campus to inform students about upcoming events and to find out how GAPSA can help graduate students.

Upcoming Assemblies (contact your campus VP for more information)

Fairfax Campus: **March 18, 7:30pm, JC Gold Room**
April 14, 6:00pm, JC Room A

Prince William Campus: **March 6**

Graduate Program Highlight of the Month

Ph.D. in Public Policy
 School of Public Policy

The Ph.D. program at George Mason University's School of Public Policy is one of the nation's largest, and takes advantage of the school's status as the leading university-based public policy institution in the Washington, D.C., metro area, to attract candidates who want the best education from experienced, national and international faculty.

Students and faculty advisors work together to design a personalized curriculum appropriate to each student's academic and professional background and goals. This allows candidates to tie their doctoral studies directly to their current and future careers, while taking advantage of the extensive resources available in the nation's capital.

The program's flexibility also fosters a culturally and philosophically diverse community of policy practitioners and scholars, where the true marketplace of ideas is embraced and innovation is encouraged. It offers an unprecedented degree of academic freedom rooted in a shared commitment to making the world a better place.

Students and faculty work side by side to explore the intersection of technology, culture, organizational dynamics, international affairs, and public policy, conducting research that influences decisions at the local, national, and multinational levels.

The Ph.D. program produces candidates who are able to tackle the full spectrum of public policy challenges, fully prepared for senior-level careers in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Your GAPSA Executive Committee



Katy Seipel
McQuiston,
President



Josh St. Louis, VP
Fairfax



Jackie Inskeep,
VP Prince William



Rachel Schott, VP
Arlington



Ahmad Cheema,
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Communication