

Graduate Student Involvement Report:

Data and Statistics for November 2003-December 2004

Compiled on December 2, 2004 by Jason Pontius, Coordinator of Graduate Student Involvement

Graduate Student Service Announcements

The announcements are a weekly email sent to all registered graduate students with information and updates regarding graduate-relevant events and services. The announcements have been very positively received and have been successful in relating important information and reinforcing a sense of graduate community.

Meetings with Graduate Students

The Coordinator corresponds with approximately 25-30 graduate students either in person, via email or by phone. Issues include: questions about student organizations, questions about student services, requests for campus advocacy, requests to forward service/event information to graduate students, etc. The Coordinator works with GSG executives and staff on a daily basis as a primary advisor of the organization.

Graduate Student Lounge

The Graduate Student Lounge is approximately one year old and it serves as a small lounge and resource center for graduate students. When it first opened about 5 graduate students used the space per week. Currently about 20-30 graduate students use the space to study, check email or review resources each week. This number does not include the GSG committee meetings held in the space 2-3 times per week. The lounge serves free coffee on Thursdays.

Registered Graduate Student Organizations

Part of the mission of the office is to provide support for graduate student organizations on campus. There has been a steady increase in registered graduate organizations over the last 4 years due largely to increased awareness of the benefits of registering, an online registration process started in 2002, and a simplified process for requesting funding from GSG.

- 2004-2005: 77 organizations registered
- 2003-2004: 65 organizations registered
- 2002-2003: 53 organizations registered
- 2001-2002: 23 organizations registered
- 2000-2001: records not kept

Monthly Graduate Student Social Series

The Monthly Social Series added a second hourly graduate student coordinator (each works 5 hours per week for 9 months in return for \$3,000). Over the past year, the series has served over 230 grads representing over 50 different graduate departments.

- 2 Sea kayaking trips (9 spaces each, both sold out)
- Mamma Mia, the musical (35 tickets, sold out)
- Wine Appreciation Workshop (20 spaces, sold out)
- Alvin Ailey Dance Troop (30 tickets, sold out)
- Salsa Dancing Class in DC (40 attended, free of charge)
- Cirque de Soleil (20 tickets, sold out)
- Feng Shui Workshop (10 attended)
- Caving Trip (14 spaces, 12 attended)
- Halloween High Heel Race (20 attended, free of charge)
- Apple Picking Trip (4 attended)
- Camping and White Water Rafting (6 attended)
- Hiking Trip (15 attended)

Graduate Family Events

Graduate Student Involvement is committed to sponsoring at least one event each semester for the families of graduate students. One such event, the Halloween Pumpkin Painting event, has been held for two years and attracted over 70 students and their children each year.

Lyceum Dinner Series Events

The Lyceum Dinner Series is a program dedicated to in-depth discussions of non-academic issues that affect graduate student quality of life. All three events for 2004 filled their allotted 35 seats and had a waiting list:

- “Being a Graduate Student with a Significant Other”
- “Financial Planning for Graduate Students”
- “So, I’ve Gotten In, I’m Getting Through, But What Does It All Mean For When I Get Out?”

Classics Film Series

The Classic Film Series, a cooperative effort with the Hoff Theater shows art house and classic films once a month free of charge. Average attendance is 50+ students per screening

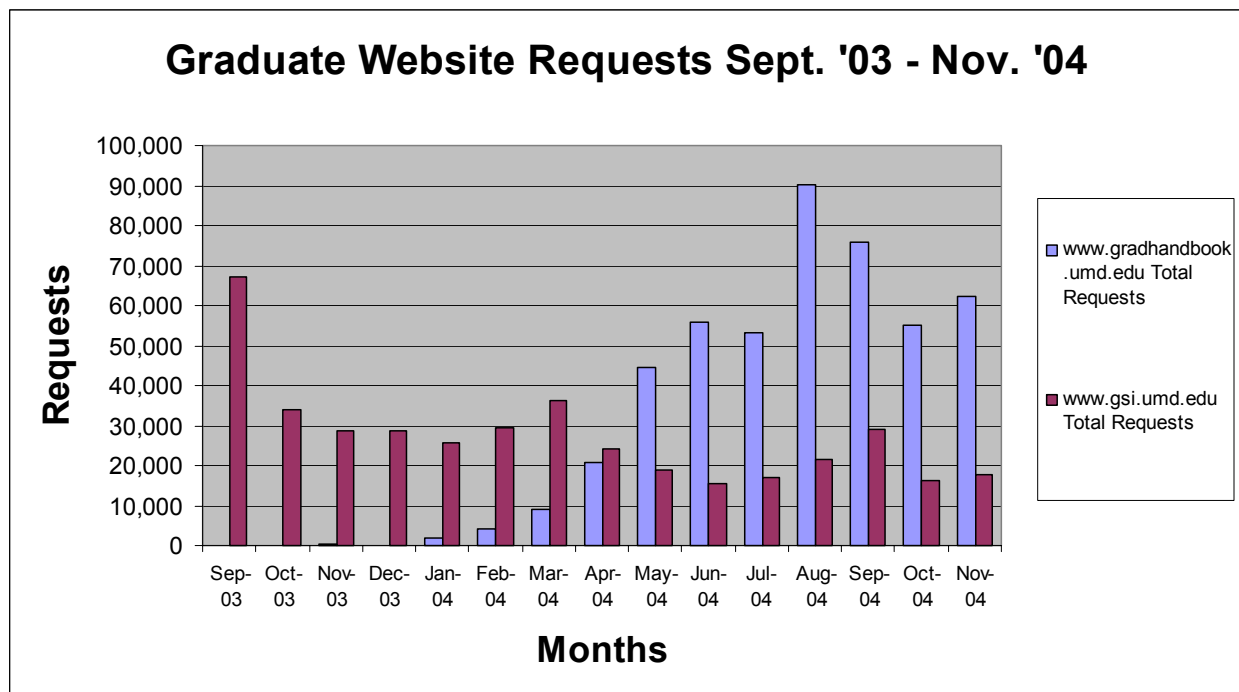
Research and Assessment

Graduate Student Involvement is dedicated to assessing not only sponsored programs, but the needs of graduate students on campus for the purpose of guiding future practice.

- **Graduate Department Services Survey**
Web-based survey of graduate department student services, 433 responses from 2,000 surveys (22% response rate)
- **Graduate Housing Benchmarking Survey**
Conducted with the Office of Off-Campus Housing on behalf of the Graduate School’s Standing Committee for Graduate Student Housing, the survey assesses peer institution to understand what is provided in terms of graduate housing, what services are offered and who runs such services.
- **Graduate Student Orientation/Transition Study**
Focus group study of graduate student needs and concerns during transition to the University of Maryland
- **Graduate Services National Benchmarking**
Survey created for delivery in the Spring of 2005 to graduate student services administrator across the country. Over 50 institutions will be surveyed about their support services for graduate and professional students.

Graduate Student Involvement Web Page Traffic

See the graph below for trends in Graduate Handbook and GSI website usage. Detailed numbers on page 3.



Graduate Student Involvement Web Page Total Traffic* (www.gsi.umd.edu)

<u>Month</u>	<u>Hits</u>	
Sep-03	67,029	
Oct-03	34,122	(started to shift campus service information to new graduate handbook)
Nov-03	28,769	
Dec-03	28,535	
Jan-04	25,475	
Feb-04	29,365	
Mar-04	36,096	
Apr-04	24,036	
May-04	19,010	
Jun-04	15,576	
Jul-04	16,862	
Aug-04	21,591	(launched redesign of GSI site)
Sep-04	29,091	
Oct-04	16,331	
Nov-04	17,919	

Graduate Handbook Web Page Total Traffic* (www.gradhandbook.umd.edu)

<u>Month</u>	<u>Hits</u>	
Oct-03:	50	(site first launched)
Nov-03	317	
Dec-03	154	
Jan-04	2,049	
Feb-04	4,192	
Mar-04	8,986	
Apr-04	20,677	
May-04	44,567	
Jun-04	55,788	
Jul-04	53,318	
Aug-04	90,124	(Launched redesign of Graduate Handbook)
Sep-04	75,790	
Oct-04	55,253	
Nov-04	62,293	

*Due to limitation in the web statistics reporting, the numbers for traffic include the download of page images.