

EcoNews

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April 1994

!*****! **Spring Party** !*****!

Sunday, June 5th, 4:30 - 8 PM

Rec. Pool Lodge

BBQ Burgers and Kabobs

RSVP to Silvia: Name _____ Number in group (include self) _____
of Omnivores _____ # of Herbivores _____
Can help with: SET UP _____, ICE _____, COOK BURGERS AND KABOBS _____

More Fee Increases On the Way?

The governor's budget proposal to the legislature calls for a \$600 increase in fees for next year for all UC students - both undergraduates and graduates. However, the Legislative Analyst's office is recommending differential fee increases for graduate and undergraduate students; their proposal is a \$345 fee increase for all students and an additional \$1000 for graduate students and an additional \$2000 for professional students. The rationale behind this increase is that graduate students receive more benefits that do undergraduates and will make more money when they graduate.

If you would like to discuss this issue with your legislator, please take the time to drop your representatives a note.

:Local Legislators:

Maurice Johannessen, 4th Dist. State Senator, Rm 4082

Thomas Hannigan, 8th Dist. State Assembly, Rm 3104

Stan Statham, 2nd Dist. State Assembly, Rm 4098

State Capitol, Room (# given above)
Sacramento, CA 95814

Here is the EGSA roster for next year:

ChairBecky Post
TreasurerJulie Reynolds
Postal ActivistBarney Caton
Outstanding Professor CoordinatorLara Hansen
Retreat CoordinatorHarry Spanglet
GGE repsKama Almasi
Barney Caton
Gail Dethloff
GSA repsRachel Aptekar
Kama Almasi

Positions that still need to be filled....

Office manager (jobs: staff office, newsletter, directory, mail, meeting announcements) **This is a paid position!**

AOE Representatives

Basic and Theoretical, Agricultural, Conservation, EcoTox, Env. Policy, Functional, Human, Systems and Landscape, Restoration

RETURN ADDRESS: EGSA, Division of Environmental Studies, Wickson Hall

MAIL TO:

Outstanding Professor Award

We had five nominations for our Outstanding Professor Award this year. They are: **Ted Foin, Susan Harrison, Peter Moyle, Jim Richards, and Dirk Van Vuren.** All nominees are to be congratulated for their work efforts being recognized by graduate students. The winner will receive a free dinner at the eating establishment of their choice and their name included on the wall plaque. The EGSA executive committee would like to thank all those who submitted nominations. Many took the time to write eloquent letters in support of their candidate and this aided in the final decision. The announcement of the winner of this year's award will be made at the **EGSA Spring Party on the 5th of June, 4:30 pm.**

Graduate Student Opinion Survey

GSA will soon be sending out its second annual opinion survey in its next newsletter. EGSA has been working to make sure that the survey is more clear concerning the difference between graduate groups and the department where you may be housed. Please take the time to fill one out. The results of last year's survey were taken very seriously by the campus administration and have been a useful tool for changing some campus policies.

HEALTH INSURANCE NEWS

The GSHIP committee is currently re-negotiating a contract for GSHIP. Some issues that are being looked at are improved dependent coverage, pre-existing conditions, and mental health care. Currently dependents must use USHIP (the undergraduate plan). Because USHIP is voluntary, the rates are much higher (\$245/quarter) and the quality of coverage is extremely poor compared to GSHIP (which is a bargain at only \$142/quarter). Other options being considered are consolidating the two plans under something called NEWship, Uship, or HALFship; these plans would keep differential rates for graduates and undergraduates but would cut down on overhead costs.

If you want to get more info online, you can get on the GSHIP info list by sending a message to Listproc@ucdavis.edu and in the text of the message say "subscribe gship YOUR NAME" If you have comments about dependant coverage, mental health care, or other coverage issues, you can send them directly to David Hill (dbhill@ucdavis.edu) who is one of the student reps on the GSHIP committee.

There are still some major uncertainties out there concerning the future level of service which will be available at Cowell Student Health Center and the future of health insurance paid as part of student salaries.

Ecology Graduate Group Annual Meeting

June 10, 1994, 10-12:00, 2124

Wickson Hall. Food!!

"Graduate Gopher Gazette"

The office of Graduate Studies will be publicizing graduate studies and related information available via Gopher named "Graduate Gopher Gazette". Cute, huh? If EGSA or GGE students would like information published via G3, let Silvia know. She has the guidelines for doing this. It could be used for: exit seminars, AOE seminars, activities, Wetlands Society, etc.

Congratulations

Deborah Stanger was selected to receive a Switzer Fellowship. She is the only one from UC Davis to be awarded a Switzer for the next academic year.

Eliza Sater, M.S. in Ecology, has received the "Teaching Award for Outstanding Graduate Students". Eliza is receiving her award on May 24 at 3:00 P.M. at the University Club Lounge. All Ecology graduate students are invited to attend.

Other Awards News

The GGE Awards Committee has completed their tasks for this year. It was a difficult process. The bulk of the block grant funds went to continuing students this year, probably around 75%. Last year it was 50%.

A REMINDER!

Please, Please, Please turn in your 93-94 progress reports if you haven't done so. This will save Silvia time and you from getting a nasty note!

Volleyball News

The Volleyball group is moving their time to 5:30 on Thursdays. The spot should be the same, in front of Wickson Hall. Barney Caton is the point of contact at 752-2843 or bpcaton@ucdavis.edu.

CHEAP RENT FOR COMMUTER:

Own room in small country house about seven miles from Davis. Share with quiet female ecology student. \$200/mo for person in Davis on weekdays only; \$300/mo fulltime plus utilities & deposit. Available now or starting fall quarter. Theo 759-0977 or 2-0534.

\$\$\$ Fall and Winter Job \$\$\$

EGSA will pay up to 10 hours per week in the Fall and Winter Quarters for an office manager to act as a peer advisor, edit the Newsletter and put together the EGSA Student Directory. If interested contact Becky Post, 753-5842