

**PRESIDENT**  
Kristi Kremers

**Sunday, October 25, 2009**

Greetings Members of the Assembly!

The search for the Graduate School Dean is coming to a close and we should know more information tomorrow from the Provost's office. Much of our attention in the previous months has been focused on the restructuring of the Graduate School and the Search for the new Dean. I want to thank Christina Brakken-Thal who spent a considerable amount of time on the search committee. COGS and GAPSA worked together to evaluate the candidates and to forward our responses to the President and Provost for their consideration. Thanks to all that helped in this effort!

Now, the proposed lawsuit regarding the lightrail, and the overall financing of the University will be our focus in the coming months ahead. November is the month when you should begin to have conversations with your Deans about the proposed tuition increases to your respective colleges. Unfortunately, as illustrated in the Future Financial Resources Taskforce report the situation is dire. To develop strategies and build capacity to minimize the proposed tuition increases, we will be having a retreat in December. I encourage all Assembly members to attend.

We had a very successful series of lobby days in Washington, D.C. with the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students. For the first time, we were able to schedule meetings with all 10 members of the Minnesota delegation. You can find video from our visit on our YouTube page, and also, check out the resources from NAGPS ([www.nagps.org](http://www.nagps.org)) to see what issues we lobbied on.

I had the pleasure of doing a press conference with Senator Franken and President Bruininks to discuss changes to the student loan program that would save \$80 billion over a 10 year period. We will also be posting a video of this sometime soon.

We hosted the President's Reception at the Stadium this past month, and the event was a resounding success! We will also be hosting a dance party this Thursday at the Front and hope to see you there.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Please read the Future Financial Resources Task Force Report. We will be posting a link on our website. It is incredibly important that we have a united front when it comes to the proposed tuition increases.

Thank You,

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