

## APS 2010 Unit Convocation Notes

### Members Present:

- Megan Comins, Chair-elect
- Michael Walock, Secretary
- Eric Sorte, Treasurer

### Treasurer's Meeting:

- APS is a 301(c) organization. as such, we are not allowed to make direct campaign contributions. however, we are allowed to advocate for responsible policy
- Travel expense documents can be scanned and sent to APS electronically, this should speed up the processing time
- Ensure contact information, and forum/unit information is on the expense report
- For travel grants, income is taxable. Individual MUST fill out W-9 (with SSN).
- For travel reimbursement, income is not taxable (as long as request is within 60 days of expenditure. All expenses over \$ 25 require receipts.
- For travel, miles are reimbursed @ \$ 0.50/mile for personal car.

### Membership Meeting:

- Our funding comes from membership. the more we have, the bigger our piece of the pie.
- Note, we are allowed an email to the general membership asking for membership. However, APS Membership office does send out several emails to graduate students throughout the year advocating for FGSA membership.

### Special Services Meeting:

- There are a plethora of APS services available for use by the Forum; for example, we can (free of charge) utilize the survey system (APS has a Survey Monkey account) and the design services (for new logo, newsletter layout, advertising, etc.)

### Programming Meeting:

- Megan was given the necessary information and handbooks necessary for the program planning.

### Forum Meeting:

- Nothing good, devolved into an argument between FPS, FEd, and another group advocating the creation of a forum for communication with the public via media and technology; both FPS and FEd felt they covered this sector of the membership

- There was a rather negative response to the formation of an LGBT forum; many felt that the Committee on Women and Minorities already had this topic under its wing; some felt there was no need to even address the issues.

Overall, this was a very good experience for the three of us. In addition, Congressional Visits Day was very beneficial. In future, we may want to try and send more people, especially for participation in Congressional Visits Day.