NAGPS 29th National Conference (Fall 2015)

Objectives:

1- Share and gather best practices and programs for our campus.
2- Network with other graduate student governments across the nation.
3- Elect the new NAGPS Executive Board for 2016.
4- Revise the vision of NAGPS and adjust our goals.
5- Plan future events and advocacy efforts.

Why should we care?

• This is the only organization that represents the interests of graduate students nationwide.
• Through our NAGPS presence our voices as graduate students are not just a single cry, but the coherent words of many.
• The national conference is a common ground for graduate student governments to interact and contribute with their ideas to improve the academic lives of graduate students.

29th National Conference Report:

The theme for this year was “Graduate-Professional Student Advocacy and Beyond.” The National Conference program consisted of business meetings and sessions on topics of interest to graduate students such as health insurance for graduate assistants and professional development programs.

Western Michigan University served as a representative of its graduate students as well as those across Michigan. We were the only institution representing a total of eight other universities in the region. As such, Western Michigan University served as the leader in representing at NAGPS.
What we accomplished:

• We won the National Member of the Year award as well as the Regional Member of the Year.
• NAGPS Director of Administration & CIO Marlies Hagge who is a proud Bronco, won the Most Outstanding Board Member of the Year award.
• Our proud Bronco Denisha Griffey was elected as the new NAGPS Director of Administration & CIO.
• We participated on discussions about the NAGPS vision and budget for 2016.
• Gather information and experiences regarding the University of Missouri advocacy for reinstating health insurance for all types of graduate assistants.

GSA President
Damon Chambers

GSA Vice-president
Amaury Pineda