Welcome Fellow Graduate Students!

WMU Graduate Student Association (GSA) is a student body organization focused on your graduate lifetime. Our goal is to ensure a successful and positive graduate experience during your studies at WMU. Our mission is dedicated to “Build our Presence” throughout partnership, advocacy, and leadership. As a bridge between graduate students and faculty, GSA wants to make sure that students stay informed on their rights and benefits on a national level.

This newsletter is dedicated to keep graduate students aware of events, funding, and opportunities in our community. Moreover, we want to hear your voice and concerns about what is happening around campus. To stay informed, please, check our monthly newsletter and attend GSA general body meetings. Our primary mission is to support you and your journey as a graduate student.

Go Broncos!!!

GSA’s President Message

On behalf of the Graduate Students Association (GSA), I would like to personally welcome all new and returning graduate students to the 2016-2017 academic school year at Western Michigan University. I am honored to represent such a distinguished group of individuals dedicated to higher education. The GSA Executive Board is here to serve and advocate for graduate student needs. Our primary goal is to enhance the overall graduate student experience across all campuses. This is done by voicing your concerns to administration, providing funding for professional and social development, and promoting fellowship among graduate students.

Damon D. Chambers, GSA President.

Like our page on Facebook - Graduate Students Association at WMU - and keep yourself updated about our events, pictures, videos, etc.

Don't forget to check our videos on YouTube: GSA WMU

We’re on the Web! Visit: www.wmich.edu/gsa
Sandino Vargas-Pérez, an international student from the Dominican Republic, is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Computer Science at WMU. Mr. Vargas-Pérez has a passion for High Performance Computing and the use of parallel algorithms to solve Big Data problems in the realms of DNA and Genomics. He is also interested in Computational Biology and the many ways that computer science can, through the development of specialized algorithms, assist in the handling, processing, and analysis of different biological systems. For his dissertation he's working with computer super clusters to develop algorithms that can compress DNA sequence data, allowing scientists and specialists to work with the data in a compressed state, without the need for decompression. Mr. Vargas-Pérez was one of the winners of last year's Grad Talks and later selected by the Graduate Student Association to represent WMU at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools “3 Minutes Thesis” (3MT) contest. In addition, he traveled to Helsinki, Finland to present his research at the 13th IEEE International Symposium on Parallel and Distributed Processing with Applications (IEEE ISPA-15) and was invited to publish his work in the International Journal of High Performance Computing Applications. Regarding long-term goals, he plans to become a professor to cultivate and promote the problem-solving nature of our species and to make students and other researchers aware of the possibilities of computational power for the betterment of our human condition. In his free time, he practices organic gardening and Judo.

On Sat. July 23 graduate students and guests spent a fun day at Six Flags Great America in Gurnee, IL.