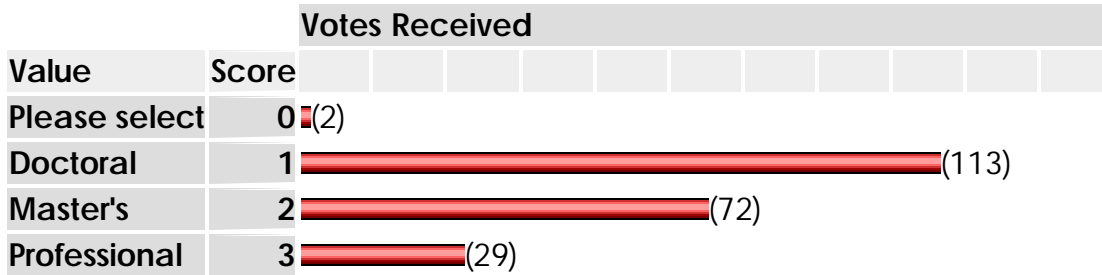


## GSA Survey Results September 2004

Response rate: 216 survey responses out of 8000 graduate and professional students=3% response rate

### 1) What type of graduate degree are you pursuing?

*Response*

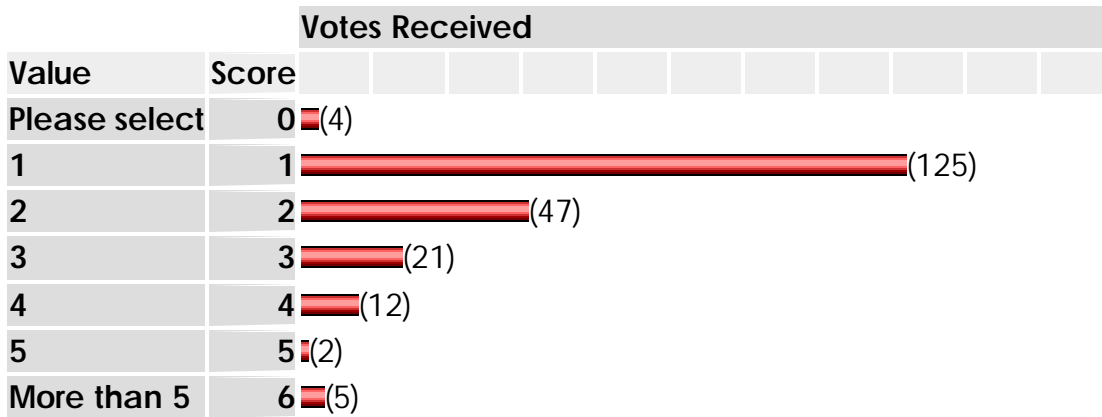


*Group Avg: 1.61 - Voters: 214 - Standard Deviation: 0.72*

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### 2) How many years have you been in your program?

*Response*



*Group Avg: 1.75 - Voters: 212 - Standard Deviation: 1.15*

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6) Which of the following activities interest you?

a. Hiking	126
b. Flag football	52
c. Basketball	45
d. Soccer	57
e. Softball	46
f. Book discussion group	79
g. Card playing	84
h. Dinner parties	137
i. Happy hours	139
j. Public speaking events (Toastmasters)	47
k. Picnics	95
l. Film series	135
m. Swimming socials	53
n. Singles events	71
o. Family events	35
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Hiking is a great idea! Tennis Tennis, horseriding, dog sports gardening what about something for gay/lesbian graduate students dances wine and/or coffee volleyball Barbecues, Cook outs, Tail gating? have monday lunch get-togethers rock climbing Rock climbing, bike riding, golfing Frisbee; sporting events; small special interest groups Golf, tennis, yoga, traveling camping, badminton, dancing lessons, tennis lessons Frisbee!! Prospectus and/or Dissertation discussions from other disciplines (that can possibly enhance "our collective" final product) group trip/outing? ex. uga v. uf game White water rafting board games movies dances karaoke SINGLES events with MEN there! :) Bowling!!! paintball! chess. dodgeball. rafting. speed dating. dancing Gay and Lesbian activities for Graduate Students Live professional sporting events. Chess karaoke night Board Games, Trivia, Canoeing, Community Service visiting farms, fruit farms, and other places near by Athens Snow Skiing, Rowing, Tennis Dancing</p>	13

**7) What times of the day are generally best for you to participate in seminars or workshops?**

a. Early Morning (8:00am-10:00am)	31
b. Late Morning (10:00am-12:00pm)	44
c. Early Afternoon (12:00pm-2:00pm)	36
d. Mid-Afternoon (2:00pm-4:00pm)	44
e. Late Afternoon/Early Evening (4:00pm-6:00pm)	89
f. Evening (6:00pm-9:00pm)	107

**8) What days are best for you to participate in seminars or workshops?**

a. Mondays	97
b. Tuesdays	100
c. Wednesdays	92
d. Thursdays	94
e. Fridays	87
f. Saturdays	49
g. Sundays	37

**9) What other seminars or workshops would be helpful to graduate students?**

- Interdisciplinary things. Anything so that student can not only get involved/ excited about research going on in other departments, but also a chance to socialize and meet other students.
- Prospectus and/or Dissertation discussions from other disciplines (that can possibly enhance "our collective" final product)
- i suppose anything that would aid in the last graduate seminar topic: dissertation completion- from soup to nuts ... and of course publishing!!!
- just a thought -- would it be worthy considering developing a publication sponsored by gsa that could publish student work?
- I don't know about other seminars--but I don't think that I would attend any listed above. If I haven't figured out and applied time management/stress reduction by now, I'm not going to learn. Perhaps workshops on how to

effectively work with the university to solve problems that affect grad students.

- job hunting tips, CVs, interview skills, do&don't at the job search or job interviews
- Writing, Job Search, Publishing as a Grad Student
- I am most interested in social events
- More events where International students get to interact with American students so that International students can learn more about America.
- Developing relationships/networking. Managing full-time job with part-time school
- Surviving first year vet school
- Financial management, planning, and budgeting on grad student funding
- These same seminars, but earlier in the semester. For instance, Writing the Dissertation I could use right now.
- There is a lack of inter-disciplinary discussion of research at UGA, and it would be nice to set up some sort of forum (informal) where a topic could be presented, and individuals from different disciplines could form some sort of a roundtable and discuss them. (i.e.: issues relevant to both the sciences and humanities, such as ethics, research questions, etc.)
- The best ways to apply for grants. How to apply for grants.
- How to invest while in graduate school
- How to take that conference presentation and turn it into a publication
- Nuts and bolts Endnote session
- How to invest and budget in graduate school.
- How to say NO in graduate school
- How to develop your teaching profile if you want an academic career
- One that I would love to attend : Public Speaking Workshop. (Useful for giving seminars, talks, teach)
- Writing skills/Research
- Resume writing, Career counseling, Public speaking skills, International cooking, etc.
- Budgeting
- Choosing your Major Professor/Committee, How to Present at Conferences, Building Your Vita, Designing an Independent Study, Forming a Writing Group
- All-around general graduate seminars don't really interest me. I'm pretty absorbed in my major field...
- Stress management
- How to meet people in a campus
- I really want to come to the "Pursuing a non-academic career" workshop, but I have class. Other good workshops: "How to be the best TA/RA" and "Healthy living (i.e., about diet, exercise, staying organized, etc.)".
- Computer seminars

- For first year students: A grad student focused and grad student led virtual "field trip" to places in Athes and NE Atlanta i.e. markets that carry non-American foods, cheap and filling food vendors, etc.
- "Overcoming fear of public speaking" seminars or workshops or workgroups would be an excellent help for me and many other graduate students I know.

**10)What issues other than health care, building community among graduate students, and international student fees are important to graduate students? Please list specific issues and ways GSA can help resolve these issues:**

- Insurance, to be more competitive, Pls or departments should at least pay a portion of insurance costs.
- Transportation- it's ridiculous not to be able to get a bus to most places on the weekends, and some routes will even be stopped. Also the one was routes that would make sense to run both ways, never cease to amaze me, they make no sense. Late night routes except Family Housing and those to take those who drive to their car would be beneficial to those who don't drive.
- Health Insurance
- health insurance
- parking fees by monthly payroll deduction
- health insurance (i am hopeful that this year's plan is better -- thanks to gsa's work!)
- parking (ex. i am a grad asst, have "preferred status" for several lots and was unable to obtain a parking permit (anywhere) on campus.
- I would like to buy term life insurance, but haven't been able to find any through the school.
- I'd like to be able to meet people from other programs.
- Health insurance and livable wage and year around work (for those of us who TA classes.)
- Health insurance, international student support
- Parking, Tickets to Athletic Events
- Health Insurance, higher wages
- I am very interested in a graduate students only flag football or softball league. I played in the UGA intramural league last year and noticed a distinct difference in the way that grad. students approach the games versus undergraduates.
- HEALTH INSURANCE!!!
- Make progress on getting the university to provide health insurance to grad assistants, or in the mean time, get some decent choices for us ... MEGALife was awful, and I don't think the current offering in the Health Center is much better.

- The issues concerning SEVIS fees which International students have to pay along with the visa fee.
- Non-traditional student issues - students that work full-time
- I think it might be a good idea if the GSA attempted to form a union for graduate assistants perhaps in junction with the other 3 research universities in the USG (GA Tech, GSU & Med College of GA).
- Fees should not be "all or nothing." I want use of some services, but I don't want to pay the athletic fee, for example. There is no reason I should have to pay \$307 a semester to get a \$50 fee taken care of.
- Additionally, parking permits are taken out (presumably PRE-tax, which I question the legality of) for faculty. Graduate assistants should have that same opportunity.
- Having health care, parking services, etc available as a monthly payment deducted from our paychecks. This sudden onset of costs- fees, student insurance, parking, is killing me here.
- free food
- Health Care
- the parking policy at this university
- Health Insurance
- Ramsey Center
- Graduate Students are full time employees of the University and SHOULD have proper health insurance.
- Reduced parking fees
- Accessibility to lab space on campus...for those of us who work in Riverbend research labs, and don't have a parking permit for that lot, it's nearly impossible to get over there (campus transit runs ONE shuttle, only available on campus at Plant Sciences and Aderhold). If GSA could work with campus transit to get a shuttle that comes further north into south campus (near physics, geology, marine sciences) that would be great!
- improving interaction between professors/administrators and grad students
- health care!!!
- navigating campus bureaucracy
- HEALTH CARE!!!!!! Affordable for both students and their families. Thanks for the work you've done so far. Maybe one day...
- pay, sorry i guess i'm greedy, but the number one concern for the graduate students in our department is pay, not health insurance, not community, or student fees.
- this was a well done survey, and is good to see that this is being done before we first meet for the academic year. it shows thoughtfulness and preparation on your part which will hopefully result in an active year for the GSA
- How to get a job, how to determine which job is right for you.
- insurance; start a union
- the cost and quality of health insurance
- Health Care

- INSURANCE!!!! Don't know
- Curriculum and pedagogy
- Health Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Funding for conferences
- health insurance
- Payment on a standard calendar year, NOT an academic calendar!!!!!!! Is there any way to motivate a switch in Franklin College???
- Travel money for conferences
- What's important for me are those mentioned above: international student fees and lack of health insurance. Another concern that I have is grade inflation at UGA courses.
- Health insurance and lack thereof...
- GSA needs publicity in every way possible. If grad students knew they had an organization to fight their causes, I am sure there would be many more issues.
- health insurance
- teaching assistance
- Tuition costs!!!
- Would like discounts on items and services
- Health Insurance--advocate that graduate assistants get either full or reduced benefits
- Travel Stipends--as part of professional development, graduate students need opportunities to attend and present at professional conferences. Having money to assist graduate students in this way would be helpful.
- Health Insurance, Free Parking!
- HEALTH INSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE. I know it was listed. But still HEALTH INSURANCE!!! It sucks here. And having to pay the individual parts of student fees that you don't use (like, the health center fee if you have different insurance or transportation fees if you never use the bus). Being able to itemize would be nice.
- Understand how to submit an article to a conference or a journal.
- how to get the financial supports for attending conferences
- know different GS from other cultures and countries
- parking, resolving conflicts with professors and administrative folks
- Better access to information about grants, scholarships, and assistantships.
- Affordable health insurance. We need policies that cost under \$100/month, and we need the graduate school to subsidize them as is done at MANY other universities.
- With regard to SPIA, we need more office space. We have tiny, dusty, windowless offices with ONE computer each, to which six or more graduate students are assigned.
- Helping all graduate students obtain health insurance.

- Right now GSA should be devoting ALL of its time and resources to securing some form of decent health coverage for us. Compared with this issue all the social activities and professional development seminars are essentially unimportant. A bigger issue but one that really needs to be dealt with is the need to unionize UGA's grad students. Until that happens (and with it the possibility of collective bargaining) I do not believe the administration will take us in the least bit seriously.
- The older graduate student! GSA could host get-togethers specifically targeting grad students over 50 or so.
- Mother's and Father's groups for students with children
- Some activity fees should be made optional e.g. bus fee, Ramsey center fee and outrageous parking situation etc. I've never had time to go to the Ramsey center once, yet i pay around 75/semester. I pay \$30/month for parking and I still have to spend 10 minutes to get to my class whether I walk or take the bus, and I rarely use the bus, maybe they should make it 10 cents/ride. Athens isn't a big city neither is it very busy yet the parking in UGA is horrendous, and the cars are always bumper to bumper downtown and all over campus, maybe that's an issue the university should address.
- Additionally as in international student it would be nice to have host families who are familiar with the town. However GSA does a good job at liasing with the students and sending newsletters etc. Thank you.
- You are hearing us, but others obviously are not. Again, please help graduate students with health care insurance. We are at an age and point in our lives where health care is necessary but not affordable – almost untouchable. Many of us are in family situations or are starting families and just cannot afford the ever-rising costs of health coverage while in school. I had several offers from other graduate schools that provided health insurance to their graduate students, but opted to come to UGA because of its reputation and research. I am proud of our graduate academics but ashamed that we do not have a loud enough voice to be heard by our providers. Perhaps I should have learned to throw a football.
- Just a comment about the opening social. The flyer said it went from 4:30-7:30, yet when my wife and I showed up at 5:20, they were already cleaning things up. There was even food left that they put away and didn't offer! Before 6:00 they had even taken down the banner announcing this as the GSA opening social. I watched as others came in after us and looked around with confused looks on their faces as well. A lot of people looked at the flyers on the tables trying to figure out what was going on. I thought maybe I misread the time, but the flyers being given out at the social stated 4:30-7:30. So much for a first impression.