We would sincerely like to thank the individuals who volunteered to help with the CGSE Conference, which will take place March 24th through March 26th. Thanks to your efforts, over 50 students have volunteered to be a part of the setup and planning process for our major event.

We have updates on our CGSE conference, a list of the Fall grant recipients, and a new monthly feature to our newsletter that will give helpful hints and suggestions for students preparing to attend and present at professional conferences. Please remember that our next meeting will be our last one for the Fall Semester and will take place at 3:30 PM on December 1st, in the Colloquium Room of Posvar Hall. We hope to see you there!

In lieu of a November meeting, we have decided to disseminate the important information for the month in our newsletter. We realize this is a busy time of year for everyone, and figure that it would be much easier to disseminate information in the form of our monthly newsletter.

November Update

CGSE Conference Update

We would sincerely like to thank the individuals who volunteered to help with the CGSE Conference, which will take place March 24th through March 26th. Thanks to your efforts, over 50 students have volunteered to be a part of the setup and planning process for our major event.

Check the CGSE Website starting in the middle of November for information on how you can submit a proposal to present your research at our conference. We’re hoping to have a record number of proposals, so please consider presenting your best research papers from class or an original study. More information will be distributed at the December meeting.

Call For Conference Videos

CGSE is proud to announce a new YouTube account at http://www.youtube.com/user/PITTCGSE

If you have videotaped any presentations that you have made at any professional conferences and would like CGSE to host them for you, please contact Lou at lls25@pitt.edu and e-mail your videos and we will upload them to the CGSE account. Use the technology of YouTube to broadcast yourself, promote your research and share your presentations with others!

Please note, there is a 10 minute limit for each clip, so please split the clips prior to submission if your presentation is more than 10 minutes long!
Office Hours

To accommodate the needs of the CGSE student body, the four officers have agreed to hold office hours throughout the school year. This will be done in an effort to involve more people in CGSE and truly work for you, the student body. Details on office hours are as follows:

Lou Sabina
Lou will hold office hours every Tuesday (when general CGSE meetings are not scheduled) between 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM. If you have any interest in getting involved in planning and preparation for the CGSE conference, Lou would greatly appreciate your help. Please note that Lou’s office hours will be after 3:00 PM, to accommodate any MAT or School Leadership students with any questions.

Susanna Benko & Stephanie Mainier
Susanna and Stephanie will hold office hours on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 1:30 - 3:00 PM. They will assist with general questions and those regarding grant applications (but not necessarily the distribution of funding) and grant writing.

Tabetha Bernstein-Danis
Tabetha will hold office hours on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Tabetha will assist with any financial questions involving grants or budgeting for the 2009-2010 school year, in addition to assisting with our conferences.

Conference, Research, and Travel Grants

Please note that the new travel and research grant application has been attached—please use this document for spring submissions. The most important things to notice about this document are:

- Spring submission deadline is: January 5, 2010
- Spring award notification is: January 31, 2010
- Included in this document are applications for both grants. Be sure to pick only the grant for which you are applying.

- Grants are no longer awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please read the document for details about how grant money will be awarded.

If you have any questions about the grant procedures for the spring, please contact Susanna Benko or Stephanie Kane-Manier.

susanna.benko@gmail.com
stephaniekane@mac.com

Notification of Fall Grant Awardees

The University of Pittsburgh and CGSE would like to congratulate the following individuals on receiving grants for the Fall Semester. Each person receiving an award successfully completed a grant application form with CGSE and submitted it within the time frame to receive their award. The recipients are as follows:

Travel Grants
Elizabeth Belcastro - DIL
Susanna Benko - DIL
Kristin Davin - DIL
Jason Fitzgerald - DIL
Diana Gomez - DIL
Francois Guilleux - ADMPS
Stephanie Kane-Manier - DIL
Elizabeth Levine-Brown - PSYED
Mattie Moran - DIL
Tim Oldakowski - DIL
Jakraphan Riamliw - DIL
Leah Shilling - DIL
Francis Troyan - DIL

Yu-Chi Wang - DIL

Research Grants
Hana Addam - ADMPS
Elizabeth Levine-Brown - PSYED

Once again, congratulations to all of our recipients, and we look forward to your application for the spring!
CGSE is an organization designed to represent the academic, social, and professional interests of graduate students in the School of Education. Specifically, the purposes of CGSE consist of the following:

- To promote student involvement and representation in the School of Education and University governance.
- To promote academic excellence by organizing and supporting activities for enhancement of School of Education student growth and success.
- To promote cross cultural understanding by facilitating opportunities for social interaction and collaboration among culturally diverse groups of students.
- To promote student professional development.
- To promote a caring and respectful academic, social and professional atmosphere in the SOE.

Chad Dorn, Doctoral Student in the Social and Comparative Analysis of Education program in the Department of Administrative and Policy Studies will be checking in on a monthly basis with suggestions and information on attending and presenting at conferences.

On November 4th the AESA conference will take over the William Penn Omni in Pittsburgh. If you are like me you are not going to let this opportunity pass you by. However, you would appreciate some friendly advice on how to make the most of your time at the conference. To help you, below are some helpful hints that will make your conference going more enjoyable and productive. First and foremost, plan your days in advance. Often, schedules are online. Check them beforehand in order to match your interests with specific sessions. Be realistic in your planning. Plan to see 2-3 sessions and speakers each day. Be sure to schedule time to relax physically and mentally. All work and no play make graduate students dull people.

Get to know fellow conference attendees. Don’t hesitate to introduce yourself to the people around you. Conferences are as much about networking as they are about presenting. Exchange cards are a quick and easy way to stay in touch with fellow attendees after the session is over. If you do not have them already, Graduate Student Services offers to print the first 100 cards for free.

Don’t be shy. Attend social events. They are excellent opportunities to meet fellow graduate students and members of your field. Remember to act like a gracious host and be socially generous by introducing your fellow graduate students to those around you.

Finally, get involved. Even if you are not presenting a paper or poster at the conference there are various opportunities to be involved. Offer to work as a volunteer before or during the conference. Volunteering can also help cover the costs of going to the conference. Some conferences offer to waive registration fees for volunteers. Check with conferences organizers to see how you can get involved.