



IU Graduate & Professional Student Organization

Upcoming Events:

Friday, Feb. 17

Preparing Future Faculty Conference: "Building Your Career: From First-Year to Faculty"

IMU Georgian Room, 8:30am - 4:30pm

RSVP for Free Lunch: ssibony@indiana.edu

GPSO Committees Meeting

Ballantine Hall 006, 3:30 - 5:00pm

ALL graduate and professional students are welcome! Join other motivated students, build your resume, and enjoy FREE pizza and soda!

Happy Hour - Opie Taylor's

110 N. Walnut Street, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Bring your friends, colleagues and families to enjoy the delicious FREE appetizers! A chance to meet and mingle with students outside your department!

Friday, Feb. 24

Grad Benefits Open Forum

IMU Dogwood Room, 11:00am - 12:30pm

Join student leaders and IU administrators and officials for a special roundtable discussion.

Monday, Feb. 27

PhD Comic Jorge Cham

Fine Arts Auditorium, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Sponsored by GPSO. Refreshments will be served!

Thursday, March 2

Workshop for AIs & Instructors: Teaching to Students with Disabilities

IMU Sassafras Room, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Learn about legal issues pertaining to students with disabilities, your obligations as an instructor towards students with learning disabilities, and services IU offers.

Friday, March 3

Happy Hour - Crazy Horse

214 W. Kirkwood Ave, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

FREE Appetizers! Come socialize with other graduate and professional students!



Challenges Ahead with Insurance Costs and Mission Differentiation

Message from GPSO Moderator Paul Rohwer

Whirlwind change is happening to the University. While the long-term outlook is positive, here are the challenges:

Combined insurance cost for students, dependents, and internationals has risen from \$3.8 to \$7.2 million. The University will cover 40% of the 57% increase. We are faced with tough decisions. The two extremes are to increase the cost obscenely or lower benefits drastically. Neither works. Please attend our Open Forum on February 24, come to our assembly meetings, get involved and share your thoughts.

Mission differentiation is the current driver for change here in Bloomington. We're now the flagship campus. That means the enrollment standard for undergraduates will rise and the campus will become more research focused. In the background, the financial structure is currently under review. Tuition waiver policy, teaching appointments, and University integration hang in the balance.

Continued on next page >>

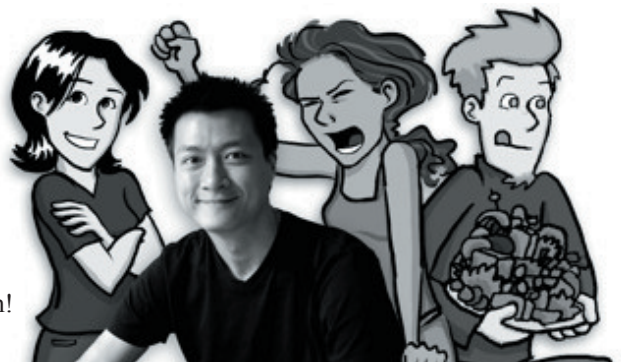
PhD Comics Creator Jorge Cham is Coming!

The GPSO is excited to announce that Jorge Cham is coming to IU!

Cham is the creator of *Piled Higher and Deeper (PhD)*, the comic strip about life (or the lack thereof) in grad school. Often called the Dilbert of academia, PHD has appeared in the Stanford, MIT, Caltech and Carnegie Mellon newspapers among others. Published online, it receives over 2.7 million page views a month from over 1000 universities and colleges worldwide.

Cham obtained his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering (specializing in Robotics) from Stanford University, where he started drawing PHD. He is currently a Research Associate and Instructor at Caltech. *Life is tough and then you graduate*, the second collection of PhD comics to date, was published in April 2005.

Join us for this free event on Monday, Feb. 27 from 7:00 -8:00 pm in the Fine Arts Auditorium!



Message from the Moderator (continued)

These are just a few of our current challenges. A subtler challenge is our university life. GPSO's rock climbing, ice skating, Valentine's dance, and research symposium are designed to bring us together. Our graduate and professional organizations need to collaborate. 8,000 of us are better together, so please encourage yours to co-sponsor events for us all.

Health Insurance Tips

The SAA Health Committee has suggested the following tips concerning insurance benefits:

- 1) The health center fills any prescription, including those from other doctors.
- 2) For outpatient surgery, make sure the facility is also covered by insurance.
- 3) You can check your claim status online at http://www.chickering.com/stu_conn/student_connection.aspx?group_number=812849.
- 4) If there are problems, you may file a grievance with the state at http://www.state.in.us/idoi/complaint_form/index.html.
- 5) You can also contact Carrie Canfield, Student Health Insurance Coordinator, at cacanfiel@indiana.edu or 856-4650 if you have questions.



2006 Statehouse Visit

Each February, Hoosiers for Higher Education (HHE) hosts the Annual Statehouse Visit. This is an opportunity for HHE members from across the state to gather in Indianapolis and visit with their elected officials about Indiana University and higher education.

HHE members are also invited to attend a reception with their elected officials to hear an update on higher education issues. The visit begins at 2:00 pm and ends at 6:00 pm. IU students can become members of HHE free of charge by signing up online at www.gov.indiana.edu/hhe/.

For more information, contact HHE at 855-1970.

GPSO Research and Travel Grants Spring Deadlines

Deadlines are quickly approaching for the GPSO's Research and Travel Grants. Applications are now accepted electronically on our website at www.indiana.edu/~gpso.

Our Travel Grants help support travel expenses to conferences where the student's work will be presented or to workshops/special training that will benefit the student professionally. **Deadline: February 22**

Our Research Grants are awarded for research expenses incurred in connection with academic research, such as travel to special libraries or laboratories, payment to consultants, the purchase of microfilm and computer supplies, specialized equipment, and duplication of vital materials for research. **Deadline: March 31**

In the Spotlight

Graduate & Professional Students Committee Service

The students below have all volunteered their time to serve on various university committees to represent our community. GPSO wants to thank them for their dedication to continuous improvement:

Emily F.

I've served as a graduate student representative to the Bloomington Faculty Council since the 2005 spring semester. I view my role as being an advocate for graduate students - attending to implications the proceedings might have for us; thus, I'm happy to bring graduate students' interests to the attention of the BFC.

Mike W.

I am on the Long-Range Planning Committee. This semester we hope to consider the plan for Undergraduate Education Quality Initiative; monitor strategic planning and administrative reorganization processes; consider future campus land-use issues; examine organization of units under VP for Administration in relation to academic mission; work with Research Space Committee; and participate in discussions on the growth of the School of Informatics.

Rachelle W.

I have been the representative to the Research Affairs Committee this year. The committee has been working on revising a policy about intellectual property; considering future policies at IU for academic freedom; and the ethical issues associated with a Phishing Experiment which was conducted over the internet.

Make a Difference with GPSO Committees!

Many of your peers have been actively involved in GPSO Committees this year, and we encourage you to get involved as well! Our committees include:

Campus Affairs	Funding
Diversity	Programming
Graduate Benefits	University Life

Visit www.indiana.edu/~gpso for more details.