The GSA continues its efforts to advocate for the needs and concerns of our members and to look for opportunities to create initiatives that will benefit the academic experience of our students on campus. The GSA is working on the following items:

1. **Checklist for graduate students**

   The GSA is working on a document that aims to provide a basic information checklist for and with resources available on campus. This document is primarily intended for new graduate students that missed orientation and/or arrived later in the year to start their programs. The GSA hopes to get feedback from our partners on campus and CGPS on what other resources may be included in this one-page document and we hope that once this document is ready, the Colleges and associated faculty will help us distribute the information to the campus community. Based on the feedback we have received, we are working towards creating a proposal for the implementation of this agreement.

2. **Activities to support mental health and wellbeing**

   Part of the GSA’s mission is to promote and create activities that support graduate students (and GSA paid members, i.e., postdocs) mental and emotional well-being. We offer several events and activities that promote mental health and cater to the needs of our diverse members. The GSA is hosting a one-day Red Cross first aid course on October 12th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the GSA Commons where participants will receive certification in First Aid/CPR & AED C. Additionally, we have scheduled Zumba classes twice per month and the Zumba classes, along with the Red
Cross first aid training, filled out in the first week of the promotion indicating a strong desire and need among graduate students to have such events on a regular basis. We will continue looking for increasing mental health activities that will support our students and members and help them to have greater experiences on and off campus.

The GSA is open to discuss any concerns or ideas that faculty members and the campus community bring relating to the needs of our graduate students and how we can achieve a culture of success that will benefit our student body as a whole.

Mery Mendoza
President, Graduate Students’ Association