Fun for the Holidays:
Enjoyable things to do with family and friends

Often while enrolled in graduate school, graduate students can get overwhelmed and may forget to take the time for themselves to enjoy the company of loved ones. This is especially important during the holiday season. GPSC encourages all of USF’s graduate students to take the time to appreciate loved ones, family, friends, and those who have supported and encouraged your graduate research endeavors. Here are just a few ideas of how you can enjoy time with others this holiday season:

Play a board game with family and friends.
- GPSC recommends: Taboo, Scrabble, Scattergories, Pictionary, Monopoly, and Trivial Pursuit

Watch a holiday movie with loved ones.

Participate in a holiday community service event with friends and family.
- GPSC recommends:
  - Metropolitan Ministries Holiday Tent (www.metromin.org)
  - Shriner’s Hospital (www.shrinershq.org)
  - The Spring of Tampa Bay (www.thespring.org)
  - Humane Society of Tampa Bay (www.humanesocietytampa.org)

Other exciting holiday activities to do with family and friends:
- Spend an evening sharing family stories with children and relatives.
- Drive around neighborhoods to look at Christmas lights
- Ice skate - Ice Sports Forum Brandon (www.theicesportsforum.com)
- See a live show at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center (www.tbpac.org)
- ZooFari 2009
- Go window shopping at the International Plaza
- Learn to prepare a new dish! [See Page 2 for dump cake recipe]

Upcoming Events
Welcome Breakfast and Graduate School Open House - Jan 13
Stampede of Service - Jan 16
GPSC Spring Social - Jan 29
General Meeting/Workshop on University Resources - Feb 5

For more information on our events please visit www.gpsc.usf.edu

Holiday Trivia/Facts
- The Santa Claus' suit was developed in the 1930s. The Coca-Cola Company hired American artist Haddon Sundblom in 1931, to redesign Santa Claus. Sundblom chose the official colors of Coca-Cola, red and white.
- The idea for using electric holiday lights came from an American named Ralph E. Morris in 1895. The new lights proved safer than the traditional candles which often started fires by falling in the dry trees.
- According to a 2005 survey, 7 out of 10 British dogs get holiday gifts from their owners.

Grad Student Resources
USF Graduate School - www.grad.usf.edu
GPSC - www.gpsc.usf.edu
Residency Reclassification - www.registrar.usf.edu/Residency/
Student ID Card - http://it.usf.edu/services/usfcard
USF Campus Dining -
Dump Cake Recipe

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 1 hour

Ingredients:
- 1 (20 ounces) can crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1 (21 ounces) can prepared more fruit cherry pie filling
- 1 (18.25 ounces) box yellow cake mix
- 2 sticks of butter or margarine, each cut into 12 slices

Preparation:
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (325 for glass baking dish). Have a 9 by 13-inch baking pan ready.
2. Dump undrained pineapple baking dish or pan and spread it out evenly.
3. Using a spoon, dump globs of cherry pie filling evenly on top of the pineapple.
4. Sprinkle the cake mix evenly over the cherry and pineapple layers.
5. Cut butter into slices with a butter knife and place slices evenly over cake mix.
6. Bake for one hour. Use heavy oven mitts to remove the dump cake from the oven.
7. To serve, scoop cake out with a large spoon like a cobbler, and dump it on a nice plate. A scoop of vanilla ice cream is delicious with dump cake. Serve warm or cold.

GPSC’s Tampa Bar Guide

Tampa Drinks—Whether you are just finishing some research or you are finally completing your thesis, graduate students generally like to celebrate with a drink. We here in the GPSC, as students, understand that long hours and little sleep put a huge strain on your mind and body and much needed chilling time is the solution. What better way to do it than over a drink with a fellow victim of graduate life. We researched the area to find the cheapest and most interesting bars/pubs to sit down for a drink. If you are looking to grab a drink during the week, check out our schedule that shows the best deals for each night. New to the area? The diagram shows where these bars can be found and the time it takes from USF to get there. These bars provide a wide range of activities including darts, billiards, and beer pong. The Independent is a new bar in Seminole Heights that boasts over 100 beers available. Enjoy authentic German cuisine at Mr. Dunderbaks with 50 beers on tap and rock out with live music every Wednesday - Saturday at Dubliner South in the SOHO District. This guide just lists a few of the bars and pubs in the area that have good deals on drinks and a great atmosphere that is perfect for stressed out graduate students.

How to make this holiday season affordable

GPSC knows that, as graduate students, budgeting is essential to our everyday lives. However, budgeting is especially difficult during the holiday season, when the desire to share and give to others is at its peak. Here are just a few recommendations for how to make this holiday season an enjoyable, yet affordable one:

- Create a budget (and stick to it!)
- Set price limits for gifts for family and friends
- Make homemade gifts rather than purchase gifts from stores (Ornaments, Scrapbooks and home videos converted to DVD format make excellent gifts from the heart!).
- Send families and friends postcards or handwritten letters instead of greeting cards.

Farewell to GPSC Officers

Both Amal and Alec have been GPSC officers for over a year. Both have recently earned their master’s degrees and, although GPSC will be sad to see them go, we are thrilled to have worked with them! The numerous academic and social events we execute each semester would not have been possible without their great efforts. They are devoted to enhancing graduate student life and their presence will be greatly missed. Best of luck to you both and thank you for supporting graduate student success!