



GSG Assembly Meeting  
Jadwin 102  
**January 11, 2017 5:45pm**

The meeting is called to order at 5:54pm.

Assembly welcomes Myesha Jemison, '18, who is the incoming President of the Undergraduate Student Government.

#### Approval of December 2016 Minutes

Joshua Wallace (Astrophysics Rep) motions to approve the minutes. Jonathan Balkind (GSG Communications Director) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

#### Election Reform

- Akshay Mehra (GSG Vice-President): We are proposing to rename the chair positions to 'officers', since there is no distinction within Exec. When the positions were first formed, it was intended that they would have standing committees under them, and that is no longer the case. In doing this renaming, we'd also be putting all officers up for election. These positions would no longer be appointed at the March Assembly meeting. The hope is to also get a larger swatch of the graduate student body participating in the election.
- The other proposal is to also put CPUC positions up for election.
- Questions:
  - Michelle Frazer (AOS Rep): One concern raised last time was that if we put CPUC positions up for election then there would be fewer people voting for the GSG positions.
    - Akshay: Daniel (GSG Academic Affairs) proposed setting a limit on the candidate statements. We could also just make the changes for officers and propose that the CPUC change be brought into effect next year.
    - Michelle: We could still run CPUC elections electronically. I'm concerned that going from 6 elected positions to many more might drive people away from voting.
    - Akshay: We could also set it up such that people first vote for the officer positions, and then for CPUC.
    - Daniel: My experience with Qualtrics is that it's very easy to make a 10-page survey by accident. But we will try to keep candidate statements

shorter and shorten other aspects as well.

- Akshay: CPUC is also rank-ordered, so maybe there is an easy way to order them in Qualtrics.
- Daniel: Qualtrics can do random order initialization, so unless someone is astronomically lucky those results shouldn't matter.
- Akshay: Qualtrics does allow multi-part ballots though, so we could use that feature.
- Akshay: I propose that we vote for including both officer elections and CPUC elections in the general election, or to vote just for the officer elections.

Michelle Frazer (AOS Rep) moves to accept the constitutional changes renaming all chairs to officers. Joshua Wallace (Astrophysics Rep) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

Michelle Frazer (AOS Rep) moves to accept the constitutional changes to have CPUC elections included in the general election. Joshua Wallace (Astrophysics Rep) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

#### Election Plan Approval

- Daniel Vitek (GSG Academic Affairs): This is the same document from last year with a few notable changes:
  - The paragraph about offices up to election has been changed to read that the offices are those defined in the by-laws (this is because these were conditional on today's approval of the constitutional amendments).
  - The paragraph about referenda reads that only referenda approved until today can be on the general election.
- Daniel: There is an error in that the language referring to chairs should no longer be there given the motion we just approved.
- Michelle Frazer (AOS Rep): Will the CPUC elections follow the same procedure?
  - Akshay Mehra (GSG Vice-President): Yes, that is the default according to the by-laws.
- Jonathan Balking (GSG Communications Director): Who are these non-members who can pay to participate in the elections?
  - Daniel: It is there for ET/DCC members.
- Akshay: If we could have a proposed ballot for next meeting, that would be good.

Joshua Wallace (Astrophysics Rep) moves to approve the Election Plan. Michelle Frazer (AOS Rep) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

## SPEAR Referendum

- Akshay Mehra (GSG Vice-President): Daniel (GSG Academic Affairs) wrote an anti-divestment piece. Joshua (Astrophysics Rep) also proposed using an old editorial on the topic. We currently have both pro- and anti-divestment pieces, which will form the information packet.
- Akshay: The referendum would be run alongside the general election. We are worried about survey fatigue (example, having the referendum in two weeks and the general election two weeks later).
- Akshay: Has anyone seen the final wording of the referendum?
  - Jonathan Balkind (GSG Communications Director): Yes. It was included in the emails that you sent.
- Daniel: The ballot will link to the information in the packets.
- Brian Kraus (Plasma Physics Rep): If someone votes for the referendum and then they quit the process, will their votes still be tallied?
  - Daniel: Yes. The plan is to put the referendum first, followed by the GSG Exec votes and then CPUC.

Brian Kraus (Plasma Physics Rep) moves to approve the referendum. Bernat Guillén Pegueroles (PACM Rep) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

## Executive Summary

- Graduate Student Center Pilot (02-06-17 to 03-03-17)
  - Akshay Mehra (GSG Vice-President): This will be in Green Hall. If you know of groups that would like to use that space during that time, please reach out to us. As we get closer to the date, we will increase our marketing and make sure students are aware of this. The idea is that if we can show that students are interested in a graduate student space, then we can take that to the graduate school to argue for a permanent Graduate Student Center.
  - Daniel Vitek (GSG Academic Affairs): To clarify: we'll have the room only during some periods within those dates.
- Call for Events Board Members
  - Max Hirschberger (GSG Treasurer): This is a group of people who meet every two weeks. We have a budget of \$12000-\$15000 dollars per year to hand out to graduate students on campus who wish to organize events. We are looking for graduate students who want to be members of this board for the next academic year.
  - Interested students should email Max at [mhirschb@princeton.edu](mailto:mhirschb@princeton.edu)

Jonathan Balking motions to adjourn the meeting. Bernat Guillén Pegueroles seconds. The

meeting adjourns.

**Next meeting:** February 8, 2017 5:45pm