



GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

13 February, 2013
February Assembly Meeting
Jadwin Hall 102, Joseph Henry Room
6:04 – 7:10pm

- President Chad Maisel calls the meeting to order at 6:04pm.
- Social chair Pablo Mosteiro (PHY, rep) motions to approve the January meeting minutes. Secretary Kyle Keller (PSY, rep) seconds. The motion carries by voice vote.
- Janet Finnie, Associate Director and Director of Operations at University Health Services, attends the GSG assembly meeting to discuss changes and directions at UHS.
 - UHS sent out an information survey to gauge student feedback on a number of issues, primarily related to hours of operation. 40% of respondents wanted a change in hours, with the most popular being the addition of early evening hours (slight preference for Thursday) at the expense of early morning hours one day. In addition, online scheduling is an upcoming feature at UHS.
 - The University will be switching the student health plan dental provider to Cigna, with the net change being a significant increase in choice (with complete overlap with old choices) for a slight increase in cost. The change will take place for the Fall of 2013 for the optional dental plan.
 - The Student Health Advisory Council continues to meet, and will hopefully be soon sending out a more formal survey for wider-ranging feedback. Direct any comments to GSG departmental representatives.
 - Comments from assembly:
 - Will there be more options for differently plans (such as differently-priced plans)?
 - Answer: No; instead more options for dentists from the single plan available at about the same cost.
 - Will students be pre-assigned a dentist – as it was under the old plan? Will we be forced to identify the dentist upfront?
 - Answer: Unsure; will check on this.
 - What are the big topics for UHS?
 - Answer: Transgender coverage, healthcare reform, and coverage during academic leaves (mostly an issue for undergrad).
 - Under the new healthcare reform laws, will chronic illness be an issue?
 - Answer: Healthcare plans cannot have annual limits under the new healthcare reform laws except self-insured plans; self-insured plans (such as Princeton) can choose whether or not to have annual limits. Princeton will, in all likelihood, choose not to have annual limits.

- The health plan currently limits to 30 off-campus visits for mental health counseling; since graduate students are typically on-campus for 52 weeks of the year, can this be increased?
 - Answer: This will be brought up and investigated.
 - Currently, if a student takes a medical leave, they are no longer insured. Can this be addressed?
 - Answer: This is indeed a huge issue and will continue to be raised as such until addressed. Some departments are able to work things out with grants, etc.
 - Lisa Schreyer notes that there is a 90 day extension.
 - If you go on leave, you cannot reenroll and you are off coverage.
 - Answer: Janet complete understands and wants to find a way to make this work.
- Jim Poole, Manager of Graduate Housing, and Lisa DePaul, Associate Director of Student Housing, attend the GSG assembly to discuss the 2013 room draw and to field questions from the audience.
 - Jim opens by praising his relationship with Facilities Chair Tim Brandt (AST, rep) and Secretary Kyle Keller (PSY, rep) – a relationship that has received equal praise from the GSG’s end for being fruitful and responsive to graduate student concerns. Jim further praises Princeton graduate students in general for their politeness. Jim met with Tim and Kyle over the summer to improve communication and room draw procedure, as a direct response to the 2012 housing issues. He also announces that Lindsey Warrick has officially been hired on to fill a vacant position.
 - The 2013 room draw will follow an accelerated timeline which was developed in response to student concerns – primarily that not enough time was allowed to find off-campus housing for people on the waitlist. Nonetheless, Jim recommends that all G4+ begin looking now for housing (although they should still apply for the draw). The room draw guide is now live and predraw retention emails went out 21 February, 2013.
 - Room draw guide: https://www.princeton.edu/us/housing/graduate_info/graduate-housing-room-dra/index.xml
 - See February meeting minutes page on the GSG website for supplementary materials from the GSG.
 - Lindsey Warrick is in charge of answering all emails to the gradhsg@princeton.edu email address, forwarding all difficult questions directly to Jim. Jim further invites direct emails to him personally for very difficult questions.
 - Graduate Housing status update:
 - Hibben-Magie is closed and construction on Lakeside apartments is proceeding as planned. It is scheduled for a Fall 2014 opening of 715 beds, with a wide mix ranging from studios to 3-bedrooms and includes both furnished and unfurnished units. It will be included in next year’s room draw.

- Stanworth and Butler are scheduled to be closed in 2014 alongside the opening of Lakeside. The current year is the last year they are to be included in the room draw. Housing is currently in the deciding process for retentions plans for Stanworth and Butler residents next year. Business should stay as usual despite the changing of facilities; residents will be forced to move, but will receive some kind of draw priority by default.
 - In advance of the 2013 room draw, housing will be holding several information sessions for graduate students listed below.
 - 22 February, 2013, at Campus Club. This session is for graduates with dependents specifically.
 - 27 February, 2013, noon at Campus Club. Both Lisa and Jim will be in attendance.
 - 30 February, 2013, during the morning in Proctor Hall
 - 6 March, 2013, roommate mixer particularly for current Graduate College residents (but not exclusive).
 - Long term plans for the Housing Office include a webpage overhaul slated for 2014 (in time for the room draw) and a replacement/upgrade of the backend Housing software system. The end goal, for both, is to provide a smoother, more informative experience for both graduate students and administrators.
 - Jim and Lisa field questions from assembly:
 - What is the expected percentage of graduate students to be housed on-campus?
 - Answer: Approximately 70% of fully enrolled graduates. DCE, exchange students, etc, are helped when possible but are not a priority.
 - Should G4+ still expect to get on-campus housing; and who should not put much stock in receiving housing?
 - Answer:
 - G1-G3 can definitely live on-campus if they so choose.
 - G4-G5 need to be lucky to get on-campus housing.
 - G6-G7 do not live on campus with only minor exceptions and should definitely look off-campus.
 - In housing's language, you are your current year (i.e., a current fourth year going into their fifth year is a G4).
 - Do you predict an increase in housing numbers when Lakeside opens?
 - Answer: No – it will be the same with the closing of Butler and Hibben-Magie.
 - Will Lakeside allow large animals?
 - Answer: This is still being determined. Lisa notes that some units were planned with large animals in mind.
 - Any planned move away from the draw system? Toward a more rental/retention system?
 - Answer: Lisa notes that, because of the guarantee of housing to incoming students, there must be some turnover to exchange, and thus the current (and planned) housing stock cannot support

infinite length contracts. There is some discussion of change, but this is very far off.

- Can housing complexes be separated, with some as rentention (i.e., Lawrence/annexes/Lakeside) and others are guaranteed housing (i.e., Graduate College)
 - Answer: This does not work given the goals and limitations of the current system.
- How can the GSG move forward with improving or helping the off-campus housing website? There is not a coordinated effort to get the word out.
 - Answer: the GSG's housing survey heat map provided lots of useful information about where people live (many in New York and Pennsylvania, with some around Princeton). Housing attempts interviews of all graduates moving off-campus to determine where people live and where they are going. Sarah Major, who is in charge of the off-campus housing website, will be at some of the information sessions.
 - Follow-up: There needs to be efforts to determine the places graduates at-large do not know about where useful information is posted and available.
- How is the Lakeside construction proceeding? How sure are you it will be on-time?
 - Answer: Very sure. Graduate students are Jim's motivation to make sure it is on-time. Hibben-Magie is demolished and the construction crew is close to starting construction on a parking structure.
- Treasurer Friederike Funk provides an interim report on the GSG and Events Board budgets. The GSG is within budget and on track, thanks in large part to Pablo's careful events planning. The Events Board is also on track. Friederike requests representatives use the Events Board interim budget report to let students/constituents know of the Events Board so they may make use of it.
 - For additional information, please see the Budget Reports page on the GSG website.
- Vice President Giri Parameswaran introduces the candidate statements for the 2013 GSG election which, according to the bylaws, must be approved by the assembly prior to the election. Kyle Keller motions to approve the candidate statements, and Pablo Mosteiro seconds. The motion carries by voice vote.
- The fee increase referendum will be featured on the ballot alongside the officer elections, requiring 60% majority to pass with at least 1/3 of all eligible graduate students (approximately 900 of 2700) to vote.
 - A one-pager of information for advocacy purposes will be emailed out by the elections committee.
 - The elections committee seeks 3-4 volunteers to meet and put together a 'Get out the vote' campaign plan to be submitted to the Elections Committee/Committee Chair Giri.
 - Questions from assembly:

- Why did we decide on \$15? Are we going to be asking for \$20 next year?
 - It was decided that \$15 would be easier to pass. The automatic increase is aimed at eliminating the need to pass additional referendum in the future.
 - There should be a 'vote here' link on the information sheet.
 - This will be included.
 - How long will the ballot be live?
 - Nearly 7 full days.
 - Where can we post flyers?
 - Definitely on bus stops; maybe on buses. Additional locations will be brainstormed by the elections committee.
 - Can we have a flyer or talking points ready for pub night tonight? We need to connect benefits with actions.
 - Something will be printed up.
 - Is the student activity fee our only source of funding?
 - The entire budget save \$440 (which is from our personal endowment) is from the student activity fee.
- New business
 - Parking/transportation is collecting unregistered bikes from around campus (such as near housing complexes) without notice/tagging.
 - The old policy was to tag bikes a week before collection and remove any with remaining tags. However, this plan seems to have been abandoned.
 - This issue was discussed at the Lawrence committee meeting.
 - The GSG exec will have a follow-up for the March assembly meeting.
 - Register your bike!
 - The Lawrence committee is discussing the tentative idea of having a porter's lodge in Lawrence in response to the recent increase in package theft.
 - The major deterrent is cost
 - Lizette Taguchi (GCO) suggests maybe a joint Lakeside/Lawrence porter's lodge.
- The first monthly GSG Pub Night is tonight – come out and support the GSG!
- Chad adjourns the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Attendance (38)

- Executive Board
 - Chad Maisel (President)
 - Giri Parameswaran (Vice President)
 - Kyle Keller (Secretary)
 - Sarah Grady (Communications)
 - Friederike Funk (Treasurer)
 - Pablo Mosteiro (Social)
 - Katie Hansen (Academic Affairs)
 - Tim Brandt (Facilities)
 - Andreana Kenrick (Health & Life)
- Departmental Representatives
 - Anna Offit (ANT)
 - Jamie Kwan (ART)
 - Tim Brandt (AST)
 - Mary Kang (CEE)
 - Paul Touyz (CLA)
 - Shilpa Nadimpalli (COS)
 - Mircea Davidescu (EEB)
 - April Williams (MOL)
 - Pablo Mosteiro (PHY)
 - Kyle Keller (PSY)
- Academic Program Representatives
 - Angelina Sylvain (NEU)
 - Amy Winter (POP)
 - Mike Campanell (PPL)
- Proxy Representatives
 - Giri Parameswaran (COS)
 - Megan Conlon (MUS)
 - Chad Maisel (WWS)
 - Sam Potter (AOS)
- Housing Group Delegates
 - Mike Campanell (BUT)
 - Lizette Taguchi (GCO)
 - Dima Gorenshteyn (LAW)
- CPUC
 - Kyle Keller
 - Chad Maisel
 - Giri Parameswaran
 - Angelina Sylvain
- Friends of the GSG
 - Lisa Schreyer (CPC)
- Other Delegates
 - April Williams (CampRec)
 - Anna Offit (USLC)
- Guests
 - Shane Blackman (PSY)
 - Quentin Berthet (ORF)
 - Jason Krizan (CHM)
 - Lauren Anllo (MOL)
 - Thomas Morrell (MOL)
 - Rachel Berry (MOL)
 - Julia Wittes (MOL)
 - Amir Momen Raknabadi (MOL)
 - Ana Bell (COS)
 - CJ Bell (COS)
 - Jeffrey Nguyen (PHY)
 - Abraham Asfaw (ELE)
 - Yu Zhang