



GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

13 March, 2013
March Assembly Meeting
Jadwin Hall 102, Joseph Henry Room
6:06pm – 7:26pm

- President Chad calls the meeting to order at 6:06pm.
- Mircea Davidescu (EEB, rep) motions to approve the February meeting minutes. Social Chair Pablo Mosteiro (PHY, rep) seconds the motion). The motion carries by voice vote.
- Vice President Giri Parameswaran (ECO) motions to certify the 2013 GSG election results. Facilities Chair Tim Brandt (AST, rep) seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously.
 - The GSG welcomes its new executive board:
 - President Friederike Funk
 - Vice President Kyle Keller
 - Secretary Julia Wittes
 - Communications Director Rachel Berry
 - Special Events Chair Shane Blackman
 - 1213 votes were cast, representing 49% turnout among the graduate student body. Elections were held for five offices (of six; treasurer was empty). The referendum to increase the Graduate Student Activities Fee (\$10 yearly to \$15 plus indexed increase) passed both thresholds, with no complaints being brought to the Elections Committee.
 - See attached for full report from the Elections Committee.
- Health & Life Chair Andreana Kenrick (PSY) provides an update on mental health work and advocacy at Princeton.
 - The National Alliance for Mental Health (NAMI) will host a Stamp Out Stigma walk in Princeton on Saturday, May 18th in Princeton. The walk is free and fundraising opportunities are available for teams or individuals.
 - Shefalika Ghandi of Counseling and Psychological Services is interested in providing mindfulness outreach to student groups and students, as part of the University's efforts to reduce stress.
- John Kolligian, Executive Director of University Health Services (UHS), and David Campbell, Interim Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS), attend the GSG assembly to discuss their respective departments.
 - John Kolligian has been the Executive Director of UHS for the past 4 years and is very excited about Princeton University's commitment to health on campus – especially as part of President Tilghman's 'Healthier Princeton Advisory Board' program. He notes, however, that this is still very much a work in progress, although Princeton compares favorably to our peer universities. Efforts for graduate students have been stepped up, but there is room to grow.

- David Campbell is the current Interim Director of CPS; he was previously a group coordinator at CPS, working with Joy Montero. He has been with the University for 8 years. CPS is currently growing the program and tailoring services to graduate students. CPS currently offers a wide variety of support groups (approximately 13-14), open to both graduate students as well as undergrads. They have received the message that joint groups may be problematic, but he notes this often works in practice. He further notes that CPS does have some graduate-specific groups, such as the mindfulness training, used by the Plasma Physics department. Finally CPS offers therapy for individuals, couples, and in groups for graduates and their dependents.
- Questions from assembly:
 - Daniel Choi (MOL) notes that, while rides to the emergency room are taken care of by ambulance, rides back are difficult.
 - Assembly notes that Public Safety will provide rides if the student is referred to the emergency room, or if it is after hours.
 - John: This complaint has been expressed and noted, particularly after the move of the hospital. They are currently investigating an ambulet service or cab subsidies because the situation is not good from UHS's perspective.
 - With respect to putting graduate students and undergrads together in groups, this potentially results in uncomfortableness with graduate students seeing their students (and vice verse) in such groups.
 - David: This is a concern, but it does not occur frequently. This is part of a wider problem with students knowing each other in waiting areas. However the potential benefits offset this disadvantage.
 - John: McCosh is an old building and its architecture does not reflect its current needs – particularly with regard to confidentiality, which can be a barrier for entry. He is hopeful the next University administration will consider modifications or replacement of the facility (this is, however, in no way no the current agenda).
 - Assembly suggests discussing within help groups how to interact with group members outside of the group.
 - The graduate student medical plan only covers 30 off-campus sessions, despite graduate students often being on-campus 52 weeks of the year; can the plan or system be changed to allow graduates to see a therapist every week?
 - John: The decision was made two years ago to emphasize a time-sensitive model (no waiting list or wait times); thus students are referred off-campus after several visits. This model will not change.
 - This is more of an insurance/health plan issue, which should be brought up with the Student Health Plan Advisory Board, headed by Janet Finney.

- Lizette Taguchi (GCO, rep) asks what are the trends and developments for graduate student use of UHS and CPS?
 - – had a positive personal experience with health counseling; what are the trends/development in grad student use in UHS/CPS; how does it tie in with preventative measures
 - John notes:
 - Stress is an area of constant attention, with graduate students sometimes falling through the cracks and programs not addressing graduate students as well as they could.
 - Princeton is lagging behind other universities in the domain of prevention. John would like to have a stress prevention center.
 - Now that funding is available, the UHS website will receive a makeover to increase user-friendliness; this includes a dedicated graduate student page or section, and hopefully web materials for stress reduction.
 - Plans are moving forward to departmental UHS orientations.
- The assembly conducts elections for the positions of Treasurer (due to no candidates for the general election) and the four committee chairs (Facilities, Health & Life, Social, and Academic Affairs). Chair of the elections committee, Giri Parameswaran, proctors the election. All candidates are given an opportunity to give a candidate statement prior to voting, conducted by instant-runoff private ballot.
 - Treasurer
 - Candidates:
 - Daniel Choi, Mircea Davidescu, Raleigh Davis, Simon Wolfgang Fuchs, Paola Libraro, Thomas Morrell
 - Appointed:
 - Simon Wolfgang Fuchs
 - Academic Affairs
 - Candidates:
 - Mary Kang, Joseph De’Silva
 - Appointed
 - Mary Kang
 - Facilities
 - Candidates:
 - Thomas Morrell, April Williams
 - Appointed:
 - April Williams
 - Health & Life
 - Candidates:
 - Lauren Anllo, Andreana Kenrick, Thomas Morrell
 - Appointed:
 - Andreana Kenrick
 - Social

- Candidate:
 - Quentin Berthet
 - Appointed (by voice vote):
 - Quentin Berthet
- New business
 - Lizette Taguchi (GCO, rep) announces the Grad College Spring Formal taking place April 6th at Proctor Hall. Additionally, the search committee for the replacement for the Graduate Associate Dean for Student Life; direct questions, comments, concerns, aims, etc are directed toward Lizette (ltaguchi@Princeton.EDU).
 - Anna Offit (USLC, ANT, rep) announces that the University is working through to change the academic calendar to begin the Fall semester on a Wednesday and make the Wednesday before Thanksgiving a holiday.
 - GSG presentatives to the Graduate Housing Advisory Board, Tim Brandt (AST, rep) and Kyle Keller (PSY, rep), report that construction on the Lakeside housing complex are on track.
- President Chad Maisel closes his administration, highlighting the many achievements of the GSG over the past year. The GSG undertook successful efforts through the housing crisis and information survey, partnered extensively with UHS, hosted five outstanding parties/socials, spearheaded the need for a Stanworth shuttle, created a monthly pub night, expanded the incoming first year orientation, co-sponsored over 40 events through the Events Board, were active members with the CPUC and USLC, expanded assembly membership and participation, and passed the budget referendum, increasing GSG funds by nearly 50%. Chad thanks every member of assembly for their hard work throughout the past year. At 7:26pm, President Chad Maisel adjourns his final assembly meeting.

Attendance (34)

- Executive Board
 - Chad Maisel (President)
 - Giri Parameswaran (Vice President)
 - Kyle Keller (Secretary)
 - Sarah Grady (Communications)
 - Pablo Mosteiro (Social)
 - Tim Brandt (Facilities)
 - Andreana Kenrick (Health & Life)
- Departmental Representatives
 - Anna Offit (ANT)
 - Tim Brandt (AST)
 - Paul Touyz (CLA)
 - Mircea Davidescu (EEB)
 - Ian Ward (HIS)
 - Paola Libraro (MAE)
 - April Williams (MOL)
 - Pablo Mosteiro (PHY)
 - Baxter Oliphant (POL)
 - Kyle Keller (PSY)
 - Marco De Leon (WWS)
- Academic Program Representatives
 - Kityan Choi (AOS)
 - Amy Winter (POP)
 - Mike Campanell (PPL)
- Proxy Representatives
 - Brianne Smith (CEE)
 - Giri Parameswaran (COS)
 - Zitsi Mirakhur (SOC)
- Housing Group Delegates
 - Mike Campanell (BUT)
 - Lizette Taguchi (GCO)
 - Dima Gorenshteyn (LAW)
- CPUC
 - Kyle Keller
 - Chad Maisel
 - Giri Parameswaran
- Friends of the GSG
 - Olivia Martel (CPC)
- Other Delegates
 - April Williams (CampRec)
 - Anna Offit (USLC)

• Guests

- Jason Krizan (CHM)
- Alexandra Pastino (MOL)
- Rachael Berry (MOL)
- Daniell Rowles (MOL)
- Julia Wittes (MOL)
- Quentin Berthet (ORF)
- Simon Fuchs (NES)
- Lauren Anllo (MOL)
- Tom Morrell (CHM)
- Raleigh Davis (CBE)
- Shane Blackman (PSY)