



# GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

9 January, 2013  
January Assembly Meeting  
Jadwin Hall 102, Joseph Henry Room  
6:06 – 6:39pm

- President Chad Maisel calls the meeting to order at 6:06pm
- Secretary Kyle Keller (PSY, rep) motions to approve the December assembly minutes, with Facilities Chair Tim Brandt (AST, rep) seconding the motion. The motion passes by voice vote.
- GSG officer elections 2013
  - See attached document for more details.
  - Vice President and chair of the Elections Committee Giri Parameswaran (ECO) introduces the 2013 election and referendum plan. Nominations for GSG Officer and Chair positions opens January 10<sup>th</sup> and close February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5pm. Nominees have until February 12<sup>th</sup> to confirm their nomination and submit a candidate statement. On February 20<sup>th</sup>, the Elections Committee will host a Meet the Candidates forum for the Officer positions. Polls open February 28<sup>th</sup> and close March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. Election results will be approved by the assembly at the March assembly meeting (March 13<sup>th</sup>), as well as vote and appoint the Chair positions.
  - The only significant change from previous years is that all additional election material must be brought to the attention of the Election Committee.
  - Questions and comments from assembly:
    - Kyle Keller asks if this year's election plan fixes the issues with last year's plan – particularly the lack of email reminders.
      - Answer: Yes, there are more email reminders and specific dates for such emails already laid out.
    - Tim Brandt comments that, for all committee chairs – including the new social committee chair – in order to guarantee priority housing, you must submit your name by February 12<sup>th</sup>.
    - Time commitment for officer and chair positions varies considerably, but typically falls between 3-6 hours per week.
  - Any questions, comments, or concerns may be directed toward the GSG Executive Board, or the GSG Elections Committee
  - Giri Parameswaran calls the election plan to vote. It passes unanimously.
- 2013 Graduate Student Fee referendum
  - See attached document for more details.
  - All full time students currently pay a \$10 annual fee to the GSG that is automatically deducted from stipends. The GSG proposes that this fee be increased to \$15 for the 2013-14 academic year and then automatically increase by the same proportion as the University Fellowship (typically 3%) in subsequent years.

- The GSG Constitution requires that questions about the student fee be put to a referendum. For the question to pass, the number of 'yes' votes must exceed three-fifths of all votes cast, and one-third of all eligible voters.
- Questions from the assembly:
  - Angelina Sylvain (NEU, rep) asks whether voting booths can be set up.
    - Answer: Yes, and the Elections Committee will look into doing so.
    - Angelina also suggests bright and obvious advertisements for the referendum, such as pink, to increase visibility.
  - Mollie Eisenberg (ENG, rep) asks whether assembly representatives can get a list of bulleted talking points.
    - Answer: Well in advance of the polls opening, the Elections Committee will send out both an email and a flyer for such purposes.
  - Baxter Oliphant (PHY, rep) asks whether we can get a link or QR code which links to the poll placed on the Tiger Transit shuttles.
    - Answer: The Elections Committee will speak with Kim Jackson on the matter. Flyers and QR codes/links will be placed at the shuttle stops.
    - Baxter suggests, as supported by his and other research, that personal contact is the best way to ensure voting.
  - Various members of assembly suggest placing flyers and advertisements in common rooms, such as laundry rooms. In particular, QR codes or links on top of laundry machines.
  - Lisa Hirschmann (SPO, rep) suggests that candidate statements be placed directly on the poll, instead of simply linking to them offsite.
- Short term outlook for the social events calendar
  - The GSG is considering a Winter social or some type of party in early March to coincide with the election/referendum polls. The idea is still largely in planning and ideas are welcome. If interested, please email the Executive Board.
  - The GSG Executive Board has also begun discussion on hosting a weekly Pub Night. The idea, still in need of much planning, etc, would be to work with a bar on Nassau to host a cheap drinks deal during some weekday. In exchange, the GSG would cover appetizers or snacks in some fashion.
    - Comments from assembly were very positive.
    - Wednesday and Thursday were the preferred weekdays.
- Restaurant Week Update
  - The GSG has received incredibly positive feedback from restaurant owners concerning restaurant week. Elements and Fairly House are considering extending the deal to a weekly event.
- Summary and description of the GSG elected and appointed positions
  - For a more-detailed description of the different positions, please see the GSG website and constitution.
  - President: The office of president is what you make it. You inherit lots of stuff – particularly issues concerning housing, UHS, etc – but you can also bring your own vision. You are the face of the GSG and you often meet with administration.

The president is also de facto GSG chair of the University Student Life Committee.

- Vice President: The vice president is the right hand of the president, largely in charge of GSG administrative issues and the operation of assembly meetings.
- Communications: The communications director handles GSG outreach, including emails, flyers, messaging, etc. Additionally, the communications director is charged with updating certain common spaces of the GSG website.
- Secretary: The secretary is in charge of taking notes for assembly and executive board meetings, as well as writing up the official assembly minutes. The secretary is also in charge of updating the minutes page on the GSG website.
- Treasurer: The treasurer handles the money and balances the GSG budget. The treasurer is also the de facto chair of the GSG Events Board.
- Special events chair: The special events chair is the new name for the old social chair, and in charge of the GSG's large parties and social events.
- Chair positions: The GSG appoints four chair positions: Academic Affairs in charge of academics; Facilities in charge of housing, parking, etc; Health & Life in charge of UHS and other health-related business; and Social, which is a new chair in charge of small social programming and brainstorming, such as Restaurant Week, Pub Night, orientation. Additionally, the Facilities and Health & Life chairs are, alongside the president, de facto members of the USLC.
- The above-listed positions make up the Executive Board, which meets roughly once a week. The roles are not strict, and each member pitches in where possible. It is often up to the Executive Board to staff and assist with the GSG socials.
- Questions from assembly:
  - Who are the outgoing members of the Executive Board?
    - Answer: President, Vice President, Academic Affairs, and Special Events are all graduating.
  - What are the perks?
    - Answer: Priority housing, guaranteed at roughly #30 on the housing draw system. Additionally, parking at a couple of on-campus lots.
  - What is it like during the summer?
    - Answer: It slows down, but there are always preparatory things to be done. In particular, advocacy work tends to take place during the summer.
  - Baxter requests that the website be updated to reflect the duties – especially with the changes to the USLC.
- President Maisel adjourns the m at 6:39pm.

Attendance (26)

- Executive Board
  - Chad Maisel (President)
  - Giri Parameswaran (Vice President)
  - Kyle Keller (Secretary)
  - Sarah Grady (Communications)
  - Friederike Funk (Treasurer)
  - Tim Brandt (Facilities)
  - Andreana Kenrick (Health and Life)
- Departmental Representatives
  - Tim Brandt (AST)
  - Mollie Eisenberg (ENG)
  - Ian Ward (HIS)
  - April Williams (MOL)
  - Carolann Buff (MUS)
  - Baxter Oliphant (POL)
  - Kyle Keller (PSY)
  - Lisa Hirschmann (SPO)
- Academic Program Representatives
  - Kityan Choi (AOS)
  - Angelina Sylvain (NEU)
  - Mike Campanell (PPL)
- Proxy Representatives
  - Giri Parameswaran (COS)
  - Shawn Westerdale (PHY)
  - Chad Maisel (WWS)
- Housing Group Delegates
  - Mike Campanell (BUT)
  - Dima Gorenshteyn (LAW)
- CPUC
  - Carolann Buff
  - Kyle Keller
  - Chad Maisel
  - Giri Parameswaran
  - Olga Lositsky
  - Angelina Sylvain
- Friends of the GSG
  - Olivia Martel (CPC)
- Other Delegates
  - April Williams (CampRec)
  - Kityan Choi (USLC)
- Guests
  - Daniell Rowles (MOL)
  - Julia Wittes (MOL)
  - Rachael Barry (MOL)
  - Mary Kang (CEE)
  - Shane Blackman (PSY)
  - Jiri Stehlik (PHY)
  - Eric Smith (PHY)