

# GSU Assembly Meeting Minutes

July 30, 1997

DRAFT

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by presiding officer, Robert Weiner.

Present: 16 reps. 1 non-rep. Sign-in sheet attached.

**Item 1:** Scott Harper (acting as Press Secretary tonight in place of Evan Haefeli who was absent) made a motion to accept the minutes from the May and June meeting as they were distributed by email. Minutes from both meetings were approved without changes by unanimous consent.

**Item 2:** Report of Rep Secretary. Jill Reiss announced that the Assembly now has 33 active seats.

**Item 3:** Peter Park (Co-chair) read two acknowledgements he had prepared, addressed to the outgoing and incoming presidents of the APGA. Both letters were approved and signed by members of the Assembly.

**Item 4:** Update on events since the last meeting:

1. Robert Weiner (Co-chair) reported that he and Celina Mikolajczak (former MAE rep) had met with several Deans about the possibility of allowing advanced degree recipients to participate in the Baccalaureate service. President Shapiro sent a reply promising to take the matter under advisement.
2. Robert reported that a meeting to finalize plans for creating experimental computer clusters (with DSL lines) in the three graduate student apartment complexes had been cancelled. CIT is willing to provide the wiring and the equipment, but

- they need approval and commitments from other groups (such as Housing, which must provide the space for the clusters). The meeting hopefully will be rescheduled.
3. Robert reported that the GSU has put in a request for some of the surplus computer equipment that may become available due to recent upgrades of University staff equipment. The equipment would be used in the GSU office at 48 University Place. The GSU also requested funds from the University to send representatives to the NAGPS National Conference in October.
  4. Karen Lipton-Dentler announced that the Women's Center has two positions available. Questions about the positions should be addressed to Cheri Sistek, the Women's Center Director, at x5565.
  5. Karen announced that there will be a BBQ at the GC with free food on Thursday, August 14 at 5:30pm. All graduate students are welcome to attend.

**Item 5:** Scott Harper gave a summary of what is going on with the web version of the GSU Welcome Guide. The Guide should be ready by the end of August for use by incoming students, but help is needed in finding links to resources and adding content to the various categories covered by the Guide. Everyone is urged to [look over the Guide](#) and send any relevant links or additions to [thegsu@princeton.edu](mailto:thegsu@princeton.edu)

**Item 6:** Robert gave an update on the tax legislation recently passed by Congress. Tuition waivers received by graduate student TAs and RAs will remain tax exempt.

**Item 7:** Robert outlined the plans proposed by the executive committee for the election of new officers in the fall. The election will take place at the September 24 GSU meeting. The new officers will serve one year (twelve month) terms. Individuals should declare their candidacies well in advance of that date. The executive committee suggested that there be a slate of seven

offices instead of six, with the new position being that of Recording Secretary. The person filling this position would be responsible for taking meeting minutes and writing routine correspondence (e.g. acknowledgements) for the Assembly. The Recording Secretary would also assist the Press Secretary with newsletter distribution. The Press Secretary, would remain responsible for preparing the newsletter as well as compiling and sending out the new fortnightly "grad\_events" email notices. The new position is necessary to prevent the press secretary from being overburdened and to facilitate timely circulation of meeting minutes.

Robert outlined the general duties of the rest of the officers (Chair, Treasurer, Social Chair, Web Page Administrator, Representative Secretary), and asked anyone interested in running for any of positions to contact Representative Secretary Jill Reiss.

**Item 8:** There will be a GSU information table outside Dillon Gym during registration on Monday, September 8th. Volunteers are needed to hand out flyers and answer questions from new and returning students.

**Item 9:** Robert gave an update on the status of the GSU constitution review. The process lost momentum with the coming of summer, but the executive committee will submit its recommendations to the new officers in the fall.

**Item 10:** Karen Lipton-Dentler is trying to get Dining Services to assist with the traditional opening barbeques at the GC in September. Instead of the GSU funding an entire BBQ, Karen suggested that the GSU could combine its funds with money from the GC House Committee, the Graduate College/Graduate Student Affairs Administrator, and the Dean's Office, to throw two BBQs during the weekend before classes. Karen wanted to know if the Assembly would support a contribution of \$500, in lieu of throwing a GSU-only BBQ in the fall. A motion to approve \$500

for the orientation BBQs was passed 16:0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm, in a record 48 minutes.