



GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

9 May, 2012
Assembly Meeting
Corwin Hall, Room 127
6:00pm – 7:00pm

- I. President Chad Maisel calls to order at 6:03pm
- II. Tim Brandt calls a motion, and the March and April assembly minutes are approved
- III. Lisa DePaul, Associate Director of Student Housing, is introduced and speaks briefly about housing at Princeton University
 - a. A brief on the housing situation.
 - i. Beginning with the end of the 2011-2012 term, this is a challenging year for housing. The closing of the Hibben/Magie apartments has reduced housing for graduate students from an all-time high of 76-79% of students housed to the standard base of 70%. This has been facilitated with the opening of the Stanworth apartments to graduate students. This has left a large number of third year graduates – who would have otherwise received housing – to not receive a housing contract.
 - ii. Housing assignments have been expedited in order to quickly move to and through the waitlist. In the coming weeks, the housing department will meet with all graduates without housing to make sure housing plans are in order.
 - iii. The replacement for Scott Baldwin, prior Director of Housing, should be hired by the end of the month.
 - b. Open questions for Lisa DePaul
 - i. Mike Campanell, the Butler Committee Rep, asked whether documents concerning the successful draw and waitlist are accurate, as some people are not on the list.
 1. Lisa replies that the posted waitlist was incorrect and has been temporarily taken down. An accurate list should be up shortly.
 - ii. Mike Campanell asked why, in previous years the Butler cutoff for 2 bedrooms was G5, but this year it was G3.
 1. Lisa response that a higher than usual G1s requested GC annex housing – which is guaranteed by Housing if requested. This caused a trickle-down effect that pushed G3s out where they may have previously been successful.
 - iii. Giri Parameswaran, GSG Vice President and ECO rep, asked how much flexibility there is with current housing contracts.
 1. Lisa replies that housing contracts are available to be broken early without penalty if a student finds off-campus housing. This is a special circumstance for this year.

2. If this reoccurs as an issue in future years, an appropriate cutoff date without penalty will be investigated
- iv. How many people applied for the hardship application?
 1. The hardship application is an application for priority housing due to extraordinary reasons (medical, personal, financial). Cases are evaluated on a case-by-case basis and criteria were not changed from last year.
 2. About the same number of applications and acceptances as past years.
- v. When will extension application be reviewed/renewed?
 1. The committee in charge of reviewing and approving extension applications meets soon and results will be posted by the end of May.
- vi. Can housing lottery numbers be posted in earlier?
 1. Lisa replies that housing lottery numbers are bottlenecked by incoming applications, as the room-draw lottery must be done only after incoming G1s submit their applications.
 2. The results are posted on April 26th and it is difficult to post much earlier than this – even rough estimates.
 3. This year's state of housing will be the steady state moving forward, and G3s in the future should not expect housing.
- vii. Rent in the surrounding neighborhood and in town has increased due to increased demand by displaced graduate students.
 1. Lisa will bring this to the attention of the Housing Department
- viii. Is there any cross-talk between housing and transportation services to make commuting easier?
 1. Next year, Stanworth will be included on the regular Tiger Transit shuttle routes.
 2. The question/suggestion of off-campus housing shuttles will be brought back to the Housing Department.
 3. Parking & Transportation has been included in the planning of this year, with regards to the changes in transportation needs
 4. The Off-Campus Housing Site has a listing of off-campus housing that has access to public transportation
- ix. Brandon from Geo Sciences asks whether the 70% capacity is the new steady state, noting that the change in housing numbers seems greater than 6-8%.
 1. Lisa replies that 70% capacity is indeed the goal
- x. Andrew brings to Lisa's attention that public transportation is not currently working with graduate student schedules. Public transportation is designed around working hours and weekdays for commuters, and not graduate students who often require late or early hours as well as weekends. This presents a large problem of those without a car.
 1. Lisa does not respond.
- xi. Butler Rep – children and the lottery number
 1. Rules did not change

2. Grads with children got a slight boost
 - xii. Mike Campanell requests more and better notification and communication to those not receiving housing.
 1. Lisa replies that calendars and dates were posted well in advance and offers were provided emails. She notes that students unsuccessful in the draw needed to look at the list.
 2. However, Lisa agrees that an email should – and will be – sent out informing people of the existence of the contract list and waitlist.
 3. Students request that an email be sent out the day of the draw informing people of the draw and its results.
 - xiii. Alex Balistreri asks if there is a final data as it pertains to contracts.
 1. Lisa replies that offers are being sent out on a rolling basis as other offers are accepted or rejected. The final date for offers is June 30th.
 - xiv. G1s in Hibben/Magie who have not requested summer housing have not yet received housing offers for the fall.
 1. Lisa replies that such students should look at the list of successful draws. The Housing Department is going through the list of all students without housing and making sure they have a housing plan.
 - xv. A request is made for some kind of rating feedback for off-campus housing experiences be made available on the University Off-Campus Housing website.
 - xvi. Lisa notes that if you are on the successful housing list, you will receive some kind of housing. Also, a global email concerning housing will be sent out in a day or two.
- IV. Katie Hansen, Academic Affairs Chair, reports on the Open Access Dissertation Policy
- a. The Director of Graduate Studies meeting will take place soon. The Policy Subcommittee is recommending a 2 year indefinite renewable embargo that must first be approved by the departments (original request only). The approval is required for legal reasons related to the publishing of work done under grants.
- V. Giri Parameswaran, Vice President and ECO rep, runs through a Graduate Student Government primer.
- a. For a full text, see the May 2012 minutes page on the GSG website
 - b. Giri proposes that such a primer be run through every 3-4 months as the assembly turns over.
- VI. Friederike Funk, Treasurer, provides a rundown and report of the GSG Events Board
- a. For a full text, see the May 2012 minutes page on the GSG website
 - b. Individuals, as well as registered student groups or departments may request funding at from the Events Board.
 - i. For a explanation of Events Board rules and regulations, see the GSG website
- VII. President's Report by Chad Maisel
- a. Chad met with the Director of the Office of Sustainability to further discussion on the GSG first year gift. Whereas in previous years the gift was a GSG mug, this coming year a GSG water bottle will be offered as a choice.

- i. Assembly members suggested that extras water bottles be purchased so that non-first years can purchase their own.
- b. Chad also met with the USG and Princeton community concerning creating a Princeton restaurant week. The week is planned for the last week of the school year before winter break (approximately December 7th through 13th) with a two-tiered (\$15 or \$25) fixed price, three source meal.
- c. Chad also met with Vice President of Campus Life Cherry concerning several issues. First, the increase in Events Board funding was unsuccessful. Second, a Campus Pub managing board has been created. The Pub will hopefully be located in Café Vive next year, but details are up in the air.
 - i. The Managing Board is in need of a programming committee to decide the programming for the pub. If anyone is interested, contact Danielle Rowles.
- d. The GSG is hosting a party at Campus Club on May 11th. A flyer for the party has been posted to the Facebook group.
- e. For next year, a Stanworth Shuttle has been created, running every 30 minutes until 6:30pm (at which point it will be covered by the Campus Circulator route).
- f. The GSG Furniture Drive will be June 5th and 6th. If you want to help out, email the GSG executive board or find the link on the Facebook page.

VIII. Open Forum

- a. Brandon of Geo Sciences suggests that the GSG compile information about rent increase in the area. Giri adds on that a global email to gather information from current off-campus housing residents would be informative. Carolann suggests that anecdotal evidence, as well, be collected concerning experiences with the housing changes. Information should also be gathered about how DCE students are impacted, as they are not included in the 70% housed goal of the Housing Department.
- b. The assembly suggests that a representative from the Transportation Department attend June's assembly meeting to inquire into what their plans are for incoming housing changes.

IX. Next meeting, June 13th in Corwin 127

X. Motion to Adjourn – 7:10pm

Attendance

- Executive Committee
 - Chad Maisel – President
 - Giri Parameswaran – Vice President
 - Kyle Keller – Secretary
 - Sarah Grady – Communications Director
 - Friederike Funk – Treasurer
 - Pablo Mosteiro – Social Chair
 - Katie Hansen – Academic Affairs
 - Tim Brandt – Facilities
 - Andreana Kenrick – Health and Life
- Departmental Representatives
 - Tim Brandt (AST)
 - Giri Parameswaran (ECO)

- Sourindra Chaudhuri (EEB)
- Mollie Eisenberg (ELE)
- Kyle Samperton (GEO)
- Daniell Rowles (MOL)
- Carolann Buff (MUS)
- Alex Balistreri (NES)
- Pablo Mosteiro (PHY)
- Kyle Keller (PSY)
- Alda Balthrop-Lewis (REL)
- Denis Zhernokleyev (SLA)
- Alf Garcia (SOC)
- Academic Program Representatives
 - Kityan Choi (AOS)
 - Angelina Sylvain – proxy (NEU)
 - Zitsi Mirakhur - proxy (POP)
 - Mike Campanell (PPL)
- Housing Group Delegates
 - Mike Campanell (BUT)
 - Andra Geana (LAW)
- CPUC Delegates
 - Carolann Buff (CPUC)
 - Kyle Keller (CPUC)
 - Chad Maisel (CPUC)
 - Giri Parameswaran (CPUC)
- Friends of the GSG
 - Lisa Schreyer (DSL)
- Guests and Others Present
 - Eric First (CBE)
 - Benjamin Williams (FIT)
 - CJ Bell (COS)
 - Ana Bell (COS)
 - Lilly Cheung (CBE)
 - David Jorgensen (Butler)
 - Brandon Stackhouse (GEO)