

GSU Assembly Meeting Minutes

May 28, 1997

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by presiding officer, Robert Weiner.

Present: 15 reps. 4 non-reps. Sign-in sheet attached.

Item 1: Evan Haefeli (Press Secretary) moved to approve the minutes from last meeting. Approved by unanimous consent.

Item 2: Report of Rep Secretary. Jill Reiss was absent but she informed Robert that there have been no changes in the assembly roster. 41 seats are listed as active, but 3 have not attended a single meeting all year, which makes for 38 active seats, so the 60% quorum needed to conduct business is 23.

Item 3: Robert Weiner (Co-Chair/Project Coordinator) then reported on developments since the last meeting.

1. Ben Gum was given a non-smoking Butler apartment for 1997-8 after the Associate Provost intervened. Therefore, it was not necessary for the Assembly to send a letter on his behalf. Ben testified at the May CPUC meeting. The Assembly will consider raising the issue of enforcing smoking policies with the Housing Policy Committee in the fall.
2. Halogen torchierre lamps will be banned in all on-campus housing units (including the GC and annexes, but not the apts.) this fall. All students returning to live on campus will be given a 39-watt florescent bulb and \$25 for buying a lamp. According to the alternative lighting task force on which Surita Bhatia served, the bulbs produce the same amount of light as a 300-watt halogen.

3. Robert and co-chair/treasurer Peter Park met with the USG for the 2nd time this semester. Both felt that the USG should serve as a model for what the GSU can become. The USG was friendly and offered advice on having issues addressed by the administration and agreed to cooperate with us on common issues. The USG President emphasized the need for the GSU to take issues directly to President Shapiro and other high level administrators.
4. Peter and Robert also met with the CPUC regarding the GSU's prescribed role in nominating grad students for the grad student positions on the CPUC. Efforts to allow post-enrolled students to run for the positions were rebuffed. We shall continue to work on this matter.
5. The dental information has been updated on our Web Page.
6. Karen Gordon of McCosh still plans to publish a question and answer document, which addresses concerns raised by the GSU Health Care Survey. She showed us a draft at the March assembly meeting.
7. The GSU has transferred the wine left over from the Holiday wine & cheese gathering to the D-Bar with the stipulation that it be used at grad student events and that the GSU be named as a cosponsor of them.

Item 4: Karen Lipton-Dentler reminded everyone that there will be a graduate student mixer with a band over reunions weekend. This APGA event is co-sponsored by the GSU.

N.B. Since a quorum was not present, the assembly proceed for discussion purposes only.

Item 5: Scott Harper (Web Page Administrator) announced that the text of the Welcome Guide is on the Web Page and solicited suggestions for improving it. The main task ahead involves adding links to web pages associated with items mentioned in the text. Don Priour volunteered to assist.

Item 6: Discussion was held concerning Dan Wallach's proposal to establish two new email lists, one to broadcast important information to all graduate students (except those who choose not to subscribe) and another, to be voluntarily subscribed to, that would periodically summarize upcoming events of interest to graduate students. An informal poll showed those assembly members present favoring Dan's suggestion 15:0. The proposal will be voted on over email.

Item 7: Tamara Caspary reported on eye care possibilities. She contacted 6 different insurance companies. Only 1, New York Life, was interested in providing us with eye care coverage. Other schools, including Rutgers, are working on establishing a plan with New York Life that would include dental and eye care. A discount plan, through the Eyecare Plan of America offers discounts at Wal-Mart and Princeton Family Eyecare. Our other option is to work out individual discounts. Tamara will present another update in July.

Item 8: Diane Ballestri, a representative from CIT spoke and answered questions from the Assembly. She noted that CIT does not run all of the clusters, some belong to departments, and CIT does not control the spaces in which the clusters are set up, the departments do. CIT has no more money to expand and establish new clusters, though it is developing a plan to provide staff members to assist departments in running their own clusters. The new manager of all CIT clusters is Bob Stango. She further noted that the cluster in G15 was originally designed as a training space, and the situation there will not change until alternate space is provided specifically for training.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 9: Celina Mikolajczak (MAE) complained that advanced

degree recipients participating in Commencement Exercises are not allowed into the Baccalaureate service, which is the culmination of the graduation ceremonies. She will draft a letter for the Assembly's perusal proposing that graduating grad students be allowed to attend this important ceremony.

Item 10: Judy Yanowitz (MoBio) reported that the Student Health Advisory Board, which addresses many issues regarding grad students, needs more grad student members.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.