

GSU MINUTES: NOVEMBER 9th., 1988

Facilitator: Doug

In Attendance: Christian, Tad, Tom, Doug, Victoria, Tama, Sarah, John, Simone (This list is incomplete - I forgot to write this information down at the meeting.)

Following the submission and approval of last week's minutes, the discussion of items on the agenda commenced. We began with some Committee reports:

1. Social Committee: (Sarah, Victoria, Chris-Anne) Victoria described the various different projects proposed for investigation by the Social Committee.

Party: Victoria noted that there would be problems in trying to find a venue for a large party, since (i) Corwin Hall is under renovation or construction (ii) the Rotunda would be too small (iii) arrangements at the Third World Centre would be too complicated (owing to liquor licensing considerations) and (iv) even though Proctor Hall would be available, it's not exactly what we want (given that one of the aims of the party is to try to overthrow the "Grad. Student Ghetto" feeling). She suggested that the earliest feasible date would be some time next semester (possibly during February), and that it might be a good idea either to have a "Constitution Ratification Party" or an "Election Eve Party". The Social Committee will continue to work on this.

Smaller Projects: One thought which the Social Committee has had is that it would be a good idea to organise regular social functions which are not just beer bashes. (These would be good both as publicity for the GSU, and as social activities.) Two principal projects were considered:

(a) It might be possible to run a Graduate Cafe in the basement of Murray Dodge on Wednesday nights, with an opening time around 9:00 p.m. The basement has kitchen facilities for between 50 and 60 people; and it would also be possible to put on a programme of musical and other

performances.

Two questions are (i) whether we can get volunteers to staff the cafe on Wednesday nights, and (ii) whether we shall need to demand financial contributions (and, if so, what size these should be). Sarah is meeting with the organisers of the Undergrad cafe (which is run as a co-op by Undergrad. religious groups), and should have more information for us next week.

(b) It might be possible to keep the Rotunda open over the Christmas break (i.e. from December 20th. to January 2nd. ??). More work needs to be done on this, but it seems that at least we should be able to keep the building open (even if we don't provide any services).

The Social Committee also suggests that it might be a good idea to produce "GSU" buttons to sell in the cafe. (And what about bumper stickers? Not to mention the idea of having a prom in Palmer Stadium!!)

2. Media And Publicity Committee: (Christian) Press coverage has not been as great as we might have hoped. (Cf. Christian's letter to the Prince.) We need to make sure that we are getting more publicity.

3. Dean Z. Reappointment Committee: (Emily) The draft of a letter to President Shapiro re. Dean Z.'s reappointment met with unanimous approval. It will be sent off this week. Emily and Alan are continuing to work to investigate the "Bush-Ziolkowski 'til 1992" ticket.

4. Deprep Meeting Committee: (Tama) There were lots of arrangements to be made for the November 14th. meeting. In particular, the following items were discussed:

(a) What to hand out at the meeting? (The final decision: (i) Christian's letter to the Prince complaining about lack of media attention; (ii) a GSU phone list; (iii) a committee list; (iv) a small questionnaire; and (v) a

summary of the Constitution. (Consideration was also given to either minutes from recent Steering Committee meetings, or a summary thereof.

But
this would either have involved too much paper or too much work.)

(b) What to say at the meeting? (The final decision: (i) a brief introduction/history (Tama); followed by (ii) a presentation by a member from each of the subcommittees (Tom [Stipends, Teaching], Tad [Student Life], Christian [Counselling], John [Elections], Sarah [Social Life], Emily [Dean Z.], Doug [Constitution]); and then (iii) an open question time. (Each speaker was ask to present a list of questions to Tama.)

(c) What to ask of the Depreps? The important questions were decided to be: (a) What is it feasible for Depreps to do? (b) Do Depreps want to (and should they be encouraged to) attend Steering Committee meetings? (c) Should Depreps organise departmental elections? (d) Does it make a difference that some Departments do/don't have committees? (e) How should we aim to ratify the Constitution?

Overall, it was agreed that the emphasis would be on the gathering of ideas and the dissemination of information. (Christian also insisted that we should "make it snappy and fun".)

5. Counselling Committee: (Christian) Asked for \$100 to distribute a letter. Unanimously approved.

6. Constitution Committee: Is about ready to start to write the Constitution. (Thursday, Nov. 10th. was scheduled as the day on which assembly would begin.) Expected date of completion: in two weeks.

We next moved on to a discussion of Old Business. (I'll try to keep this short):

1. Copy cards and labels: (Christian) We have copy cards. We still don't have labels. (Simone promised to fix this up. Christian offered to look in to it as well.)

2. Surveys: (Graham) We're still working on them ... (They should be ready in two weeks.)

3. Phone List: (Doug) Still don't have the phone tree organised. Need to update lists of Depreps. (Christian said he has a list.)

4. Computer Account: (Doug) Alan is working on this. Should be ready in a couple of weeks.
5. USG Office Key: We are still having problems with this (people keep losing their keys). We hope to have our own key soon.
6. Harvard Graduate Student Council: (Doug) We have made contact. We still don't have the missing page from the information sheet about them.
7. U-Store Account: (Christian?) We should have one. (We are NOT a student agency.)
8. Butler Elections: (Christian) Rae Langton was elected to the Chair of the Butler Housing Committee.

Finally, there was a discussion of new business:

1. Bulletin Board: (Christian) We now have a Bulletin Board in Chancellor Green. Tom offered to keep it clean. ("Organised")
2. Newsletter: (Doug) Simone volunteered to do the next newsletter. (Is this right?) Graham volunteered to take notes at the November 14th. meeting.
3. Precepting: (Christian) There is a meeting at 12:00 Tuesday November 15th., in 230 Dickinson, in which problems and issues arising in connection with precepting will be discussed. (It was not known if undergraduates would attend.)
4. Coalition Against Homophobia: (Christian) The CAH wants volunteers to distribute and collect surveys, and wondered if we could help.
5. Meeting With Dean Z. (Tom) We need to discuss the content of Dean Z.'s report to the President with him. Tom, Tad and Doug volunteered to go to speak to him (in order to obtain some "publicly available information"!).
6. Continuing Disenrolled GS Surveys: (Graham) The surveys are written. (Any suggestions?) Dean Redman has offered to provide a list of names of the students to whom they should be sent.
7. GSU Success In Mol. Biol.: (Tama) Mol. Biol. students have been granted stipend raises and promised advanced notification of teaching duties. (Tama should probably take more credit for this than the GSU, but still)
8. Men's Project: (Christian) Anyone who wants to know about the men's project should speak to Christian.
9. Meeting Time: It was agreed to move next week's meeting forward to 7:00

p.m.

The end.

Submitted by Graham Oppy.