



GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

10 October, 2012
October Assembly Meeting
Jadwin Hall 102, Joseph Henry Room
5:45 – 7:00pm

- President Chad Maisel calls the meeting to order at 6:01pm.
- Treasurer Friederike Funk presents on the budgets for the GSG, as well as the Events Board.
 - See the GSG webpage for the October Assembly minutes for copies of both budgets, as well as a list of funded events for the 2011-2012 academic year.
 - Graduate Student Government budget
 - The GSG's budget for the 2012-2013 academic year is \$25,960. Previous years' surplus leaves the GSG with an unused \$2475, which Friederike proposes dividing over the next three years (\$825 per year).
 - With respect to the previous year, the 2012-2013 GSG budget increases spending to the Summer Social, the first year welcome orientation (gift and social program), the unspecified 'Other' social event, and GSG operating expenses (more food purchase due to increased attendance).
 - The floor opens for several questions:
 - Sourindra Chaudhuri (ELE rep) asks if the \$5,000 budgeted to the Events Board funds all events sponsored by the board.
 - Answer: The Events Board is a separate entity that receives funding from not only the GSG, but other groups. The \$5,000 is the GSG's contribution.
 - Daniell Rowles (MOL rep) notes that some items from the 2009-2010 budget, such as the fall social, were incorrectly recorded in previous budget reports.
 - Friederike will investigate the old error and correct it on the current report.
 - Harvey Brown (ELE) asks why the Executive committee discretionary funds line item changed from last year (\$1,550 to \$753).
 - Answer: Money previously allocated to this fund was instead directed toward Ivy Summit savings.
 - Kyle Keller (PSY rep, secretary) motions to approve the budget, with Alex Balistreri (NES rep) seconding the motion.
 - The motion passes with voice vote.
 - Events Board budget
 - The Events Board is a separate entity, funded by the GSG, the Graduate School, the Vice President of Campus Life, and the Davis International Center. The board is staffed by the GSG treasurer, four graduate students

appointed by the GSG assembly, and two staff members appointed by the Graduate School.

- The Events Board received \$16,500 in funding this year, as well as holds approximately \$10,000 surplus from previous years. The 2012-2013 budget divides this money over the next three years (\$3,600 per year), for a total operating budget of \$20,100 for the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Events requesting funding from the Events Board must be open to all graduate students, be listed in the weekly events bulletin, and be advertised as co-sponsored by the Events Board. Funding requests up to 5% of the Events Board budget (\$1,000 for the current year) only require approval from the Events Board; requests over \$1,000 must be approved by the full assembly.
- President Chad Maisel opens a discussion for the assembly as how to best direct GSG energy, effort, and resources for the next six months, in the broad categories of new programming, advocacy, and social events.
 - New programming
 - In the past and present, the GSG has spearheaded new programs for the benefit of graduate students, including graduate student writing days, the first year orientation social event, and the upcoming Princeton Restaurant Week.
 - Suggestions from assembly:
 - Kyle Bond (REL rep) laments the lack of café culture and quality coffee in the Princeton area, noting there needs to be more options, and options open earlier.
 - Some suggestions from assembly direct attention toward the Old Graduate College coffee house and East Pyne.
 - Daniell Rowles notes that money for such events can be requested through the Alcohol Free Alternatives initiative.
 - Giri Parameswaran (ECO rep, vice president) notes that previous efforts for such programs have been difficult to staff.
 - Alf Garcia (SOC rep) suggests regular outdoor drinking events, such as every Friday, during early September (while the weather is nice). This facilitates meeting people from other departments in a non-crowded situation.
 - Anna Offit (ANT, USLC) adds that, while the Wine and Cheese was great, it was a bit crowded, and so future programs might capture the same atmosphere while remaining smaller and more intimate.
 - Chad suggests that anyone interested in such events should speak with Social Chair Pablo Mosteiro (PHY rep), as there is money to fund such events.
 - Kityan Choi (AOS rep, USLC) adds that events should be held at varied times so that a greater variety of people can attend.

- Advocacy
 - The GSG recently undertook advocacy efforts for housing issues with the Spring 2012 housing survey, and the upcoming housing report.
 - Suggestions from assembly:
 - Jamie Kwan (ART rep) asks whether the GSG can advocate for shuttles running on weekends.
 - Marco De Leon (WWS rep) adds that no shuttle goes directly between Butler and the west side of campus (Dinky Station, Graduate College).
 - Chad requests anyone email him directly about specific problems for further investigation.
 - Alex Balistreri notes that a previous survey several years ago touched upon this issue and that the GSG might look to its findings and resulting discussion to better understand the limitations of weekend shuttles.
 - Felix Rietmann (HOS rep) brings attention to the housing issues – particularly with regards to people not receiving housing despite there now being a surplus of available rooms.
 - Baxter Oliphant (POL rep) requests advocacy for the issues of graduate students with dependents (spouses, children), suggesting a poll to see what is done right and what requires more attention. He notes, in particular, issues relating to feelings of isolation.
 - Olivia Martel (CPC) notes there is a childcare listserv that can be leveraged to get such groups or collective actions started. Anyone interested in being added to this listserv should contact her (omartel@princeton.edu). She notes, however, that most such events start out popular, but suffer to find students taking the effort to maintain them.
 - Giri Parameswaran asks about similar situations for spouses of international students.
 - Olivia responds that the Davis International Center maintains a group for spouses of international students – the ISPU.
 - Health and Life Chair Andreana Kenrick speaks briefly about mental health advocacy, noting that this week (October 8-12) is mental health awareness week, and the main issue of this year's Ivy Summit is mental health. In particular, she notes a need for ideas on how to distribute information about available services, finding out which services are lacking or difficult to access, and what service work projects (such as suicide prevention walks) people might find interesting.
 - Alex Balistreri suggests providing information or training to students on how to recognize signs of mental distress in themselves or others, and how to direct people to support.
 - Chad asks if any departments have McCosh reps attend their orientation events. Only economics and

the international students orientations have such reps.

- Olivia Martel notes that the Graduate School hosts depression screening and mindfulness lunches, which are well attended, in an effort to provide help where needed.
- Kityan Choi volunteers to take flyers to the Forrestal Campus, as they do not usually make it out there.

○ Social

- The GSG hosts four main social events, one in each of the spring, summer, fall, and winter. However, there is money for additional events.
- Suggestions from the assembly:
 - Paola Libraro (MAE rep) asks whether it is possible to move funds from one event to another.
 - Answer: Yes, but it requires assembly approval.
 - Paola also asks about the issues with running Campus Club as another DBar.
 - Daniell Rowles answers that, because Campus Club does not have a liquor license, it cannot charge for alcohol. The process to receive a liquor license takes years and is very difficult.
 - Additionally, the alcohol is cheap; the real cost is public safety, which must attend every event with alcohol approved by the graduate school.
 - Finally, planning is underway to open Café Vive as a campus pub. However, this is very much in development and there are no concrete details.
 - Anna Offit (ANT, USLC) suggests an eating club for graduate students. She also suggests that, like the first year orientation social, the GSG could provide gift certificates to small groups of graduate students to help fund small-scale parties.
 - Relatedly, Giri Parameswaran brings up the idea of expanding the co-op on campus.
- Communications Director Sarah Grady announces that more slots will be opening soon for Graduate Student Writing days.
- Vice President Giri Parameswaran announces that the GSG is looking for parties interested in attending the Ivy Summit.
 - The Ivy Summit will be at University of Pennsylvania on the days of November 2-4th, with a focus on mental health. The Princeton GSG will be sending 4-6 students, and will pay for fuel and travel expenses.
 - Interested parties should contact Chad or the GSG.
- President Chad Maisel provides the Executive Committee Report
 - The first year orientation social was successful with 60 signups. The GSG will be sending participants a feedback survey shortly to gauge their experience.

- Princeton Restaurant Week now has eight restaurants committed to offering \$25 three course meals, with show of Princeton ID, during November 11-15th. Additional promotional material will be coming during fall break.
- The CPUC held a meeting earlier in October, discussing academic integrity, a presentation by the Trustee Ad-Hoc Committee on Diversity, and discussion by the Office of Disability Services.
- The Wine and Cheese fall social was a resounding success, with over 600 attendees.
 - Please send all praise Social Chair Pablo Mosteiro!
- Alex Balistreri (NES rep) motions to approve the September Assembly minutes, with Angelina Sylvain (NEU) seconding. The motion passes by voice vote.
- Matt Zulcali calls for the creation of a Stanworth representative.
- President Chad Maisel adjourns the meeting at 6:59pm.

Attendance

- Executive Committee
 - Chad Maisel – President
 - Giri Parameswaran – Vice President
 - Kyle Keller – Secretary
 - Sarah Grady – Communications Director
 - Friederike Funk – Treasurer
 - Andreana Kenrick – Health and Life
 - Katie Hansen – Academic Affairs
- Departmental Representatives
 - Anna Offit (ANT)
 - Jamie Kwan (ART)
 - Shilpa Nadimpalli (COS)
 - Doron Ravid (ECO)
 - Mircea Davidescu (EEB)
 - Sourindra Chaudhuri (ELE)
 - Paola Libraro (MAE)
 - Alex Balistreri (NES)
 - Baxter Oliphant (POL)
 - Kyle Keller (PSY)
 - Kyle Bond (REL)
 - Alf Garcia (SOC)
 - Marco De Leon (WWS)
- Academic Program Representatives
 - Kityan Choi (AOS)
 - Felix Rietmann (HOS)
 - Angelina Sylvain (NEU)
 - Amy Winter (POP)
 - Mike Campanell (PPL)
- Proxy Representatives
 - Daniell Rowles (MOS, LAW)
- Housing Group Delegates

- Mike Campanell (BUT)
- CPUC Delegates and Committee
 - Marco De Leon
 - Stephanie Durden
 - Kyle Keller
 - Chad Maisel
 - Giri Parameswaran
 - Angelina Sylvain
- Other Student Delegates
 - Anna Offit (USLC)
 - Kityan Choi (USLC)
 - Heather Kugelmass (HlthAdv)
- Friends of the GSG
 - Olivia Martel
- Guests and others present
 - CJ Bell (COS)
 - Ana Bell (COS)