

## Minutes for the September 22 GSU Meeting

The GSU chair, Eszter Hargittai, called the meeting to order at 7:07pm. Since many important matters confronted the assembly, the agenda was packed.

Item 1: With remarks about the need to avoid anachronisms in the minutes, the assembly approved the minutes for the August GSU meeting.

Item 2: Description of officer duties and elections

# In rapid succession, each of the current officers described the function and duties of their posts. There was a single nominee for each position.

# Although the election began with the standard procedure of collecting and tallying ballots, the assembly swiftly concluded that the best and swiftest approach was election by voice vote. Soon afterward, the present slate of officers was elected.

# The assembly voted into office the following persons:

Chair: Eszter Hargittai

Representative Secretary: Jim Vere

Press Secretary: Beverly McKeon

Treasurer: Gred Bedard

Social Chair: Lauren Hale

Web Page Administrator: Eric Adelizzi

Recording Secretary: Don Priour

Item 3: Committees and Projects

With the new officers elected, the committees were discussed and volunteers sought to lead them. The committee names appear below. Where applicable, the committee

leader is listed next to the committee title.

- # USG -- Robert Gusade
- # Campus Center Committee
- # Health Care -- Cesar Rosado, Olgica Bahrain
- # Dental Committee -- Olgica Bahrain
- # Eyecare
- # CIT policies -- Steven Miller
- # Transportation -- Beverly McKeon  
(What makes this committee's job particularly challenging is the absence of a transportation committee at Princeton.)
- # Post - Enrollment
- # Housing -- Heather Vanbuskin
- # Dining Services
- # Campus Safety
- # Credit Union <Retired due to its success>
- # Undergraduate Liaison  
(Newly created by Eszter to serve as a connection to the undergraduate community)

#### Item 4: Correspondence

We have received word that although a president's fund does exist, it is a "one shot" fund. Thus, we cannot rely on it as a continuous source of funding for our projects.

#### Item 5: Officer Reports

- # Report of the Treasurer: The former treasurer, David Baker, gave the report. David noted that we continue to receive \$5 in dues annually from each

graduate student. He also observed that although we fully spent our cosponsorship fund, we had \$2500 remaining from funds earmarked for other purposes. Thus, David recommends a revision of the budget to allow for more cosponsorship.

% We received a funding request from Lauren Hale, a representative from Local Activism. It was suggested that she return in a month with specific funding requests and an estimated dollar amount.

% Kapil Agrawal, representing the International Film Festival, came requesting \$600 for the yearly film series. With last year's attendance of 1300 (50% graduate students) at the film series, sentiment ran high in the assembly that the Film Festival is an excellent use of GSU funds. Ultimately the members of the assembly decided to fund the film series with \$800, \$200 more than was requested.

% Another funding request was for the Moon Festival. After a brief discussion, it was decided to provide the Moon Festival with \$250.

#### Item 6: Report of the Press Secretary

Fliers describing the GSU have been issued to first year students. The GSU - announce list has been employed once or twice this summer.

#### Item 7: Report of the Representative Secretary

Jim Vere provided a list of departments lacking representatives in the GSU. A copy of the list appears below.

|              |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Anthropology | Comparitive Literature |
| Architecture | History                |
| Astrophysics | Music                  |
| Chemistry    | Politics               |

Classics

Romance Languages and Literature

LGBA

Item 8: Report of the Social Chair

The social chair remarked that we've had two ice cream socials, and both of these were successful

Item 9: Report of the Web Page Administrator

The web page administrator alluded to the matter of needed minutes revision. It was also stated that attention should be given to some of the old links on the GSU web page. They evidently are in need of revision.

Item 10: New Business

# Lauren Hale, representing Students for Local Activism, provided us with a description of the organization. 15 students are members. Among the issues of concern to Local Activism are the Post Office painting and the Census 2000 initiative. In the latter, the hope is to combat undercounting of minorities.

# The matter of the Debasement Bar has been raised. The question was whether the GSU could oversee the liquor license. This would remove the troublesome issue of how to officially allow non Graduate College students to attend. However, the matter was tabled.

# The proposed GSU NAME CHANGE was the category of New Business that received the greatest attention from the assembly. Discussion on the matter, both online and at the GSU meeting itself, was vigorous.

% There were some who opposed the name change itself.

% Eric Adelizzi was among those arguing for the name "Graduate Student Organization" or "Graduate Student Association" as opposed to the "Graduate Student Government". Eric's reasoning was that the GSU representatives aren't elected democratically, laws

aren't formed, etc. In short, Eric felt that we'd be claiming to be something we aren't .

% Jim Vere defended the GSG name by noting that although we have no intention of behaving as a national government, we would nevertheless act in a manner similar to that of many "student governments".

Perhaps Jim's most earnest reason for defending the GSG was the desire to have a name paralleling the USG.

# After an interval of discussion, the assembly voted on the form of the proposed amendment. The name "GSG" won 15 votes to 5 over "GSA/GSO". With the amendment fixed, actual voting on whether to amend was slated for a later time.

At circa 8:30pm, the meeting adjourned. It had been decided that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20.

Post Script: The name change has been accomplished. An email vote ensured that the organization formerly labeled the GSU shall henceforward be know as the GSG, or the Graduate Student Government.