



GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

March 12, 2014
March Assembly Meeting
Jadwin Hall 102
5:56-6:36 pm

President Friederike Funk calls the meeting to order at 5:56 pm.

Approval of the minutes from February

Mircea Davidescu (EEB rep) motions to approve the minutes; Shane Blackman (Special Events Officer) seconds the motion. The motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Exec Committee report

- Hooding ceremony
 - This year's hooding speaker will be Norman Augustine
 - The Executive Board and Associate Dean for Student Life Lisa Schreyer are discussing the option to have students hooded by their own advisor. While it's unlikely that this will be implemented for the 2014 hooding ceremony, this may be possible in the future.
- 2014 GSG Elections
 - Unfortunately, there was a low turnout for the Meet the Candidates forum. The new Exec Board and Assembly may want to consider a new and different forum by which students can get to know the candidates for GSG Officer positions.
- Meetings of note
 - At the February Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni (AGPA) meeting, Lizette Taguchi (CPUC rep) and Friederike highlighted the need for a housing solution and briefly mentioned the results of the GSG Childcare Survey.
 - At the most recent Council of the Princeton University Community (CPUC) meeting, the meningitis vaccine was discussed. Some eligible graduate students have received the first dose of the vaccine but did not receive the second dose. **Department reps are asked to spread the word to their departments that two doses of the vaccine are required for protection against meningitis and that make-up times are available for students to receive their immunizations.**
 - At CPUC, Vice President for University Services Chad Klaus presented the exact numbers for graduate students housed over the past 8-10 years. While Provost Dave Lee stated that this would not be a venue for discussing the future of graduate housing, graduate students at the meeting asked several questions touching on this issue.
 - The previous Housing Master Plan was developed in 2004-2007. In 2007, it was decided that the University would own Lakeside, but that ACC would be the developer.
 - At the University Student Life Committee (USLC) March meeting, the Frist Campus Center was discussed. Frist opened in 2000 and has become much more popular than was anticipated. Additionally, Calvin Chin (Director of

Counseling and Psychological Services) discussed the opening of a new wellness outpost in E-Quad. The goal is to reach students who work far from McCosh. He wants to work more closely with academic departments and train allies (faculty, staff, graduate students) so they can recognize signs of the early stages of mental illness.

- At the Graduate Housing Advisory Board (GHAB) February meeting, hardship applications and pre-draw priority applications were reviewed.
 - **Students who were approved for pre-draw retention/priority may not have received their contracts yet, and should not worry.**
 - Graduate Housing expects that there will be a 15-day delay in the opening of Lakeside Apartments due to this year's severe winter weather.
 - **Students moving from Butler or Stanworth to Lakeside can remain in their apartments until their Lakeside unit is available.**
 - **Additionally, students who have a good reason for an extension on their housing contracts can apply for one.**
 - **Students who wish to move out of Butler before the end of their lease can do so and should notify graduate housing. There will not be a fee for early lease termination in these cases.**
 - Room draw has started! The GSG encourages all students interested in on-campus housing to apply even if they believe they have a low chance of receiving housing.
 - The Exec Board has been advocating that there is a need for more pet-friendly graduate housing. There is a possibility that if students with pets cannot be accommodated, one of the Lawrence buildings could be made cat-friendly.
- Progress on the GSG Housing Advocacy Letter
 - A final draft will be sent to assembly and approved by email voting.
- GSG Party
 - The Highbrow/Lowbrow party was a success and featured homemade punches and cocktails. About 350 students attended and there was enough food and drink for everyone.
- GSG Childcare Survey
 - Simon Fuchs (Treasurer) and Friederike met with Lisa Schreyer to discuss the results of the recent GSG Childcare Survey.
 - They discussed changes to the Student Childcare Assistance Program (SCCAP) to address the needs of students with a partner who doesn't work or who works less than 20 hours per week. Dean Schreyer has suggested that increasing SCCAP support could become a Pricom request. However, such a Pricom request would need to be developed soon.
 - SCAAP was the result of a campus-wide taskforce on work-life balance. If we want to change SCAAP, we will also need to coordinate with Human Resources. There is an equivalent program for employees called ECCAP.
 - The University is planning an affordable childcare facility on campus. It is supposed to open in about 4 years. The Executive Board would like for the GSG to be part of the planning process.
 - Dean Schreyer agrees that communication about what is covered by the student health plan could be improved. She will meet with Janet Finney from University Health Services to work on this issue.

- Another issue that was discussed was the long-term need for more family-friendly housing and affordable housing for students with children.
- Communiversity planning
 - **Communiversity will be held April 27 from 1-6 pm**, and graduate students will be involved in the planning for the first time this year.
 - Graduate student volunteers are needed to run booths/tables with fun science games and performers are needed as well.
 - All of the information to sign up to participate in Communiversity is available on the [GSG Facebook page](#).
- Treasurer's Interim Report (for the fiscal year starting in November)
 - Mircea Davidescu (EEB rep): These reports could include a column showing the difference between predicted and actual spending.

Approval of the 2014 GSG Officer Elections

- 562 students voted in the elections
- Quorum was met (218 votes, or 10% of the graduate population)
- The election results are certified by the Assembly in a unanimous voice vote

Committee Chair Elections

- Facilities Chair
 - Serves as the grad student chair of the USLC and invites speakers for that meeting
 - Serves on the GHAB
 - Works closely with Jim Poole and other administrators, including Chad Klaus, Andrew Kane (Executive Director of Housing and Real Estate Services), and Kim Jackson (Director of Parking and Transportation Services).
- Health and Life Chair
 - Attends USLC meetings
 - Attends Healthier Princeton Advisory Board meetings (held twice a year)
 - Works closely with Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS) and UHS; answers student questions about the University Health Plan
- Academic Affairs Chair
 - Advocates for cross-departmental initiatives, and handles issues related to DCE status, funding, stipends, and mentoring programs
 - The Academic Affairs Chair helps to coordinate Graduate Writing Days. He/she is responsible for hiring a manager for Graduate Writing Days and ensuring sufficient funding is available for the program.
- Social Chair
 - Plans smaller events than the Special Events Officer (\$5000 is currently budgeted for these events). The Social Chair also plans the Furniture Drive, monthly GSG Pub Nights, and serves on the Events Board. This past summer, the Social Chair helped to run the Frist Summer Cookout Series.
- One candidate is interested in each position:
 - Facilities: Andrew Edwards
 - Health and Life: Pam Mueller
 - Academic Affairs: Cagin Ararat
 - Social: April Williams
- The candidates are approved by unanimous voice vote of the Assembly.

Summary of the GSG Accomplishments this term: President Funk

A detailed description is available [here](#). President Funk thanks assembly members, Executive Board members, and all other graduate students who helped to make the last year a successful year for the GSG. On behalf of the GSG Executive Board, she wishes the incoming board all the best for the upcoming year.

The meeting is adjourned at 6:36 pm.

