



October 8, 2014
October Assembly Meeting
Jadwin Hall 102
5:56 pm - 7:14 pm

The meeting is called to order by President Sean Edington at 5:56 pm.

Amy Pszczolkowski: Director of Graduate Career Counseling at Career Services

- Amy has been at Princeton for 7 years. For the first time this year, Amy is working full-time with graduate students.
- She offers walk-in appointments from 3-5 pm on Thursdays. No appointment is necessary; students can walk in for a quick question.
- Amy is doing advocacy to try to integrate graduate students into more programming at Career Services (ie. career recruiting at Princeton.)
- The GSG Executive Board partnered with Amy to establish the Graduate Student Career Services Advisory Board.
- This year they rolled out a new platform for non-academic jobs and internships called Hire Tigers. Graduate students can opt-in to Hire Tigers through the University CAS system.
- Amy is initiating programming at the Grad College.
- Amy goes to departments to help students work on professional development. Graduate Committees or Professional Development Committees should get in touch with Amy and she can put together a presentation (ie. a lunch talk). Amy is working with the Psychology, History and Engineering departments currently.
- The University is beginning a strategic planning process right now. One issue to be considered is the future of the Graduate School. Amy will serve on the professional development committee.

Open forum:

- **Raissa von Doetinchem de Rande (REL rep): Would you be willing to help international students find funding for summer travel? Is there a database we can use to look for funding?**
 - Amy: The graduate school (Elaine Wiley) provides this funding.
 - Rachael Barry (Treasurer): Currently the Graduate School is planning to transition how student funding is administered and under the new system it will be easier for students to find funding.
- **Sean Edington (President): Are there any new programs or initiatives that you're thinking of starting up at Career Services?**

- Amy: The Career Life Vision program was piloted last spring. Grad students who took part in the pilot program reported that they found it helpful. Also, the HireTigers meetups will begin to bring in grad alums.
- **Carolann Buff (MUS rep): Some departments have faculty who are really involved in career planning, but my department doesn't have such a thing in place. Is there a way to equalize the playing field? Such as a humanities/division-wide faculty member?**
 - I'm trying to get people to share resources more across divisions and departments.
 - This will come up in the working group as part of the strategic planning process and is something I've been wanting to do for many years.
- **Kyle Keller (PSY): I encourage first year students to come to department workshops. We recently started a professional development committee. Would you be interested in spreading this idea to other departments to help students start a grassroots effort?**
 - Amy: Yes. There's a meeting of all graduate program administrators from every department every month. We're going to talk about student committees in departments. It would be helpful for you to find out if there is a professional development committee in your department and connect them with me.
- Amy: A lot of work I do with grad students is helping them network. I can help connect you to people working in your fields. The University is taking a hard look at the alumni database (TigerNet), which is really old. Our office is lobbying to update this database. We're looking for student feedback on how useful the existing database is.

Simon LeBlanc (PACM rep) motions to approve the Sept 2014 minutes. The motion is seconded by Vasyi Alba (PHY rep) and passes by voice vote.

Discussion of the 2014-2015 GSG Budget: Rachael Barry (Treasurer)

- Our budget for 2013-2014 is not yet finished, so we don't have final numbers yet.
- The majority of our money comes from the Graduate Student Fee, which was raised from \$10 to \$15 last year.
- The amount allocated for the orientation welcome packet and gift has been increased year, just in case the Office of Sustainability can't contribute as much for water bottles next year.
- The Social Chair's budget has increased a good deal, which has allowed us to host pub nights and attend department social hours.
- April Williams (Social Chair): The Summer BBQ will expand from one night/week to two nights/week. One night will be live music and the other will be entertainment that we and the graduate school will pay for.
- The cost of food has increased and so the amount allocated for meeting refreshments has increased.

- The Executive Committee discretionary fund is used when unexpected expenses arise; for instance we used it this year to pay for refreshments for the Lakeside Townhall Meeting and supplies for the GSG tables at Communiversity.
- The infrastructure budget pays for party supplies; things like dollies and string lights.
- The Ivy Summit is a meeting that happens every November. The host rotates every year. This year Rachael has allocated a bit more money for travel since the Summit is at Yale this year. There is a savings account for the Ivy Summit every year; this is costly.
- **Last year, how were infrastructure purchases made?**
 - They were paid for out of the party budgets.
- **Kyle Keller (PSY): I like that we're increasing the monthly food budget. I'd like to see nicer meals when we have senior administrators coming to Assembly.**
- **Kyle: Are you still thinking of buying a speaker system?**
 - Mike Helper (Special Events Officer): Nick Robinson at Frist lends us speakers for parties, so we don't need to purchase our own.
- Sean: We have a mysterious endowment income. Maybe we should set aside a small amount of money every year to place in this fund?
- **What happens to the leftover money each year?**
 - It gets passed into the next year's budget

Discussion and approval of Butler/Stanworth petition via gsg-global

- This is not something that the GSG Executive Committee wrote. The Exec Committee fact-checked the document for the authors. They requested that we distribute the document via gsg-global to reach a larger audience. Because this wasn't a GSG-sponsored event, we thought we should ask Assembly for approval.
 - **Carolann Buff (MUS rep): This is just to distribute this petition?**
 - Sean: The authors don't have access to any email mailing list.
- **What purpose does this petition serve?**
 - Andrew: They're gathering signatures. It's a grassroots effort.
 - Sean: Many concerns they raise are the same as in the official GSG Housing Letter. This was written independently, but they have many of the same concerns.
- **Carolann Buff (MUS rep): Is this going to have a disclaimer such as - this is not endorsed by the GSG?**
 - Sean: Yes
- **Why is this going to all grad students instead of just those who live in Butler or Stanworth?**
 - Tom Morrell (Communications Director): We don't have access to those mailing lists
 - Sean: There may be students who don't live in Butler or Stanworth but who care about this.
- **Yuan Shi (PPL): How many department reps have approved this so far?**
 - Tom: 15 approvals, 3 abstentions

- Harry Kresja (WWS rep) motions to approve distribution of the petition via gsg-global. Yuan Shi (PPL rep) seconds the motion. The motion passes by a show of hands.

Discussion and Approval of October 2014 Statement and Update on Lakeside Delays

- University administrators were interested in concerns brought up at our Town Hall Meeting two weeks ago.
- **Who will serve on the hardship committee?**
 - The hardship committee is a new idea and it has not yet been determined how it will work.
- **Is the University going to continue to provide us updates after October 19th?**
 - Yes; they will send updates each month; however, they haven't told us what information will be provided. They say they will provide unit assignments on October 19th. (Secretary's note: due to further delays, unit assignments were not provided on October 19th).
- The University response sections have been confirmed by administrators.
- **Kay McGown (CLA rep): So there will be two committees - a hardship finance committee (if funds are available) and a second committee to deal with changes to the move dates.**
 - Yes
- **Can we also request moving assistance to students who are moving from places other than Butler or Stanworth?**
 - Yes. Simon LeBlanc (PACM rep) motions to approve the addition of this text to the document. The motion is seconded by Yuan Shi (PPL) and approved by voice vote.
- Joshua Wallace (AST rep) motions to approve the Statement. The motion is seconded by Vasyl Alba (PHY rep) and passes by voice vote.

Executive Committee Report:

- **Task force on the Future of the Graduate School**
 - Sean is on the task force, along with 3 other graduate students
 - The task force has broken up into subcommittees and these subcommittees will decide what kind of data they need to collect.
 - Members of this task force will hold town hall meetings for the purpose of getting feedback from graduate students. This will be very important because it will shape how the graduate school will evolve over the next decade. Please feel free to contact Sean with any suggestions for things that need to be addressed.
 - The Strategic Planning Website is available [here](#).
- **Appointments to the Faculty-Student Committee on Sexual Misconduct**
 - Issues of how to best handle sexual misconduct need to be treated very carefully. To that end, a faculty-student committee on sexual misconduct is being formed. It will have faculty, undergrads, and graduate student members. The Office of the Provost asked us to provide a list of qualified candidates. The

GSG Executive Board sent out a call for interested candidates, interviewed them, and provided the Office of the Provost with a list of approved candidates.

Open Forum:

- **I wanted to bring up the restructuring of the Office of Academic Affairs and Diversity.**
 - Sean: I was contacted by a number of students concerned about this issue. They want to hold off on getting the GSG involved in a more public manner. We're looking into how to support them going forward.
 - Andrew Edwards (Facilities Chair): We're thinking of discussing this at the December USLC meeting. (Secretary's note: This is now definitely on the December USLC meeting agenda).

Simon LeBlanc (PACM REP) motions to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm. Vasyl Alba (PHY rep) seconds the motion, and the meeting is adjourned.