



AGENDA

GSG Assembly Meeting

October 14, 2015 5:45pm

Joseph Henry Room, Jadwin Hall, Princeton University

The meeting is called to order at 6:07 PM.

Joshua Wallace (Astrophysics Rep) motions to approve the September Assembly Meeting Minutes. Michelle Frazer (AOS Rep) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

Budget presentation - Mike Hepler, GSG Treasurer

- \$8000 of expenditures are yet to be allocated for the final budget, mostly from wine and cheese. There is a \$4000 surplus for the year.
 - Main reason for the surplus: special events stayed under budget. We have purchased some items that we would typically rent for parties, e.g., speakers for music. We have also had a surplus of supplies that carried over from one party to another.
 - Last year we upped the budget for water bottles in case the Office of Sustainability would not be able to help out again this year. However, this year we only needed \$1500 (had a surplus of \$500).
- The proposed budget: The only thing changing from last year is to add \$800 for interdepartmental outreach. This would be for GSG mixers where we purchase food or alcohol for a happy hour for a department with the hope to later put on happy hours for multiple departments.
- The graduate student fee has increased to \$16.00. It was increased along with the increase in student stipends, as per the GSG constitution. To do this the fee would increase to \$15.96, and we decided to round up to an even \$16.00 since last year we rounded down.
- Michelle (AOS): What will happen to the leftover money (projected surplus of \$4000)?
 - Mike: We propose to take half of the money and put it into GSG Endowment fund. It currently gives us \$400 per semester. We hope to grow it so that eventually we can create a travel grant or something along those lines.
 - Mircea (VP): Clarification: The treasurer will make a recommendation that half of the remaining funds will go into the endowment, but the Assembly can have a discussion and vote on what to do with the money.
- Elise: What about the other half?

- It would roll over to the budget - already included in the budget (\$2000 left over from last year)
- Yuan Shi (Plasma Rep): How will the \$800 be used for interdepartmental happy hours? Some departments already have happy hours.
 - Mike: We have put on some social hours already, so the money would potentially be for inter departmental happy hours where we bring together different departments.
 - Mircea: The fund would be more to bring departments together. Last year we funded an interdepartmental happy hour between the smaller language departments that didn't already have a happy hour. Those are the sort of events we would be bracing for.
- Yuan: Would the announcement be sent to all graduate students?
 - It would be sent to the students in that department, and we would try to go around to all departments
 - If representatives are interested, they could come to us and help us organize it.
 - Tori: We could send an invite email to all assembly members not just exec.
- Daniel Viteck (Academic Affairs Chair) moves to approve the budget, Michelle Frazer (AOS) seconds. budget passes unanimously.

New funding engine (SAFE)- Mike Hepler, GSG Treasurer

- Sign in with a student ID and the funding opportunities will be listed there.
- Dean Lily Secora: If you are a student group and sign into SAFE, you want to sign in with your group user ID and will be given the group funding options. If you sign in using your individual student ID you will get the individual funding opportunities.

Lawrence smoking ban via Graduate Housing Advisory Board - Julia Wittes, Facilities Chair

- Currently indoor smoking is banned everywhere on campus, but is permitted in the low rises and new Lawrence
- Some residents have complained that when other residents smoke in their units in the low rises, the smoke can get into community spaces and then into other apartments
- The worry is that a lot of families have moved in and the smoking be of a serious concern for children who are especially at risk for second hand smoke.
- The Lawrence committee met last night and asked smokers to attend and get their feedback on this issue. The committee is also sending out a poll to see what the community thinks. So far everyone has been in favor, but GHAB wanted us to bring it up here to get any feedback
 - Assembly does not get to vote, this is a decision that will be made by the people that are higher up. This is just a forum to get feedback.
- We open it up for discussions:
 - The proposed changes will not affect the current contracts, but will go into effect

- in the next round of contracts
- Is there evidence that the smoke gets to the upper floors?
 - The smell of tobacco gets into the other apartments
- Are there people that move into a smoker's units and complained? Has this been an issue?
 - They may have procedures for how to clean the apartments
- Have there been health issues with the small children?
 - If there were serious issues, this would have been changed a long time ago
- There are a lot of regulations: having pets, banning hanging things on the walls, why would smoking be different?
 - It is also banned all over campus. If I had kids, I wouldn't want them to have any sort of risk of second hand smoke
 - There exists remediation procedures for smoke, which costs money. So smokers are incurring a cost on the university.
- Would the smoking ban lower the rent?
 - Probably not.
- Graduate Housing Advisory Board (GHAB) is made up of half students, half administrators to discuss changes in housing policy and other housing related issues. It gives students the ability to give input. It is their decision, but they consider strongly on the feedback from the community
- Feedback needs to be given soon since the new contracts need to be drawn up soon. This decision needs to be made in the next month. If you have opinions or have friends that have opinions Julia can forward them onto the Housing Advisory Board or better yet, email the Lawrence committee.
- So far in the poll done by the Lawrence Housing Committee: 88% in favor of banning (only 5 smokers voted - 3 are in favor of the ban)
- What are the rules for Lakeside? How far away from the buildings do people have to be?
 - Smokers need to be 25 feet away from the buildings. You can ask them to move.

Surveying Amendment - Mircea Davidescu, GSG Vice President

- We have an amendment on how the GSG does surveying of the student body. We have not have anything in the past that helps us guide surveying or information gathering, so we have acted ad-hoc and sometimes consulting with Assembly.
- This amendment was brought up at the last GSG Meeting, and the concern was that it would take a three months to be able to hold a survey for innocuous questions that may not be that controversial. The recent change allows the GSG executive committee to go directly to the Assembly (via email) with a proposed survey, and if there are no

objections from assembly, then the GSG committee can send it out.

- Another brief change in Section 1.3, change move to step 7 to 6.
- If the survey is not as innocuous is there a way to protect people's privacy
- There is a clause (4.1) that if there is identifiable data it has to have a disclaimer and Assembly must approve it.
- Michelle (AOS): Would it hurt include who and how the results will be distributed in the draft of the survey in Clause 4?
 - That is a good idea. The wording was changed.
- A motion to approve this amendment with the edts was give by Michelle Fraser (AOS), Josh Wallace (Astro) seconds, and the amendment is approved unanimously.

Executive Committee Summary

- Lakeside Housing Committee
- CPUC meeting
- Wine and Cheese Night - Mike Hepler, GSG Treasurer
 - Very successful event! 685 people attended.
 - We saw a jump in postdoc participation. Last year we made it explicit that postdocs have been invited. We have 50 attend this year compared to a very small amount last year.
 - Suggestion: if you are a representative and are sending notes to your department include that you must bring an ID that includes your date of birth.
 - Is there a postdoc email address to send invites to?
 - There is an informal postdoc email list, to which we have sent the party emails
 - We were able to get in contact with the Chemistry department and send an email to their postdocs
 - If you want to know the informal postdoc list, then send an email to GSG and we can give it to you
 - In the future, we can try to contact someone in the office of the Dean of the Faculty who should have a list of postdocs (Lisa Scalice)

Graduate student jackets - Daniel Viteck, Education Chair

- The response of the survey was mainly "yes"; people want the jackets (450 total responses, more than our last GSG election)
 - Just over 300 said yes, 33 people said they liked the current APGA blazer
 - There were three options: have a grad student jacket that has the same "cut" as the senior jackets (we would save some money), have a different cut (this is not something that we could put together for next year), or not have jackets
- We are going to go forward with jackets, having the same cut as seniors.

- The price point is \$45-\$50
- The next step is to determine the style of the jacket
- How will determine the sizes?
 - We will have a fitting to allow people to select their sizes
 - We can also try to offer up information on how to size yourself
- Ella Cheng (USG Rep): Have you contacted anyone from commencement committee?
- Will the grad student design change from year to year?
 - We want to make them year-agnostic, but we are still in the process to figure out how this would work going forward in the future
- Contact Daniel with any questions or concerns

Open forum (your ideas for future policy, initiatives, guest speakers, feedback, ...)

- Some students have expressed concerns about the Lakeside bus system
 - If the bus is too full after Lawrence (8:45am) (9:45am), it won't stop at Lakeside
 - It might be good to have a bus that starts at Lakeside.
 - If it is a possible issue now, it will definitely be an issue in the winter.
- Is there anyway to get a second microwave at Frist?
 - We can contact someone about this.
- Are you aware that Lakeside hasn't gotten any electric bills?
 - Julia, Genna, Akshay have all been meeting with some concerned students, the housing office and management at Lakeside. The bills have been suspended until things have been figure out

Yuan Shi (Plasma Rep) motions to adjourn the meeting. Joshua Wallace (Astro Rep) seconded. The meeting adjourns at 7:00 PM.

Next meeting: November 14, 2015 5:45pm