



## MINUTES

GSG Assembly Meeting

**January 13th, 2016 5:45pm**

Joseph Henry Room, Jadwin Hall, Princeton University

The meeting is called to order at 5:59 PM.

Daniel Vitek (Academic Affairs Chair) motions to approve the December Assembly Meeting Minutes. Michelle Frazer (AOM Rep) seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

### Dale Trevino, Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion

- Staff are new to positions and new to Princeton
- Julie Yun - working with Dale since November in the Graduate School
  - Prior, she worked in institutions for higher ed, doing work on support services
  - She was doing multicultural work at University of CO.
  - Most recently director of a counseling center in MA
- Venus Israni - is a Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator that started in October
  - Last position at Harvard doing diversity and inclusion
- What is happening at the graduate school level?
- They have been meeting with graduate student leaders on campus to discuss the history on campus. Determine what can be done to shape the graduate school going forward.
- One of the main issues right now is admissions
  - Meet with each of the 42 departments and talk about their graduate student admissions.
- How to bring students here? Looking at the hosting weekend.
  - Many department hold specific host weekends, but they are looking doing a large University-wide one
- Are we offering programming and opportunities for Diversity and Inclusions events (from the Graduate School)?
  - Grad School is there to support events, but there is probably not enough support from the graduate school in engaging students.
  - Interested in holding more discussion events and opportunities to engage
- What does D&I mean for us on a personal level?
  - Providing offerings for people to talk about their own personal actions
  - How can we support each other with our difference (ally work)?

- If anyone has ideas and wants to partner with the office, the D&I office is interested in working closely with students and student groups
- Everyone in the community has to craft the environment together
- Trying to develop the programming at orientation so students get the most out of it.
  - How do we introduce D&I discussions, as they can sometimes be difficult to talk about
- Doors are open at the Graduate School located in Clio Hall
- Questions:
  - Sophie Moullin (Joint Degree Program Rep): What about diversity and Inclusion in the classroom? Dealing with diverse students from different backgrounds and different learning styles?
    - One of the first departments that reached out to the D&I office was the McGraw Teaching Center
    - Julie is on the committee with the McGraw center that focuses on that
    - The skillsets that you need to work with diverse students is not something that you will get a course on or that you learn in most programs
  - Yaritza Perez-Hooks (Psychology Rep): When is the best time to visit?
    - Email them and they will make time
  - Are you in contact with the student activists demonstrating at Nassau Hall?
    - Yes. They have had contact with them.
    - Other groups at the Assembly meeting have also met with those students.
    - Some students have reached out and are now on the search committee for new position in Student Life
  - Mircea (VP): I didn't find out about many of the offices around campus during orientation, but found out about them as I needed. There seems to be poor advertising for offices during orientation.
    - There are many students that don't know what the office is about and what they do, but they are trying to make it more transparent.
    - Orientation is one of those things where departments make sure they load with as much information as possible. It is so much information that they are hoping to design a way to shift the orientation so it isn't so much all at once, or staggered at times when it is more relevant.
- Since there was an absence in these positions for 8 months, the website and office is under construction, but they are interested in getting ideas on how to make it engaging and useful to students.

### Communiversy announcement

- Mike Hepler (Treasurer): In the last couple years, graduate students are starting to get more involved in Communiversy (Sunday, April 17th 1-4pm)
  - One of the big community outreach events that happens during the year
  - In the past, they have built science experiments for kids and for adults
  - If anyone has ideas for fun demos, or if you have a student group that wants to do a performance or do a presentation, talk to Mike (mhepler@princeton.edu).
- Elise Myers (LGSA Rep): It is for the greater Princeton community?
  - Mike: Yes. Everyone and their kids comes and see what's happening at the University
  - Tori (Communications Chair): There are a lot of food stands and musical groups.

### Approval of candidate statements (10 minutes)

- There are 5 candidates running for the elected positions. The pictures and statements are all appropriate.
  - Michelle Frazer (AOM Rep) motions to approve, Elise Myers (LGSA Rep) seconds, unanimous approval.
- Candidates are: 2 for President, 2 for treasurers, 1 for special events officers
- Unfilled Position: Vice President, Secretary, and Communications director.
  - At the March assembly meeting, we will fill the unfilled elected positions similar to how we fill the chair positions. You can show up the day of and we will have a vote. If you want to run and be more organized you can email gselect@princeton.edu and it will be sent out in a global email.
  - If you are interested in running and want housing priority, let Julia know ASAP, as they have to let the housing office know.
  - Chair positions:
    - Academic Affairs Chair
    - Facilities and Transportation Chair
    - Health and Life Chair
    - Social Chair

### Formation of the Princeton Graduate Housing Project (5 minutes)

- Akil (Lakeside Delegate): The Princeton Graduate Housing Project would be a way to gather information about the current housing situation and report it administrators
- There are 4 parts of the project:
  - Meet with Jim Poole talk about current housing
  - Look into housing at similar institutions
  - Hold a survey to gauge the current housing situation and how satisfied graduate students are with it

- Write a report with the findings and present it to the graduate school and administration
- Looking for 5-6 people to meet once a week for an hour (maybe two)
- Hope to get survey out before the housing draw. They want to get the survey approved by GSG Assembly at the next meeting.
- If you are interested or have questions, email or talk to Akil (aword@princeton.edu)
- For the surveying, we need to approve the formation of the committee and they can get to their business and present
  - Core Volunteers: Akshay Mehra, Elise Myers, Liz Davison, Genna Gliner, Julia Wittes, Will Smith, Elspeth Green, Akil Word-Daniels
  - Daniel Vitek (Academic Affairs Chair) motions to approve, Vivian Change (WWS) seconds, unanimous approval

#### Executive Committee Summary (5 minutes)

- WWS-History Departmental Mixer will be tomorrow
  - We have a total of \$800 in a fund to support departments that don't have happy hours to encourage social gathering, in particular to have departments team up and share a social gathering. With this fund we are hoping to help support at least 4-5 happy hours.
  - If you have a small department and would like to have a happy hour/mixer, it would be good to have the proposals at least three weeks before the proposed mixer.
  - Email: gsg@princeton.edu
- GSG Winter Social February 19th at 8 PM in Campus Club
  - The last social broke a lot of attendance records, so keep advertising
  - Email Liz if you are interested in getting involved: end@princeton.edu
- GSG Pub Night at the DBar - Meet the Candidates
  - The five candidates will be there to answer questions
  - If you are interested in learning more about positions
  - Momon's food
- Princeton Timeline Announcement
  - There are lots of calendars on campus for all the events
  - They have created an electronic system to put all of the calendars together (Class schedule, UHS appointments, Grad School Calendar).
  - They are running a beta test and we wanted to get the GSG involved
    - Everyone will be added, if you want to opt out, email Mircea

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

- Mircea: The GSG was emailed by an organization called Womensphere Emerging Leaders who pair up with different organizations
  - Many of our peer organizations are involved in it
  - Something that was brought up was that we didn't have a lot of stuff on Diversity and Inclusion, so this may help support events for women in science

Will Smith (Astro Rep) motions to adjourn the meeting. Elise Myers (LGSA Rep) seconded. The meeting adjourns at 6:50PM.

**Next meeting:** March 9th, 2016 5:45pm