



GSG Assembly Meeting
Jadwin 102
February 13, 2019, 5:45pm

Meeting called to order 5:50pm

Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Motion to approve last month's meeting minutes passes by unanimity.

RESOLVED: Last month's meeting minutes approved.

Events board - Graduate Improv group presentation

- The graduate improv comedy group would like to hire an instructor for the spring semester
- In previous semesters, the group's expenses were covered by personal contributions from 2 members of the group, but they would like get events board funding for this spring
- It is capped at 16 people because it is hard to learn improv in larger groups

Concerns about referendum:

- One of the requirements of the Events Board is that it has to be open to the whole student body. How do you select the participants?
 - They are more than happy to make the membership random instead of FCFS if that's necessary
- Where do you hold the classes?
 - In the second floor room in Green Hall that used to be the GSG space
- Did you ever think about holding it in the GC?
 - Yes, they held a few events over the summer with the GC. They would like to have GSG/Events Board funding for the semester and then GC funding for the summer
- So will they be professionally led or student led?
 - Both, there will be 2 meetings a week, one led by the professional and one led by the students
- Could you half the session length and therefore you could have 32 people take the classes?

- Yes, they are willing to do this to give more people the chance to be involved
- What does the Events Board budget look like for this year?
 - Emily will give a whole presentation later
- Have you tried to find other funding sources besides Events Board
 - They considered this last semester, but the Events Board is the best funding sources for this type of group
- What was the arrangement for members to give a deposit?
 - Members gave \$50 at the beginning and got the deposit back at the end of the sessions if they attended them all

Events Board Report:

- Budget is \$21,000 for this year. Allocated 31% of the budget so far
- Of the \$6500 allocated, \$5500 has been spent, the rest is because the even hasn't been held yet or some events were underspent
- The Improv group came to Events Board a few weeks ago to present
- The Events Board recommends that they get funded at \$500 (instead of the \$1450) because there are only 16 students involved.
- Events Board thinks that they should have some of the students in the group help contribute and also reach out to the GC again for additional funding.
- Question: Does the majority of the Events Board budget come from student fees.
 - No, about \$10,000 (slightly less than half) comes from the GSG (and therefore from student fees)
- Question: can we put criteria on the event (e.g. ask that they open the program to 32 students instead of 16)
 - Comment: If we do, we should make sure that all the slots still get used even if they can't find 32 people
- We should encourage them to advertise the show more, which would increase participation
- Nicole: Most of the groups funded by the events board are smaller
- Perhaps we should leave it up to the group to decide how to split the sessions because theater groups often benefit from more
- Do groups normally ask for money twice a year?
 - Typically yes
- Options:
 - Fund at full \$1450
 - Fund at \$950, then they can get the rest from GCHC
 - Fund at \$750, then they can get \$550 from GCHC and the remaining money from ticket sales

- Fund at \$550 as recommended by Events Board

Motion to recommend that the group conduct two 4-week sessions to maximize the number of people who can attend

RESOLVED: Motion FAILS (7 yes, 11 no, 2 abstain)

Motion to recommend that the Improv Club select participants at random from those who express interest

RESOLVED: Motion PASSES (15 yes, 2 no, 3 abstain)

Motion to fund the Graduate Improv Group at \$950 from Events Board budget.

RESOLVED: Motion FAILS (yes 2, 18 no, 1 abstain)

Motion to fund the Graduate Improv Group at \$750 from Events Board budget.

RESOLVED: Motion PASSES (many yes, 2 no, 1 abstain)

Princeton Women in STEM Leadership Council Report

- The Princeton Women in STEM Leadership Council is conducting data collection about representativeness, harassment, microaggressions, and other issues surrounding women and LGBTQ individuals in STEM departments
- This data indicates improvements that should be made by the Graduate School, academic departments, and other offices
- The GSG can reach out to students to get them to request that their departments mandate trainings
- The data collection initiatives should also be raised at the Ivy+ Summit fall to encourage similar actions at peer schools

Temperatures in Lawrence Apartments

- There are legal temperature minimums for apartments without temperature controls in NJ
- There has been a longstanding issue in Lawrence where the temperatures are too cold
- The GSG is now collecting data about the temperatures in Lawrence
- Lawrence Rep: Mike Hebditch asks that people who have this issue fill out an online request form on the facilities portal (you can CC the GSG so we get a copy too)
 - Also residents can still get the plastic window sealing for free from housing
- The problem now is that people who have the thermometers aren't actually recording the temperatures - this data is necessary for things to change

GSG Endowment update

- The GSG has \$17,000 in the endowment before our contribution last year
- We get 5.1% of the return back for spending each year

Election Update

- No questions have been submitted for the candidates yet
- Representatives should reach out to their constituents and ask them to read the candidate statements, submit questions, and vote at the end of the month
- This is one of the most contested elections in recent years
- No “Meet the Candidates” event this year

Questions:

- Is there a template of list of links that should definitely be included
 - A link to the statements and the questions for candidates document
- What about gift cards or something to increase voter turnout?
 - This could be a problem

Xiyue Wang Day of Action

- Day of action will occur next week on behalf of Xiyue Wang (Feb 20)
 - Call-a-thon and writing representatives in Campus Club library followed by a rally at 5p

Open Forum

- If you're an AI and have been approved, but the class gets cut or the precepts get cut, your department can say that you haven't fulfilled your teaching requirement
 - This can lead to excessive teaching requirements in successive semesters
 - Want to work with the graduate school to prevent this from happening
 - Mai: Cole and others in the grad school would be interested in this
- With the new graduate housing development being planned, is there a version of the graduate housing project that's currently active?
 - Yes, there are also students on the lake campus planning committee
- Issues about due process for Ph.D. student termination in Comp Lit Dept
 - Mai: the student should speak with Nicole or other admin from the Graduate School

- It seems like the housing survey might “sleepwalk” students into higher rents
 - Karina: The grad student reps tried to have the wording changed, but to little avail
 - Jonathan (COS Rep): In the Lakeside process, there was a survey that was used to justify the higher rents
 - A lot of people don’t like ACC, but the decision has been made to contract with an external
 - Maybe the University should get involved at the level of how much it’s responsible for people to spend per month on rent
 - The responses to the housing survey will dictate the direction of the Lake Campus
 - Could we have more time to complete the survey?
 - The committee is pressed for time to complete the drawings, so the survey will probably only go through this week.
 - Everyone should encourage their departments to fill out the survey

- When are GSG reps updated on the website?
 - When anyone emails Karina

Meeting Conclusion

Motion to close meeting passes.

RESOLVED: Meeting closed at 7:22

Next meeting: March 13, 2019 5:45pm