



GSG Assembly Meeting
Aaron Burr 219
December 11, 2019 6:00pm

Meeting called to order 6:00 PM

Approval of previous meeting's minutes

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

RESOLVED: Last month's meeting minutes were approved.

Discretionary Spending Report

- \$31.98 on shipping to return ice maker.

Call for Volunteers

- Election Committee
 - Oversees and runs the GSG election in February
 - Need five volunteers
 - Can't be running in the election
 - One will be chosen as chair
 - Will follow guidelines from previous years and distribute emails
 - Q: Can there be free food for the committee?
 - Yes
 - Q: When will committee meet?
 - First meeting immediately after assembly approves the committee
 - Further meetings will be controlled by committee itself
 - Five committee members volunteered
 - Motion to approve these five committee members passes
 - In favor: 9
 - Opposed: 0
- Wine and Cheese
 - Need ID checkers for entire duration of events
 - Talk to Gabe if interested

Logo Competition

- Following the process that many departments use for T-shirts, GSG is posting a \$100 prize from discretionary funding
- Deadline for the contest is in January, and a vote will be held in February
- If there are a small number of entries, will bring them all to assembly. If there are a large number, the executive board will preselect and bring to assembly
- Q: Why are we spending money on this instead of on something more tangible for graduate students?
 - The money is critical to getting serious engagement for the competition
 - The final logo will turn into something tangible as it will show up on all items we distribute
 - A main goal for GSG at the moment is to increase branding since students are often unaware of what we do and what resources we make available to them
- Q: What does the graduate student body at large think about the logo?
 - The issue about difficulty in branding with the current logo has come up from the student body many times in the past

Garden Theater Movies

- Collaboration with the Garden Theater
- In the spring, we will hold monthly theater nights where grad students can go for free to a movie that is picked and paid for by the GSG.
- We will have to decide on movie/night selection.
 - Will likely choose Wednesday because there is a Thursday happy hour overlap, and Friday is already booked by undergrads.
- Will be polling assembly for suggestions and movies
- This fits in as a part of our general goal of community building, especially with a focus on students who do not come to other events or are interested in something non-alcohol centric.
- Q: Are undergrad events well attended?
 - The line always spans to Panera.
- Q: What would be the time frame for the movies?
 - We would select a regular screening, shooting for 7-8pm perhaps?
- Q: Will happy hours continue Thursdays next semester? Some people can never make thursdays
 - We were avoiding other departmental happy hours on Fridays
 - We have to choose between the consistency of having it on the same day vs.

flexibility, but a less clear calendar to graduate students

Campus Recreation

- Hasan, a university administrative fellow working with campus recreating is aiming to make campus recreation better for grad students.
- First, he wants to get a sense of what graduate students really want and has therefore prepared a survey which was distributed to assembly.
- Questions/comments about survey and campus rec from assembly
 - Many of the intramural clubs are pretty late (10pm?)
 - GSG has been looking for an intramural coordinator for a while now, happy to contribute to that from GSG
 - Currently teams have to pay for every game you forfeit. Seek to alleviate this by forming a “graduate school” team (mirroring eating clubs/residential colleges)
 - Q: Students can only currently be on one team. E.G. you can’t be on your department team if you’re coordinating.
 - A: Coordinates would have special privileges to get around this
 - It is frustrating to show up against another team that forfeits
 - The structure is currently based on eating clubs which have no problem paying for forfeited games
 - For survey, split out inapplicable vs indifferent
 - More questions about evaluating each facility, e.g. dillon gym is small and crowded and students go for outside memberships.
 - Write-in boxes are never filled out
 - Questions about suitable times for different activities in the eyes of grad students
 - What is campus rec willing to actually do? E.g. programming at different places/times? Examples of these would make it easier for people to respond.
 - Clarity on what “programming” means - e.g. unclear that this also meant going to Stephens fitness center
 - hhameed@princeton.edu for more suggestions
- GSG has bylaws in place about how we can send out surveys. This survey is going out through University Administrative Fellowship, not GSG, and thus will not have to go through any special process. We will be happy to advertise.

Sustainability Update - follow up from previous breakout sessions

- Following through with bring-your-own cup to happy hour program
 - May be purchasing cups with new logo

- Considering piloting program with any student brought cup
- Considering structuring as one drink ticket without cup, three with cup
- Still working on move-out sustainability options
- The Farmers market is looking to give discounts to grad students
 - Want to use these funds for \$5 off coupons for grad students
 - Considering buying totes for grad students (maybe first 200 to purchase?)
- Signage by garbage cans - spoke to eco reps and looking to start something in the spring
- Q: Are the coupons and canvas bags only for on campus farmers market?
 - Yes

Assembly Breakout Sessions (GSG Volunteer Engagement)

- Currently have two tiers of volunteers
 - Assembly members - unpaid volunteers
 - Exec board - priority housing
- May need a third level in between
 - What type of programs and positions might get people interested in working with GSG?
 - What kind of compensation (in broad terms) may help get people interested?
 - Examples of positions we see as potentially useful: intramural sports coordinator, weekly happy hour coordinator

Ideas from Assembly

- Make a new executive position - shift responsibility around until everyone has enough work
- When students first come in, it is unclear what they can even work on. Perhaps implementing a shadowing program for current students
- Could this position ultimately gain housing priority? For example, the Graduate College social hour hosts (1 hour a week, not much work) already gain housing priority
- It is currently difficult to put a face to GSG emails asking for volunteers. Students are more likely to volunteer when we know the person. Maybe have department reps be the one asking for volunteers.
 - Ask around how assembly reps communicate with their departments and make a common way to make that communication more effective.
- Raising the bar of expectations of GSG assembly members
 - For example, what if assembly members were expected to volunteer at two events per year,
 - Perhaps even spread those hours out along the department.
- At the next happy hours, put up a place where students can post dream ideas - maybe vote

on it?

- Use the university administrative fellowship as a way to compensate students with a clear resume building opportunity
- Parking spot on campus?

Open Forum

- For those concerned about how leaves of absences have been handled, there is a meeting coming up. Contact Rachel Richmon if you're interested.
- Last wednesday, there was a sporting event at Denunno pool. The event blocked lot 20/21, which are reserved for grad students. Similar events often block out students or require payment for parking. Also, there is no pedestrian walkway up from lot 21.
- Currently, the University essentially pays itself money back from our stipend through rent. Why?
 - This is a long conversation that we can discuss in depth at another assembly meeting if there is more interest.

Meeting Conclusion

Motion to close meeting passes.

RESOLVED: Meeting closed at 7:10

Next meeting: January 8, 2020 6:00pm