GPSG Assembly Board Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2015
University of Pittsburgh 5604 Posvar Hall

Meeting Summary:

- Graduate and Professional Student Survey
- Seeking to fill graduate student representative positions in Strategic Planning Working Groups

Attendance:

GPSG Executive Board Officers:

- Joe Kozak
- LaTriece Holland
- Greg Logan
- Tim Folts
- Michele Ingari Marcks

GPSG Assembly Board Members:

- Arts & Sciences 1
- Arts & Sciences 2
- Arts & Sciences 3
- Biomedical
- Dental Medicine
- Engineering
- GSPIA
- Health & Rehab Science
- Katz (Part Time)
- Katz (Full Time)
- Law
- Nursing (DNSO)
- Pharmacy PharmD
- Pharmacy PhD
- Social Work
- ANKUR
- CSSA
- GOSECA
- PANAF
- Persian Panthers
- TASA

Others in Attendance:

- Christina Mazur
- Jonathan Livingston

Absent:

- Education
- Medicine
- Nursing (GNSO)
- Public Health
- School of Information Sciences
1. Call to Order

President Kozak called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve October 2015 minutes. Minutes approved.

3. Old Business

4. Reports

4a. President’s Report

- Graduate and Professional Student Survey- please encourage students to take survey. It is still open. We have about 500 students who have taken the survey. Survey is anonymous.
- President Kozak reported to Faculty Senate- Article in Pitt Times “Senate to Address Grad Student Issues” (November 12, 2015)
- Emily Roberts Financial Talk co-sponsored by GPSG on November 3, 2015 was successful
- Joe has taken benchmarking trips to Boston University, MIT, Boston College, Michigan State. Comments from the trip so far: they have more staff support.
- Graduate student representation holes- Strategic Planning Working Groups. There are 7 Working Groups, including:
  o Building Foundational Strength
  o Educational Excellence
  o Embrace Diversity and Inclusion
  o Engage in Research of Impact
  o Strengthen Communities Pitt Community
  o Strengthen Communities: Regional Community
  o Strengthen Communities: Global Community

  President Kozak requesting for Assembly Board members to fill these positions
- Opening a call for VP of Programming Position for the Spring Term. Please share with your schools and groups. You must submit an intent to run by December 2, 2015 at 11:59 pm.

4b. Committees’ Report

There are still three positions open on other committees:
- Benefits and Welfare
- Computer Usage
- Library

Welcome Back in for the Spring event in the works.
PACWC PACWC seeks to encourage, support, and raise the visibility of research by and involving women faculty, staff, and students at the University of Pittsburgh. PACWC is looking to promote the research of women done at the University on their website. [http://www.provost.pitt.edu/pacwc/scholars.html](http://www.provost.pitt.edu/pacwc/scholars.html) Please contact gpsg@pitt.edu if you would like to be featured.

4c. Communications’ Report

Bulletin Issue have been addressed
Glitch on google groups addressed
GPSG website – google groups trouble shooting website
-if you are not receiving please contact Greg and he will ensure you receive
March 26, 2015 TedEx Event
   Theme-Move! (Transportation, Political Movement, Physical Movement,)
Ideas for speakers welcome!
Please contact communications@gpsg@pitt.edu

4d. Finance’s Report

VP of Finance attended. Senate Budget Planning Committee- setting next year’s budget-example tuition
Travel Grant applications have increased. There were 24 applications and all of the money was disbursed this cycle.

4e. Programming’s Report

Mockingjay Thursday, November 19, 2015- event sold out
Formal this Friday November 20,2015
End of Semester December 11, 2015 Kick Back and Give Back WPU Lower Lounge

4f. Administrative Assistant’s Report

There was an uptick in Travel Grant applications. Please to continue to promote this.

It’s time to start thinking about Elections 2016! If you are interested in making a difference at Pitt, please consider running as a candidate.

4g. Assembly Board Member Reports

**Arts and Science**
Big Brother Big Sister Mentor Event occurred and was successful in garnering interest.
Climate Study in Mentoring Relationship ongoing
Setting up a panel for students to voice to concerns

**Biomedical**
Biggest professional event of the year occurred.
BGSA Research Symposium For Students By Students happened on Nov 4, 2015 in the University Club
100 posters, 7 Student Speakers, Faculty Gave Awards

**Dental Medicine**
Clothing Sale Fund Raising kicked off
Dental Screening is available to students. Please contact Dental school to make an appt.

**Engineering**
Coffee Hour occurred this past month and was not well attended. Trying to work on another one.
Financial Talk with Emily Roberts was well-attended.
Emily Roberts – information available on her website. http://www.gradstudentfinances.org

**GSPIA**
Elections for New Board took place and new board will take over in Spring.
Carnegie Museum of Art Hackathon Data Run occurred on Nov 13-15. GSPIA team won!

**Katz Full Time**
Food Drive for Refugees in Pittsburgh month of November.
Project Bundle Up- Buying warm clothes for children in need is philanthropic project for December.

**Katz Part Time**
Trying to get alumni more involved with current students, working on different methods such as sitting in on board meetings
End of Semester party on the South Side occurring in December- wear ugly sweater!
A Katz Student donated part of his liver to his mother- posting a gofundme to help defray costs.

**Law**
PLISF- Food Drive- Competition Among 1st Years
Health Law Clinic The Health Law Clinic provides hands-on lawyering opportunities to students under the guidance of a practicing attorney. It serves low-income individuals with health-related legal problems, including ones that prevent them from working and/or result in their losing access to health care. Lawyers in Healctare- trying to establish a connection with Nursing school.

**NURSING DNSO**
PhD Lounge is open and remodeled
PhD mentor/mentee lunch was a big success
PhD DNSO member hosting Thanksgiving at her house for those unable to travel.

**Nursing GNSO**
Diamond Run Golf Club Dec 18, in Sewickly.
Collecting canned goods at event.

**Pharmacy PharmD**
Interviewing new students for incoming year.
Collecting clothes and toys for December Holiday Drive
3rd year students picking 4th year rotations
Pharmacy weeks in January. Stayed tuned for more events.

Pharmacy PhD
End of Semester Happy Hour in the Works

School of Health & Rehabilitation Science
SHRS International Day November 19, 2015 3-5pm Forbes Tower
   China, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Taiwan
Dec 13, 2015 Jingle Bell Run 5krun, 1 mile fun walk raising money for Arthritis.
hp://www.kintra.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1139143

Social Work
Elections were successful and Board is in transition.

ANKUR
Diwali event occurred November 15, 2015- 300 people
Temple authorities provided buses and 190 students attended Temple services.
Board in Transition.

CSSA
Halloween Party October 30 in Nordy’s Place 70 people showed up in costumes
Spring Festival is in the works.

GOSECA
Annual Symposium planned March 18-19, 2015
Securing Speakers
Issuing a call for papers in next 2 weeks
Multi-disciplinary papers

PANAF
Africa’s Energy Crisis- Professor from Carnegie Mellon in September
Working on an International Development Conference for the Spring

TASA
Reminder to please promote tolerance, religious and otherwise, in light of these difficult international times.
168 people attended Turkish Republic Day Celebration. Increased participation
January –Israeli nationality room- friendship event being planned. It will be a cultural event, specifically Turkish-Jewish Event

5. New Business
Jonathan Livingston, GSPIA PhD candidate and works in Vice Provost Sbragia’s office will discuss Graduate funding portal for students- stay tuned

Address bike safety advocacy. A fatal accident involving Pitt professor on October 23, 2015. Reach out to make Forbes/5th Corridor Safer
Bike PGH Starting a campaign to make this area safer
Please reach out to your respective schools and organizations to encourage involvement and mobilize these issues.
2025 Oakland Planning http://www.opdc.org/oakland2025/
This is a PennDot roadway, we can expeditiously address this issue with dedicated Pitt funding
Also initiating efforts for pedestrian safety
If interested in being a part, please contact gpsg@pitt.edu and Christina will put you in contact with Mr. Livingston.

6. Announcements