

Graduate and Professional Student Government

Assembly Board Meeting Minutes

University of Pittsburgh, Langley Hall A219B

January 14th, 2019



Meeting Summary

- Informing members about plans for the upcoming Spring Semester, and new Executive Board elections.

Attendance

GPSG Executive Board Officers:

- Rachel Coombs (President)
- Crystal Taylor (VP of Communications)
- J. Stephanie Rose (VP of Programming)
- Amanda Leifson (GSA)

GPSG Assembly Board Members:

- Arts & Science 1
- Arts & Science 2
- Arts & Science 3
- Biomedical
- Dental
- SCI
- Katz (Part-Time)
- Law
- Medicine
- Social Work

- Health & Rehab Science
- CSSA
- GOSECA
- ISA
- TASA

Absent:

- Jennifer Enriquez (VP of Committees)
- Spencer Edelstein (VP of Finance)
- Education
- Engineering
- GSPIA
- Katz (Full-Time)
- Nursing
- Pharmacy (PhD)
- Public Health
- ANKUR

1. Call to Order

- President Coombs called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve November minutes. *Minutes approved. None opposed.*

3. Old Business

- GSA Ad Hoc Committee (to discuss bylaw changes for incorporating more GSA's into the AB)
 - Looking for a few more members to join
 - Email sent out by Jenn tomorrow

4. Reports

- President's Report
 - Stronger than Hate T-shirts available for Assembly Board Reps
 - Professional and Advocacy Grants
 - Application available now, physical copies handed out and will be on the website
 - Bringing back information to the university, first-come-first serve
 - a. *Approved by the Executive Board*
 - Campus Climate Survey (AAU)
 - February 11th
 - Please inform your students about the survey
 - GPSG survey
 - What information do you want? Questions that you are interested in asking
 - Have been done in the past, but data has not been shared
 - a. Last year was interested in what students want from GPSG
 - b. This year, want to get more idea what resources the university is providing to students

- c. In the past – mental health, professional development
- Dean of Students Campus Recreation Center Student Advisory Group
 - Identify undergraduate & graduate students who will meet with student affairs, facilities management, and architects to inform the design/functionality of the new rec center
 - a. Getting the student voice about how it can be best useful to students
 - b. Concern last year that most of the time it is geared by undergraduate needs, so it's important to get the graduate student needs heard
 - Will meet in early February (need nominations by January 18th)
 - a. Let Rachel know (president.gpsg@pitt.edu) if you are interested
 - Commitment: 3 to 4 1-hour meetings during Spring Semester
- Asking Dr. Urban and Provost Cudd to return to an AB Meeting
 - Ideas for when best to invite them to talk to us
- Committees' Report
 - No report – she'll email it tomorrow
- Communications' Report
 - Advocacy Grants will be up this week on the website
 - Working on how best to utilize Mail Chimp
- Finance's Report
 - Working on best solution to a questionable situation
- Programming's Report
 - Winter Kick-off Event (January 11th 7-11pm)
 - Mass Mutual Pittsburgh Ice Rink
 - Happy Hour
 - Friday, February 15th at St. Nick's
 - Spring Fling
 - March 29th or 30th at Three Rivers Casino
 - a. Probably the 30th
 - National Graduate Student Appreciation Week (April 1-5th)
 - Small events
 - Major graduate collaboration on the 5th with other universities in the area
 - a. Last event of the semester
- Executive Administrator's Report
 - 2019 – 2020 Elections
 - Call for candidates: February 11^h – March 4th
 - Student Affairs and Elections Committee – interested representatives, please email gpsg@pitt.edu for further details
 - 2019 Leadership and Service Award
 - Nomination Process
 - a. Self-nominated applications including:
 - i. Two Personal Essays
 - ii. Two Letters of Support
 - Nomination Period: January 14th – February 13th
 - Leadership and Service Review Committee – interested representatives, please email gpsg@pitt.edu for further details
- Assembly Board Member Reports
 - *Arts & Sciences*
 - No Report
 - *Biomedical*
 - Upcoming ski trip for upper classmen (Feb)
 - Upcoming workshops for how to apply graduate skills outside of academia, Adobe Illustrator
 - *Dental Medicine*

- Conference (District level) with other universities including Penn, Howard – speakers, networking
- Snowball Dinner/Dance upcoming
- *Education*
 - No report
- *Engineering*
 - No report
- *GSPIA*
 - No report
- *School of Computing & Information*
 - No report
- *Katz (Full Time)*
 - No report
- *Katz (Part Time)*
 - Friendsgiving was a great success, 15 different students sharing their culture/home country
 - Friend/Alumni/Family friendly event (cookie decorating event)
 - a. Very successful, looking for new opportunities
 - b. Looking for event in Cranberry, working with engineering
 - Spring Fling Dance
 - Welcomed a new board member
 - Will start elections in March for new board
- *Law*
 - Barrister's bar (Feb 2nd)
 - a. Starting to sell ticket
- *Medicine*
 - Student Executive Council elections are coming up, will have new reps
 - Winter Formal March 2nd
- *Nursing*
 - No report
- *Pharmacy (PharmD)*
 - Pharmacy Week
 - a. Friday event at Steel Cactus
 - b. Bunch of events for the next two weeks
 - i. Auctions for students, professors
 - ii. Male Beauty pageant, Dental school involvement
- *Pharmacy (PhD)*
 - No report
- *Public Health*
 - No report
- *School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences*
 - Next week combined section meeting in D.C., sending a bunch of students
 - Formal tentatively scheduled for March 30th
- *Social Work*
 - New executive board
 - Want to get student committees up and running
 - Planning an event with the Dean, event to ask questions to the Dean
- *ANKUR*
 - No report
- *CSSA*
 - No report
- *ISA*

- Mid-December event (15th) was a success
- Events upcoming – karaoke, game night
- Organize event for the Persian New Year (March 23rd)
- GOSECA
 - Planning for graduate student conference
- TASA
 - Painting with a Twister event in December
 - Back to School Happy Hour to get community back together

5. Committee Reports

- See full reports on website (www.gpsg.pitt.edu)

6. New Business

- How do we get student involvement?
 - Something that all organizations struggle with, but how do we get students interested in getting involved with graduate student government, cultural associations
 - Important question that could be addressed during the Bylaw Ad Hoc committee

7. Announcements

- Next meeting: **Monday, February 11th at 6:00pm**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:32 pm