RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
11/29/12
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
6:41 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 6:41pm
b. Present: Eli Benchell Eisman, Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Alex Toulouse, Pete McGrath, Alex Emly, Phil Saccone, Brandon Filter, Lauren Knapp, Chris Tom, Alex Gutierrez, Matt Waugh
c. Absent: Vanessa Cruz
d. Excused: Heidi Pedini, Haven Allen, Matt Filter, Dan Trubman

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
a. No quorum at the start of the meeting. Motion Alex E, second by Chris Tom.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES
a. Minutes are not available yet so we will approve next week.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS
a. President Michael Benson. Thanks to everyone. Michael gives an overview of the RSG vs CSG CSJ case. We’re organizing the Michigan SAGE delegation for this weekend. Pistons game next weekend, we’re looking for RSG chaperones. Let Michael know if you’re interested.
b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. Newsletter going out next week. Elections are ongoing, thanks to everyone who has advertised, we have a 7.9% voter turnout currently [will rise to 9.5% by midnight]. We’ve had feedback both good and bad regarding the ballot survey question, and a graduate student wrote an opposing argument to our FAQ and we’ve included his words both in our email and online. Thanks to Alex E for coming up with the free lunch idea, we had money allocated for the Election’s committee
c. Treasurer Alex Toulouse. Disbursements and requests are coming in, also will be using our SAGE money as the conference is this weekend.

V. RSG Election – November 27th, 28th, 29th Update
a. See Kaitlin’s Executive Report above.

VI. SAGE Fall Summit- November 30th, December 1st, December 2nd
a. Michigan Delegation: Alex T is the head of our delegation, has been nominated by Michael, no objections from the board. Everyone is welcome to come, but we’re looking to have an official Michigan delegation of 2 people. Chris nominated himself, Vanessa and Haven have been nominated by Michael. Michael motions to have 4 representatives in addition to the execs at the delegation, Matt W seconds. Approved unanimously. Kaitlin motions to add
Chris, Haven, Vanessa and Phil to the Michigan delegation, seconded by Lauren. Approved with 2 abstentions.

b. **Schedule of Events:** Phil Hanlon has taken the job as President of Dartmouth College, so he will not be able to join us. Martha Pollack and Elizabeth Warren will not be able to join us, but hopefully Jeff Irwin will be. We will also miss President James Duderstadt. Michael walks through the schedule day-by-day.

c. **New Advocacy Issues:** Vanessa is pushing the Michigan delegation to take on the issue of tuition equality. To approve this, there must be a unanimous decision—by consensus. Michael asks if anyone has other issues they think SAGE should be advocating for. Chris brings up advocating for Environmental policy. Discussion continues about this—should SAGE advocate based on educational issues or other issues? Alex E says that we could tie it into making the University’s more green and also tie it in to new jobs and the growing economy. Alex T brings up Coursera and online course issues and we should keep our eye out on this. Pete mentions that learning how to teach online was an issue when he was at Wayne.

VII. **First Reading: Proposed Amendments to the RSG Bylaws**

a. As a result of the hearing on Monday, Michael has taken on the role to clarify some of the contentious issues and unclear language in our bylaws. Motion by Pete and seconded by Chris to approve the amendments. Michael walks through some of the changes. Lots of discussion ensues regarding the referenda and petition issues. Michael is proposing at least 5% (currently 400) of grad students are needed to petition. Many board members feel that number is too many. We could also have a binding petition or non-binding petition. Alex T votes to strike the entire petition issue. Motion by Pete to table this issue and seconded by Phil.

VIII. **Committee Updates**

a. **Academic Affairs:** 160 people came out for the town halls. Had 3 deans at each one. Additionally, AAC is working on the 4.0 scale issue. Further AAC issues are conflict resolution, the graduate student bill of rights, and finalizing the new GPA scale. Michael asks for input on the GPA scale.

b. **Budgetary:** We are well under budget this semester.

c. **Community Outreach and Social Action:** H4H fundraiser happening a week from Saturday at Circus. As long as patrons say they are with Rackham they will donate $2 from door sales to habitat.

d. **Elections:** nothing to add.

e. **Legislative Affairs:** SAGE this week. Next Committee meeting will be Wednesday 12/5 at 8pm. We will be discussing state and local issues as well as recapping the SAGE fall summit.

f. **Student Life Committee:** Co-event with COSAC

g. **GPSASC:** CSG filed a complaint with the Central Student Judiciary. The parts of the complaint dealing with our survey question on the ballot were decided on Tuesday in our favor.

IX. **Individual Projects—Update:**

X. **Open Discussion**

XI. **Adjournment**—Motion to adjourn at 7:42pm by Chris Tom and seconded by Matt Waugh.