RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
2/12/13
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:32 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:32pm

b. Present: Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Dan Trubman, Phil Saccone, Michael Lang, Ryan Roberts, Yiting Zhang, Ryne Peterson, Dan Trubman, Pete McGrath, Janakiraman Balachadrnan, Matt Filter, Vanessa Cruz, Lauren Knapp, John Forrest, Evan Arthur, Matt Waugh

c. Absent: Chris Tom

d. Excused: Eugene Daneshvar, Alex Gutierrez

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

a. Moved by Ryan and seconded by Michael

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 2/5/13

a. Moved by Pete and seconded by John.
b. One change to Eugene’s comment during community input as submitted by Eugene.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION W-13-01

a. Elson Liu, former CSG and RSG representative, PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering. Elson feels that he isn’t sure what problems the resolution to form a committee is aimed at addressing, and he is not sure how any of the things it seeks to address are not possible in the existing constitution. As a second point, as we consider secession, he’s not sure what the legal implications would be for Rackham to secede and not adopt the current campus constitution. He also feels that the understanding of peer institution student government structure is unclear, and he cites California and UT-Austin as examples. Matt Filter asks if Elson thinks that secession is unnecessary. Elson says that he feels that there are ways to address these issues without secession, the particular issues being financial issues and representation. He asks the board if the problem could be solved by simply increasing the proportion of fees that RSG gets. Elson also says that there is nothing in the all campus constitution that prevents student governments from addressing the Regents. Kaitlin asks about the ‘legal implications of violating the all-campus constitution’. Elson responds that the all campus constitution was voted on by the entire student body and that by seceding RSG would be breaking the constitution that was voted on. Ryan asks about the UT-Austin student government information, and Elson cites his sources and then cautions against misinformation.
V. OFFICER REPORTS
   a. President Michael Benson. Registrar has still not completed an updated list of students, this affects a variety of our operations. The GSBOR is making progress and we will be able to meet with administration soon. SAGE dates have been set, April 13-16, let Michael know if you’re interested.

   b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. Newsletter going out tomorrow, thanks to everyone who has advertised to their friends and constituents. Events this week: Valentine’s day bar night tonight from 9-11pm at the Blue lep and a FOCUS:Hope event to clean up in Detroit this weekend.

   c. Treasurer Phil Saccone. $13, 243 in the account, SOAS has still not deposited our student fees into our account. Budgetary committee and budget will be discussed further down on the agenda.

VI. Event's Director Report
   a. Some budget requests for committees were submitted without dates for the events, please let Ryan know what dates you intend to hold the event so we can get the calendar finalized.

VII. Second Reading: Resolution to Create a Joint Committee on Graduate and Professional Student Governance
   a. Kaitlin thanks Elson for coming and speaks about creating the committee for discernment if the secession would be feasible or necessary. Michael addresses some of Elson’s points directly, particularly that the student governments at peer institutions are indeed separate in some particular ways, particularly with fees. Michael mentions that the legality issues might be able to be worked out within the committee. Vanessa asks about numbers from the last election—9.5% of Rackham students voted and 68% were democratically in favor of moving towards secession. Amending resolution on line 47 to change ‘Feb 6’ to ‘Feb 28’ motion to approve by Pete and seconded by Kaitlin. Approved with 6 abstentions. Ram asks what the timeline would be and Kaitlin explains that it would depend on the initial decision of the committee and how they decide to move forward. Ram asks if we would be having public hearings and Kaitlin says yes, definitely, whether or not a question moves to the ballot.


VIII. RSG Branding—Seal and Logo
   a. Pete has created some new designs for RSG branding. Pete feels that we lack a consistent message and have a simple and clear logo that says Rackham Student Government. Pete makes a motion to adopt this as our new logo and seconded by Dan. Vanessa and Ram ask specific questions about the design. Michael Lang asks about logos from the other schools. Motion to postpone approval of this by Michael and seconded by Matt F. Ryan speaks that we could just use hexadecimal
codes from UM colors and be done with it. Matt says that he would like to see other options. Lauren says that we have other things on our plate and Pete did it as a favor to the board and we should move on to more important things. There is general confusion about when and where the seals and logos are used, and Michael suggests that he tasks Kaitlin with the role of deciding the rules for use of each logo. Vote: 4-4-8 there’s a tie, Michael breaks it and the motion fails—we’re back to the main motion to approve the logo as Pete presented. Given that the logo uses the U’s official colors. 10-4-3, it’s approved.

IX. Committee Updates
   a. **Academics**: committee meeting tomorrow at 6:30pm.
   b. **Budgetary**: Alex is finishing up receipts from last semester. Motion to approve and receive the minutes from 2/5. Approved with 5 abstentions.
   c. **COSAC**: Michael L judged a science fair last weekend and he’s looking to keep that up. This weekend the FOCUS:Hope cleanup is moving forward, 20 people signed up so far. Pete motions to approve and receive minutes, seconded by Michael L, approved with 5 abstentions.
   d. **Elections**: will be approving our election dates next week, CSG just approved March 27 and 28 for their events. Kaitlin makes a motion to set RSG Winter election dates to 3/27-29 and it’s seconded by John. There’s discussion on whether 3 days is important or not. It’s approved unanimously.
   e. **Legislative Affairs**: The committee meets tomorrow.
   f. **Student Life**: Stoplight event tonight from 9-11pm.
   g. **GPC**: Considering a Friday or Saturday in April, discussion about potential venues, closer to campus is better. Buying tickets in advance would help with planning for attendance and food. Lauren makes a motion to approve and receive the minutes, seconded by Pete. Approved with two abstentions.

X. Campus Safety Discussion—moved to next week. Will be joined next week to discuss taxi incident as well as Student Safety Workgroup report the following week.
   a. **Building Accessibility**
   b. **After Hours Transportation**
   c. **Personal Safety**
   d. **Graduate Student Programs**

XI. **Open Discussion**- Stoplight party tonight! Get excited!

XII. **Adjournment**- Motion by Dan and seconded by Pete adjourned at 8:34pm.