RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
2/19/13
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:34 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:34pm

b. Present: Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Dan Trubman, Michael Lang, Ryan Roberts, Ryne Peterson, Pete McGrath, David Barton, Anna Belak, Chris Tom, Eugene Daneshvar, Alex Gutierrez, Vanessa Cruz, Evan Arthur

c. Absent: Lauren Knapp

d. Excused: Phil Saccone, Janakiraman Balachandran, Yiting Zhang, John Forrest, Matt Filter

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
   a. Moved by Pete and seconded by Ryne. Approved unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 2/12/13
   a. Moved by Pete and seconded by Michael. Approved with two abstentions.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS
   a. President Michael Benson. Last week the second half of the CSG case was adjudicated by CSJ. They filed a number of requests regarding our operations and the bylaws. The outcome was that RSG can no longer appoint graduate students to University committees and appointments must go through CSG. A couple of guest speakers will be coming in the next few weeks, offices from SAPAC, Beyond the Diag, Security, etc. Steven Apotheker has resigned from the board and Michael has accepted his resignation.

   b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. Newsletter went out last week and another going out soon. Kaitlin was approached by a member of CSG re: entrepreneurial experiences for graduate students.

   c. Treasurer Phil Saccone. $16,900 projected total for the account, SOAS has still not deposited our student fees into our account. Current amount is around $13,000.

V. Event's Director Report
   a. Valentine’s day event was really well attended.

VI. Appointment of Winter 2013 Elections Director
a. Motion by Pete and seconded by David to confirm Michael’s appointment of Dan and Michael Lang as Election Director and assistant ED, respectively. Approved with 2 abstentions.

VII. Committee Updates
   a. Academics: committee meeting tomorrow at 6:30pm.
   b. Budgetary: Minutes included in the packet, motion to receive and approve by Dan and seconded by Pete. Approved and received with one abstention.
   c. COSAC: Michael has participated in WolverineExpress, an outreach effort to get children oriented to science. FOCUS: Hope event had 22 people, boarded up 10 houses and cleaned up an entire block. Want to set some goals: try to get 1,000 volunteer hours as an organization. Over 100 so far this year.
   d. Elections: Dan and Michael are the new Elections Directors, elections in late March.
   e. Legislative Affairs: The committee meets tomorrow. Committee is working on a variety of issues, both local, state and federal and items will be included in the packet as they become available.
   f. Student Life: Stoplight event went really well. Discussion around the student life minutes ensues. Motion by Pete and seconded by Ryne. Approved.
   g. GPC: The poll went out with the newsletter last week. Those suggestions will be taken into account as well.
   h. JCOM: Working on selecting a meeting time, hopefully next week.

VIII. Campus Safety Discussion—
   a. Building Accessibility: BSRB accessibility for inner doors (currently lock at 7pm).
   b. After Hours Transportation: Kaitlin talked to some constituents who work around the medical campus and none of them were aware of or use Blue Cab or worry too much about after hours transportation. Michael brings up that there is no place for these students to call for Blue Cab on medical campuses. Dan brings up Night Ride by AATA. Vanessa asks what companies might be involved in the taxi sexual assaults. Michael responds with an explanation about limo vs taxi services and how they can be regulated by the City taxi board. SafeRide is a 1mi radius anywhere from campus. Kaitlin says that there should be a graduate student safety email.
   c. Personal Safety: Vanessa asks about adding more lights on Thompson, and heading towards Trotter on south U. Michael writes them down.
   d. Graduate Student Programs: Send out a newsletter.

IX. Major Events Discussion
   a. Bowling 3/16: will need a few volunteers for that, let Ryan R know if you’re interested.
   b. SAGE 4/13: trip to lobby on the Hill, April 13-17.
   c. Gala: Could be planned for late Spring or Fall.
   d. Town Halls: Late March or early April.
e. **IP seminar:** Hosting a Rackham wide event, Eugene will work with AAC and Ryan.

X. **Graduate student Governance:**
   a. Michael included the President’s notes from the SAGE roundtable. Lots of discussion on educational initiatives, the structure of graduate student governance at each school, etc.
   b. Michael also includes the undergraduate and graduate student government structure at Berkeley. Michael has approached CSG President Manish and Manish was generally supportive for the representation piece but not supportive for the monetary split.

XI. **Open Discussion**
   a. **Eugene:** GEO is negotiating a new contract with the University. He asks if we as graduate students in general are under a contract. He also asks if this would be an opportunity to move any RSG initiatives forward, for instance IP rights. Michael responds that we might be able to make changes on IP issues through the GSBOR. Eugene finds some issue with the fact that contract status is ambiguous. Kaitlin mentions that it varies by program. Eugene makes a point about how GEO is one of the organizations that bargains on the behalf of student employees. Michael clarifies the role of GEO and mentions that a lot of the legwork happens in RSG committee meetings.
   b. **Pete:** asks if there are organizations we might want to get involved with at a COSAC level. Ryne suggests finding resources regarding composting. Kaitlin suggests education, outreach, natural resource cleaning trips, etc. Chris mentions academic issues.
   c. **Ryne:** some of his constituents have complained about the status of the gyms. Michael mentions that a group of students as well as Building a Better Michigan have been pushing the Reagents to approve an increase in student fees for this measure. Michael mentions that we could create a resolution to support the initiative alongside LSA-SG. Anyone is open to create the resolution given the template Michael emailed out.

XII. **Adjournment** - Motion by Chris and seconded by David. Approved unanimously.
     8:35pm