a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:33pm

b. Present: Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Alex Toulouse, David Barton, Dan Trubman, Phil Saccone, Chris Tom, Alex Gutierrez, Michael Lang, Ryan Roberts, Yiting Zhang, Ryne Peterson, Dan Trubman, Pete McGrath, Janakiraman Balachadran, Matt Filter, Anna Belak, John Forrest, Evan Arthur, Eugene Daneshvar

c. Absent: 

d. Excused: Vanessa Cruz,

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

a. Moved by Chris and seconded by Matt Filter. Approved unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 1/29/13

a. Moved by Kaitlin and seconded by Phil. Approved unanimously.

IV. COMMUNITY INPUT

a. Ryan Moody, Divestment from Fossil Fuels: financial records from the U via FOIA showed some of the U’s past investments. Ryan and his group believe investing in fossil fuels is unsustainable given the amount of CO2 released into the environment via burning of these fuels. U’s portfolio of investment includes over $900 million in investment in unsustainable companies and practices. 5% of total US University endowment investments in fossil fuels is just UM. UM supports around 1/3 of remaining CO2 budget. Pete asks questions about the stock portfolio and how divestment would affect our portfolio. Ryan says that there wouldn’t be too much risk in divesting and then reinvesting in sustainable companies. Ryan Roberts asks about how the U divesting would affect the company’s interest in hiring UM engineers. Motion by Phil to extend time by 5 minutes for discussion and seconded by David. Dan asks what Ryan would like us to do. Ryan says that he would like us to pass a student government resolution in favor of divestment as they attempt to address this issue from all sides. Eugene offers some advice regarding this issue given that he has been on campus for a long time and has some background in the history of this issue.

V. OFFICER REPORTS

a. President Michael Benson. Regular guest speakers will start coming in next week so make sure to bring and use your nametags. Michael is in the process of
meeting with all of the graduate and professional student leaders on campus. Good work Phil on the budgets. Thanks to Yiting, Lauren and Ryan for help at ice skating. 320 people over the course of 3 hours. Don’t forget that as a rep you are required to help out with at least two events each semester. REB is meeting tomorrow and Michael will be attending.

b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. Approval of slate of committee chairs by Kaitlin and seconded by Ryan. Approved with two abstentions. The newsletter went out last week and will go out biweekly from here on out. Please let Kaitlin know if you have anything you wish to be included. Committee chairs, please continue to respond to budget request and event director’s emails. Don’t forget part of being on RSG is to attend at least one committee meeting—I know we could use more help in Student Life, for instance. We decided not to go through with the Grad Academic Conference given it’s scheduled much sooner than last year, so we would not have adequate time to contribute appropriately. Did anyone have any visitors at their office hours this week? A few members say yes.

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. After budget is approved, we’ll be approving dates and ensuring conflicts do not happen between each event. Don’t forget to fill out the post-event form after you have events.

VII. Winter 2013 Budget
   a. A few amendments to the budget as presented in the minutes. Phil amends the budgetary committee budget to change student group funding levels from $6,500 to $6,000 (it was previously $6,000). Pete makes a motion to add $900 to the COSAC budget for line items as described by Pete for various service events and this motion is seconded by Chris. It’s approved with 5 abstentions. Ice skating event was ~$700. Michael adds a bowling event to the student life budget. $1005 needs to be added for this event for a total addition of $1,705 to the student life budget. Phil says that in Winter 2012 we budgeted $1000 for the bowling event. Michael explains that the lack of pizza is due to Rackham’s budget being lowered. Moved by Ryan and seconded by Pete for the bowling event which includes bowling lanes, shoes and soda. Approved with 3 abstentions. Discussion ensues about a variety of budgetary issues. Kaitlin asks about the Red Wings games. Michael explains the history and the prior issues with Quack media. Chris motions to call to question, vote to call to question fails. Kaitlin has some things to say regarding the 5K. Ram motions to increase the elections committee budget to $500 for voting incentives and this is seconded by John. Ryan mentions that the best way to increase turnout is to have a competitive election and we should be focusing our efforts on getting competitive candidates. By a vote of 5-6-8 the motion fails. Motion by Matt Filter to increase the student group funding level to
$6,500, seconded by Kaitlin. Kaitlin asks if we used all of our allocated student group budget last semester and Phil says no. Lots of discussion ensues about how to best use student group funds. Call to question on the student budget increase 10-3-5 the motion passes. Overall budget approval vote: roll call vote: 17-3-1 the budget passes.

VIII. Committee Updates
   a. Academics: Chris goes over the minutes. AAC will be initiating the first graduate student survey of the year and we ask that committee chairs come up with 5 questions related to their committee that we could ask the student body. Minutes approved.
   b. Budgetary: Met in person just before the meeting this week. Minutes will be approved next week.
   c. COSAC: COSAC just met right before the meeting as well and was sparsely attended. Meetings will be at 6:30 before the board meeting every other week. We already heard their goals/events: working with Focus HOPE on the 16th. Thinking about changing the committee’s name as well. Minutes also will be there next week.
   d. Elections: will be approving our election dates next week, CSG just approved March 27 and 28 for their events.
   e. Legislative Affairs: Motion by John and seconded by Phil to approve and receive the LAC minutes, approved unanimously. A lot going on, leasing ordinance could be coming up soon.
   f. Student Life: grad student organization fair and student group organization are both being worked on. Also working on a science Olympiad type event plus basketball. Valentine’s day event with stoplight theme at Blue leap from 9-11pm. Motion to approve the minutes by Ryan and seconded by Kaitlin. Approved with two abstentions.
   g. GPC:

IX. First Reading: Resolution to Create a Joint Committee on Graduate and Professional Student Governance
   a. First reading of this resolution, initial motion by Kaitlin and seconded by Pete. Change line 47 in the resolution to reflect the first meeting time. Editorial changes to the font of the last resolved clause. The first reading is now closed.

X. Campus Safety Discussion—moved to next week. Will be joined in 3 weeks by a few guest speakers regarding these issues.
   a. Building Accessibility
   b. After Hours Transportation
   c. Personal Safety
   d. Graduate Student Programs

XI. Open Discussion- Science fair this Saturday, talk to Michael about it afterwards. 9-11pm valentines day event next Tuesday. Eugene’s constituent feels like he was discriminated by a business student faculty because he does not have the prerequisites.

XII. Adjournment- Motion by Pete and seconded by Ryan, adjourned at 8:57pm.