Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: February 23, 2011
Agenda

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. February 16, 2011

IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Michael
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Mayela
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Mindy

V. Guest Speaker – Darlene Ray-Johnson, Director of Graduate Student Affairs

VI. Ethan’s GSRA Update

VII. RSG Town Halls Update – Expectations of the Board

VIII. Graduate Student Bill of Rights

IX. RSG Logistics
   a. New RSG Website
   b. Social Gatherings

X. Funding Request: Students of Color Rackham - Conference

XI. Committee Reports
   a. Academic Affairs
   b. Budgetary
   c. Communications
   d. Elections
   e. Legislative
   f. Student Life
   g. I Already Graduated Day

XII. Individual Projects

XIII. Open Discussion

XIV. Adjournment
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
GENERAL BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2011  
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING  
7:15 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Rackham Student Government General Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2011, at 7:15 p.m. at the Rackham Graduate Building.

RSG President Michael Benson called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

Members Present: Michael Benson, Mayela Montenegro, Mindy Waite, Ethan Eagle, Eli Eisman, Bob Nyambati, James Mulligan, Kristy Figel, Yu Zhang, Alex Emly, Josh Bow, Tien-Huei Hsu, Lily Mancour, Katherine Fisher, Cherisse Loucks

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MEETING MINUTES

Ethan motions to add his proposed GSRA Resolution to the meeting agenda. Mayela seconded the motion.

AYES: 15  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion passed. Amendment to the meeting agenda is approved.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes for January 26, 2011.  
AYES: 15  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion passed. Meeting minutes are accepted.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes for February 9, 2011.  
AYES: 15  
NOES: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion passed. Meeting minutes are accepted.

III. OFFICER REPORTS

a) PRESIDENT

MICHAEL:  
RSG Representative Chen Li has been removed from the RSG Board due to failure of meeting attendance requirements. The Communications Committee is requested to draft something to send to the student body. The Board can appoint someone for the vacant Division II seat.

The following RSG members’ term expires in May: Michael Benson, Mayela Montenegro, Ethan Eagle, Phil Esposito, Krishnaaditya Pappu, Raj Thapar, Yu Zhang, Katherine Fisher, and Chen Li (who has been removed). RSG Elections for the Winter term will take place March 22nd and 23rd.
b) VICE PRESIDENT

MAYELA:
None.

c) TREASURER

MINDY:
Will be introducing a student organization who will be coming tonight to make a presentation on their funding request.

IV. FUNDING PRESENTATION: STUDENTS ENGAGED IN GLOBAL HEALTH

MINDY:
The student organization Students Engaged in Global Health will be presenting their funding request. The Budget Committee has already looked their proposal. They want to provide opportunities to UM students to get experience with international projects. Their proposal: one-week project in Jamaica with 5 volunteers, partnering with the Blue Mountain Project to serve the Jamaican community. Details in agenda packet. Asking for $5,000 for lodging, transportation, office supplies, health insurance.

MAYELA:
Just to reiterate, all student organizations requesting over $700 are required to make a presentation to the RSG Board for funding approval.

MICHAEL:
Encourage RSG Representatives to look at the student organization's other sources of funding, what they're requesting, the benefit that their event will have to the entire graduate student body. Look at how they'll advertise their event. Take a second and look over their request while we wait for the group to come in.

ENTER student representatives of the Students Engaged in Global Health:
Saurabh Vyctor – saurabhv@umich (guy)
Vida Henderson – vahender@umich (girl)

MICHAEL:
We'll do introductions. Then our guests will present and there'll be a 5-minute Q&A. Mindy will chair since she's Chair of Budget Committee.

RSG Representatives introduced themselves.

MINDY:
Introduced the Students Engaged in Global Health.

VIDA:
This is the only student organization in the School of Public Health to work with human rights and public health. Since 2007, it has conducted service trips. Has gone to China and will now
be going to Jamaica. Is cross-registered with the School of Public Policy. Has representation of graduate and undergraduate students.

SAURABH:
Will work with the Blue Mountain Project – an organization in Jamaica that was started in 2004 to provide different services to the local community such as drinking water, increase literacy, economic development, and development of health clinics. 5 graduate students will be going – 3 in public health, 2 in epidemiology, and 1 undergraduate student. Have been asked to give public health education about clean drinking water. This year, organization will focus on solar disinfection – was asked to talk about this and different methods of clean drinking water and hygiene for the community. Currently there is 1 health clinic in the Jamaican area where the group will be going, serviced by 1 nurse and 1 administrative staff person. Health clinic has 50 patients, so there’s a need for volunteers. Team that went last year worked a lot in the health clinic, helped manage medical records, and some members of the team worked with the literacy program with the local school. Organization has been asked to deliver health education to womens’ groups, churches, etc.

MICHAEL: Question – cross-listed with public policy, is there course credit?
SAURABH: No, because this is the first year it’s cross-listed. It’s still being developed.

MICHAEL: A total of 6 students will be going?
VIDA: No, 4 students going – 3 from public health, 1 undergraduate.

MICHAEL: How have you advertised for the organization and the trip?
SAURABH: A team from the organization was formed to select the participants. Application was advertised to several graduate schools.

MICHAEL: Were email distributed via listserves?
SAURABH: Emails were sent to Rackham listserves, law, business, public policy, SNRE, pharmacy, med school, public health.

MAYELA: Why are 3 of the 4 participants from public health?
SAURABH: This year, there was a lack of applications from other departments like public policy. Got some applications from pharmacy and economics students.

JOSH: Where did money come from in the past years?
SAURABH: The School of Public Health and School of Public Policy have provided funding, and the organization has organized fundraising efforts.

JOSH: Have you applied to these sources again for funding?
SAURABH: Has applied for these grants. Unfortunately, haven’t heard back from some of them. Still waiting from MSA and the School of Public Policy.

JAMES: Will you be giving a presentation after the trip?
SAURABH: Will have an event to give a presentation after the trip. Will collaborate with another organization. Will have a panel of 10 or so to share experiences.

JAMES: What has been the attendance in the past for these post-trip presentations?
SAURABH: About 15 or so people have attended in the past.
KRISTY: Will there be any long-term sustainability of the projects?
VIDA: Hopes to go every year to maintain the relationship. Hopes it will be a sustainable project.

JOSH: If there's no funding from RSG, will you still be going?
SAURABH: Will do anything possible to go, including putting personal resources to fund the project. Part of the money will be going to host families who will take care of the team members. Has made financial commitments to various people, so trip will take place.

MICHAEL: The request for $2,100 for transportation, is this for airfare? What's the cost per person?
SAURABH: About $480/person for airfare. Host family taking care of the team members will cost about $59/person/night. Transportation also includes to/from the airport.

JOSH: How many days is the trip?
SAURABH: 6 nights.

MICHAEL: Have you heard from MSA?
VIDA: Applied for cycle 1. Have not heard back from them.

MICHAEL: Thanks, you will get our decision through Mindy.

GUESTS LEFT.

MICHAEL:
Rackham consists of all PhD students and some Masters. Vida is a non-Rackham student since Public Health PhD students are not part of Rackham. Keep this in mind during the deliberations.

MINDY:
The Budget Committee’s recommendation: under assumption there were 5 graduate students going, the Committee decided on $0 funding because it’s an expensive trip and only 5 are going. We can encourage to fund their presentation afterwards.

James moved to proceed with the Committee’s recommendation of $0 funding without prejudice and encourage them to apply for funding for the post-trip presentation event. Alex E. seconded the motion.
AYES: 13
NOES: 1
ABSTAIN: 1
Motion approved. The Students Engaged in Global Health will receive $0 funding, but will be encouraged to apply for funding for the post-trip presentation event.

V. ETHAN’S PROPOSED GSRA RESOLUTION

ETHAN:
Downloaded document that excludes GSRA from collective bargaining. Pertinent labor relations board decisions in which GSRA were included in the union. NYU lost case against grad students trying to unionize. If anyone is interested in these cases, ask him. Will try to email documents to the Board. It’s in contradiction to the policy in med schools who after receiving their
doctorates, are eligible to unionize because they perform duties to hospitals that are economic. GSRAs are doing things that promote one’s education more so than university’s economic status.

MICHAEL:
There’s also a ruling from the 1970s on separating GSRAs.

MINDY: Where does Michigan stand?
ETHAN: We fall in alignment – you’re a student first, employee second.

TIEN: What was the NYU ruling?
ETHAN: Only unionized social science GSRAs. Union petitioned for a reexamination because after 2004 GAs were thrown out. It’s still ongoing.

MICHAEL:
Thanks to Ethan for putting forward the first resolution of the term. A template will be sent to the RSG Board if you want to create your own resolution on an issue.

One mistake to fix in the resolution – line 19, per our bylaws the transition from “whereas” to “operative” clause fix – strike “resolve that”. We have 2 forms of resolutions – sense of the board (our thoughts/opinion), and statement of policy (gets forwarded to Dean, Provost, or President with whom we have arrangements. If they sign up to a board resolution, it becomes a policy.

This proposed resolution is a “sense of the board”, us saying this is our feeling and what we think. If we were drafting the 2nd type, we would have a public hearing and invite the student body.

Ethan moved to adopt the resolution.

JOSH:
Some of the verbage gives feeling of bias when it’s our role to remain neutral.

Propose amendments:
Line 5 – “whereas it’s sense of board that GSRAs are not employees of the university.”
Doesn’t want to include “questionable behavior” because it’s not relevant to resolution. Doesn’t think we can say “gesture of good will…” as a “whereas” clause because we have no authority over GEO, and it’s more of a resolution if we want to do that. Line 15 – if we want to encourage GEO to do it, it would be as a resolution and not whereas clause. Instead of (line 22) “pertinent fact” – we should put relevant laws to include historical context.

Josh motioned the following amendments to the resolution:
Amend lines 5 and 6 – “sense of the board that most grad students are not aware of legal implications of the ‘employee’ of the University”

Michael suggests that Committee look over it. Mayela suggests that Josh and Ethan work together for a revised resolution.

Ethan proposed modifications to the proposed amendments:
Title: no comma
Lines 5/6 – “whereas the definition of ‘employee’ of the University of Michigan is a legal one and not understood by many GSRAs”
Lines 10/11 – struck
Strike 2nd footnote
Line 16 – moves up after concerns, “therefore”
Line 22 – strike “pertinent facts of MERC 1981” and replace with “relevant law and court decisions”
Line 24 – change to “website”

Cherisse suggests that citation is fixed to take out Wikipedia as a source and replace with the real source.

Mindy motioned to grant Mayela and Ethan editorial authority over resolution. Josh seconded the motion.
AYES: 15
NOES: 0
Motion approved.

Michael motioned that that line 27 instead of “be it further,” to be “finally.” Josh seconded the motion.
Approved – no objections.

Mindy moved to call to question. Ethan seconded it.

Mayela motioned to approve the resolution. Ethan seconded the motion.
AYES: 12
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 1
Motion passed. The proposed resolution: “A Sense of the Board to Inform Graduate Students of Past Precedent and to Empower their Rights During the Ongoing Unionization Efforts” has been approved with amendments. Michael stated he would not veto it.

Michael: Thanks again to Ethan for proposing the resolution. As a note, should we ever want to take a position on this specific issue, we’ll have to vote on another resolution to revoke this one.

VI. GSRA SURVEY DATA

Michael:
Thanks to Eli for getting the survey data from Marie. Will be emailed out to everyone and will be placed on new website.

VII. TOWN HALL UPDATE

Josh:
We have a tentative date for Division I. Had a meeting with Rackham’s Associate Dean Peggy McCracken to set up date for Divisions III and IV. Has a meeting next week for Division II. Dean McCracken would come to a RSG Board meeting to talk to us about a separate issue.

Michael:
Dean McCracken wants input on Rackham’s centennial. Thanks to Josh and the Academic Affairs Committee for the hard work!

VIII. SOCIAL GATHERING UPDATE:
KRISTY:
Tomorrow, 9pm-11pm. Will send out an email.

MAYELA:
Please take a dish or something to share, potluck-style.

IX. NEW WEBSITE

MICHAEL:
The new website is still at rsg.umich.edu. Use your umich uniqname and password to log in. If you see an error message, refresh the page. You’ll be granted a certain authority to edit the page. Please regularly update your page(s). Please share RSG’s twitter account and follow RSG. If you have a Twitter account to link to the site, please do that. Also, list upcoming events on RSG’s calendar for next week. Board meetings and events we fund will be added to the calendar.

X. COMMITTEE REPORT

a) ACADEMIC

Josh moved to accept the meeting minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee. Ethan seconded the motion.
AYES: 15
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
Motion passed. Meeting minutes accepted.

MICHAEL:
The meeting minutes will be posted to the RSG website.

b) BUDGET

Mindy move to accept the meeting minutes of the Budget Committee. Mayela seconded the motion.
AYES: 15
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
Motion passed. Meeting minutes accepted.

c) COMMUNICATION

MAYELA:
Newsletter will be emailed out at the end of this week. Please email me anything you want included on the newsletter.

d) ELECTIONS

MINDY:
The Committee will be interviewing Elections Director candidates next Tuesday.
e) LEGISLATIVE

MICHAEL:
SAGE conference call will take place this Sunday. If you want to be on list, let him know to be added. Legislative Committee tonight is cancelled. Has made contact with State Senator to come in on March.

f) STUDENT LIFE:

MICHAEL:
Some expenses from last semester were carried over for this semester, so we’ll have to revise budget. Mindy will send out an email. Thanks to Mayela, Rahul, and Alex E. for attending the Valentine’s Day event last night.

RAHUL:
Held a Student Life Committee meeting last week at Grizzly Peak. The meeting minutes will be provided for the next RSG meeting.

The Valentine’s Day event last night was successful and a lot of fun. Pinball Pete’s event will be next week or the week after Spring Break.

MICHAEL:
Confirmed Blue Leprechaun for one of the 2 monthly bar nights, but still in negotiations for additional discounts. Will work to negotiate to see if appetizers can be funded.

g) I ALREADY GRADUATED DAY (IAGD):

CHERISSE:
Completely at a loss of when to have this event. Need to figure out when bands are available.

MICHAEL:
Please coordinate with Student Life Committee. Use IAGD email listserve.

XI. INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS:

MINDY:
Wants one more person to join her and Tien-Huei to go to GEO office tomorrow, 5pm to discuss information on GEO. If anyone wants to email her questions to ask GEO, email Mindy.

MICHAEL:
Emails have been set up for rsg-vicepresident@umich.edu and rsg-treasurer@umich.edu to help facilitate between transitions.

XII: OFFICE HOURS

MICHAEL:
Thanks to all who have emailed office hours and individual projects updates.

XIII: OPEN DISCUSSION
ETHAN:
GEO has information on its website to go to departments and give a session. Ethan extended an invitation to have them go to Aerospace Department.

XIV: ADJOURN

The Rackham Student Government General Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Mayela Montenegro, Vice President
Graduate Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities – UC Berkeley

Rights

1. **A graduate student has the right to be respected** as a person of merit and junior colleague upon gaining admission to a graduate program.
   a. Graduate students have the right to study and work in an environment free of exploitation, intimidation, harassment, and discrimination based on characteristics such as gender, race, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, disability, religious or political affiliations, country of origin, and country of citizenship.
   b. Graduate students have a right to professionalism and reasonable confidentiality in their communications with professors.
   c. A graduate student’s performance or behavior should not be discussed by a professor with other students or staff without consent of the student.
   d. Discussion of the student’s performance among faculty should be of a professional nature, and should be limited to the student’s academic performance.

2. **Graduate students have a right to refuse** to perform tasks if those tasks are not closely related to their academic or professional development program.
   a. A student’s vulnerability in having a lesser status and authority in the academic unit or lesser experience in the academic field of study should not be exploited to the personal advantage of faculty members.
   b. Students should not be coerced into performing tasks in grievous excess of other students because of characteristics that are vulnerable to discrimination.

3. **Graduate students have a right to specific and concrete requirements** for achieving an advanced degree.
   a. These requirements should be communicated clearly to him or her upon entrance to the graduate program.
   b. Graduate students have the right to accurate information in selecting a major professor and in recommending other members of their committees. Graduate students have the right to change their major professors if necessary. If a graduate student’s major professor departs from the institution once the student’s work is under way, the program shall strive to provide the student with alternative supervision, external to the institution if necessary. If a degree program is to be discontinued, provisions shall be made for students already in the program to complete their course of study.
   c. No changes to degree requirements should affect students previously accepted into the graduate program or academic focus except at the option of the student.
   d. Prospective and currently enrolled graduate students have a right to know the “normative time to degree” and the “average time to degree” within a specific graduate program.
   e. Prospective and currently enrolled graduate students have a right to know a program’s and/or emphasis’ attrition rate if available and the predominant reasons for lack of program completion.
except in instances where confidentiality is threatened. Student access to statistical information on graduate programs should not interfere with the privacy rights of other students.

4. **Graduate students have the right to an objective evaluation, regular feedback, and guidance** concerning their academic performance and progress towards an advanced degree.
   a. Graduate students should be given a fair opportunity to correct or remedy deficiencies in their academic performance.
   b. Graduate students have a right to professional training. This should include but not be limited to information about professional associations and conferences, mock interviews, job opportunities and publishing articles in journals.
   c. Teaching assistants and teaching associates have a right to appropriate teacher training.
      a. All graduate programs and/or emphases should implement a structured training program for their teaching assistants and teaching associates.
      b. All graduate programs and/or emphases should outline the expectations of a graduate student teacher, and the ways in which those expectations can be achieved, for their teaching assistants and teaching associates.
   d. Evaluations should be factual, specific, and should be shared with the student within a reasonable period of time. The following should be available to the student in writing: annual progress reports, split decisions on qualifying examinations, and unusual or additional program requirements.
   e. The reasons for unsatisfactory performance on programmatic examinations should be stated clearly to the student in a written evaluation.
   f. Graduate students have the right to partial access to their academic file, excluding the full letter of recommendation.
   g. Any intent to dismiss a student from a graduate program for academic reasons must be preceded by specific, written performance information well in advance of actual dismissal. Only the Dean of the Graduate Division can dismiss a student from a graduate program for academic reasons.
   h. Any intent to discontinue an advisor/chair/mentor relationship with a graduate student must be preceded by a warning within a reasonable period of time.

5. Graduate students have a right to co-authorship in publications involving significant contribution of ideas or research work from the student. The student should receive first authorship for publications which are comprised primarily of the creative research and writing.

6. **Graduate students have a right to be informed** of financial and resource support.
   a. Departments should provide an accurate description of availability and the likelihood of ongoing financial and resource support within their programs.
   b. Prospective and currently enrolled graduate students should be provided a thorough description of the requirements and qualifications necessary for academic employment, training, and financial support within their departments and at the university.
   c. All policies concerning support of graduate students should be implemented in a consistent and understandable way.
d. Graduate students who also hold positions as employees of the university deserve to be protected by the same rights as other university employees.
e. Graduate students reserve the right to form and maintain a union.
f. Graduate students should be provided with appropriate office, study, and lab space.
g. Graduate students have a right to the access of the simple implements commensurate with the responsibilities (e.g. telephone).

7. Given that Graduate students have the same rights and obligations as all citizens, they are free as other citizens to express their views and to participate in the political processes of the academic community and the community at large.
   a. The graduate student population reserves the right to form and maintain a governing body that is free from coercion.
   b. Graduate students should have representatives on all campus-wide administrative committees that affect graduate students, with voting privileges where appropriate according to the guidelines of shared governance.
   c. The graduate student body should be given charges to these committees once a year and be informed when new committees are formed.
   d. All departments and graduate programs should include graduate student representatives in the decision-making process where appropriate.

8. **Graduate students have a right to arbitration** if their rights are infringed.
   a. Students with grievances should be given the opportunity for arbitration before actions are taken against them.
   b. Arbitration should occur before a body, at least half of which should consist of their graduate student peers.
   c. Students deserve to defend themselves at the hearings if reasonably possible. When a formal hearing is required, a graduate student has a right to the following minimum procedural standards to assure a fair hearing:
      i. The opportunity for a prompt and fair hearing, upon the request of the student at which the University shall bear the burden of proof, and at which the student shall have the opportunity to present documents and witnesses and to confront and cross-examine witnesses presented by the University. No inference, however, shall be drawn from the silence of the accused.
      ii. A record of the hearing; an expeditious written decision based upon the preponderance of evidence, which shall be accompanied by a written summary of the findings of fact.
      iii. An appeal.
   d. Official grievance procedures and informal complaint procedures should be clearly defined at the Graduate Division and at the department or graduate program level. These procedures should be presented to graduate students at the time of entry.
9. To be informed of policies and procedures for procuring on-campus housing, including information on availability, expected time on wait list, limitations on stay (including restrictions, if any, imposed by academic policies), and restrictions on eligibility.

10. To have access to basic outpatient health care services on any University of California campus, under conditions that apply to students registered on that campus.

11. Graduate students have a right to be informed of these rights upon enrollment, and to be free of reprisals for exercising these rights.

Responsibilities

1. **Graduate students have a responsibility to conduct themselves**, in all educational activities, in a manner befitting academic colleagues.
   a. Graduate students’ behavior should be professional and a credit to themselves, their academic unit, and the University.

2. **Graduate students have a responsibility to devote an appropriate amount of time and energy toward the advanced degree** within “normative time,” except when special circumstances apply.

3. **Graduate students have a responsibility to uphold ethical norms in research and scholarship** and provide accurate and honest reporting of research results, research methodology, and scholarship.

4. **Graduate students have a responsibility to participate in the campus community** to the extent that each is able, and should leave the campus enriched in whatever ways possible.
   a. To contribute to the academic development and the social environment of the department or program in which he or she is pursuing the advanced degree.
   b. To contribute to administration of the graduate program, student government, and/or the University.

5. **Graduate students have the responsibility to take the initiative in asking questions** that promote their understanding of the academic requirements and the financial particulars of their specific graduate program.

6. **Graduate students have a responsibility to understand their role** in the development of the relationship between faculty mentor and graduate student.
   a. To have an awareness of time constraints and other demands imposed on faculty members and program staff.
   b. To communicate regularly with faculty mentors and advisors, especially in matters related to research and progress within the graduate program.
7. Graduate students have a responsibility to uphold the public service aspects of the mission of a public university, as a level appropriate to the ability and graduate program.
Rackham Student Government Funding Application

Organization Name: Students of Color of Rackham (SCOR)
SOAS Account #: 936131
Registered with MSA? Yes  No

Primary Contact Name: Anabel Paez
Title: Treasurer
Email: anpaez@umich.edu
Phone: 909-240-1646

Secondary Contact Name: Leslie Upton
Title: Conference Co-chair
Email: lnupton@umich.edu
Phone: 865-384-7149

Please check any of the following that describe your organization:

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Describe the overall purpose/mission of your organization and the planned initiatives and activities intended to uphold said objective(s).

The goal of Students of Color of Rackham (SCOR) is to enhance the campus and community environment to promote academic growth, professional development, and general well-being among students of color. In order to accomplish this, we 1) build an environment in which all persons can network and acquire opportunities for professional development; 2) encourage and enable service and awareness at the University, within local communities, nationally and internationally; and 3) sponsor cultural, educational, social programs and activities which appeal to graduate students of color.

To uphold our objectives, SCOR holds monthly general body meetings with academic talks, social mixers, and updates and information about recent events at Rackham and the University of Michigan. We also conduct an academic empowerment series that provides students with resources to progress in their academic programs, from conference presentation skills to navigating mentor relationships. We also hold regular social events, including a back to school cookout, open mic poetry nights, and dance lessons. Additionally, SCOR organizes an annual academic conference to promote academic progress across the university campus. (While our events are created with graduate students of color in mind, they are open for all students to attend).
# of active student members: 130
# of graduate student members: 130

Average attendance at group meetings (Board, committee, event planning, etc.): 15
Average attendance at events: 70
Average graduate student attendance at events: 70

How often does your group meet? Board meets twice a month, and we hold monthly general body meetings, and monthly social events

Does your group charge dues to members? Yes No

Do all of your activities/events take place on campus? If yes, where do you prefer to hold your programs? If not, where else do they take place?

Most of our activities take place on campus. Given the wide range of disciplines and programs represented in our organization, we hold our monthly general body meetings at different locations on central and north campus each month. For this year we have held meetings at Hutchinson Hall, School of Social Work, Ford School of Public Policy, the Computer Science building, School of Information, School of Education, Rackham and East Hall. We also hold e-board meetings and other events at Trotter Multicultural Center. Social events are held off campus at places such as Café Felix, Good Night Gracies, and art galleries.

Does your group engage in political activity, i.e., electoral, partisan, etc.? If so, describe this activity.

SCOR does have a political action chair who is in charge with organizing politically related events and activities that affect students of color. For instance, in November, we held a political forum around sexuality and gender issues with faculty and student expert panelists.

Does your group engage in lobbying efforts? If so, describe these efforts.

No.

Does your group work with any University department or other student organizations in any capacity? If so, please describe this collaboration.

Students of Color of Rackham is affiliated with Rackham Graduate School. We also collaborate on social and academic events with many student departmental organizations. Past collaborators include Students of Color in Public Policy (SCPP), Black Student Psychological Association (BSPA), Public Health Students of African Descent (PHSAD), and the Association for Black Social Work Students (ABSWS) and more.

Is your group affiliated with a national, parent, and/or umbrella organization? If so, please describe this relationship and how it plays a role in your organization's functioning.

No.
Event Description

Event name: 21st Annual SCOR Conference
Event date(s): March 11-12, 2011
Event location: Rackham building

1. Briefly describe this event. What is its overall purpose?

The SCOR Conference is a multidisciplinary professional networking conference. The SCOR executive board is excited about making this 21st Annual SCOR Conference, to be held in Rackham on March 11 and 12, 2011, a true celebration. We expect it to be one of the most inspiring conferences to date. The theme for the upcoming conference is, "Crossing the Line: Transcending the Traditional Boundaries of Academia Through Community and Civic Engagement ". Our focus with this conference is to connect students and ideas across disciplines. We will focus on strengthening academic ties in order to develop and support relationships among different academic departments and on forming new and innovative viewpoints within an interdisciplinary framework.

2. Describe how this event will affect our campus and the graduate student body.

By the end of the conference we hope to have provided an opportunity for students across campus to interact with each other and faculty on interdisciplinary issues that include success in the academy, succeeding as a student of color, the tenure process, effective leadership and networking. In addition, the graduate students who will present their research will have the opportunity to enhance their presentation skills and at the same time receive feedback from their peers on their work. Furthermore, high school students will be attending the conference with the purpose to expose them to a college environment and have an impact in their decision to pursue a higher education.

3. Describe how this event will include other groups or departments.

This conference is open to all students. Since SCOR is compose of different graduate departments, the event has been marketed not only to Rackham graduate schools but also those who fall outside of Rackham as well as undergraduates and faculty.

4. With which other groups or departments are you sponsoring this event, if any?

Sponsoring groups and departments include, Alliances for Graduate Education & the Professoriate (AGEP), Department of Anthropology, Center for the Education of Women (CEW), Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, The Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (CAAS), Latina/o Studies Program, International Institute, Multi-Ethnic Students Affairs (MESA), Office of Academic and Multicultural Initiatives (OAMI), School of Social Work, School of Public Health, Center for Asian Studies, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and Women’s Studies.

5. If your organization is traveling, explain why this is integral to your event and how it will impact the graduate student community.

N/A

6. If your organization is purchasing food, explain why this is integral to your event and how it will impact the graduate student community.

N/A
To kickoff the conference we will start with a dinner Friday evening. This will encourage students to attend the Friday evening panel and serve as a forum to kickoff the 21\textsuperscript{st} annual SCOR conference. Saturday is a day long conference, and in order to have students stay for the whole day continental breakfast, and lunch will be served. SCOR recognizes the importance of providing food during the conference to not only encourage students to attend but also show our appreciations to our panelist, workshop presenters, keynote speakers, and volunteers.

7. If your organization is bringing a speaker, performer, DJ, photographer (or any other paid individual for services rendered), explain why this is integral to your event and how it will impact the graduate student community. Additionally, attach a short biography to the end of this application.

The keynote speaker is an integral part of the conference. SCOR’s annual conference is the only graduated conference geared for students of color and bringing someone renowned in issues of people of color to attract students to attend the event. Kerry Ann Rockquemore, the keynote is an expert on faculty development and leadership, which is a topic of relevance for all graduate students (see attached bio).

8. If your organization is applying for capital goods (anything that can be reused after the event has taken place), explain why such goods are integral to the event.
N/A

9. Who is eligible to participate? The events are open to everyone. We primarily focus on graduate students on campus as evidenced by past attendance of graduate students.

10. How many participants do you expect? 150
11. Are your date and location confirmed? Yes No
12. Will you charge admission? Yes No
   If so, how much per person?
13. Will this be donated to charity? Yes No
   If yes, what percentage will be donated?
14. How do you intend to advertise, in particular to graduate students?

This event is being advertise through our weekly newsletter, network listserves, facebook, fliers posted on campus, board member networks, meeting announcements, and faculty invitations. In addition there interested participants can visit the conference website at http://www.umich.edu/~scorweb/conference/ to find more details on the conference and register.
15. To what other funding bodies have you applied and/or have received funds from? Please note each funding body here, the amount for which you applied, the amount that was granted, and to what purpose you intend to put those allocated funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Body</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Amount Granted</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology Department</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Keynote airfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for the Education of Women</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Custodial services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford School of Public Policy</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>Food &amp; Beverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latina/o Studies Program</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Keynote hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Institute</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>Printing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Ethnic Students Affairs</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>Room rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>Keynote honorarium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rackham Graduate School</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Food &amp; Beverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Public Health</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>Graphic artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Social Work</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>Graphic artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Asian Studies</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>Graphic artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Graphic artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Studies</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Graphic artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGEP</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>Printing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Affairs Programming Council</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>pending</td>
<td>Room rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,050</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,250</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. If RSG does not fully fund your event in the amount requested, how do you intend to cover those costs? Will the event still be held?

The event will still be held without funding assistance from RSG. In the case we do not receive full funding we will request additional funding from other departments we have not yet reached out to such as the School of Education.
**Event Budget**

List all expenses. Please use the notes section below each category to explain costs in greater detail.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>Amount Requested from RSG</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising &amp; Publicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Posters/fliers</td>
<td>$1225</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Other: Postage</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of graphic artist, Susana Castro-Pollack, designed the main conference flier, see attachment.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Office supplies (please specify):</td>
<td>$659</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>•</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>includes certificate holders, certificates for speakers/presenters, gifts for presenters ($25*15), name tags, tape, notepads, pens, folders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing &amp; Publications</td>
<td>$2000</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Please attach a copy of the publication to the end of this application.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>publications have not been printed yet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities &amp; Equipment Rental</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Equipment (please specify):</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Security</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Room rental</td>
<td>$1176</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>room rental for Rackham ($300), Linen for tables in Assembly Hall both days ($9.25 *14 + delivery and pickup = $376), Custodial for Saturday ($42/hr = $480), parking tags for presenter vehicles ($20)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Speaker honorarium</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Speaker travel</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Speaker lodging</td>
<td>$166.50</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Other: ground transportation</td>
<td>$140.00</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Travel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lodging</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transportation</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Vehicle Rental</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Gas</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Goods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• T-shirts</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Other:</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food:</strong></td>
<td>$2,600</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other: Decorations</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$9,716.59</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please remember to attach a mock-up version of the flier, publication, or t-shirt design with the RSG logo or “Sponsored by the Rackham Student Government” statement to your application.  
Note: If Sponsor by RSG the logo will be included on the Sponsor section of the conference website in addition to name on the flier.
Keynote Speaker: Kerry Ann Rockquemore
Kerry Ann Rockquemore is an author and speaker in the field of faculty development and leadership. She spent the early years of her professional career climbing the academic ladder while writing about interracial families. She is author of *Beyond Black: Biracial Identity in America* (2001, 2007), *Raising Biracial Children* (2005), and over two dozen articles and book chapters on multiracial youth. Kerry Ann’s research has been featured in numerous media outlets such as the New York Times and ABC’s 20/20. After Kerry Ann became a tenured professor (at the University of Illinois at Chicago), her focus shifted towards improving conditions for pre-tenure faculty by creating supportive communities for professional development, writing productivity, and work/life balance. Her award-winning work with under-represented faculty led to the publication of her most recent book *The Black Academic’s Guide to Winning Tenure Without Losing Your Soul* (2008). Kerry Ann now provides workshops for new faculty members at colleges across the United States, leads an online discussion forum for under-represented faculty, and works with a select group of new faculty each semester in her Faculty Success Program. She can be contacted via e-mail at KerryAnn@newfacultysuccess.com
A SENSE OF THE BOARD TO INFORM GRADUATE STUDENTS OF PAST PRECEDENT AND TO EMPOWER THEIR RIGHTS DURING THE ONGOING UNIONIZATION EFFORTS

WHEREAS, the Graduate Employees Organization (GEO) has been engaged in organizing efforts to bring Graduate Student Research Assistants (GSRAs) under a collective bargaining umbrella AND

WHEREAS, the definition of ‘an employee’ of the university is a legal one and not well understood by many GSRAs AND

WHEREAS, a typical student does not have time to search for and read all relevant material related to past legal precedent regarding this ‘employee’ status¹ THEREFORE, on behalf of the student body of the Horace H. Rackham Graduate school and articulated by its elected representatives, it is the sense of the Board that it be

RESOLVED, that the Rackham Student Government, recognizing the important spirit of transparency and dialogue needed to address this issue, provides, on its website, an accurate summary of students rights regarding unionization as well as an explanation of the pertinent legal precedents. AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the Rackham Student Government provide an impartial website to contain an extensive discussion board thus giving individuals a chance to (anonymously if preferred) ask questions, respond to previous posts, and pose arguments of their own. AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, that an informational e-mail be disseminated to all graduate students informing them of these discussion boards.

Authors

___________________________
Ethan Eagle
Division II Representative

¹ Most recently, NRLB Case 1-RC-21386 Brown University and 1981MERC (umgeo.org/merc-1981/)
Aye: _12_  Nay: _ 0_  Abs: _1_  Date: _February 16, 2011_

By signing below, I attest that the vote count is accurate.

______________________________
Mayela Montenegro
RSG Vice President

Executive Approval/Veto

I approve / veto this resolution:

______________________________
Michael L. Benson
President, Rackham Student Government

Date: ___February 23, 2011___