I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Rackham Student Government General Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2011, at 7:15 p.m. at the Rackham Graduate Building.

RSG President Michael Benson called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Members Present: Michael Benson, Mayela Montenegro, Mindy Waite, Tien-Huei Hsu, Phil Esposito, Yu Zhang, David Cottrell, Lily Mancour, Robert Nyambati, Rahul Sakhmuri, Alex Emly, Ethan Eagle, Kristy Figel, and Cherisse Loucks

II. OFFICER REPORTS

a. PRESIDENT

MICHAEL:
Thanks to the Academic Affairs Committee for meeting yesterday. The Student Affairs meeting will take place tomorrow.

SAGE – If anyone wants to go to DC, please let Michael know by the next meeting. Is currently working on how many sponsors we’ll have to fund the trip. We’ll get money from Rackham because it’s for lobbying.

The Rackham Executive Board met today. Among the discussion items were Rackham’s procedures.

Dr. Winfield, Director of University Health Services, will be our speaker next week to discuss student health insurance and the campus smoke-free policy.

At next week’s meeting, please dress nicely since we will be having a guest speaker. And, we’ll also be taking a group photo for the RSG website.

b. VICE PRESIDENT

MAYELA:
No report.

c. TREASURER

MINDY:
Budget balance is $23,306.41. We got money today. Among current expenses are Manoj’s payment for his service as Elections Director last semester, and a portion of the Tigers game from the summer.

III. RSG LOGISTICS

a. SOCIAL GATHERING UPDATE

MAYELA:
A social gathering will be taking place soon. Will be organized by Kristy with assistance from Mindy and myself. Stay tuned for more information.

b. FOOD @ MEETINGS POLICY

MINDY:
Has been calculating options of how much of the RSG budget should be allocated towards food at RSG meetings. If we spend $10/person for food, it is 20% of the budget going towards food.

Options include:
1) Lower the amount per student to be spent on food
2) Order pizza more frequently
3) Don’t have food at meetings

Mayela motioned RSG is to provide food for 3 of the 4 monthly meetings, with a maximum cost of $10/person. Ethan seconded the motion.
AYES: 12
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 2
Motion passed.

c. REPRESENTATIVE AND EXECUTIVE OFFICE HOURS

MICHAEL:
Please figure out when you can have office hours to make yourselves available to your constituents. Office hours should be a minimum of once every 2 weeks, for 30 minutes each time.

IV. I ALREADY GRADUATED DAY “IGAD”

CHERISSE (IGAD CHAIR):
The idea for this one day of fun was born last year. A tentative date is May 21st, 12noon-7pm.

MAYELA:
Is concerned that if we have the event in May, it'll exclude a large segment of the student body since many Masters students, in particular, leave Ann Arbor for the summer.

RAHUL:
Suggested the event take place the day after Commencement, after April 30th.

CHERISSE:
Agreed to check for Diag and band availability for April 31st, or the weekend after April 30th.

V. APPROVAL OF RSG MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 19, 2011

Ethan proposed an amendment to the minutes correcting the spelling of his name. Amendment accepted.

Ethan motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Mayela seconded the motion.
AYES: 14
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
Motion passed. Meeting minutes approved.
VI. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2011

Mindy proposed an amendment to the minutes changing their requested budget for town halls from $600/town hall to $300/town hall. Amendment accepted.

Mayela motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Alex E. seconded the motion.
AYES: 14
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
Motion passed. Meeting minutes approved.

VII. NEWSLETTER

MICHAEL:
On the President’s Message, he will include a statement about appointing students to different boards on campus. Candidates will be asked to come to RSG meetings for an interview, if RSG desires.

Take a look at the President’s Message attached to the agenda packet, and suggest any changes you deem necessary.

VIII. INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

MICHAEL:
Every RSG Representative will take a lead on a project. You can work with a committee and/or request funds to implement your project.

Project Update:
PHIL – Make podcasts by interviewing speakers. Wanted to record the GEO Town Hall, but they refused.

[RSG Board was divided into 3 groups to discuss individual project ideas.]

Homework: Develop your individual project idea a bit more and email it to Exec by next Tuesday. A short blurb will be provided on the next RSG packet.

If you have any questions, please let Exec know.

IX. ELECTIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

MAYELA:
Explained the Elections Committee roles and duties: To hire the Elections Director, assist the Director with implementing a strategy to recruit candidates to run for RSG board positions and to encourage voting among the student body.

Board members nominated RSG Reps to serve in the committee.

Mayela motioned to nominate the following committee slate:
Division 1: Phil
Division 2: Rahul
Division 3: Mayela
Mindy seconded the motion.
AYES: 14
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
Motion passed. The Elections Committee has been formed.

X. ADJOURN

    MICHAEL: Don’t forget to send your committee proposed budget to Mindy by next Tuesday.

The Rackham Student Government General Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Mayela Montenegro, Vice President