I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Rackham Student Government General Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 23, 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, Chen Li, Alex Emly, Yu Zhang, David Cottrell, Lily Mancour, Bob Nyambati, Josh Bow, Rahul Sakhamuri, Alex Toulouse, Katherine Fisher, Ethan Eagle, Kristy Figel, Eli Eisman

Guests: Ryan, SNRE Grad Student, Bill Wroblewski, Director of ITCS

II. OFFICER REPORT

a) PRESIDENT

MICHAEL: Thanks to Yu, I led a discussion panel this past Saturday at the Global Scholars Summit 2nd Annual event which was extremely successful. Our guest today Ryan participated in the panel. Welcome to our meeting.

Has 5 students participating in SAGE Conference this weekend. Mayela will lead the RSG board meeting next week. Need someone to take minutes.

Elections – will discuss Facebook advertisement. Dorothy recommends discontinuing Facebook ad, wants Board’s opinion.

Marked Chen as absent from last week’s meeting due to her late arrival. Chen, please explain why you missed more than half of the meeting.

CHEN: Came to our usual room and by the time I returned to my office to check my email, I arrived late.

Ethan motions to override Chen’s unexcused absence. Mayela seconds the motion.

Ayes: 8
Noes: 0
Abstain: 8
Motion passed.

Please don’t forget to vote in the RSG elections!

b) VICE PRESIDENT
MAYELA:
No report.
c) TREASURER

MINDY:
Alex E and Rahul have outstanding balance – please submit your receipts.

RSG Balance is about $20,000.

MICHAEL:
Balance is cash on-hand. Amount will be reduced as payments are processed.

III: TOWN HALLS REVIEWS

JOSH:
Have had 3 town halls targeting each division. Sole unifying question was preparing students on what's to come, and careers outside of academic. So, perhaps academic affairs committee can look toward pursuing this. Change of GPA was an issue, as well as funding.

MICHAEL: Congrats to Josh and Tien for organizing great town halls! Looking forward to hosting more at the start of the next academic year. If you have questions, please email academic affairs chairs.

IV: GUEST SPEAKER: From ITCS
Guest: Bill Wrobleski, Director
- Has been in charge of computing sites, wolverine access, etc, so can answer questions regarding those too
- Background on Google stuff – has been a lot of activity about what to do for email, calendar perspective. How to help students and staff work well together.
- Fairly consistent that the majority of people have a google account
- Medical Center moved forward already with Exchange.
- Would like to move everyone into one system, but probably not likely
- Medical center work under different set of business requirements; moving to cloud service vs on-premise service. They started before the Google discussion happened. Trying to change how to do medical care. Microsoft Exchange is part of their delivery.
- Campus working on different priorities than hospital.
- Campus-wide initiative in the fall to get feedback, which turned into proposal for Pres, Provost, CFO, etc. Mid-Jan got approval that project would move forward.
- Pre-analysis phase of the project, figuring what’s in scope and not, building a budget, etc. That's what has been working on for past 6-weeks.
- Slated to present after March 31st to university, but was postponed for a few weeks. Expects decision in next 30-60 days, to get funding and start.
- Early 2012 wants the students to all transition to this new system.

Questions:
JOSH: My undergrad institution did something similar. Had to have several email addresses. Is that how it'll work?
BILL: Will keep @umich.edu email address. Will look like a Google App account. Expect other features like Sites, Wiki, etc.
RAHUL: So maize and blue won't exist anymore?
BILL: That’s right. It’ll take a while to shut it down. Has several in imap and exchange.

DAVID: Is this a more professionalized google account, because currently gmail has several ads.
BILL: This is a different service, so it won’t have ads. Not sure if it has email scans. There are different versions of google package with different levels of security – this drives the cost, so will be thoughtful on how to follow this.

MINDY: How much do you pay now per person, for email?
BILL: Currently $108/person for faculty and staff. For students, it’s less.

BILL: Wants to do integration to ctools. Web log-in is for web, and not for phone. So, a different password and authentication process will be developed to make it easy for you to sync it with your phone.

MICHAEL: Has spoken to grad students, and a concern is that google just came out with a different level of security. And, number of smart phones increases tremendously ‘push’ is important for Android phones in particular, so when university doesn’t transition over that the feature is not shut down.

ETHAN: For GSIs, storing grades – at one point, there was 3 or 4 GSIs for a class with different section and wanting to create a comment site to add grades, and Prof said that you can’t use Google for university purposes. Will there be something like this with this new function?
BILL: Has to be careful on what to give access to. In the umich space, there will be space with google to do more.

RAHUL: I currently use google account for junk, and umich for serious stuff. So if umich email goes to google, will it be separated?
BILL: Yes, will be a separate account. There’s no way for the University to know of students’ private google accounts.

MAYELA: Will there be a limit in inbox, cause some of us have thousands of emails.
BILL: There will be a limit but it’ll be large. There will also be a limit on the size of the email.

Go around and answer questions:
- When would you like the transition
- Move the emails yourself?
- Do you use the MFile?

Overall consensus to do it over the summer. Most people want to transfer emails themselves. Many people use MFile.

BILL: As grad students working closely with faculty, want to understand how best to use this new function with faculty. It’s been suggested that most faculty wouldn’t want administrators to help them, but have students help them. Would it be possible to have a student ‘Geek Squad’ to help faculty members. Also, what areas do you see of faculty using these tools.

MICHAEL: There’s a faculty member in his dept who has his secretary print out his emails and documents. So, we shouldn’t assume that all Profs will be open to discovering the system
themselves. Maybe, set something at each department so ITS can come in and show people how to do things.

MINDY: Do students first, then faculty, because her advisor will go to her. And they won’t read emails on how to do it until they’re forced.

ETHAN: How do Professors get trained on how to use ctools?
BILL: Number one response was people figure it out, or ask a colleague to help. For students, similar responses. Asking ITS or technical people aren’t high.

V. SAGE WHITE PAPER

MICHAEL:

Everyone got copies last week. Any questions?

Josh motions to approve the SAGE White Papers. Mindy seconds the motion.
AYES: 16
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 1
Motion passed. SAGE White Papers approved.

VI. SAGE TRIP

MICHAEL:

5 individuals will be going: Michael Benson, Mindy Waite, Adam Cole, Lily Mancour, Cherisse Loucks

VII: UNIVERSITY HOUSING

MICHAEL:

Will discuss this issue next week. Current proposal is to cut dorm beds from graduate students to undergrad. It’s upsetting. Recommends Student Life puts forward a resolution, with public hearing.

VIII: COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

TIEN:

Please stay after today’s meeting for quick meeting. GEO FAQ sheet is ready, to be posted and sent out.

b) BUDGETARY

MINDY:

Approved $300 for Hijabi Monologues.

c) COMMUNICATIONS

MAYELA:
Quick meeting after meeting

d) ELECTIONS

MINDY:
It’s going on currently, please vote!

MICHAEL:
Please review bylaws for the Elections Director position, to discuss potential bonus next week.

e) LEGISLATIVE

MICHAEL:
Legislative Committee meeting after SAGE, to discuss lobbying in state capital. Coalition on state issues.

f) STUDENT LIFE

MICHAEL:
March Madness – 279 people signed up. When tournament ends, Committee will discuss event to watch the final game.

RAHUL:
St. Patty’s Day – line out the door. Very full and successful.

IX. GPA CHANGE – BALLOT

MICHAEL:
Concerns of what we want to change to. So, we’re going to discuss it and propose a special election to see what students want.

X. OPEN DISCUSSION

RAHUL: When does the current term end?
MICHAEL: May 1st ends, new board begins May 2nd.

XI. ADJOURN

The Rackham Student Government General Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Mayela Montenegro, Vice President