RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
3/12/13
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:34 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:34 pm

b. Present: Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Dan Trubman, Ryan Roberts, Ryne Peterson, Pete McGrath, David Barton, Anna Belak, Chris Tom, Evan Arthur, Lauren Knapp, Phil Saccone, Janakiraman Balachandran, Yiting Zhang, John Forrest, Matt Filter

c. Absent:

d. Excused: Eugene Daneshvar, Michael Lang, Alex Gutierrez,

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 2/19/13

a. Moved by Pete and seconded by Lauren. Approved with the need to update attendance, with two abstentions.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

a. President Michael Benson. Next week will be a resolution meeting with many of them going up for first reading. We will need the agreement of the board on these resolutions. Congratulations to everyone on crafting the plan for the GPA change from 9.0 to 4.0. Many visitors coming, including Dean Weiss in April. Doodle polls have gone out for the JCOM to meet. There will be no binding question on the ballot this year regarding student secession events. We will also need to alter this resolution. We are also creating a joint grad and professional student government group on campus to unite the executive boards from all of these schools. Eventually the idea is that this board would become the organizational board for the federation if we secede. Michael makes some announcements about elections and announces that he will be stepping down this year. Michael had a meeting with the University Council which meets with Mary Sue Coleman and the executives of the student governments on campus. One initiative is to create some sort of “University sponsored” subsidized loans for graduate students (to fill the gap that was left when Obama cancelled these loans last year). CIC- Big Ten schools plus UChicago to share best practices among graduate student governments, deans and presidents at the Universities. In May, they are co-hosting a ‘Future of the Humanities’ conference here at UM and will be having a similar meeting for deans and graduate student executives.
b. **Vice President Kaitlin Flynn.** Election update: elections are coming up soon, the email announcement to solicit for candidates, elections on March 27, 28, 29. Kaitlin will be not be running for president this semester but she encourages anyone interested to run. The newsletter will also be going out tomorrow.

c. **Treasurer Phil Saccone.** $21,193 in the account—finally got our fees deposited. Sending out a funding request announcement very shortly to the student body.

V. **Director Report**
   a. **Elections Director, Dan Trubman:** see Kaitlin’s report. Get your events
   b. **Events Director, Ryan Roberts:** St. Patrick’s Day event on Thursday night. Bowling on Saturday, we need volunteers.

VI. **Committee Updates**
   a. **Academics:** Motion by Chris to approve the minutes and seconded by Anna. Moved to item 7 for discussion.
   b. **Budgetary:** Lots of requests the committee is working through. Vanessa has resigned and thus we need another member on the budgetary committee. Ryne offers to be on the committee and Kaitlin motions to nominate him, seconded by Chris. Phil objects because there are already 2 representatives from division III sitting on the committee and in the bylaws we aim to have a rep from each division. Kaitlin mentions that when we were slating the committees we did think of this problem but decided to move forward.
   c. **COSAC:** Looking for their next event. Will be meeting at 7pm right before board meeting and will need more people to show up and move forward. Motion by Pete and seconded by Matt Waugh
   d. **Elections:** Elections coming up, get your friends to run.
   e. **Legislative Affairs:** Motion to approve the minutes by Lauren and seconded by Ryan. Minutes are approved unanimously.
   f. **Student Life:** Nothing to add.
   g. **GPC:** Motion to approve the minutes by Lauren and seconded by Ryan. Minutes are approved unanimously. Unfortunately there is an issue with the date the committee picked for April.
   h. **JCOM:** Not met.

VII. **Academic Calendar for 2015-2016 Academic Year**
   a. Under state law, public schools in Michigan cannot start after Labor Day. UM tries to follow this as well. There is an issue in planning finals. The last day of finals would be 12/23—it would be very short for break, especially for international students. Dean Weiss asked on behalf of the provost office if we would be willing to get rid of Fall Break to have a one-day fall break and extend winter break by one day. The Board discusses these issues. Chris offers to help construct the resolution. Motion by Chris and seconded by Phil to call for a public hearing on this resolution. It’s approved with 3 abstentions.
VIII. SAGE Issues Update

IX. SAGE Delegation:
   a. Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Lang, Phil Saccone, Michael Benson, Haven Allen, and the new president.

X. Student Safety Working Group Report and Recommendations:
   a. The full report is included in the packet. Michael walks us through it. The security, students, and police were included in constructing the report. Much of it is aimed at undergraduate students.

XI. Open Discussion:
   a. Pete wants COSAC ideas for events. Kaitlin will put a question in the newsletter to ask the student body. John asks what the mission is for COSAC.

XII. Adjournment: Motion by Chris and seconded by Matt W. Adjourned at 8:37pm.