RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
5/15/13
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:04 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:34pm

b. Present: Michael Lang, Chris Tom, Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Phil Saccone, Ryan Roberts, Michael Lang, Brooke Horton, David Malewski, Julian Bahr, Yiting Zhang, David Barton, Chuky Mbagwu, Chris Tom, visitor Mike Hand

c. Absent: Eugene

d. Excused: Ram Balachandran, Alex Gutierrez

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

a. Motion to approve the agenda by Michael Lang and seconded by Yiting. Approved unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 4/23/13

a. Motion by Michael Benson and seconded by Chuaky. Approved unanimously.

b. Update attendance

V. OFFICER REPORTS

a. President Phil Saccone. Thank you all for coming. Phil gives a rundown of Roberts Rules of Order to the new board members. Phil would like to appoint Ryan Roberts to a Division II seat. Phil nominates Ryan to a half-term seat, that is, his term will expire in the Fall. Michael Benson motions to confirm Ryan’s appointment by unanimous approval. Phil has been meeting with Natalie at Rackham about the fall picnic and the annual summer Tiger’s game. Phil gives a treasurer update, and we have $19,590 in the account. We are seeking a new treasurer and applications have been sent out and applications will be accepted until next Friday.

b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. There’s lots to do this summer. We’re looking forward to the consolidation and creation of committees in order to streamline the board’s operations. Also Kaitlin serves as the copy editor of RSG and oversees all advertisements and announcements that go out from the RSG account. If anyone has anything they would like advertised, please feel free to contact her.

VI. RSG Logistics

a. Representative Expectations
i. Board meetings: allowed 3 unexcused absences before you are removed from the board.

ii. Committees: serve on at least one, ideally two committees.

iii. Events: must attend at least 2 non-board meeting events and help out every year.

iv. Constituent contact: office hours? Are they effective? Phil asks how many people have had visitors at their office hours. Michael Lang and Chris Tom have had a lot of success, mostly with people in their program. Kaitlin mentions that we’ve been brainstorming ways that we can interact more fully with our constituency, including monthly coffee hours or opening the RSG office in Rackham. David M asks if we have a schedule for town halls and announcements. Chris Tom mentions that we have 2 per semester. David M mentions that we should try to engage with the Division IV people by having a specific town hall or events to recruit them. Mike H suggests advertising more about how to get involved with RSG to target the students who have previously been in leadership roles.

b. Committee Membership

i. Communications Committee: many people are concerned with the communications presence of RSG. Phil would like to create an ad-hoc committee for Communications and to create a communication infrastructure. Kaitlin mentions that there was previously a communications committee and it focused mostly on advertising and branding. Hopefully the creation of this ad-hoc committee will allow for delegation of some of these responsibilities and an additional focus on the website. Julian is highly supportive and interested in helping work on the website, as he ideas but admittedly less experience with web development.

ii. COSAC/Student Life merger: These two committees both focus on student engagement and putting on events for students. Phil feels that it is best to merge the committees at least for the summer in order to get more participation. Michael Lang as a COSAC co-chair is highly supportive of the merger and the summer will be an active time for COSAC. Phil gives more explanation for the events of the summer. Chris Tom mentions that student life isn’t just social events but also registering student group registration. Kaitlin mentions that this process has started to be in place and it might be best to have the student group registration go through the budgetary and communications committees as putting this online will be crucial. Kaitlin also mentions that consolidating the committees is also to encourage attendance. Michael mentions that at least trying for the summer is worth it and David M concurs. Michael Benson moves that the person selected to be a chair of the student life committee also becomes the COSAC chair and that COSAC be required to meet concurrently with student life and that they be allowed to submit one set of minutes for that meeting. Seconded by Michael Lang. Approved with one abstention.

iii. LAC/Bylaw review Committee: Kaitlin explains the history of the usually ad-hoc bylaw review committee and it’s challenges in the past. We hope to task the process of bylaw review to the LAC as it is a somewhat less-
packed legislative agenda in the summer. Phil mentions that even if you aren’t on the committee you are welcome to review the bylaws and submit changes as necessary.

c. **Treasurer/Budgets:** still looking for a new treasurer. Please submit your applications soon. We will also be asking committees for budgets as soon as they’re slated.

d. **RSG email list**

VII. **Summer Goal Setting Session:** breakout into groups for goal setting for the summer. Discussion ensues about how tasks will be assigned to committees, how committees function, etc.

VIII. **Resolutions:** resolutions that were pending last semester—if you have one that you introduced last semester and still want to carry over. Please send to Phil for discussion as to the best time to introduce them. For instance, the issue on fossil fuel divestment, Phil feels that we should ensure that we get all board members opinions (including those currently elsewhere/Master’s students) and engagement with the Development office at the U. Resolution templates will be sent out soon too.

IX. **Open Discussion:** Although we will generally meet biweekly we will have a meeting next week to organize committees and get budgets flushed out. Chris asks about committee structure and how the meetings will be organized next week. Kaitlin explains how we will move forward. Phil mentions we will be addressing further issues next week. Board happy hour after next week’s meeting at Arena per Michael Lang’s request.

X. **Adjournment:** Motion by Chris to adjourn and seconded by Ryan. Adjourned at 8:22pm.