RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
5/22/13
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:06 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:06pm

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

c. Absent:
d. Excused: Ram Balachandran, Yiting Zhang

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 5/15/13

a. Update time and attendance to reflect reality. Motion to accept and approve by Chris and seconded by Chuky.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

a. President Phil Saccone. Summer plans: Phil has been meeting with the folks at Rackham to plan co-sponsored events including the Fall Picnic, Tigers game, ice cream social, and a possible Fuller park pool day. The planning process will primarily be delegated to the student life committee. Treasurer application is still open!
   i. Executive Order: Creation of a Communications Committee. This order included in your packet is from Phil and Kaitlin ordering the creation of a communications committee. Phil is interested in hearing feedback about the order. Michael asks what an Executive Order is and

b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. Newsletter coming out soon, Kaitlin is about to talk a lot about committees, excited about working with the communications committee. Ram reminds us to include names of people that won the election prizes.

V. Committee Assignments, Priorities and Meeting schedule

a. Kaitlin VP: In charge of committees. Went over the list. If not satisfied, please bare with for the summer. Any concerns? Tom: Asks about JCOM Is it still in effect? Kaitlin we will address that later
Kaitlin: makes motion to approve slate seconded by chris.
Slate is approved unanimously.
Kaitlin: Plan an agenda for you committee and budget. Lists some suggestions.
Budgets are due by the beginning of the next board meeting.

Suggestions from the board:
Barton: housing forum, SAGE priorities, public safety, Cedar Point
Malewski: PILOTS, 401K reform, professional development
Ryan: Website is big priority, increasing interactivity with funding model
Chuky: Communications and website the most important priority, information on committees, Cedar Point trip, SAGE priorities
Julian: Website, more interaction and engagement with div IV, federal issues
Gutierrez: Grad Student Bill of Rights and the website
Benson: website, GSBOR, secession activities—enhance and increase representation for graduate students at the U, continue to serve the students
Chris Tom: website, reach out to other academic affairs bodies at the U including SACUA and CSG’s AAC.
Ram: website, housing forum advertisement on the website in order to drive traffic, running club, improving the openness in academic affairs for student professor relationships—create a resolution to have 3 years of feedback available on Wolverine Access.
Mike Hand: Cedar Point trip, closure on CSG secession issue, fellowship/money issues pamphlet
Kaitlin: website, communications, career development/career fair

VI. Eugene Daneshvar, former representative
   a. What kind of content and functionality is needed? Recruit nonmembers to do some of the initial work. (this is a sidenote)
   b. Eugene has come to resign as a representative. He has really enjoyed working with us and appreciates the effort that we put in. He would ask that we really think about what we are trying to do here, whether it be to make the experience better or the U better. Some things to consider are that a GSI has more help via GEO for protective issues than GSRAs. Eugene’s purpose was to even out that balance. We don’t have legal representation in our GSRA contracts and that leaves some students quite helpless. The gap is still there. But we are asking the U to give up power with the BOR. We have the rights to this power though. Phil accepts his resignation.
VII. Committee Budgets: please do them and submit them on time. Phil can make available what was requested last summer as well as documents for budget requests, etc.

VIII. CSG Secession + JCOM update: last semester there was a resolution to create a committee to investigate separation from Central Student Government in order to ensure graduate students are represented fully. A joint committee would include students from Medical, Law, Dental, etc graduate student organizations. The vote from last Fall has charged the board with exploring. Phil continues to talk about the issues. Kaitlin mentions that CSG gets $7.19 of graduate students’ money and RSG only gets $1.50. There are fairness issues with how this money is distributed and our funding model ends up being more pinched than we would like. Michael mentions the genesis of the issue was basically that undergraduates have no idea what it’s like to be a graduate student. There is an issue of representation here. Why should a student 4 years below you be your representative at the University level? Michael further explains the representation issue. Chris Tom mentions that it doesn’t make sense that there are two bodies representing graduate students as it dilutes the power. Michael mentions that the trend across the nation in Research I universities has been to separate graduate and undergraduate student governments/representation. Dave asks which schools are in support behind us. The Law School, the School of Public Health, the School of Social Work, the Medical school student council is supportive but has not yet taken a vote. Michael has spoken to prior leadership at the business school. The important thing is that this would not go to CSG but to the Reagent’s directly. Julian asks if the Reagents have taken a position yet. Phil says that they have not but it CSG's position is that they believe the Reagents would not be in favor. Chuky asks for the previous two attempts what the failure was. Michael mentions that they were

IX. Revamping RSG Schedule—Fall- postponed until next meeting

X. SAGE Update—Michael Benson—postponed until next meeting

XI. Appointments: with Eugene’s resignation we have an open seat in Division II. Phil would like to appoint Mike Hand who has been at the U for a number of years and held a number of leadership positions at the College of Engineering. Motion by Chris and seconded by Ram, it’s approved unanimously.

XII. Open Discussion: going to Arena after this for a social event.

XIII. Adjournment: Motion by Chris and seconded by Mike