I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:05pm
   a. Present: President Phil Saccone, David Malewski, Brooke Horton, David Barton, Treasurer Chuky Mbagwu, Ram Balachandran, Julian Bahr, Michael Benson, Mike Hand, Alex Gutierrez
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused: Kaitlin Flynn, Yiting Zhang

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
   a. MH motions to approve, seconded by MB. Approved unanimously, no abstentions.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 6/5/13
   a. DM motions to approve, seconded by MB. Approved unanimously, no abstentions.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS
   a. President Phil Saccone:
      i. Events: We have a Happy Hour tomorrow (Thurs), please come and socialize. Board members are required to participate in 3 events. Ice cream social this weekend (Sunday): Phil, Chuky, Julian, David M, can surely attend/set up. Tigers Game, chaperones: Mike H, Michael B, David M, and Phil can chaperone. Responsibility and behavior are obviously expected by chaperones and attendees.
      ii. Natalie’s Visit: Phil thanks everyone for their participation and input for Natalie’s questions.
      iii. Budget Review: Spring/Summer 2013

   b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn: Big shout out to Julian for assembling and publishing this week's newsletter! Wahoo! I'd like to remind everyone that there are two events coming up, one being a bar night tomorrow night at Bills Beer Garden. Bill is graciously hosting us (hard for large groups) and importantly, the garden opens at 7 (when our event starts). In order to secure tables for the group,
we'll need people to show up on time. We will provide a small amount of appetizers. Secondly, we are having our canoe/kayak day and ice-cream social event on Sunday from 2-4pm. We'll be subsidizing kayaks, having game time and ice cream time and so on. We need your help! Please show up to one if not both of these events ready to help. Remember that your representative requirement is to attend/staff at least 3 events per term. Finally, I sent out a mockup of our new staff t-shirts per the design/qualities we voted on over the past few weeks. Let me know ASAP via email what your preference is for the back of the shirt. A separate sizing form will go out soon.

c. Treasurer Chuky Mbagwu:

i. Budget Review: Spring/Summer 2013

1. Healthy budget: ~$20,000 in account, ~$12,000 after debits

2. ~$10,000 Spring/Summer budget, reserve money in accordance with 5-10% of yearly budget

ii. Budgetary Committee: Will be scheduled as needed

V. NATALIE BARTOLACCI, RACKHAM STUDENT AFFAIRS.

a. Phil introduces Natalie from Rackham, a great help and partner to RSG with many events and other initiatives.

b. Rackham Communication Strategy. Natalie is excited about RSG’s desire to improve communications with student body, and Rackham is likewise interested in doing the same. Would be great to work in tandem with RSG.

c. What kind of information is important to communicate to the grad community?

Kaitlin: Academic policies and professional development resources. The most important types of information Rackham needs to communicate to the student body are academic policies and professional development resources. There are tons of offices, lectures and seminars going on all the time and often they get missed among other events. || Besides Rackham, RSG also communicates with the student body. To some extent, so does GEO. Primarily this is done via email, and some on Twitter/Facebook. Also student groups like SCOR and the LGBT orgs have facebook presences. || The feedback we get from students are positive (participation in newsletter polls, friends/constituents mention newsletter to me, people show up to events) but also somewhat negative (complaints about number of emails, not advertising events early enough, etc). || General advice for the next few years: stick with a newsletter format that's short and engaging (current Rackham newsletter with the list of items at the top is cumbersome), advertise early for events but not too often, provide clear and easy way to opt out of list-
Julian: When joined, excited by RSG but saw that there was not much interaction between departments and would like to see them improved.

Brooke: Along the lines of Kaitlin’s comments with regards to professional development, as well as communicating resources for assault/awareness issues.

Ram: Would like to see more of a VP newsletter from Rackham, consolidate emails and notices from all the VPs and Deans for the week, etc. Additional focus for North Campus community, often neglected.

Mike Hand: An infrastructure in place where information for events and activities are centrally located (online or otherwise).

Michael Benson: Agrees with Mike, but perhaps add customization where students can subscribe to the type or genre of events/activities that they would like to be notified of, and thus receive a somewhat personalized and targeted digest.

Alex: Seconds a personalized subscription of events to reduce missed or overlooked emails within the mass emails.

David M: Better ways to prevent people from missing emails or notices -- it is useful that Rackham has email list-servs that cannot be unsubscribed from. Also concerns with foreign national students, sometimes there is not a complete understanding of notices and communications for non-native speakers. MB mentions the international office assists with those kinds of issues, but that clarity and conciseness should indeed be emphasized.

David B: Agrees with most of the suggestions thus far.

Phil: Better communication for people just starting or enrolled, or perhaps when candidacy is achieved. Difficulty with this because grad students are all on
different time schedule… Formatting, frequency, subscriptions, and accessible website seems like the clear path forward.

Natalie informs Board that Rackham’s communication has changed from a previous large email blast of all items to somewhat more frequent topical digests regarding: funding, social events, etc.

Michael Benson adds suggestion for Rackham to improve financial aid training to grad chairs/coordinators who appear to be informed more to towards the financial needs of undergraduates (MB’s experience in EE).

VI. APPROVAL OF THE SPRING/SUMMER 2013 BUDGET

a. Budget Issues: Unknown reason for $900 under-budgeting for Fall Picnic 2012, added to and accounted for in new budget.

b. Reserve money stands at $2349.26

c. Committee Budgets have stayed relatively consistent with previous years.

d. MH friendly amendment to add the August happy hour to budget

e. MB motions to approve budget, MH seconds with friendly amendment. Approved unanimously.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Legislative Affairs: MB: Did not meet last week, will meet next week. City planning staff have come up with a new “Student Zoning District”, RSG will like to weigh in on this issue. Has the potential to create a different (lower?) standard for student housing, etc. There will be more information from MB soon. Also, Mike Hand will be giving a Latex info session at the next LAC meeting (next Wed. at 7pm).

Phil reminds the LAC about its responsibility for RSG bylaw amendments, if needed.

b. Academic Affairs: Did not meet last week.

c. Communications:

d. Student Life/COSAC: MH motions, MB objects with an amendment: fix the list
of attendees to include titles (President, VP, Treasurer, Representatives)

e. **Budgetary**: Budgetary committee will meet as necessary, Chuky will schedule when funding applications come through.

VIII. **Open Discussion**: T-Shirt discussion, email Kaitlin about any concerns with the T-Shirt. MH says “Representative” is too long. MB and MH and Board agrees with “STAFF” for back of shirt

IX. **Adjournment**: Motion by DM seconded by DB. Adjourned at 8:18pm.