Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: February 19, 2013
Agenda

I. Call To Order
II. Approval of Agenda
III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. February 12, 2012* (p. 2)
IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Michael
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Kaitlin
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Phil
V. Events Director Report
VI. Appointment of Winter 2013 Elections Director
VII. Committee Updates
   a. Academic Affairs
e. Legislative Affairs
   b. Budgetary* (p. 5)
f. Student Life* (p. 7)
c. COSAC
   d. Elections
   g. GPC
   h. J-COM
VIII. Campus Safety Discussion
   a. Building Accessibility
c. Personal Safety
   b. After Hours Transportation
d. Graduate Student Programs
IX. Major Events Discussion
   a. Bowling 3/16
c. Gala
   b. SAGE 4/13
d. Town Halls
X. Graduate Student Governance
XI. Open Discussion
XII. Adjournment

* - Item included in packet
** - Item will be provided on Day of Meeting or at Meeting
*** - Item was included in a previous packet
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
BOARD MEETING
2/12/13
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:32 P.M.

a. CALL TO ORDER: 7:32pm

b. Present: Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Dan Trubman, Phil Saccone, Michael Lang, Ryan Roberts, Yiting Zhang, Ryne Peterson, Dan Trubman, Pete McGrath, Janakiraman Balachadran, Matt Filter, Vanessa Cruz, Lauren Knapp, John Forrest, Evan Arthur, Matt Waugh

c. Absent: Chris Tom

d. Excused: Eugene Daneshvar, Alex Gutierrez

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

a. Moved by Ryan and seconded by Michael

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 2/5/13

a. Moved by Pete and seconded by John.

b. One change to Eugene’s comment during community input as submitted by Eugene.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION W-13-01

a. Elson Liu, former CSG and RSG representative, PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering. Elson feels that he isn’t sure what problems the resolution to form a committee is aimed at addressing, and he is not sure how any of the things it seeks to address are not possible in the existing constitution. As a second point, as we consider secession, he’s not sure what the legal implications would be for Rackham to secede and not adopt the current campus constitution. He also feels that the understanding of peer institution student government structure is unclear, and he cites California and UT-Austin as examples. Matt Filter asks if Elson thinks that secession is unnecessary. Elson says that he feels that there are ways to address these issues without secession, the particular issues being financial issues and representation. He asks the board if the problem could be solved by simply increasing the proportion of fees that RSG gets. Elson also says that there is nothing in the all campus constitution that prevents student governments from addressing the Regents. Kaitlin asks about the ‘legal implications of violating the all-campus constitution’. Elson responds that the all campus constitution was voted on by the entire student body and that by seceding RSG would be breaking the constitution that was voted on. Ryan asks about the UT-Austin student government information, and Elson cites his sources and then cautions against misinformation.
V. OFFICER REPORTS
   a. President Michael Benson. Registrar has still not completed an updated list of students, this affects a variety of our operations. The GSBOR is making progress and we will be able to meet with administration soon. SAGE dates have been set, April 13-16, let Michael know if you’re interested.

   b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn. Newsletter going out tomorrow, thanks to everyone who has advertised to their friends and constituents. Events this week: Valentine’s day bar night tonight from 9-11pm at the Blue lep and a FOCUS:Hope event to clean up in Detroit this weekend.

   c. Treasurer Phil Saccone. $13, 243 in the account, SOAS has still not deposited our student fees into our account. Budgetary committee and budget will be discussed further down on the agenda.

VI. Event’s Director Report
   a. Some budget requests for committees were submitted without dates for the events, please let Ryan know what dates you intend to hold the event so we can get the calendar finalized.

VII. Second Reading: Resolution to Create a Joint Committee on Graduate and Professional Student Governance
   a. Kaitlin thanks Elson for coming and speaks about creating the committee for discernment if the secession would be feasible or necessary. Michael addresses some of Elson’s points directly, particularly that the student governments at peer institutions are indeed separate in some particular ways, particularly with fees. Michael mentions that the legality issues might be able to be worked out within the committee. Vanessa asks about numbers from the last election—9.5% of Rackham students voted and 68% were democratically in favor of moving towards secession. Amending resolution on line 47 to change ‘Feb 6’ to ‘Feb 28’ motion to approve by Pete and seconded by Kaitlin. Approved with 6 abstentions. Ram asks what the timeline would be and Kaitlin explains that it would depend on the initial decision of the committee and how they decide to move forward. Ram asks if we would be having public hearings and Kaitlin says yes, definitely, whether or not a question moves to the ballot.


VIII. RSG Branding—Seal and Logo
   a. Pete has created some new designs for RSG branding. Pete feels that we lack a consistent message and have a simple and clear logo that says Rackham Student Government. Pete makes a motion to adopt this as our new logo and seconded by Dan. Vanessa and Ram ask specific questions about the design. Michael Lang asks about logos from the other schools. Motion to postpone approval of this by Michael and seconded by Matt F. Ryan speaks that we could just use hexadecimal
codes from UM colors and be done with it. Matt says that he would like to see other options. Lauren says that we have other things on our plate and Pete did it as a favor to the board and we should move on to more important things. There is general confusion about when and where the seals and logos are used, and Michael suggests that he tasks Kaitlin with the role of deciding the rules for use of each logo. Vote: 4-4-8 there’s a tie, Michael breaks it and the motion fails—we’re back to the main motion to approve the logo as Pete presented. Given that the logo uses the U’s official colors. 10-4-3, it’s approved.

IX. Committee Updates
   a. Academics: committee meeting tomorrow at 6:30pm.
   b. Budgetary: Alex is finishing up receipts from last semester. Motion to approve and receive the minutes from 2/5. Approved with 5 abstentions.
   c. COSAC: Michael L judged a science fair last weekend and he’s looking to keep that up. This weekend the FOCUS:Hope cleanup is moving forward, 20 people signed up so far. Pete motions to approve and receive minutes, seconded by Michael L, approved with 5 abstentions.
   d. Elections: will be approving our election dates next week, CSG just approved March 27 and 28 for their events. Kaitlin makes a motion to set RSG Winter election dates to 3/27-29 and it’s seconded by John. There’s discussion on whether 3 days is important or not. It’s approved unanimously.
   e. Legislative Affairs: The committee meets tomorrow.
   f. Student Life: Stoplight event tonight from 9-11pm.
   g. GPC: Considering a Friday or Saturday in April, discussion about potential venues, closer to campus is better. Buying tickets in advance would help with planning for attendance and food. Lauren makes a motion to approve and receive the minutes, seconded by Pete. Approved with two abstentions.

X. Campus Safety Discussion—moved to next week. Will be joined next week to discuss taxi incident as well as Student Safety Workgroup report the following week.
   a. Building Accessibility
   b. After Hours Transportation
   c. Personal Safety
   d. Graduate Student Programs

XI. Open Discussion- Stoplight party tonight! Get excited!

XII. Adjournment- Motion by Dan and seconded by Pete adjourned at 8:34pm.
I. CALL TO ORDER: 06:50pm
   a. Present: Michael Benson (President), Phil Saccone (Treasurer), Dan Trubman, Matt Filter, Vanessa Cruz, Yiting Zhang
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused: Kaitlin Flynn
II. CHAIR’S REPORT Thank you for meeting. We have two guests that we scheduled today for a meeting—reps from FEMMES and SWAIRS
III. Funding requests
   • FEMMES: Abigail and Felicia are the representatives that will answer questions. Organization that brings local kids to the university to participate in a daylong event. Main goal is to engage young women in the fields of science, math, and engineering. Led by graduate students. 50-60 volunteers for each event. Michael, can you rank order what your preference are for funding? It was not in the original application. How much WISE money do you have?
     Abigail: Still have $1000 left. First priority is food.
     Phil: Is WISE funding a one shot deal?
     Felicia: Yes.
     Michael: Why should we use Rackham graduate student money to pay for this?
     Abigail: Necessary to feed the kids. Food is critical to bringing people together. Organization is graduate student led and food will make event manageable and successful.
     Phil: How much, how many for each grad. school meal.
     Abigail/Felicia $4.25 cents about $25-30 graduate students.
     Michael: Volunteer pool should be open to everyone—need to get more volunteers, not just ones that have already signed up. Should advertise in RSG gazette.
     Abigail: No problem
     Discussion ensues about merits of the application. Vanessa, Michael, and Phil believe that the program provides enrichment to the graduate students that are involved; even though the recipients of the funds are not all graduate students. Dan doesn’t believe we should appropriate funds in such a large amount (original request $900) for items that don’t benefit mostly the grad students involved. Motion was made by Michael and seconded by Vanessa to vote for amounts between $500 (originally recommended by Michael) and $200 (originally recommended by Dan), in increments of $100—majority vote on a dollar amount is the amount that will be funded. Stipulation: group must
advertise in RSG gazette and aim for 10 new volunteers. Ultimately 5 new volunteers will be acceptable. It is up to the treasurer to determine if sufficient effort has been met to justify funding.

Vote on $500 (Motion fails)
Yes: Michael, Vanessa
No: Phil, Yiting, Dan, Matt
Abstentions: 0

$400 (Motion carries)
Yes: Michael, Vanessa, Phil, Yiting, Matt
No: Dan
Abstentions: 0

- **AWIS:** Opened floor to debate. Amount seems reasonable. Good graduate student involvement. Price for food is fair. Arithmetic works out. Motion by Matt to approve $100, seconded by Yiting.
  Yes: Phil, Yiting, Michael, Matt, Vanessa, Dan
  No: 0
  Abstentions: 0

- **SWAIRS:** Representative did not show. Committee asks Phil to send email asking emailing about honoraria for Michigan based professors. Michael said he would email some questions as well. When we get a response, we will open a meeting electronically.

- **Open discussion:** None

- **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Dan to adjourn, seconded by Michael. Motion carries 6-0-0 Adjourned 7:26p
I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:15pm
   a. Present: Representatives Ryan Roberts (Chair), Evan Arthur, Matt Waugh, Ryne Peterson
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused: Janakiraman Balachandran

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
   a. Approved

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

IV. CHAIR’S REPORT

V. Saint Patrick’s Day
   a. Research to see if shirt pattern retained – Ryan Roberts will do this
   b. Call underground printing and get deal arranged – Evan Arthur will do this
   c. Follow through with printing of t-shirts – Evan Arthur will do this
      i. Verify the shirts are produced before Spring Break
   d. Produce publicity – Ryan Roberts will do this
   e. Verify publicity gets distributed – Ryan Roberts will do this
   f. Contact Conner’s and Circus to see if Thursday night (14th) will work
   g. Get decorations for this secured – Ryan Roberts will do this

VI. March Madness
   a. Ryan Roberts will set up ESPN bracket.
   b. Ryan Roberts will produce publicity to recruit a team.
   c. Cristine Zuchora will get sixteen+ cones and two+ discs (two games).
   d. Ryne Peterson will reserve Palmer Field on March 21st 4:30-8PM

VII. Ryan Moody – Divesetment Discussion
   a. Ryan Moody and Serge Farinas (Evolutionary Biology) testified on behalf of the movement.
      i. They will discuss inserting a ballot question with the President of RSG
      ii. They will discuss a resolution to the board with the President of RSG
      iii. Resolution is in support of
VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT at 6:58pm.
Meeting called to order at 7:42PM EST

Attendance:
UM - Michael Benson, Chair
UT - Michael Redding
UNC - Michael Bertucci
UNC - JoEllen McBride, Recording Secretary for the call (for Katie Lavoie)

Michael Redding - Funding graduate initiatives for Career Services
Funding initiative ideas:
Getting buy in from people to fund things
UT- no fees, built into tuition
A portion of this goes to Career services
Tricky for grad students: not allowed to use it in the Arts and Sciences even tho they pay for it.
The school doesn’t have the staff to handle the 4000 extra students
The school wants to design their own campus wide center as a supplemental - but still trying to get graduate students allowed to use it also
Wants ideas how funding/initiatives are obtained for graduate students as different than undergraduates.
How do you pay for getting stuff done?

Bertucci:
Surprised that Career Service doesn’t cater to graduate students.
At UNC if we find graduate students are being treated differently, we talk to our administrators and they are willing to work with us to make it fair.
If all colleges have career service stuff in them, parse out what they could relieve themselves of if there was a centralized one.
May have to cut some services from the current ones in each college to cut costs.

Redding:
Schools with good career services don’t want to give it up.
Its hard to trace a dollar from tuition to where it ends up. So know that graduate students are paying for it but don’t know how much.
Budgets are tightening. No increase in allocations from state and no tuition increases.
Reluctance to expand services.
**Benson:**
Similar financial situation as a few years ago
State revenue below 10% of operating budget.
Forged different relationships with different administrative offices, Career services, student affairs.
Try to work collaboratively with various groups to discuss the situation.
Can generally convince them to help and find funding with development office or other services.
Making things better for current students makes them more likely to donate later.

**Redding:**
When you have an initiative how many people can you get to help you on the graduate student side?
Only two people advocating for it.

**Benson:**
Don’t have one person per program and they have to meet weekly. So have a sizable base to get the word out.

**Redding:**
We are bi-weekly.
We are never adding things just saving things.

**Bertucci:**
We use the Senate. I would walk into your Senate equivalent and ask them if they care.
Go into Administrators with statistics.

**Redding:**
We have statistics.
Very docile campus. Has 40 days left in term and trying to find root cause.

**Benson:**
Depends on the issue.
If someone doesn’t realize how something affects them then they can’t care.

**Redding:**
Trying to come up with a structure to engage on specific issues.

**McBride:**
Have you had actual students complain?

**Redding:**
Yes but they don’t want to get involved

**Bertucci:**
Go to the individual places and find specific people so they can explain their issue to the Career Services in special schools to make them aware of the issues

**Redding:**
Graduate students are a department or college problem not a School or student life problem.

**Benson:**
Ok we can talk about this more or talk about school updates. Should talk this up at the next call so have more President’s on the call Updates?

**Bertucci:**
Sexual harassment, students filed a complaint
UNC is trying to get feedback before revising policy
What are y’alls policies for the person who is filing the complaint?

**Redding:**
What kind of complaints?

**McBride:**
Student on student

**Redding:**
University police department notifies dean of students when a complaint is filed
Austin police dept files a criminal report and also notifies dean of students

Dean of students policy
- Judicial process
depending on nature of incident can be slap on the wrist to expulsion
run through student judicial process and could take a long time but are thorough and this is in addition to whatever criminal

**Benson:**
Student affairs worked with a provost to come up with a new policy. Can send us a copy. Has all the steps and rights that someone could go through.

**Bertucci:**
Students confused on how to get started and upset that their cases are treated as risk management and not concerned about well being of the accuser.

**Redding:**
Dean of students office started 2 years ago at different points when students would interact with system have someone who knows the policy who is on call to be consulted. Dean Squad does outreach one on one and walk you through the process.
Ombuds office also will deal with certain types of cases.

**Bertucci:**
Gimme those documents!!!!

**Benson:**
Nothing super crazy going on.
Working to improve graduate student life etc etc.

**McBride:** Dean Squad confidential?

**Redding:** No bc its students

**McBride:** Tooch, does our Ombuds cover sexual harassment?

**Tooch:** Yes

**Redding:** we have been advertising our Ombuds just saying to call them about anything. Would rather them call and push them to the right place.

**Benson:** Need two schools to go next time Michigan can be one.

**Redding:** Get a UC school I wanna know what they are up too

**Benson:** Sounds good.

Meeting adjourned 8:21PM
Memorandum of Understanding between the Associated Students of the University of California and the Graduate Assembly

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between the Associated Students of the University of California (“ASUC”) and the Graduate Assembly of the University of California, Berkeley (“GA”) to modify the relationship of the Graduate Assembly to the ASUC. This Memorandum supersedes and renders null all previous Memoranda of Understanding between the ASUC and the Graduate Assembly. This document becomes effective upon ratification by the GA delegates, the ASUC Senate, and approval of the student body.

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of their mutual promises and the consideration made herein, the ASUC and the Graduate Assembly agree as follows:

I. Recognition and Status

A. Pursuant to the ASUC Constitution, the Graduate Assembly recognizes the authority of the ASUC to speak for common interests of the student body as a whole at the University of California, Berkeley both inside and outside the campus.

B. Pursuant to the ASUC Constitution, the ASUC recognizes the authority of the Graduate Assembly to speak for the specific interests of graduate and professional students at the University of California, Berkeley both inside and outside the campus.

C. When the Graduate Assembly takes opposing positions on an issue, both organizations will respect the independent legitimacy of each position, and the ASUC position shall apply only to undergraduates. This applies to external bills only.

D. When the Graduate Assembly seeks to speak for all students at the University of California, Berkeley, the President of the Graduate Assembly shall offer its position to the ASUC Senate as a main motion.

E. The Graduate Assembly shall transmit or make available to the Executive Officers of the ASUC the agenda and minutes of all Graduate Assembly meetings as they become available by means of electronic mail.

F. The ASUC shall transmit or make available to the Executive Officers of the Graduate Assembly the agenda and minutes of all Senate meetings, Executive Orders, presidential vetoes, and Judicial Council decisions as they become available, by electronic mail.
II. Finance

A. The ASUC shall automatically appropriate to the Graduate Assembly each year the total amount of mandatory student fees paid by graduate and professional students to the ASUC minus the total amount of Graduate Student Return to Aid.

B. The Senate shall not affect a modification in Graduate Assembly expenditures, divert revenue, or withhold funds except in times of Fiscal Emergency (a Section 5, Article VI of the ASUC Constitution), and shall respect total Graduate Assembly authority over its finances.

C. In times of fiscal emergency and if the Association wishes to make changes in the financial arrangement involving the Graduate Assembly, a committee shall immediately convene composed of the following: the ASUC President, the GA President, the ASUC Executive Vice President, the ASUC Finance Officer (non-voting), the ASUC Finance Committee Chair, the GA Finance Chair, the GA Organization and Rules Chair, the ASUC Auxiliary Director (non-voting), and a non-voting member to be appointed by the GA at its discretion.

III. Representation

A. The Graduate Assembly shall make and confirm all appointments designated for graduate and professional students to academic, campus, or Systemwide committees. The Senate shall not subject such appointments to confirmation or denial.

B. The Graduate Assembly shall nominate the graduate student members of the ASUC Store Operations Board. The Senate shall deem the nominees confirmed on receipt of the nomination.

C. The Graduate Assembly shall be entitled to representation and the right to address the general body of the Academic Senate.

IV. Resources
The ASUC recognizes the Graduate Assembly's sole authority to occupy and use Anthony Hall. In extreme cases where Anthony Hall cannot be occupied, the ASUC will recognize the right of the Graduate Assembly to occupy and use some substitute space.

V. ASUC Elections

A. The ASUC relinquishes all claims to Graduate Assembly payment for elections costs before the 2002-2003 academic year.

B. For the 2002-2003 year, the Graduate Assembly is responsible for paying $18,997, the remaining balance of election costs for the 2003 Spring ASUC election.

C. For the 2003-2004 year, the Graduate Assembly is responsible for paying $6,789, the remaining balance of the election costs for the 2004 Spring ASUC election.

D. For the 2004-2005 year, the Graduate Assembly is responsible for paying $8,944 or 18.75% of the cost for the 2005 Spring ASUC Election.

E. A debt settlement timetable will be determined by the GA President and the ASUC President, and approved by the respective bodies, according to their Constitutions and By-laws, by the end of the Fall 2006 Semester.

F. For future academic years, the Graduate Assembly will pay either 12% of total election costs or a percentage of election costs equal to the percentage of voters in the Spring ASUC election who are registered graduate students, whichever of the two is greater.

G. Each year, the Graduate Assembly shall budget a sum sufficient to cover the base elections costs of the Graduate Assembly for that year based on the base election cost for the prior year. The Graduate Assembly shall be responsible for paying its share of the elections costs for an overall ASUC Election budget of up to $75,000.

H. If additional funding is required for ASUC Elections beyond $75,000, then a committee composed of the ASUC President, the GA President, the Chair of the GA Finance Committee, and the Chair of the ASUC Finance Committee shall convene. Any agreement coming out of these meetings shall pend approval of the ASUC Senate.

I. The ASUC Selection Committee for the Elections Council Chair shall be comprised of six members, one-third of which shall be graduate students. Preference will be given to graduate students serving in the ASUC Senate followed by GA Delegates. The remaining
members of this committee shall be from the ASUC Senate. In addition, there shall be one position on the Council with the designation “Graduate Outreach Coordinator.” The Graduate Outreach Coordinator must be a graduate student.

VI. Conflict Resolution

A. Three of the students in the Judicial Council shall be nominated by the GA President. Upon receipt of a vacancy in one of these three seats, the GA President will have two weeks to submit no fewer than three nominations for each vacancy. The Graduate Assembly will then forward three of the nominees to be confirmed by the senate. If the GA President does not make nominations within two weeks, the right of nomination goes back to the ASUC President, with GA delegate or Executive Board approval.

B. All powers not specifically mentioned here are retained by the ASUC Senate.