Rackham Student Government Board Meeting: November 3, 2011

Agenda

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. October 20, 2011 ***
   b. October 27, 2011 *

IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Michael
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Josh
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Mindy

V. Sexual Assault Policy Discussion with guest speakers:
   a. Jay Wilgus, Director, Office of Student Conflict Resolution
   b. Anthony Walesby, Associate Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs and Senior Director, Office of Institutional Equity
   c. Holly Rider-Milkovich, Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center
   d. Maya Kobersy, Associate General Counsel
   e. Darlene Ray-Johnson, Rackham Ombudsperson

VI. Committee Reports
   a. Academic Affairs*          e. Legislative Affairs
   b. Budgetary *                f. Student Life
   c. Communications            g. Bylaw Review
   d. Elections                 h. Service Opportunities**

VII. Career & Placement Discussion – Guest: Samantha Zhang, MGCC & CoNAC

VIII. Second Reading of Board Resolution F-01-11: Creating Student Advisory Committees for the Rackham Associate Deans *

IX. Open Discussion

X. 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
October 20th, 2011
Rackham Graduate School, 915 E. Washington St

I. Call to order
   A. Meeting called to order at 7.11. Quorum present
   B. Members
      1. Present: Michael Benson, Josh Bow, Alex Tolouse, Rahul Sakhumiri, Rob Gillezeau, Patrick Rooney, David Cottrell, Will Hutchinson, Nina White, Eli Eisman
      2. Excused
      3. Unexcused: Heidi Pedini*, Alex Emly*, Kaitlynn Flynn*
         a) Motions to mark present at 7.22 and 7.41: approved unanimously

II. Agenda
   A. Guest: Chris Tom, PhD precandidate, Chemical Biology
   B. T-shirts are in and Josh has his camera for a photo shoot after the meeting
   C. Motion to postpone second reading of the resolution to create Student Advisory Committee for the Rackham Associate Deans, moved by Eli, seconded by Nina: approved 11-0-2
   D. Motion to approve agenda, moved by Heidi, seconded by Rahul: approved unanimously

III. Minutes
   A. Motion to approve minutes from 29, September 2011, moved by Josh, seconded by Alex T: approved 10-0-1
   B. Motion to approves minutes from 6, October 2011
      1. Michael was absent from this meeting and was instead chaired by the Vice President Josh Bow
      2. No quorum was present during the meeting
      3. Unexcused absences are still being counted but there is a discrepancy in the records
      4. Motion to table the minutes from 6, October 2011, moved by Michael, seconded by Patrick: approved 10-0-1

IV. Officer reports
   A. President
      1. There are a lot of exciting guest speakers coming up in the next few weeks. The absence policy will be enforced more strictly for these meetings
      2. Committee appointments need to be made for the MSA, Provost Budgetary Committee, Academic Integrity Committee and Continuous Enrollment Dispute Resolution Board
         a) MSA seat has been available since the fall, but the student body wasn’t notified
         b) MSA reps get elected by the student body
c) Selection onus was given to Michael, he has opted to open this for the Communications Committee for selection, which will be chaired by Josh following the general board meeting, but will likely not end in the selection of representatives to fill those seats.

d) **Motion to reopen the agenda, add a discussion to re-empower the president as the sole individual responsible to select MSA representatives, and close the agenda, moved by Nina, seconded by Will: approved 7-0-5**

B. **Vice President**
1. University council met last week, nothing has come of it yet
2. Committee participation is a must.
   a) Letting down constituency
   b) Not fulfilling board obligations
   c) Making more work for fellow RSG reps
   d) Attendance policies have been put in place for all committees, if you can’t attend, please let the chair know.
   e) Josh SMASH!

V. **Committee Minutes**

A. **Academic Affairs**
1. **Motion to receive minutes, moved by Eli, seconded by Heidi**
2. Graduate Student Bill Of Rights will be voted out of committee soon for final approval by the board

B. **Budgetary**
1. **Motion to receive minutes, moved by Josh, seconded by Patrick**

C. **Communications**
1. Newsletter went out again, Espresso Royale question has way fewer responses, will make the question easier in the future
2. RSG Branding- T-shirts are in
3. Meeting following General Board meeting

D. **Elections Committee**
1. E-mail recruiting elections director will go out Friday.
2. The director ideally will be a Rackham student, but could be a motivated undergrad
3. Expectations
   a) Soliciting applications for representatives
   b) Increasing participation of the electorate
4. Nina believes that the above metrics for successful elections are good, but what defines “going above and beyond” should be more discrete.
5. If a board member participates, they won’t be paid

E. **Legislative Affairs**
1. **Motion to receive minutes, made by Rahul, seconded by Nina**
2. Candidate Forum was cancelled. Moderator search fell through (after a valiant effort)
3.  Looking into holding city council forum, potentially in conjunction with a Student Life Committee Bar Night

F.  Student Life Committee
   1.  Bar Night at the Heidelberg, Tonight at 9
   2.  **Motion to amend the Student Life Committee Budget by $300, moved by Alex T, seconded by Kaitlyn, thirded by Heidi: approved unanimously**

G.  Bylaw Review Committee
   1.  Executive board and Kaitlyn met last week and will meet again next week
   2.  Minutes will be provided in the upcoming meeting

H.  Community Outreach and Social Outreach
   1.  Wolverines for Life: Be a Hero at the Big House was included in the newsletter. The event will be held 16, November 2011 from 7A-7P.
   2.  RSG Works! will hold a parks cleanup at the Mary Beth in conjunction with A2 Parks and Rec. We are capped at 50 people and they need details. Coffee, cider and donuts will be provided

I.  Non-academic Career Opportunities
   1.  Patrick has expressed an interest in resigning from the chair of the NACO. The responsibilities have become overly burdensome and the Consulting club has not participated in the planning and execution of events
   2.  Is this a project worth pursuing? Should an appointee be made who has no general board role? Committee chairs do not need to be RSG reps.
   3.  Not all jobs are created equally. Some institutions hire only Master’s, while others, only those with a PhD. Who is the target of the committee?
   4.  Possible options include folding this committee into student life, expanding the scope of the committee and making it more inclusive as a Post-Graduate School opportunities.
   5.  General consensus is that this is a worthwhile pursuit, but we should not overextend the board. We will reassess and bring up the next board meeting. We shouldn’t be victims of our own great ideas

VI. Future events
   A.  Oktoberfest at the Heidelberg
   B.  Apple Orchard
      1.  Sunday 30, October, 2011
      2.  Need more chaperones. A plus one is okay
      3.  55-60 people already signed up, tickets are still on sale
      4.  Natalie is a ticket selling champ
   C.  RSG Works!- See above
   D.  Lots of upcoming speakers. Be here as a representative of your constituents. Iranian student grouping coming to discuss religious persecution in the county. Will ask RSG or SAGE to take a public stance

VII.  Open Discussion
A. Nina- MSA seats are available. No one ran to fill them, therefore we have no obligation to make student more aware. If people are offering to fill them, you should appoint them directly. Michael has been given that power, he should keep it and not diffuse the responsibility to the board.

B. Heidi- In response to Michael’s appointment criteria. What is regular participation for MSA and how will you assess that? What is satisfactory?

C. Michael- 6-7 people have made their interest in the MSA seats be known. Usually people are elected, rarely appointed. In the past, this has resulted in an irregular, short-term occupancy. Assessment will come from a review of the person’s CV and a short interview with Michael. The total process should only take a few weeks.

D. Rahul- Why is there so much interest in MSA all of a sudden?

E. Rob- The Michigan Daily reported on MSA will vote to support GEO’s effort to unionize GSRAs (GEO asks MSA to support graduate student research assistants union, Michigan Daily 12, October 2011). An Advisor/ PI shouldn’t be able to dismiss/fire students for having a particular view. If we don’t fill those seats by Tuesday, those individuals interested in participating will likely lose interest, who have also expressed concerns over issues for GSRAs with disabilities.

F. General board consensus to let Michael be solely responsible for the decision to appoint MSA reps in this instance, Strawpoll: approved.

G. Recommendation to the board that MSA appointments be by 7.30p 25, October 2011, made by Rob.

VIII. Adjournment

A. Motion to adjourn moved by Josh, seconded by Nina: approved unanimously

B. Meeting adjourned at 8.18p

Respectfully submitted,
Eli Benchell Eisman
Rackham Student Government Representative
Community Outreach and Social Action Committee Chair
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Board Meeting
October 27th, 2011
Rackham Building, 915 E. Washington St.

Present: Patrick, Michael Benson, Tien Huei-Hsu, Mindy Waite, Alex Toulouse, Rahul, Heidi Pedini, Alex Emly, Nina White, Marisol Ramos

Absent: Lily Mancour, Amit Patel, David Cotrell, Grant Manderino, Rob Gillezeau

Excused: Serge Farina, Eli Eisman, Anne Fitzpatrick, William Hutchinson, Joshua Bow

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
   a. Motion to approve moved by Tien Huei Hsu and seconded by Nina White. Motion approved with 2 abstentions.
3. Community Input
   a. Eugene Deshevar—GSRA IP ownership and expectations from RSG communication.
      i. Biomed engineering student shares his story that as a graduate student he faced challenges regarding his work and ownership of his ideas. Through the GSRA unionization initiative (are we students or employees?) the question of who owns what ideas comes up. Eugene believes that this area needs definition as GSRA are in between the University (student) and employee relationship.
      ii. Eugene has a conflict with his advisor who owns a company that patented his idea through the company and not through UM. There is a conflict of interest issue here. After he pursued the Ombudsman, nothing happened. After acquiring evidence, he moved through dean’s offices, etc. One issue is that his intellectual property was not protected.
      iii. Advisor filed similar ideas through his (advisors) company. But the process of telling the appropriate people became a serious struggle. Eugene is appealing to us to share his story and show his struggles.
      iv. Where are the boundaries of ownership of IP for GSRA? His suggestions are to clarify the issue between the Office of Technology Transfer and if GSRA are employees or not.
      v. There is an issue of professional here. Even after Eugene contacted OTT, the sub-head of didn’t treat his conflict with respect or professional candor.
      vi. Michael notes that the director of the Office of Technology Transfer will be visiting soon. We will NOT be bringing up Eugene’s issue to the OTT.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes
a. Attendance checks and changes—Michael has us look at the attendance record. Marisol requests adding herself to excused absence on October 20.

b. Motion to approve the minutes from October 6 2011 moved by Alex Emly, seconded by Mindy Waite. Motion approved unanimously.

c. Motion to approve the minutes from October 21 2011 moved by Nina and seconded by Mindy. Modifications: moving members that were marked late with **s as present. Also some issue with clarification of Rob’s position during open discussion. A motion to postpone the approval of these minutes until Rob and Eli are present to clarify their positions moved by Heidi and seconded by Nina. Approved with 3 abstentions.

5. Officer Reports

a. Graduate Student Body President, Michael

Michael did not manage to appoint people to MSA due to the death in his family. Michael has contacted MSA considering the vote on the GSRA issue and asking MSA to postpone the vote until Rackham students can be appointed to MSA by Michael. Michael takes a moment to debrief Mindy on the updates.

Eugene’s issues will be tasked to the Academic Affairs committee.

b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Josh

Josh is excused.

c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Mindy

$20,600 in the bank. Apple orchard event coming up this weekend. 2 student groups were funded.

6. Committee Reports

a. Academic Affairs

Have been reviewing Bill of Rights and accepted some of Ethan Eagle (past RSG rep)’s comments. Next meeting we will be discussing the GSRA/GEO/RSG FAQ.

b. Budgetary

7 student groups have been funded thus far, some are getting rejected because they are not meeting requirements for students affected or 21 days in advance for request.

c. Communications

Newsletter will come out on Monday. Any ideas of what to advertise, send to Mindy. T-shirts are out and they’re awesome. We’re also working on RSG branding.

d. Elections

Email for the elections director has been sent out and many applications have been submitted. The board will approve the elections director appointee next week.
e. Legislative Affairs

Yesterday’s committee meeting was cancelled and the 2nd ward Ann Arbor council debate was attended. It was heated and exciting. SAGE planning for the fall conference will need to be approved.

f. Student Life

Heidelberg event was packed and very well attended. Thursday night events and appetizers seem to have drawn people out. Apple orchard event coming on Sunday. Chaperones: Michael is attending a Halloween party on Saturday night and will be dressing up as Colonel Sanders. Upcoming events: karaoke night, Red Wings, trivia night. Alex T moved to approve the previous minutes, Alex E seconds. Alex E brings up that a consulting committee for the Rec Sports facilities is coming in and we need to rally 20-30 grad students to support the implementation of a student fee to improve rec facilities.

g. Bylaw Review Committee

We need to schedule another meeting and need more people. Maybe 6:15pm on November 11? Pizza provided.

h. Service Opportunities Committee

Eli is not present but the park clean up is happening the weekend of November 13.

i. Career & Placement Discussion

Samantha Zang (recently graduated from the consulting group) has ideas for the committee and could be chair of the committee. She’s not a student but would be willing. Heidi raises the point that we could combine committees, perhaps with the service and career opportunities committee. Alex E suggests that we solicit the student body and combine with the consulting group, too. Alex E will look for other student groups and report back to the board by Thanksgiving.

7. Attendance Records

a. Started the meeting with this.

8. Second Reading of Board Resolution F-01-11: Creating Student Advisory Website

We’ll postpone this to next week. Approved by the board.

9. Open Discussion

a. The disability committee meetings have been included and they have an announcement to add to the newsletter for next week.

10. Adjournment
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Academic Affairs Committee Meeting
October 24th, 2011
Espresso Royale, 322 S. State St

I. Call to Order 6:11pm:
   a. Present: Mindy Waite, David Cottrell, Eli Eisman, Joshua Bow, Kaitlin Flynn, Chris Tom (skyhighflyby@gmail.com)

II. Eli wanted to discuss the resolution for the Deans
   a. Wants to change the meetings from 1x per semester to 2x per semester or 6x/year at the discretion of the Dean
   b. Line 26 – Chair should appoint additional members with approval of *someone* in RSG- execs, president, whatever, as long as there is some form of RSG approval
   c. Line 28 – committee should let us know if something changes immediately, not within 1 year
   d. Line 32 – typo

III. Went through Bill of Rights looking at comments from Ethan Eagle. Made changes on the Googledoc

IV. Adjourned at 6:50pm
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
Budgetary Committee Meeting  
October 24th, 2011  
Espresso Royale, 322 S. State St  

I. Call to Order 7:08pm:  
   a. Present: Mindy Waite, Eli Eisman, Joshua Bow, Patrick Mooney  
II. Discuss funding for food  
   a. Decided to fund foot at a rate of 60% of the funds requested of RSG  
III. Made a decision on the PSOC request  
   a. Decided $200 honorarium, $200 speaker travel, and $50 for posters/fliers = $250  
IV. Made a decision on the AAPHA request  
   a. Decided $131 for food (60% of total request) and $9 for posters = $140  
V. Adjourned at 7:38pm
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Community Outreach and Social Action Meeting
October 31st, 2011
Espresso Royale, 322 S. State St

I. Call meeting to order
II. 6.08
Attendance: Tien, Michael, Eli
III. Wolverines for Life
IV. RSG Works! event, 13, November 2011
   A. Talk to Mindy for bussing for the university bus system. 9-12 (8.30-12.30)
   B. 
V. Community of Scholars events
VI. Open Discussion
   A. Discussed an email from Dean Engelke regarding service.
VII. Adjourn
A RESOLUTION CREATING STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR THE RACKHAM ASSOCIATE DEANS

WHEREAS, The Rackham Student Government (RSG) serves as the conduit between the graduate student body and the university at large, including the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Students; AND

WHEREAS, RSG recently hosted a set of four lunches with the deans for the student body; AND

WHEREAS, It became apparent during these lunches that regular contact between Rackham’s associate deans for programs and initiatives and students in their divisions would be mutually beneficial; AND

WHEREAS, RSG appoints graduate students to a number of school and university wide committees and workgroup; AND

WHEREAS, The associate deans for programs and initiatives have each voiced support for the creation of a student advisory panel; NOW ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENT BODY OF THE HORACE H. RACKHAM GRADUATE SCHOOL, BE IT

RESOLVED, That a student advisory committee for the associate dean be created for each of the Rackham Graduate School’s four associate deans; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That each associate dean shall serve as the chairperson of his or her advisory committee; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That each committee shall meet at least once in the Fall semester and once in the Winter semester, at times and locations determined by the chair; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the membership of the advisory boards shall be appointed by the RSG Board for a term of one year; AND BE IT FURTHER
RESOLVED, That the chair of each committee may appoint additional members to the committee for a specified term; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the size of each committee will be determined by the chair and communicated to the RSG Board on an annual basis; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That vacancies will be filled by the RSG Board under the advice of appropriate advisory committee’s chair; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, That the chair of each advisory committee or their designee will transmit to board a report of his or her committee’s discussion on or before the last day of the fall and winter terms.

AUTHORS

Tien-Huei Tsu
Representative, Division 1
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

Eli Benchell Eisman
Representative, Division 1

ATTEST

By Signing below, I certify the this resolution was dispatched by the RSG Board under the rules as prescribed in section IX of the bylaws and that the vote count appearing at the top of this resolution is accurate.

____________________________________
Joshua Bow
Vice President, Rackham Student Government

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION

I, Michael Benson, President of the Rackham Student Body, do hereby approve / veto this resolution on this the _______ day of ______, 2011.

____________________________________
Michael L. Benson
President, Rackham Student Government
Executive Order: EO-11-3
Signed: August 17, 2011

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE RSG CAREER OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, The Rackham Student Government (RSG) serves as the conduit between the graduate student body and the university at large; AND

WHEREAS, Graduate students, including members of the RSG Board, have requested that the University of Michigan or RSG provide post-graduation career advising beyond academic careers; AND

WHEREAS, The University’s Career Center does not offer direct career guidance for graduating masters and Ph.D. candidates; AND

WHEREAS, A group of graduate students has come together to fill this missing need; AND

WHEREAS, Addressing the post-graduate career needs of 8,000+ graduate students is a very large endeavor; AND

WHEREAS, The Michigan Graduate Consulting Club (MGCC) is committed to bringing consultants to campus to help graduate students explore consulting opportunities after graduation; AND

WHEREAS, Numerous types of non-academic employment opportunities exist for graduating graduate students beyond consulting; AND

WHEREAS, Article 4, section A, subsection 1i explicitly grants the president the power to “create, charge, and oversee Ad-Hoc committees for special projects and interests”; NOW THEREFORE I, MICHAEL L. BENSON, AS THE DUTY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT AND BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT BODY OF THE ANN ARBOR CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AND THE BYLAWS OF THE RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT DO HEREBY ORDER THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1. That a post-graduation career opportunities committee (PG-COC) be created, effective immediately.
Section 2. That the PG-COC’s composition, leadership, charge, and operating procedure shall comply with the RSG bylaws as well as section 3 of this order.

Section 3. POST-GRADUATION CAREER OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

A. Composition. The PG-SOC shall be composed of a minimum of 1 member of the RSG Board and a minimum of 2 members of the Michigan Graduate Consulting Club (MGCC). Any member of the Rackham student body, or the broader university community may join the committee.

B. Quorum. A quorum shall exist when half plus one of the committee members are present.

C. Charge. The PG-COC will work collaboratively with the MGCC and RSG’s Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) provide a diverse array of information and events to help educate the graduate student body about the multitude of non-academic career opportunities. Career paths and opportunities should span the range of the graduate school, and at least one career path customarily tied to each Rackham division should be offered in a given academic year.

D. Leadership. The PG-COC will be co-chaired by RSG Representative Patrick Roony (Mathematics) as well as MGCC Co-Presidents Jia Sun (Chemical Biology) and Samantha Liang Zhang (Chemical Biology). The committee may internally elect a vice-chair, a secretary, and as many project managers as they deem necessary to meet their charge. The Board may remove a co-chair of this committee with a 2/3rds majority vote.

E. Budget. The committee is eligible for a budget. The RSG Treasurer will contact the committee chairs in the course of the normal RSG budgeting process to devise a funding plan, including collaborative funding with the AAC, other entities within the University, and external organizations, as appropriate.

F. Renewal. The Board may, by a simple majority vote extend the timeline for the BRC up to the end of the 2011 calendar year. Any motion to extend the timeline of the board must include a new dissolution date.

G. Reports. The PG-COC will submit regular reports to the Board on its progress and will seek feedback from the same.

H. Dissolution. The PG-COC will exist through December 31, 2011.

IT IS SO ORDERED.
Michael L. Benson
President, Rackham Student Government