Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: February 2, 2012

Agenda

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. January 26, 2012*

IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Michael
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Kaitlin
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Alex

V. Winter 2012 Budget


VII. Guest Speaker: Janet Weiss, Dean, Rackham Graduate School

VIII. RSG Committee Updates & Meeting Schedule
   a. Academic Affairs*
   b. Budgetary
   c. Communications
   d. Elections
   e. Legislative Affairs*
   f. Student Life*
   g. Bylaw Review
   h. COSAC

IX. Planning for Provost Hanlon’s visit next week

X. Open Discussion

XI. 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
January 26, 2012
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST STUDY ALCOVE, NORTH STUDY HALL
6:30 P.M.

1) Call to order 6.36
2) Roll Call of Members
   i) Present
      (1) Representatives Eli Benchell Eisman, Tien-Huei Hsu, Lauren Knapp, Chris Tom, Andrew Crawford, Patrick Rooney, Anna Wagner, Ben Curtis-Lusher, Dan Trubman, Marisol Ramos, Pete McGrath, Executives: Treasurer Alex Toulouse, Vice President Kaitlin Flynn, President Michael Benson (presiding)
   ii) Absent excused
      (1) Representatives Alex Emly, Cassie Yaple, Heidi Alvey, Kaitlin Flynn
   iii) Absent unexcused
      (1) Representative Nina White
3) Motion to approve agenda, Moved by Tien, seconded by Alex T: motion is approved unanimously
4) Approval of meeting minutes from 12, January 2012
   a) Tien wanted to clarify her comments from the open discussion regarding departmental printing quotas. Michael notes that Tien’s comments were included in this as well as, the previous week’s agenda
   b) Motion to approve minutes as amended, moved by Tien, seconded by Ben: motion is approved unanimously
5) Approval of meeting minutes from 19, January 2012
   a) Kaitlin is still getting used to minute taking,
   b) Laurens name is spelled L-A-U-R-E-N. For reference, this is an administrative edit and can be changed after the board approves the minutes. Only substantive changes need to be brought up during for discussion
   c) Motion to strike Open Discussion Section 8b, moved by Chris, seconded by Pete: motion approved unanimously
6) EO-2
   a) Reading of the Executive Order establishing the Community Outreach and Social Action Committee.
   b) This is an extension of the previous executive order EO-2, from the 2011 fall semester
   c) The committee Chair thanks the President and acknowledges the board for the continued interest in providing service opportunities to their constituency
   d) Ben asks for a clarification of Ad Hoc committees
      i) AD hoc committees are made on a trial basis, two of three committees formed last semester are still in consideration for being made permanent
7) Rackham Graduate student body president, Michael Benson’s report
a) President Obama will be speaking tomorrow.
b) The Legislative Affairs committee meets next week. Attempts are being made to meet with the president during the upcoming SAGE days.
c) Miss Diburn (sp?) could not meet tonight; Dean Weiss is coming to the board meeting next week.
d) A legislative affairs committee meeting email will be sent out this week for a meeting Tuesday evening. Ben asks for a clarification about SAGE. MB: The Student Advocates for Graduate Education (SAGE) coalition was cofounded with other top tier research one institutions such as Berkeley, UNC Chapel UC Irvine, UCSD, Rutgers, UW, and MSU, to lobby on behalf of graduate students. Go to sagecoalition.org to find out more information. We will be selecting individuals for the upcoming SAGE conference on behalf of Michigan this year. Disclosure: MB is the Vice Chairperson for SAGE.

8) Rackham Graduate student treasurer, Alex Toulouse’s report
a) The proposed budget is in the packet. Please look at it so we can vote on it.
b) First budgetary meeting immediately preceded the general board meeting.
c) $25379.92 total funds.
d) Andrew asks for a clarification on the origins of those funds. MB: Every grad student pays as part of their tuition $1.50. Our budget may increase slightly as additional funds get deposited from late enrollments, but this is the first allotment basically through until fall.

9) Academic Affairs committee report- Co-Chari Chris Tom
a) Committee met two weeks ago, spoke about upcoming town hall meetings. As a reminder, Michael needs to provide Eli with the updated Dean contact information.
b) Discussed GSBOR, hope to vote out of committee for presentation to board in the next two weeks.
c) Next meeting is Wednesday 1, February 2012, at Espresso Royale Cafe on State Street. Where we will be addressing these general issues as well as the conflict resolution board and IP issues brought by at our last RSG general board meeting.
d) Optional meeting following the committee meeting to discuss GSBOR in depth.
e) Ben asks if the board has discussed the GPA issue that Haven brought up. MB: more information is being collected from the student populous. A potential exemption has been suggested for the Ford School and this is being looked into. Michael notes that under elections committee on the RSG website, the full election results as well as the proposed ballot are accessible.

10) Budgetary committee- RSG Treasurer Alex Toulouse
a) Met earlier today to speak to a group requesting more than $700. Per the bylaws, the board must approve funding request over this amount. We will inform them of the recommendation. If they are unhappy, the group can address and petition to reconsider.
b) Andrew asks what happens if the student group is under budget? AT: We only fund what we re given receipts for. MB: In certain instances money issued before the event but this requires approval by both the Treasurer and President.

11) Communications committee- MB
a) All people on list and committee chairs, we will be having our first meeting soon.
b) First newsletter will be going out Monday; event blurbs are due by Saturday.

12) Elections committee- MB
   a) Committee hasn’t met yet
   b) Elections are third week of March

13) Legislative Affairs committee
   a) Haven’t met yet
   b) Lots going on, we are trying to bring some local and state elected officials to meet with board
   c) One issue of particular interest this semester will be a ninety-day moratorium on leases. We will be trying to extend this significantly. Tenants rights groups and the LegAff will be working closely
   d) A lot on our plate at local and state level Lobbying Day in Lansing

14) Student Life Committee- RSG Treasurer Alex Toulouse
   a) One meeting so far. The events slated for this semester are included in the packet
   b) Come to karaoke tonight at Circus

15) By-law Review committee
   a) Sometime next week
   b) Anyone that can attend, please do,
   c) Looking to have bylaws out for review by the board by the next meeting

16) COSAC
   a) The Committee chair would like to thank President and acknowledge the board for voting to extend this committee
   b) Thanks to everyone who came to our first meeting.
   c) Big projects for the semester include a Food Gatherers event, volunteering during DP Day (31, March 2012), a Habitat for Humanity opportunity and another day with A2 Parks and Rec
   d) There are additional initiatives that you can read about in the minutes

17) Eugene
   a) No Update on his situation
   b) When the rules changed, what the rules changed from.
   c) Those results will be at that the AccAff committee meeting on Wednesday 1, February 2012.
   d) Michael notes that all events and meetings will be updated on the RSG Google calendar.

18) Goal Setting phase 3
   a) Michael thanks everyone for his or her input during the last week’s meeting. We’re going to slate these goals to individual committee, and if anyone has additions this would be a great last time.
   b) Marisol requests a clarification on PILOTs- Payment in lieu of taxes. Payments made from the University of Michigan to the city of Ann Arbor.
   c) Pete requests that we look into extending the building hours (i.e. Hatcher, Rackham) for graduate students. MB- A committee including the Provost has looked at changing building hours. Andrew- Classes next semester will be scheduled earlier for students? MB- Right now classes aren’t scheduled in the morning or on Fridays. Moving forward, class scheduling will be done more
evenly across time and location as a cost efficiency measure. Mark Pollack Vice Provost and University CFO will be coming in the next few meetings.

d) Non traditional student tuition coverage

e) Status of Pfizer campus- Alex asks what parts of the NCRC are occupied. MB UM bought Pfizer campus, which basically spans Huron Parkway. Currently in the space is a small business incubator on one side of the space offshoots of research laboratories on the other. Medical school and biological sciences schools covered the majority of the funds. Some funds from the School of Engineering. Not a ghost town. 3-5k people occupying that space in

f) Ben asks if The Ford school is the only one with an issue with the new GPA? MB- Ford is part of Rackham, so this is RSG territory. Ben- are other programs going back? MB- Still looking to see if ford school can be exempt. STRIKE FORD SCHOOL ONLY FROM LIST

g) Lauren- Earth Day event. Chair of Energy club committee. She knows lots of people willing to participate

h) Dan- Tigers game? MB-June 2nd against the Yankees. Here’s a quick run down of the summer events schedule. Cedar point on fathers day ~200 people. Ice cream social in Gallup Park. This year we will include blue bus for travelling to livery and social site and a few places to be picked up and dropped off. Dan- How many graduate students stay in town? MB ~2/3. Lauren- does RSG pay for tickets? MB- RSG will either subsidize ticket prices or do nothing. For the Pistons games for example, we paid to reserve seats but never buy full tickets. Often we will provide transportation. Andrew- Is drinking/ intoxication on the bus allowed. MB restrictions on alcohol, some students from ChemBio got too drunk and vomited on a kid while on the bus. Some families were pissed off and RSG imposed restrictions on the bus. RSG chaperones have the authority to kick people off the bus.

i) MB- Master student study space under academic costs

j) The goals are assigned as follows:

k) Academic Issues

i) GSRA/ IP- AcAff/ SLC as this is jointly both academic and non academic. Andrew asks if this is in regards to the GSRA unionization? MB- Rights of GSRAs/ materials provided to GSRAs. LegAff typically works at the state and federal level

ii) GSBOR- AcAff

iii) GPA- AcAff

iv) Interlibrary loan efficiency – AcAff

v) Dispute Resolution board- AcAff and SLC

vi) International and nontraditional student funding- SLC. Chris Tom will also take this on as an individual project. Andrew notes that there are groups on campus, we should contact them to collaborate

vii) PhD candidacy courses- AccAff

viii) Building Hours-SLC

ix) Masters Student Study Space- Related to building hours makes sense to tie to the two together. AcAff and SLC will work together

l) Local issues
1) PILOTS/ town halls and Political action- LegAff
2) Pfizer campus- Execs
3) Tuition – AcAff
4) Everything but tuition- LegAff

m) Student Service Issues- nonacademic
i) Housing issues in Northwood- SLC
ii) Increased bussing- SLC. PTS and AATA directors will be coming to address the board
iii) Airport Shuttle- LegAff- AATA is dealing with the city and is already working on that. Trains will also be going from Here to Detroit. Will hold off on these when the mayor comes. Lots of excitement
iv) Peer mentoring- COSAC/ institutional policy enforcement. Work with AccAff and SLC

n) Social events-
i) Social Events with local leader LegAff

o) Motion to approve goal allocations to committees and individuals, moved by Tien seconded by Pete: approved with one abstention

19) Budget
a) Took budgets from each committee with minor modifications
b) AcAff 400 for town halls mostly for advertising
c) Budget for giving to other groups
d) Communication- Banner and newsletter trivia prizes
e) LegAff- 3700. 3k for SAGE for federal lobbying 400 state/ 300 city council town Hall
f) SLC- Events slated for this semester. Pistons game already paid for from last semester. March madness events we will award prizes three $50 per award rather than having to go through people pay system would and avoid taxes
g) Elections- 500 for election budget. Likely won’t use all of it. It’s still not clear whether we will hire an elections director
h) COSAC- 375 for 3 events
i) General administrative budget for $30-150 for supplies and copying and $150 for discretionary funding. These funds are used to take other student leaders for lunch and foster those relationships. One exec can approve this, but it needs to be reported to exec as well as full board. Andrew asks if $150 enough for shoulder rubbing. MB- Is fast cheap and gets things done.
j) A general question about the Pinball Pete’s expenditure. AT- This event is a minimum of 3 hours at $400/ hour. Cosponsor with Rackham. RSG is only paying $600.
k) Total requested funds for the winter semester 2012: $15205.00
l) Total reserve funds for the winter semester 2012: $2500.000
   i) Reserve of at least 5% of annual budget. Can only be allocated if board approves. Unallocated funds for summer events.
m) Total unallocated funds for the winter semester 2012: $7674.92
n) Chris Tom asks how RSG board members fund events. AT-The same as other groups on campus
Andrew asks how the Legislative/Town hall funds are spent? MB- Likely for buses. The state has Grad Lobbying day in Lansing. We will advertise this to the student body and send 60-100 to talk about the benefit of graduate education. City council town hall? Organize an informal event to bring city council members (i.e. a night at Redhawk) appetizers (not booze) to get GS and local politicians together. One issue we will be talking about is streetlight at pedestrian crosswalks. crossing lights. City is divided into 5 wards, north campus/ central campus. Mayoral election debate.

Andrew asks how the board can utilize the reserved funds? MB requires 2/3 approval of board membership and 2 execs. Public financing law does no prohibit use of funds, however the University imposes additional restrictions. Andrew- look to using external agency? MB- yes but requires an annual external audit $5000. As of now the University does this on our behalf.

Janet Weiss is coming net week

Things to consider discussing:

i) Continuous enrollment, the $1000 reinstatement fee. RSG passed resolution stating they wouldn't charge.

ii) Rackham centennial

Chris asks about resolution timelines. MB- There are two different types. Sense of the board that states “The Boards opinion on behalf of the graduate student body”. The second is a board resolution. These types of resolution are sent to the University for consideration as policy. The president is afforded a veto, but no vote. No other student government has that authority on campus. CT- Do the resolutions we offer have an end date? MB- not unless one of the two parties put date in resolutions.

Please try to be here next week.

Open discussion

a) Anna moves that we start time at normal (non-Michigan) time, seconded by Andrew: the motion is approved unanimously

b) Janet Weiss will have the entire meeting dedicated to her.

c) Get your t-shirt. Go to circus

d) Anna moves to adjourn. Seconded by Andrew

e) Adjourn 7.51
I. Roll call of members
Present: Eli Benchell Eisman, Kaitlin Flynn, Chris Tom, Eugene Daneshvar, Michael, Anna, Adam, Stephen Raiman, Haven Allen, Andrew
Absent (excused):
Absent (unexcused):

Called to order: 6:13pm

II. Special Business

- Student I.P. Rights
  - Tien introduces the issue that Eugene brought forward to the RSG Board regarding an unethical professor. Eugene gives his background regarding his advisor infringing upon his IP ownership rights. Summary: as a finishing master’s student, Eugene shared an idea unrelated to his research with his advisor. Unbeknownst to Eugene, his advisor used this idea to file a patent for an invention and did not disclose the conflict of interest to the university. After 4 years of patent filing and applications, his advisor only just now let Eugene know what was going on. Additionally, a second round of IP infringement did not include Eugene’s name on the patent application or publication for this second idea. Finally, Eugene won a student business competition for $20,000 and his department still will not let him access the funds. Eugene has pursued multiple rounds of conflict of interest hearings, lawyers, and trying to pursue evidence that suggests his advisor acted unethically and has not had much success. He feels as if he does not have representation within his department or within Rackham. Lynn Cook was contacted (part of conflict of interest committee) and Eugene did not hear back from the committee. Also it should be noted that his advisor sits on the committee. His advisor also sent him an email suggesting Eugene has not been working enough in the lab and he retorted immediately with proof of his experimental work. The current status of Eugene’s work is that he is in a new lab as a sixth year student. Eugene has plenty of email and other evidence that proves the timeline of presenting the idea prior to the patent application being filed.
Tien asks what ideas Eugene has for creating solutions or opportunities for him or students in this situation, and how RSG can help. Eugene answers that he feels that he had misrepresentation and even pleading to the deans got him nowhere. He suggests that UM does not follow the policies that exist. Eugene asks about the enforcement part of our in-progress Graduate Student Bill of Rights. Fellow attendees of the meeting ask how he’s funded and what organizations have funded him in the past. Tien asks about how the conflict of interest committee is constituted and Eugene answers that it is comprised of mostly science professors.

Eugene says that he went to all of the appropriate avenues over the timeline and his IP issues to no avail. He’s now had to hire an attorney and recognizes that this is unrealistic for many graduate students and asserts that graduate students shouldn’t have to hire outside support to protect their rights at the University.

Michael mentions that the GSBOR is being developed to address some of these issues. He suggests that educating incoming students about their rights will be important. Eugene says that for his situation specifically the committee can address the issue of IP ownership.

Eli asks specific questions regarding Eugene’s timeline for graduation, idea presentation, acceptance for PhD program, etc. Eugene details his timeline. Eli asks if the patent could have been filed without Eugene’s thesis work. Eugene says that the contributions of his work completed or drove the project and idea toward completion. Eli mentions that there are definitions on the Tech Transfer website that define student and employee and that might clarify Eugene’s situation.

Michael reads off some definitions and policies from the Tech Transfer website and the definitions of student and employee as they have been modified as of 2007.

Eugene continues to outline the issues he has had getting the OTT to comply and act ethically and appropriately. He also mentions that this whole issue has derailed his graduation date, thesis research and progress.

Michael (not Benson) asks Eugene why he disclosed this invention to his advisor. Eugene responds that he had a compelling idea and wanted to share the excitement with his advisor (as a sole mentor). Michael (not Benson) suggests that if RSG can identify and make clear what the line of IP and who owns what is.

MB mentions that RSG may be able to help Eugene directly regarding the issues of the faculty on his committee and they should talk offline about that issue. Eli mentions that the fact that Eugene is in academic limbo is
 unacceptable. Eli suggests that the Biomedical Engineer department chair should figure out how to appropriately award Eugene a degree.

- Michael Benson says that as RSG can help further individuals with these problems but to directly help Eugene we might only be able to clarify the lines of IP and the lines of where students with such concerns should go. Eugene also mentions that there are some issues of who’s name takes claim for which patent, idea or project (because some faculty mentors appeared on the patents and publications and Eugene wasn’t, even when he contributed.) Eugene thinks that making this issue clear is something RSG can do. Additionally, the OTT does not treat the graduate students as equals to professors with regards to our rights. Another thing we can do is have a standard of expectations. Eli suggests that there could be a Graduate Student Coordinator within the OTT or at least have training for the administrators within the office.

- Conflict Resolution boards: reorganization of existing boards, expansion of duties/coverage of boards/what kind of power boards have
  - Tien outlines the ideas that we’ve come up with for addressing such issues. Currently, we have the continuous enrollment dispute board that addresses issues around continuous enrollment and this board is populated with students and faculty members equally. Michael outlines that student opinion generally has priority at these meetings. Eugene agrees that a similar board comprised of people who are informed about such resources would have been beneficial to him. Michael also mentions that there are some Rackham emergency funds that could have been applicable in this situation. Eugene recommends that the Ombudsperson should be required to meet with students who have to sign conflict of interest statements. Additionally, Eugene mentions that there are other graduate students in this particular advisor’s lab who believe the advisor is acting unethically. Chris mentions that we now as a committee need to brainstorm and figure out how to best move forward with this. Eli mentions that there is another document on the OTT website called the Student Ownership Policy that outlines student derived IP. Eli believes that there are unclear definitions overlapping these policies; Eugene asks the visiting students from Say No to GEO who Eugene should have contacted or who would represent him from their perspective outside of a possible GEO union.
  - Delegations: should we pursue a conflict resolution board? Should we attempt to merge the two ideas? Michael outlines the kinds of boards that are currently in place and we agree that perhaps keeping these putative resolution board topics separate. Michael suggests that perhaps two people can assist him in figuring this out. Tien, Haven and Eli volunteer. Tien
mentions that we need to figure out what boards currently exist and how we can help.

- University-wide conflict resolution flowchart/process
  - This is something that should be clearly outlined and isn’t. Chris volunteers to work on this and Eli mentions that Darlene Ray Johnson (ombudsperson) probably has the flowchart and that this should be included.

- Town Halls (have final date(s) by February 15th for planning purposes)
  - Eli mentions that most of the deans are on board for the April 3rd date for the town hall from 12-1pm. Kaitlin and Eli will work on organizing and coordinating this. The total budget is $400.

- MSU-Wayne-UM Symposium: details, transportation, time, volunteers
  - 68 UM students accepted abstracts.
  - Transportation will be provided. We will need to email and ask for transportation interest. Kaitlin will get the information from the MSU contact.
  - Time slots for presentations—might need two busses.
  - Volunteers: it was suggested that we bring at least 2 volunteers at a time.
  - Prizes: Possibly from Janet Weiss, otherwise from RSG discretionary fund (as we did not budget it from AAC). Eugene makes a good point that most grad students care more about recognition than prize money.

- Graduate Student Bill of Rights (optional for board members to participate)
  - Chris presents the background of the GSBOR.

- Say No to GEO: they ask for RSG to make sure the students are informed and perhaps create some sort of town hall or forum. Stephen says that their group does not have the capacity to set up an event, but they are looking to have a joint event with GEO. Eli mentions that RSG could host an event with GEO and SNTGEO and have a yes and no side and a moderator. We agree that this is a good idea. The executives will take control of this issue. Members of the organization also suggested that we conduct graduate student surveys every semester in order to gauge graduate student happiness and to give students with problems a chance to speak out.

III. Open Discussion

V. Next meeting

February 15th 2012, 6pm
VI. Adjournment

VII.
Optional Meeting.
Made changes to the Graduate Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.
Michael will email Chris changes. Chris will add remaining changes from Right #16 onwards and upload document onto Google docs.
Haven will change all passive voice to make the rights assertions and not suggestions.
I. Roll call of members
Present: Dan Trubman, Ben Ben Curtiss-Lusher, Chris Tom, Andrew Crawford, Nina White, Lauren Knapp, Alex Toulouse, Michael Benson (Chair)
Absent (excused): Denise Lillyis, Christine Andres
Absent (unexcused):

Called to order: 6:36pm

Intros. Michael says anyone can attend this meeting. Biweekly meetings (but we’ll meet next week, then go back to biweekly thereafter). Next week we’ll be selecting the committee leadership positions (vice chair and 3 co-leads) that we’ll decide on next week. Guests will come to some LA committee meetings (state senator etc). Michael will be emailing us assigned initial research topics something and then we need to send him: short statements in an email.

Background: Committee was formed 2 years ago to deal solely with federal issues. SAGE student advocates for graduate education – coalition where we share best practices for student gov’t. Top schools are members (Berkley etc). Peep their website at Sagecoalition.org. Michael made this committee permanent when he became president and expanded the scope to state and local levels; made a MOU to host the 4th annual in Spring (March) in East Lansing for state level issues. Once a year we go as a group to D.C. – final weekend in March – he’ll be asking for volunteers if you want to come – will be missing two academic days (wants to bring 5-8 people, possibly 10).

Three SAGE priorities: affordability, research funding, integration (accessibility). SAGE members this year will be sending 1-2 men/woman teams to DC so our presence will be more sustained. Nina asked if there is a fourth priority. This year, part of the debt ceiling, subsidized loans were eliminated. Part of a campaign, there is a spreadsheet that discuss the various benefits for Masters and Grad loans. At SAGE, we will talk to about 150 members of staff, treasury department, etc. This year, more folks are asking to meet with us (the President is re-prioritizing research funding) – we’re working to get a Whitehouse reception this year at SAGE to make the case as Grad students. Next week, work groups will be setting up with SAGE – lot of work to be done.

Need three person teams to look into different areas. This will include getting info from more with schools, how we do more with less, look over whitepapers as it exists, etc. Andrew asked what the whitepaper is – Michael said it’s the “leave behind” on the main talking points of the meeting. Another team will deal with current proposed bills in Congress and who’s supporting what. Chris asked what is quality? Michael responds it is doing more with less; quality over quantity.
Now, division of the four topics:

1) Affordability (taxation of fellowships, stipends, subsidized loans, federal funding etc) Dan and Ben
2) Research funding: Chris and Nina
3) Immigration issue: Alex and Michael
4) Quality: Lauren and Andrew

Next week, we’ll look at the research

- Use Thomas to find current bills that might have an impact on your area
- For immigration, please limit to specific areas that impact students
- Each group come back with a paragraph that looks at the whitepaper and makes suggestions for tweaking it
- Quality: we don’t have a whitepaper to work off of, so we need to look at the current papers and find ways to find efficiency metrics. For example: Federal funding with NASA and those funds could be allocated elsewhere instead of going back to the gov’t.

Andrew: asked about reimbursement and quality.

At the state level, a lot is going on. The committee last semester discussed a variety of issues (bill proposed last year that would change the right to work status in the state – RSG hasn’t taken a position on it one way or the other). Michael says the issues we’ll discuss will be controversial the closer to home they are. Nina: suggests that if the committee doesn’t have a stance on the issue but she suggests there should be a third option such as to not take a stance. Michael says there is an opportunity to do so. Michael: committee looks at issues then refers to the board how to take a stance on an issue, but the committee can take a stance on certain issues (depending on what they are).

If someone is elected to be an officer of RSG, you are responsible to all students and not have a potential conflict (otherwise you’d have to excuse yourself from taking stance). Board votes are binding. Like all RSG committees, we advise the board, but because LA committee is so public – Board has full oversight. Back to state issues – by our 2nd mtng (in 3 weeks), we’ll do the same thing for state issues and research info. Might have Rebecca state senator come to a meeting. We’ll join others to lobby in March (grad students professional development day). Certain things we’ll want to do – plant the seed to work a bill through the house/senate.

Local issues: fun! We’ll host a meet-and-greet with local University leaders and city leaders to meet students to talk about any issue in Ann Arbor. Provost, building services, mayor, city staff will be in attendance. This fall we’ll host be a part of a mayoral debate; 5 of the 11 council members are also up to run again. Also, transit has become a big issue in SE Michigan. Governor proposed 4 counties to have an inter-county public transit system. City council meeting this coming Monday – will consider to enact Act 196 authority for AATA to create all sorts of transit options in Ann Arbor (rail to Detroit, rail to Mackinaw). Mayor will be joining us in a few weeks: big proponent of environmental issues and transit. We’ll also meet with CEO of AATA and the director of Parking Services for University to discuss local parking issues.
For next meeting: think about issues that we’re passionate about, additional items we’ll take on, and get program managers at local, state and federal level. We are playing footsie: Michael and Andrew. Each program manager will be asking to join a biweekly conference call. State level will be helping coordinate with MI state director: we might be testifying in front of state Congress. Local level: the person will coordinate issues on working with COSAC on transportation or environmental issues. Vice chair: Christine was the VC last year- this person helps managing the committee. Andrew wants to help out with the signage reporting; I (Lauren) can too.

Our budget has been submitted to board.

Open discussion: Chris wants to look into funding and attrition rates on national level. Andrew asks again about quality. Shoot Michael an email before next meeting if you have interest in being a program manager or vice-chair.

Next LA meeting will be next week… “same bat time, same bat channel” - Michael

Adjourn 7:24pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Knapp
Rackham Student Government Winter 2012
Compiled Goal Worksheet

Academic Issues
- GSRA issues, IP ownership
- Bill of Rights
- GPA issue (Ford school)
- Interlibrary loan efficiency
- Dispute Resolution Board to address student issues
- Ideas for non-traditional and international grad student funding
- PhD Candidate Courses
- Building Hours
- Masters Student Study Space

Local Issues
- PILOTs
- Status of Pfizer campus (NCRC)
- Town Halls for Political Candidates
- More Political Activism (GOTV)

State/Federal Issues
- Grant and funding availability
- Cost of tuition, State bill with tuition coverage for Michigan students
- Decreased availability of loans
- Taxing of stipends and loans
- Support for non-traditional grad students
- Tuition

Student Services Issues (non academic)
- Housing: Northwood issues, closing of Lawyer’s club, West quad and Baits II
- Increasing bussing during peak hours (or longer hours overall)
- Airport shuttle for other times of year (work with CSG)
- Peer mentoring program, emphasis on non-trad or international students

Social Events
- Detroit Lions!!
- Grad student formal
- Red Wings!
- Event with local leaders (City and University)
- Earth Day
- Non-Traditional Careers
The RSG Board voted to commit the following issues to its listed committees

**Academic Affairs Committee**
- GSRA issues
- IP Ownership
- GPA Scale
- Interlibrary Loan Efficiency
- General Dispute Resolution Board
- PhD Candidate Courses
- Building Hours (academic)
- Masters student study space
- Associate Dean Advisory Panels

**Community Outreach and Social Action Committee**
- Peer Mentoring Program, emphasis on international and non-traditional students
- Associate Dean Advisory Panels (& Assistant Dean for International Education)

**Student Life Committee**
- GSRA Issues
- General Dispute Resolution Board
- Non-traditional and International student funding
- Housing: Northwood crunch, closing of the Lawyer’s club, west quad, baits 2, etc.
- Increasing bussing during peak hours (City and U of M)
- Airport Shuttle (AATA or U of M)
- Registering Graduate Student Organizations

**Legislative Affairs Committee**
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs) for U of M and Ann Arbor
- Status of NCRC
- Town Halls for local political candidates
- More Political Activism
- Grant and Funding Availability
- Cost of Tuition, State bill with tuition coverage for Michigan students
- Availability of Loans (subsidized and other)
- Taxation of Stipends
- Support for non-traditional graduate students (including international students)
- Tuition and Fees

---

1 Per Approved Board Resolution F-11-001: Creating Student Advisory Panels
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Uniqname</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Div</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<td>Lauren</td>
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# Rackham Student Government
## Proposed Budget for Winter 2012

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### General Administration

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I. Roll call of members
Present: Alex Emly (Chair), Alex Toulouse, Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Chris Tom, Peter McGrath, Heidi Alvey, Patrick Rooney
Absent (excused): Anna Wagner (Vice Chair)
Absent (unexcused):

Called to order: 7:40pm

II. Events for the Semester

- Ice Skating is actually Saturday- Feb 11 –
  o Checking with Food Gatherers to make sure they’re doing everything re: food collection
- Valentine’s Day Bar Night – Monday Feb 13 – 1 week from Monday
  o Bar Louie – happy hour all day
  o We for sure get some area of the restaurant
  o Chris is checking about getting the outside area
  o We’re going to do a human bingo sorta thing – optional set of questions for people to fill out should they choose as a non-forced ice breakers
  o Will also have name tags and stickers for single/taken/complicated
- Redwings –Feb 13
  o Email should be going out.
  o We don’t have to do anything for it, hooray!
- Laker’s Game – March 6
  o Ditto Redwings game
- St Patrick’s Day- Thursday, March 15
  o Update from Patrick and Katilin
  o Shirts - $5.50 per shirt
  o Location – leaning toward’s Conor’s – getting the side room and then spilling out
  o Since it is the Thursday before St Patrick’s Day, we’re banking on bars not being super crowded, and Conor’s is usually not crowded on Thursdays.
  o Heidi was at Circus last St Patrick’s Day and it was super dead, so probably better to be somewhere that’ll be more likely to at least have some people.
  o Also, we should try to mix up our bars a bit since we’ve had a few events at Circus lately (though it’s good to continue to foster that relationship)
  o Alley Bar is out, Blue Lep could give us the back room but not until 10
  o Shirts need to be ordered by second week of February, will be finalized at next meeting, Feb 8
- Rock climbing days - (see file in dropbox for full details)
  o We’re getting a very good deal - $20 when it’s normally $48
  o Saturday night, 8-11pm, optimally 70 people
  o RSG will possibly sponsor bus, or charge people $5 for a free ride to the gym
  o Possibly have a question in the newsletter to gauge interest
  o Later in the semester, will decide if we should splurge the $300-500 for a Blue Bus to shuttle people for free, or if students would still be interested if they have to pay $25 for transportation/rock climbing
• April events and/or late March event
  o Bowling is going to be March 31
  o Pinball Pete’s – second week of April
  o Don’t want too many things cluttering finals week

III. Next Meeting: Upcoming Tuesday, Feb 7, 7:30 PM Espress Royale
Preliminary Agenda:

• Finalize St Patrick’s Day event
• Discuss policy items (list of things Michael will be providing before the meeting)
• Discuss possible joint Ross/Law/RSG event type thing

IV. Adjourn 8:40pm
Rackham Student Government Funding Application

Organization Name: Fraker Conference Organizing Committee
SOAS Account #: U007781
Registered with MSA? Yes

Primary Contact Name: Silvina Yi
Title: Graduate Student, Romance Language and Literatures
Email: silvina@umich.edu
Phone: 734-506-8820

Secondary Contact Name: Gabriel Horowitz
Title: PhD Candidate, Romance Languages and Literatures
Email: gabrielh@umich.edu
Phone: 716-598-6319

Please check any of the following that describe your organization:

- Academic/Professional X
- Creative Arts/Expression (Visual, Performance, and/or Exhibition)
- Community Service
- Cultural/Ethnic
- Environmental
- Graduate X
- Honorary
- International
- Political
- Publications/Journalism
- Religious
- Science/Technical
- Social Justice

Describe the overall purpose/mission of your organization and the planned initiatives and activities intended to uphold said objective(s).

# of active student members: 18
# of graduate student members: 18

Average attendance at group meetings (Board, committee, event planning, etc.): 8
Average attendance at similar events: 8
Average graduate student attendance at similar events: 8

How often does your group meet? weekly to biweekly

Does your group charge dues to members? No

Email application to the RSG Treasurer, at RSG-treasurer@umich.edu with subject “RSG Funding Request”.
Do all of your activities/events take place on campus? If yes, where do you prefer to hold your programs? If not, where else do they take place?

We primarily hold meetings in the Modern Languages Building but also occasionally in nearby restaurants. We tend to use the Rackham Graduate School for our conference.

Does your group engage in political activity, i.e., electoral, partisan, etc.? If so, describe this activity.

No.

Does your group engage in lobbying efforts? If so, describe these efforts.

No.

Does your group work with any University department or other student organizations in any capacity? If so, please describe this collaboration.

We are affiliated with the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the U of M. The Charles F. Fraker Conference is a graduate student conference sponsored by U of M RLL and organized mainly by graduate students in this department. However, anyone is welcome to participate in the planning of the event.

Is your group affiliated with a national, parent, and/or umbrella organization? If so, please describe this relationship and how it plays a role in your organization's functioning.

Insofar as the Charles F. Fraker Conference is a U of M Department of Romance Languages and Literatures event.

What is your yearly budget? What % of your budget have you set aside for this event?

Our budget for this year’s conference is $9026, all of which will be allocated to the organization and execution of the event.

Email application to the RSG Treasurer, at RSG-treasurer@umich.edu with subject “RSG Funding Request”.
Event Description

Event date(s): February 9-10, 2012
Event location: Rackham Graduate School

1. Briefly describe this event. What is its overall purpose?

The event is a graduate student conference, featuring panel presentations by graduate students from around the country on the featured topic of “the guardian”, keynote addresses by renowned scholars Alberto Moreiras and Jacques Lezra, a special workshop session with these scholars, and attendant ceremonies. The purpose of this event is to promote intellectual exchange among graduate students, this year specifically through an examination of the dynamic of power within custodianship, and the complexities of the relation between protector and protected in all its forms. Graduate students from across the country will come to engage in this exchange, along with our invited keynote speakers.

2. Describe how this event will affect our campus and the graduate student body.

Overall, the event will promote learning and intellectual exchange. It will provide an opportunity for the students on campus to exchange thoughts and ideas about a shared area of interest with other students coming from different schools, and consequently, with different perspectives. There will be an opportunity for the community at large, professors, students, and non-academic community members alike to listen to presentations by graduate students, providing presenting students with experience of public speaking and opportunities to get feedback about their work. There will be keynote addresses by scholars Alberto Moreiras and Jacques Lezra free and open to the public sure to interest and attract many members of the campus community.

This event will also provide experience to the graduate students in charge of organizing the conference.

3. Describe how this event will include other groups or departments.

The topic of the conference and keynote speakers were chosen deliberately to promote interdisciplinary exchange. All events are open to anyone who wishes to participate, not just scholars of Romance Languages and Literatures. Our conference is sure to interest members of Comparative Literature, English, Political Science, Philosophy, Education, Anthropology and Art History departments, just to name a few.

4. With which other groups or departments are you sponsoring this event, if any?

So far we have received promises of sponsorship from Anthropology, Art History, Comprehensive Studies, English, Philosophy, History, Romance Languages, Screen Arts and Culture, the Center for European Studies, the Institute for the Humanities, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and Rackham Graduate School.

5. If your organization is traveling, explain why this is integral to your event and how it will impact the graduate student community.

Email application to the RSG Treasurer, at RSG-treasurer@umich.edu with subject “RSG Funding Request”.

Contact Information
We are not travelling.

6. If your organization is purchasing food, explain why this is integral to your event and how it will impact the graduate student community. Also, where are you ordering from and what is the approximate food cost/attendee?

Food will be important for the promotion of social atmosphere and as nourishment/stimulant for ongoing intellectual exertion. We have budgeted breakfast for both days of the conference, assuming a continental breakfast with coffee for an estimated 100 participants on each day. Moreover, we plan to hold a banquet for conference participants on the first day of the conference (2/9), and have assumed a per person cost of $20 for a total of $2,000. We also plan to provide boxed lunches for conference participants on the second day of the conference (2/10) and have assumed a cost of $9 per individual for a total of $900. To close the conference, we will hold a reception with light hors d'oeuvres for all participants at an estimated cost of $4.50 per person for a total of $450. We have yet to order the food but plan to purchase from local businesses.

7. If your organization is bringing a speaker, performer, DJ, photographer (or any other paid individual for services rendered), explain why this is integral to your event and how it will impact the graduate student community. Please explain how the amount he or she will be paid was determined based on similar services. Additionally, attach a short biography to the end of this application.

We are bringing Alberto Moreiras and Jacques Lezra as keynote speakers, who will each be paid a $1000 honorarium. Both of these thinkers are deeply involved in ongoing theoretical debate of the day. Their presence at the conference will offer graduate students a unique view into what is most current—as well as what is on the horizon—in various fields. For one, we expect Dr. Moreiras in his keynote talk to address the criticism leveled at him by John Beverley in the recently published *Latin Americanism After 9/11* (2012). It will be very interesting to be among the first people to get a sense of this next step in a productive polemic. Beyond the keynote addresses, a workshop event will provide graduate students with an intimate setting in which to engage these scholars directly with questions and ideas about their work.

8. If your organization is applying for capital goods (anything that can be reused after the event has taken place), explain why such goods are integral to the event.

No capital goods to be purchased.

9. Who is eligible to participate? (Keep in mind the more diverse the graduate student participation, the more likely RSG will fund)

All graduate students at the University of Michigan are eligible to present at the conference given the approval of an abstract of the paper he/she plans to present by the organizing committee. Graduate students from around the country have been invited and plan to attend the conference. Any graduate student may participate in the workshop with keynote speakers,

Email application to the RSG Treasurer, at RSG-treasurer@umich.edu with subject “RSG Funding Request”.
and anyone may attend the conference panels and keynote addresses.

10. How many participants do you expect? What % of those participants do you expect to be graduate students? We have planned and budgeted events with a projected participation of 100 people, most of who would be graduate students. We expect 150 at the keynote addresses.

11. Are your date and location confirmed?  Yes

12. Will you charge admission?  No

13. Will this be donated to charity?  Yes—No
   If yes, what percentage will be donated?

14. How do you intend to advertise, in particular to graduate students?

We have allocated part of our budget to the creation of signs and flyers. We have already raised awareness about the conference by sending out the call for papers to departments across the university. Once we have settled on a design and finish printing, a promotions committee will be in charge of the distribution of flyers and posting of signs. We will also send emails to departments across campus informing of the event as it approaches. And naturally, all those involved in the organization of the event will spread word of the event through personal interactions with other students around the campus.

15. To what other funding bodies have you applied and/or have received funds from? Please note each funding body here, the amount for which you applied, the amount that was granted, and to what purpose you intend to put those allocated funds. Requests of funding for the majority of events cost solely to RSG will rarely be fully funded, please seek out additional funding sources as well.

Please see attached PDF

16. If RSG does not fully fund your event in the amount requested, how do you intend to cover those costs? Will the event still be held?

We have solicited funds from various bodies around the university. If RSG does not fully fund the Charles F. Fraker Conference in the amount requested we will hope to make up the loss in funding received from other sources. The conference will take place at this point in any event, given the amounts that have been raised and the fact that we have accepted abstracts, booked flights, etc. But a funding shortfall could complicate future Frakers by forcing us to dip into funds that once depleted will make it much more difficult to organize the event in coming years.
## Event Budget

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<td>meals and other expenses</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Rental</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital Goods</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirts</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: Flowers</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottled water for presenters</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food:</strong></td>
<td>$4100</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes: Breakfast (2 days), coffee (2 days), Conference Dinner, Conference Lunch, and Final</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Email application to the RSG Treasurer, at RSG-treasurer@umich.edu with subject “RSG Funding Request”.

*Please attach a copy of the publication to the end of this application.*

*Please attach a copy of emails/fliers to the end of this application.*
Please see attached PDF.

Please remember to attach a mock-up version of the flier, publication, or t-shirt design with the RSG logo or “Sponsored by the Rackham Student Government” statement to your application.

Our flier is being designed professionally and the design has not yet been finalized.

Moreiras Bio from Texas A&M page:

Alberto Moreiras received his PhD in 1988 from the University of Georgia and he has been the Sixth Century Professor of Modern Thought and Hispanic Studies at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He has taught and lectured in Brazil, Chile, Germany, Italy, and Spain as well as in major research universities in the United States. He joins Texas A&M University, effective 1 July 2010, as Professor and Head of Hispanic Studies. He is a specialist in Latin-American Literature and Culture, with ancillary interests in areas ranging from Aesthetics to Political Philosophy. His record of research and publications includes: three single-authored books and more than ninety articles, review articles, book chapters and notes in American, Latin American and European venues.

Lezra Bio from NYU page: