Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: August 31, 2011

Agenda

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. August 3, 2011
   b. August 17, 2011

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

V. RSG Fall Logistics
   a. Board Meetings
   b. Committee Meetings
   c. Office Hours
   d. Events

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

VII. Committee Progress Review

VIII. Fall Picnic
   a. Logistics
   b. Advertising

IX. Open Discussion

X. Adjournment
I. Call to Order
   a. Meeting Called to Order at 6:07pm.
   b. Members absent:
      ii. Quorum Present
II. Approval of Agenda
   a. Motion by Tien-Huei Hsu, Seconded by Mindy Waite. Approved Unanimously
III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. We don’t have previous minutes from the last few meetings. We will look to approve all meeting minutes in the end block. Please read them over as mike sends out the e-mail. Send any corrections to Joshua Bow
IV. Officer Reports
   a. President
      i. Two more meeting this month and then we will move to a weekly schedule at which attendance will be more enforced.
      ii. Our e-mail has been taken by someone with the username RSG. This has caused some problems with sending out e-mails, it will hopefully be solved soon. In the meantime it is rsg-board@umich.edu
      iii. Ann Arbor city primaries were yesterday and all three incumbents won. We will work with them in order to best represent Graduate students. There will be a Council meeting tomorrow, attend if interested.
      iv. Fall Picnic will be on Sept 2nd, everyone should be there if possible. It is needed that people volunteer.
   b. Vice President
      i. Committee Chairs please add events to the calendar.
      ii. SMART goals should be coming back to the committees at the next board meeting for committees’ evaluations.
   c. Treasurer
      i. About $14940 in the bank.
V. Bylaw Review Committee
   a. Has been created and will be chaired by Joshua Bow
      i. There will be one or two longer meetings than many short meetings.
      ii. E-mail Joshua Bow if you would like to serve on this committee.
   b. Items to be investigated
      i. Budgetary Practices
      ii. Presence of Alcohol at Funded Events
1. Certain events that we travel we do not allow Alcohol on the bus.

   iii. Connection with Rackham (including funding) checking for independence

VI. Continuous Enrollment Dispute Resolution Board

a. For disputes on continuous enrollment, there is a board that works to review disputes. The board that was created was never used. This means that the concerns and grievances were resolved before arriving at the board level. We need to appoint people to serve on this board. The appointment is for a year long term. Please read over the information in the agenda packet, and decide if you would want to apply.

b. In the next week or so, we will send out an e-mail asking for students to apply. These applications will be reviewed by the Communications Committee. Training will occur in the 2-3rd weekend in September.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Academic Affairs
   i. Discussed Lunch with the Deans. Of the three Deans, there was not a single day that everyone could sit down for lunch.
   ii. Discussed GEO updates.
   iii. Discussed recent townhalls that has to do with GEO.
   iv. Dean Weiss has asked that we sponsor a GEO town hall for all grad students.
      1. Lets try to do a general town hall in Rackham about GSRA unionization.
      2. Advertise this large town hall, but we can help address concerns to the appropriate sources.
      3. Focus on departmental forums or a large format.
      4. Pass this to the AA and SL committees. Have them make a recommendation.

b. Budgetary
   i. Had a request from NIMSA for 190. The budgetary committee decided to fund 100.

c. Commutations
   i. There will not be a Communication Committee meeting next week.

d. Elections
   i. No Report

e. Legislative
   i. Two people showed up. Christine, a student at large, and Mindy chatted about PILT.
   ii. As part of the Budget Control Act, subsidized loans for graduate students have been cut.

f. Student Life
   i. Did not meet last week.
   ii. Trying to get the pool event together.
   iii. Chaperones for the Tigers game have been decided

g. Service Opportunities Committee
i. Face to face meeting with MS. Shrivers
ii. Try to come up with a plan to deal with the budget slashing.
iii. A way for graduate students with skills in a field to help with the Washtenaw education community

VIII. Open Discussion
   a. Please start attending committee meetings.

IX. Adjournment
   a. Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua Bow
Rackham Student Government
Vice President
I. Roll call of members

Present: Tien Huei-Hsu, Kaitlin Flynn, Eli Eisman, Mindy Waite, Michael Benson
Absent: Josh Bow, David Cottrell, Grant Mandarino

II. Special Business

- Lunch with Deans
  * Rooms- reserved by Mindy. 3 Rackham rooms
  * Food- JG at $6.75 a person for Rackham events, $8 for a 5” sub box
  * Registration- Natalie put together the pre-registration pages. Eli will put together an email to send out. Final registrations need to be in by September 5th.

- Topics of Discussion- could pull topics from the GSRA survey, but the deans will probably give a 2 minute intro about the ‘state of the division’ after a 1 minute RSG introduction (ONE MINUTE SPEECH)

- Advertising (banner, suggestion box, fliers(?), emails etc)- email, small fliers (Mindy will remake) and advertise at festifall 200 fliers to print, suggestion box?

- Graduate Student Bill of Rights
  * Update- final version of document will be emailed out to students at the beginning of the school year.

III. Open Discussion

V. Next meeting: September 8th, 2011, 7pm

VI. Adjournment
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Academic Committee Meeting
August 24th, 2011
Espresso Royal, 1101 S. University Av.

I. Roll call of members at 6:05pm
Present: Michael Benson, Mindy Waite, Christine Andres

Chairman Benson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm and noted a lack of quorum. The following updates were presented:

1. **Federal level**: The Congress and administration moved on the subsidized loans issue for graduate students much sooner than anticipated. We were expecting the issue to be a part of the 2012 budget process but it was included in the debt ceiling deal. As of last week’s deal, **subsidized loans for graduate students will no longer exist as of January**. The SAGE coalition will be looking at alternatives, including the new IBR program as a mechanism to ensure that graduate education is still incentivized by the federal government.

2. **State Level**: MERC recently ruled that **GSRAs do not have the ability to unionize**. There will likely still be a vote by GSRAs to determine if they want to unionize. How can we best go about communicating this information to the students in an unbiased manner?

3. **Local Level**: The candidates’ forum was discussed in detail and a timeframe was selected for the event, October 20th or 27th.
PG-COC Meeting

Date:  Tuesday, August 23, 2011
Venue: Espresso Royale, South University

I. Roll call (4:10pm): Patrick Rooney (co-chair), Elaina Zverina (co-chair), Carolyn Da Wang (co-chair), Jia Sun, Samantha Liang Zhang

II. Discussion of membership
   ▲ Jia is now a member, and Samantha is a community member.
   ▲ Once the semester starts, we'll be sending out an official e-mail soliciting student members, as well as adding members solicited through other means.
   ▲ In particular, we should be getting students who were involved with Bio-interface, a symposium with similar aims, but geared to students in the biological sciences.

III. Next presentation
   ▲ We've decided to have a presentation the first week of the semester (Sept. 6-9).
   ▲ The speaker will be Dan Criscenti, a local entrepreneur/media consultant, provided he is available to speak that week. Samantha is taking care of requesting his appearance and determining what equipment he would like.
   ▲ We'll have the talk in the assembly hall in Rackham, since its capacity is 110, and we expect 100 attendees. Patrick will take care of room booking as soon as we know what date/time(s) Dan will be available.
   ▲ The announcement will be sent out next week, provided Dan accepts. Elaina will write the blurb, and Patrick will use the RSG e-mail list to distribute.
   ▲ We've decided posters are not necessary, and that e-mail will be sufficient advertising.
   ▲ Food is a concern: $100 was the suggested budget, but this is too low if we're going to be getting 100 people. Patrick will look into raising that figure to $150-200 (UPDATE: Elaina has found a cookie/juice platter for 100 people for $175, and Patrick feels this will be acceptable to the RSG board)

IV. Longer term plans
   ▲ BCG, a consulting firm, will be holding a recruitment presentation Sept. 13. They'll do their own food, but we can offer to do a Rackham-wide e-mail notification.
   ▲ Similarly, McKinsey will be coming to campus later in September.
   ▲ Some discussion of other presentation possibilities:
     ◦ Peer panel of students who have completed internships
     ◦ Speaker from a venture capital firm and/or financial firm
     ◦ Speaker from (non-academic) journalism
   ▲ We would like to set up an on-line calendar of events at some point. Events can be added to the RSG calendar, but we may want a separate one at some point.

V. Next PG-COC meeting: possibly next week, but we'll try to accomplish things via email

VI. Adjournment: 5:16pm
Smart Goals

*Academic Affairs Committee*  
- Finish Graduate student bill of rights will be finished hopefully by end of summer.  
- Also organize Lunch with Deans for fall.

*Legislative Affairs Committee*  
- Having a Candidate's forum before the upcoming primary election.  
- Pursuing the issue of funding for fire departments. Research and formulate a plan.

*Student Life Committee*  
- Follow through on all events

*Communications Committee*  
- 100 likes and 100 followers on Facebook and Twitter.  
- Weekly newsletter running.
Join the Rackham Student Government and the Rackham Graduate School for our annual Welcome BBQ & Picnic!

Where: Island Drive Park, on Island Drive off of Maiden Lane. It is very walk-able from north and central campus!

When: September 2nd, 5-8pm

What: Free Food, including burgers (veggie and regular), hot dogs, chips, sodas, potato salad, watermelon (and more!) as well as summer games, a Moon Bounce (for all ages), live entertainment, and more!

Parking on site is limited, but additional parking is available (after 5pm) at the Fuller Recreation Area off of Fuller Rd, with a foot bridge across to the park.

Shuttle Bus Service: A bus will be running between 4:45pm and 8:15pm between the Rackham Building, Island Drive Park, and the François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Building on North Campus.

Sponsored by the Rackham Student Government (RSG) and the Rackham Graduate School

Email rsg-exec@umich.edu or nplosky@umich.edu with questions about this event.