Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: August 13, 2013
Agenda

I. Call To Order
II. Approval of Agenda
III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. July 31, 2013
IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Phil
      i. New format for board meetings (Fall)
      ii. CSG Commission on Grad. Student Engagement
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Kaitlin
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Chuky
V. Committee Reports
   a. Academic Affairs
      i. Conflict resolution flowchart approval
      ii. Bill of Rights and Guide to Best Practices
   b. Budgetary
   c. COSAC/Student Life
      i. Mungar update
      ii. Fall picnic volunteers
      iii. Canoe Event
   d. Communications
      i. Email and website update
   e. Legislative Affairs
      i. Michigan delegation phone calls—student loan rate
VI. Open Discussion
VII. Adjournment

Included in packet:
RSG Board Minutes July 31, 2013
CSG Commission Documents
AAC August 7, 2013
Conflict Resolution Flowchart
LAC August 7, 2013
Communications Committee August 7, 2013
SLC/COSAC August 12, 2013
Mungar Documents
a. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:09pm

b. **Present:** Vice President Kaitlin Flynn, David Malewski, David Barton, Michael Lang, Ram Balachandran, Yiting Zhang, Alex Gutierrez, Chris Tom, Treasurer Chuky Mbagwu, Michael Benson, Julian Bahr

c. **Absent:**

d. **Excused:** Chris Tom, President Phil Saccone

II. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

a. ML motions to approve, Chris 2nds. Approved unanimously.

III. **APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 6/19/13**

a. Change in the minutes, MB was present. DM motions to approve with changes, Chris seconds. Approved unanimously.

IV. **OFFICER REPORTS**

a. **President Phil Saccone:** Unable to attend meeting due to an emergency. Will send out his officer report separately.

b. **Vice President Kaitlin Flynn:** There will be a forum regarding Munger graduate housing on Friday. RSG has 3 spots reserved there: Phil, David B., and Julian. DM is also attending.

Exec met with Dean Weiss and discussed the Grad Student Bill of Rights and actions moving forward with it. MB mentions that 2 resolutions from last term were also discussed. Some items regarding course evaluations were brought up. MB explains why current evaluation feedback is limited. Janet is excited about it and supports us moving forward with that.

Happy hour was yesterday, things went smoothly. Thanks all for attending. Phil and Kaitlin were able to sit down and talk with an RSG rep that also sits on CSG to discuss crossover initiatives.

Still planning on writing a letter of discontent/sense of the student body regarding the Munger housing. Will wait until after the Friday meeting.
Julian expresses concerns about lack of advertisement of Friday meeting. MB says its likely it will be well attended, and that the email was sent to various email lists/departments.

c. Treasurer Chuky Mbagwu: Minimal update here. No additional funding applications. Happy hour event took place yesterday, stayed within budget.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Legislative Affairs: Janet sent out an email to board. SAGE coalition and CGS has taken a stance to regularize the student loan system. Currently, it’s possible to have different interest rates for undergrad and grad student loans. BAD for financial planning. SAGE voted about a month ago and came up with a script that we encourage people to contact their congress-people regarding regularizing these financial disparities.

Roll call vote. MB reads the script to Board. MB motions to approve the script and adopt the Position Statement as RSG’s stance on the issue, Chris seconds.

Discussion: Julian asks about the benefits of this, and why there is the rate disparity against the grads’ favors. MB responds that it saves students money and encourages them to pursue grad degrees. The reasons for the higher grad rates are primarily financially motivated. Perhaps there is also a lack of understanding of the importance of grad education… Ram asks whether we have data for the numbers of students defaulting on undergrad vs. grad loans, etc. MB says we do, will be happy to show at an LAC meeting.

Approved by a vote of 11-0-1.

b. Academic Affairs: Discussed some of the items that Kaitlin brought up with Dean Weiss. Conflict resolution was a key topic. Looking to get more information on that; Phil will meet with Darlene Johnson. Discussed the possibility of an RSG career fair to reach students outside of the established career fairs (Ford and College of Engineering). Chris motions to approve minutes, Alex seconds. Approved unanimously.

c. Communications: Making good progress on our communications goals for the summer. Props to Julian on the continuing work on the newsletter. MB is still progressing on the website, projects that he will have the prototype for the Board to beta test by the weekend after next. Each committee will have its own page, and there is a place to store the minutes for each meeting. Additionally, Board member bios will be included with a picture. Plan on getting the beta version out soon, there will be a bug reporting system… don’t overload Benson with bugs! :) MB raises a question: we currently have listservs for each Division, new listserv system is more complex but more powerful. Can differentiate by division, program, and also add individuals. Are there other categories that may be useful?
Take some time to think about it and get back to MB. No minutes for this meeting.

d. **Student Life:** Meeting held on Monday. Holding a Pool event on (Aug. 17), so that is a go. Fall picnic was discussed in detail (takes place on Aug. 30). Attendance is mandatory for all Board members that are in town. DM was able to attend Cedar Point, says all but 2 tickets were sold. Event went smoothly, good turnout from international students. An RSG fitness event/5K event has been tossed around in the SLC committee. Phil spoke with Natalie – it is an ambitious project and we are aiming for implementation by Winter term (to allow for adequate planning). MB motions to approve minutes, Yiting seconded. Approved unanimously.

e. **Budgetary:** No meeting held (ad hoc basis).

VI. **Open Discussion:**

VII. **Adjournment:** Motion by MB seconded by Julian. Adjourned at 7:42pm.
Central Student Government Commissions Whitepaper

Purpose:

This paper will evaluate the current state of the Central Student Government Executive Commissions, the Constitutional basis for Executive Commissions, and recommend a set of commissions for the 2013-14 school year. It aims to address the following issues:

Issue 1: Are the 22 Executive Commissions currently listed in the CSG Compiled Code still standing under the CSG Constitution? (Page 1)

Issue 2: What is the purpose of an Executive Commission as defined by the Constitution and Compiled Code? (Page 2)

Issue 3: What Executive Commissions are recommended for the 2013-14 school year? (Page 2)

Issue 4: What benefits are there to structuring Executive Commissions this way? (Page 8)

Issue 5: What steps will be taken to establish the recommended Executive Commissions? (Page 8)

Issue 1: Are the 22 Executive Commissions currently listed in the CSG Compiled Code still standing under the CSG Constitution?

The section of the CSG Constitution on Executive Commissions reads:

*The President may appoint Executive Commissions to study issues on campus, publish reports concerning issues under such purview, and recommend to the Executive Branch such measures as they shall deem appropriate. Commissions shall serve a term of one year, but may be granted successive terms by an annual vote of the Assembly. If a Commission has been in active operation for three years, the Assembly may grant that Commission a three-year term. The President shall, with the consent of a simple majority of the Assembly, appoint Commission chairs, who shall not be considered officers of the Central Student Government. Members of the Commission may elect from among their number any other officers they deem expedient. The President may remove a Commission chair with the written consent of three other executives. The powers, functions, and composition of these Commissions shall be defined in the Compiled Code.*

The President of the Central Student Government during the 2012-13 school year only appointed one Commission during his term (the Entrepreneurship Commission), and the Second Assembly never voted to grant a successive term to any Commission. Therefore, all 21 of the Executive Commissions (other than the Entrepreneurship Commission) existed outside of the Central Student Government Constitution during the 2012-13 school year. The Entrepreneurship Commission is the only Commission the Third Assembly could vote to grant a successive term, and as of July 29, 2013, they have not done so.

Therefore, none of the 22 Commissions listed in the Compiled Code are currently standing under the CSG Constitution.
**Issue 2: What is the purpose of an Executive Commission as defined by the Constitution and Compiled Code?**

The purpose of an Executive Commission is defined by the Central Student Government Constitution: “...to study issues on campus, publish reports concerning such issues under purview, and recommend to the Executive Branch such measures as they deem appropriate.” These Executive Commissions are appointed by the CSG President.

**Issue 3: What Executive Commissions are recommended for the 2013-14 school year?**

The Executive carefully considered issues facing the study body and created a list of recommendations for 24 Executive Commissions. While many are based on the Executive Commissions currently listed in the CSG Compiled Code, their mandates and responsibilities are considerably more specific. Most Executive Commissions are tasked with creating a report that details issues facing the study body and recommendations for improving campus life. Most Executive Commissions will present their reports to University administrators following approval of the CSG President. These Executive Commissions will be more task-oriented than in years past.

The Executive Commissions will no longer be classified as “Logistical Commissions,” “Identity Commissions,” or “Issue Commissions.” These classifications were unnecessary and did not in any way affect the operations of the Commissions, and only served an organizational purpose. The 24 recommended Commissions are all tasked with studying issues on campus. While some issues may be identity-related, and others may be logistics-related, to classify their respective commissions separately from “Issue Commissions” is misleading.

The 24 recommended Commissions are:

**Commission on Campus Accessibility (“CA”)**

The Commission on Campus Accessibility shall study and evaluate the current state of campus accessibility for students with disabilities and advocate on behalf of those students. The CA will submit a report to the CSG President that details current deficiencies in campus accessibility and recommendations to improve campus accessibility. This report shall be submitted no later than November 1, 2013. Following submission of this report, at the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of the report shall be sent to the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, and the CA shall actively work to carry out the recommendations detailed in its report.

**Commission on Campus Safety and Security (“CSS”)**

The Commission on Campus Safety and Security shall work with the University of Michigan Police Department and other stakeholders to create a comprehensive report on the state of student safety at the University of Michigan. This report should include, but not be limited to, crime data, detailed campus security policies and procedures, student perception of safety on campus, and recommendations for improvement. The report shall include comparisons to University of Michigan’s peer institutions. This report shall be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013. Following submission of this report, at the discretion of the CSG President, a copy shall be sent to the Executive Director of the Division of Public Safety and Security, the U-M Police Chief, DPS Oversight Committee, the AAPD Police Chief, and the Chair of the Campus Safety and Security Advisory Committee. The CSS shall develop a strategy to educate the student body on issues of campus safety and to carry out the recommendations detailed in its report.
**Commission on Diversity and Inclusion (“D&I”)**

The Commission on Diversity and Inclusion shall work with the Division of Student Affairs and the appropriate student groups to create a report on student attitudes towards the diversity and inclusion at the University of Michigan, along with recommendations for creating a more inclusive campus. This report shall be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013. Following the submission of this report, at the discretion of the CSG President, a copy shall be sent to the Dean of Students, the Co-Directors for the Program on Intergroup Relations, and the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. The D&I shall develop a strategy to engage the student body in conversations about diversity and inclusion and to carry out the recommendations detailed in its report.

**Commission on Gender Inequality (“GI”)**

The Commission on Gender Inequality shall study and evaluate areas of gender inequality at the University of Michigan. The GI shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013, that details if and where gender inequalities exist, the nature and extent of these inequalities, and recommendations for improvement. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Dean of Students and the Chair of the Women’s Studies Department and the GI shall work to carry out the recommendations included in its report.

**Commission on Graduate Student Engagement (“GSE”)**

The Commission on Graduate Student Engagement shall work with graduate and professional school student governments and other graduate student life organizations to identify issues relevant to graduate students and opportunities for collaboration with CSG. The GSE shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013, that details these issues and includes recommendations for CSG to act on them. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Dean of Students and the Office of Greek Life. The GE will then work to carry out the recommendations included in its report.

**Commission on Greek Engagement (“GE”)**

The Commission on Greek Engagement shall work with the Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Association, and the Office of Greek Life to identify, study, and explore issues that are relevant to the Greek community and ways that CSG and the Greek community can collaborate to create a positive impact on campus. The GE shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013, that details the issues relevant to the Greek community, places for collaboration, and gives recommendations for how to move forward on issues and implement collaboration. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Dean of Students and the Office of Greek Life. The GE shall then work to carry out the recommendations included in this report.

**Health Issues Commission (“HIC”)**

The Health Issues Commission shall promote the health of all students on campus and educate students on health issues. The HIC shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than September 30, 2013, detailing its strategy to fulfill its mandate for the year. Additionally, the HIC shall be comprised of the following sub-commissions:

- Physical and Nutritional Health
Mental Health

Sexual Health

At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Director of the University Health Service and the Dean of Students.

International Student Affairs Commission (“ISAC”)

The International Student Affairs Commission shall work toward the improvement of campus life for international students. ISAC will work with the International Center and International Student Organizations to create a comprehensive report of issues facing the international student community, the resources available to international students, and recommendations for improvement of campus life for international students. The report should include comparisons to peer institutions. This report shall be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Director of the International Center and the Dean of Students. The ISAC will then work to carry out the recommendations detailed in its report.

Commission to Develop an MCard Smartphone Application (“MCSA”)

The Commission on MCard Smartphone Application shall work to create a MCard Smartphone Application that, at the very least, displays the MCard on a smartphone in a secure manner that guards against identify theft. This will then be able to be used at places where an MCard is required for identification such as Michigan Recreation Buildings, IM Sports, Club Sports practices, Michigan sporting events, Greek events, etc. The MCSA shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than September 30, 2013 that details a plan for creating the application. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Dean of Students, Information and Technology Services, Rec Sports, and Athletics.

Commission on Online Syllabi (“OS”)

The Commission on Online Syllabi shall work to create a searchable online database where students can search for syllabi for classes that they want to take. The OS shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than September 30, 2013 that details a plan for creating the database. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Office of the Provost and Information and Technology Services.

Commission to Develop an Orientation Sorting Hat Survey (“OSHS”)

The Commission on Orientation Sorting Hat Survey shall work to create a survey that students will take during orientation. Students will input their areas of interest and types of activities they would like to participate in at Michigan. Student organization will input areas of interest and descriptions of their organizations. Incoming students and clubs will then each receive a list. The OSHS shall submit a report to the CSG President no later than September 30, 2013 that details a plan for creating the database. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Office of New Student Programs, the Center for Campus Involvement, and Information and Technology Services.

Commission on Student Entrepreneurship (“SE”)
The Commission on Student Entrepreneurship will seek to foster the growth of campus-wide entrepreneurship. This group will work with entrepreneurial groups and organizations on campus to identify a plan on how to continue the growth of entrepreneurship at Michigan, and shall include that plan in a report to be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Center for Entrepreneurship and all relevant academic institutions that are outlined in the report.

**Commission on Transfer Student Resources (“TSR”)**

The Commission on Transfer Student Resources shall work toward the improvement of the transition into the University of Michigan for transfer students. TSR will coordinate events throughout the 2013-2014 school year that work to this effect. No later than September 30, 2013 TSR will submit a report to the CSG President outlining the planned events for the year. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of the report shall be sent to the Dean of Students and the Office of New Student Programs.

**Commission on University Sustainability (“US”)**

The Commission on University Sustainability shall study sustainability efforts at the University of Michigan. No later than November 1, 2013, the US shall submit a report to the CSG President that details current practices, past efforts, and recommendations for creating a more sustainable campus. The report should include comparisons to peer institutions. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report will be sent to the Office of Campus Sustainability.

**LGBT Issues Commission (“LGBT”)**

The LGBT Issues Commission shall work toward the improvement of student life for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and ally students. LGBT shall also coordinate events throughout the 2013-14 school year that celebrate and foster LGBT pride and inclusion. No later than September 30, 2013, LGBT shall submit a report to the CSG President that details its strategy to fulfill its mandate for the year. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report shall be sent to the Director of the Spectrum Center.

**Commission on Minority Enrollment (“ME”)**

The Commission on Minority Enrollment shall study and evaluate the current and historical minority enrollment rates at the University of Michigan. It shall prepare a report that details these rates, strategies U of M uses to recruit and retain minority students, comparisons with our peer institutions, and recommendations to improve underrepresented minority enrollment, including gender (ie males in nursing). This report shall be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013. Following submission of this report, at the discretion of the CSG President, a copy will be sent to the Dean of Admissions, the Dean of Students, the Director of the LEAD Scholars Program, the Director of the Comprehensive Studies Program, and the Co-Directors of the Program for Intergroup Relations. The ME shall then work to carry out the recommendations in its report.

**Commission on North Campus Life (“NCL”)**

The Commission on North Campus Life shall develop a report detailing student satisfaction among those living and attending classes on North Campus and recommendations for improving satisfaction. The mechanism for conducting this study should be submitted to and approved by the CSG President no later than September 30, 2013. The final report shall be submitted to the CSG President no later
than December 1, 2013. Following submission of the report, at the discretion of the CSG President, the NCL shall work to carry out the recommendations included in its report.

**Commission on Off Campus Transportation and Safety (“OCTS”)**

The Commission on Off-Campus Transportation shall work with the Department of Parking and Transportation Services, the Division of Student Affairs’ Beyond the Diag Program, the Ann Arbor Transit Authority, and the student body to further develop a proposal for a late night bus route that runs to the adjacent off-campus neighborhoods. The Commission shall also work to develop a funding model for a one-semester pilot of the bus-route, beginning in January 2014. The Commission shall also explore the expansion of the Safe Ride system, with a report detailing current Safe Ride operations and recommendations for improvement and be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 30, 2013. At the discretion of the CSG President, a copy of this report will be sent to the Director of Parking and Transportation Services.

**Presidential Search Commission (“PSC”)**

TBA at a later date.

**Commission on Social Justice (“SJ”)**

The Commission on Social Justice shall develop a report detailing current student-led social justice initiatives at the University of Michigan. The report shall include background on the issues identified, current steps the University has taken to address those issues, and recommendations for further action. This report shall be submitted to the CSG President no later than November 1, 2013. At the discretion of the CSG President, the a copy of the report will be sent to the Co-Directors of the Program for Intergroup Relations and other University administrators whose responsibilities are germane to the issues contained in the report. Following submission of this report, the SJ will work to enact the recommendations contained in its report.

**External Relations Commission (“ERC”)**

The External Relations Commission shall work to maintain and strengthen relationships with entities outside the University. The ERC contains two submissions:

- **Student Government Relations:** The Student Government Relations Subcommission (“SGRS”) is responsible for representing the University of Michigan at meetings of the Associated Big Ten Students and the Student Association of Michigan. The SGRS should maintain regular contact with the student government associations across the state and across the Big Ten, and stay informed of issues facing those organizations. The SGRS will submit a monthly report to the CSG President summarizing the work of these organizations.

- **State and Local Government Relations:** The State and Local Government Relations Subcommission (SALGS) is responsible for representing the University of Michigan Student Body to the Ann Arbor City Council, the government of the State of Michigan, and other relevant governmental entities. The SALGS should have at least one member present at every public meeting of the Ann Arbor City Council. The SALGS will submit a monthly report to the CSG President summarizing any issues up for consideration by State or Local Governments that affect students at the University of Michigan.

**Student Organization Funding Commission (“SOFC”)**
The Student Organization Funding Commission shall be the organ of the Central Student Government in which the Assembly explicitly delegates its constitutional authority to fund student organizations. The Commission shall have the authority to review applications, hear appeals, and make funding decisions without approval by the Assembly.

**What to Fix Commission (“WTF”)**

The What to Fix Commission shall be responsible for soliciting feedback and ideas from students regarding improvements that could be made to the University of Michigan campus. The WTF will evaluate ideas it receives to determine feasibility, cost estimates, and actionable steps to realize the idea. The Chair of WTF will update students who submit a request and the CSG President on progress toward realizing each idea.

**Commission on Student Organization Outreach (“SOO”)**

The Commission on Student Organization Outreach will actively schedule meetings with student organizations on campus. The purpose of these meetings will be to actively solicit input from student organizations on issues for CSG to focus on, as well as to educate student organizations on the Student Organization Funding process and other resources CSG offers student organizations. SOO shall aim to meet with at least 100 student groups or leaders of student groups before the end of the Fall 2013 semester.
**Issue 4: What are the benefits to structuring Executive Commissions this way?**

Executive Commissions should focus on specific, targeted issues, and publish reports to the CSG President on their findings as well as recommendations for actionable steps to take on these issues. In the past, some Executive Commissions have had such broad mandates that Commission chairs are unsure where to begin working. Creating Executive Commissions with more specific and structured responsibilities will allow for more efficient and productive work. This also brings the practical purpose of Commissions in line with the purpose outlined in the CSG Constitution.

Many of these Commissions can function with a very small operating budget and only a few members in order to fulfill their mandates. Prior to completion of their reports, most Commissions should have little, if any, costs associated with their work. This should allow for thousands of dollars to free up for SOFC in the first semester while Commissions focus on research and compiling their reports. Commissions will then have a very clear focus and plan of action for the remainder of the school year, and budgets should be more accurate and targeted in the second semester. Less money will be held in the Commission Discretionary budget, once again freeing up thousands of dollars for SOFC.

**Issue 5: What steps will be taken to establish the recommended Executive Commissions?**

As discussed in Issue 1, none of the 22 Executive Commissions currently listed in the CSG Compiled Code are standing under the CSG Constitution. Since the Second Assembly did not vote to grant a successive term to any of the Executive Commissions, only Commissions established during Second Assembly’s tenure are eligible to be granted a successive term by the Third Assembly. The only Commissions established during the Second Assembly’s tenure is the Entrepreneurship Commission.

The CSG Constitution does not give the Assembly the power to create new Commissions. The Assembly only has the power to grant successive terms to Commissions. Therefore, the only Executive Commission the Assembly may vote to establish is the Entrepreneurship Commission. However, because the mandate of the Entrepreneurship Commission significantly differs from the mandate of the recommended Commission on Student Entrepreneurship, the Third Assembly does not have the power to establish the SE.

Therefore, only the CSG President can establish the 24 recommended Commissions. These shall be done through 24 separate Executive Orders, to be made available on the Central Student Government website and reported at the next Central Student Government Assembly meeting, on September 3rd, 2013 in the CSG Chambers.
I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:41 PM

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Members: Chris Tom, Michael Benson, Phil Saccone, Janakiraman Balachandran, Alexander Gutierrez, Kaitlin Flynn, Brooke Horton, Ryan Roberts

Present: Chris Tom, Phil Saccone, Janakiraman Balachandran, Alexander Gutierrez, Kaitlin Flynn, Brooke Horton

Excused: Michael Benson, Ryan Roberts

Unexcused:

III. OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS

a. [Michael] Email Phil about Assistant Registrar contact information
b. [Phil] Email to Registrar about why course evaluation information is private
   Phil talked to Janet, but Janet referred him to Registrar.

c. [Phil] Talk to Janet during next meeting about course evaluation privacy
   Merge with previous item: Phil talked to Janet, but Janet referred him to Registrar.

d. [Phil] Ask Darlene regarding enforcement of conflict resolution settlement and time requirements for setting up the board and other resolution milestones.
   We can make an application process for selecting student ombudsmen for this process. Chris will work on this.

e. [Phil] Contact Jill McDonough regarding the new graduate housing planning process.
   i. Phil attended the open house and talked to Greg Merritt, Director of Housing. The stated goal of the complex is to get collaboration across the fields, but 7-person suites do not accomplish this. Will have a meeting with Greg in the next week to discuss problems in more issue.
   ii. Potentially hold a town hall for students discussing housing.
f. [Chris] Talk to Darlene re: student ombudsman/ student resolution officers, getting recommendations and applications
   Pending

g. [Michael/Phil] Talk to Janet during meeting about course evaluation privacy
   Merge with items b and c: Redundant

IV. GRADUATE STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

   a. Janet does not believe this will pass the Rackham board as it is. She does not feel that this applies to each department’s separate needs and believes it will be viewed broadly as a confrontational document. Suggests it to be changed to a “best practices” document.
   b. We can modify the language to sound less audacious and entitled, but keep the document essentially the same.
   c. We should submit the modified version by Fall for consideration and voting by the Rackham Executive Board.

V. CONFLICT RESOLUTION RESOURCES

   See: III. d. and f.

VI. RESOLUTION FOR ACCESS TO INSTRUCTOR REPORTS

   See: III. c.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

   (None)

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

   a. [Michael] Email Phil about Assistant Registrar contact information
   b. [Michael/Phil] Talk to Registrar about course evaluation privacy
   c. [Chris] Draft application process for selecting student ombudsmen for conflict resolution
   d. [Phil] Meet with Greg Merritt to detail issues with proposed graduate housing
   e. [Chris] Talk to Darlene re: student ombudsman/ student resolution officers, getting recommendations and applications

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 7:30 PM

X. APPENDIX
When a conflict arises, first try direct communication with the other party, or seek advice on conflict resolution from the Graduate Program Chair, a more experienced student in your program, or a Rackham Student Ombud. A student may also contact the Resolution Officer for the School/College, or make an appointment with the Rackham Resolution Officer Darlene Ray-Johnson for a consultation.

Informal Approach

A resolution cannot be found

The two parties resolve the conflict on their own.

Student may requests a formal resolution conference be initiated with School/College Resolution Officer.

Both parties are notified and an investigation is conducted. Resolution Officer meets with both parties together or separately, interviews witnesses, contacts program director or department Chair, if necessary.

A Memo of Understanding is drafted explicitly outlining the steps for resolution. Both parties agree and sign the memo. The conflict is resolved. No further action is necessary.

The resolution conference results in terms that satisfactorily resolve the dispute.

Students cannot agree on terms to resolve conflict.

The case is referred to the Rackham Resolution Officer.

A modified agreement is worked out or a new investigation begins.

Evidence is insufficient to reopen case. Agreement stands.

To find the Resolution Officer for your School/College or to read the official Conflict Resolution Policy at Rackham please visit: http://www.rackham.umich.edu/policies/dispute_resolution/academic_dispute_resolution. You can also feel free to contact your Rackham Student Government at rsg-exec@umich.edu with any questions on conflict resolution procedures.
I. CALL TO ORDER: ~7:35

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Members

Present: Pres. P. Saccone, Reps: M. Lang, M. Hand, D. Malewski

Excused:

Unexcused:

III. SAGE Congressional Outreach on Student Debt
Due to low attendance, just had reps in attendance grab ideal reps/senators and then will pass it on to full board/ rest of committee.

IV. Fall City Council Election (Election forum)
Probably not enough time to pull this off since we have two fora already.

V. Bylaws
Everybody read them and come ready to discuss them next week.

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION
Munger Feedback:
Everybody tore the whole thing apart at the forum. Too expensive (irresponsible from a loan situation), not appealing.

M. Lang suggests throttling back on the state stuff to better prioritize the local and federal stuff.
General support for keeping abreast of state issues, but not going to be doing the same level of advocacy.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

IX. APPENDIX
I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:38pm
   a. Present: Phil Saccone, Kaitlin Flynn, Michael Benson, Julian Bahr
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused:

II. Picnic Signage
    Kaitlin mentioned the signs that Yiting had recommended. The committee wasn’t sure how those signs would be used. So, Julian is going to come up with a design and then send it over to Michael.

III. Website
    Michael is going to have a version shortly. Need bios for reps. Name, unique name, when you were elected to current term and when you were first elected, current projects and committee assignments, passed committee assignment, pictures and biographical statement. Generally, info is important for alumni networking and record keeping. Execs need to write on strategic planning of RSG. Beta website should be up this weekend. People should go in and edit stuff.

IV. Email
    Will also be up and running shortly. We will need to test all of the different groups.

V. T Shirt
    Michael is sending information to Kaitlin on the printing. Otherwise everything is ready to go!

VI. Newsletter
    Michael proposes that we cancel the final newsletter and just include reminders for the fall picnic.

VII. Open Discussion
    Julian asks us to please bring vouchers for bowling.

VIII. Adjournment 6:57p
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
STUDENT LIFE/COSAC MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2013
ESPRESSO ROYALE
7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:01pm
   a. Present: Kaitlin Flynn, Phil Saccone, Chuky Mbagwu, Michal Lang, Michael Benson, Mike Hand, Yiting Zhang
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused:

II. Fall Picnic
   - bounce house, outdoor adventure games, masseuse and DJ all reserved.
   - busses are still being reserved by MB. PTS now says they don't have availability so MB is checking into other options.
   - Jimmy johns sandwiches instead of BBQ because the caterer cannot be available for all events
   - All board members required to attend and help out. Phil will split the day into shifts.
   - 5-8pm on August 30

III. Canoe Trip
   - 8/29 in the afternoon. This week need to send out flyer with signup links. Remind MH to put together flyer and blurb to send out ASAP.

IV. Plans for the Fall
   - Adam Reuben comedian speaker thing-- looking to co-sponsor with Rackham
   - Pistons game in the fall
   - Eastern Market with Rackham trip
   - Bills Beer Garden happy hour in September
   - Forums for renting and leasing and grad student housing
   - Academic town halls
   - Pinball Petes in late Fall
   - COSAC events

V. OPEN DISCUSSION
   - ML asks about 5K
   - Fantasy football bar night and possible ESPN partnership- ML in charge

VI. ADJOURNMENT at 7:23pm.
Charles Munger pledges $110 million for U-Michigan graduate residence and fellowships to create community of scholars; largest gift in university's history

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ANN ARBOR—A $110 million gift of securities from investor and philanthropist Charles T. Munger will support his vision for a new state-of-the-art residence at the University of Michigan designed to foster a community where graduate students from multiple disciplines can live and exchange ideas.

The gift includes $10 million for fellowships to help create a residential society that encourages scholarship and interaction from many fields of study. The U-M Board of Regents approved the project and related fellowship program at a meeting today.

The gift is the largest single donation to the university in its 196-year history. The residence will be named in honor of Munger, a U-M alumnus and vice chairman of Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

The proposed building will house more than 600 occupants in a unique high-density residential-academic arrangement.

"This is an innovative and communal approach to graduate school education," said U-M President Mary Sue Coleman. "Most universities do not take a community-like approach, and this project envisions an approach that makes graduate study less isolated. We see this as a revolutionary concept and an exciting opportunity for us to nurture graduate education within our ecosystem.

"Charlie Munger is passionate about improving graduate student housing, and believes that educating one's self, in the right setting, is very powerful. We anticipate this new building will have many options for students for meetings, gathering spaces, project spaces and living accommodations that combine the best private and common space."

http://ns.umich.edu/new/releases/21407-charles-munger-pledges-110-million-for-u-michiga...
Most apartments in this new community of scholars will contain seven individual bed/study rooms, each with a private bath, a very large shared kitchen and common furnished dining and living areas with big windows. Some apartments will have three or six bedrooms.

In an effort to encourage lively discussion and other interaction within and across disciplines, the entire eighth floor will feature many comfortable gathering spaces, a fitness center with a running track, a commissary that carries high-quality basic provisions at low prices, a Fellows' Room and a panoramic view of the campus and downtown Ann Arbor. Some of the apartments will be used by visiting faculty.

Among those living in the new residence will be a group selected to receive the new fellowships funded by the Munger gift. Chosen from across the university's 19 schools and colleges, these fellows will enjoy a range of interactions, often convivial, fostering multidisciplinary approaches and competency.

The design Munger helped develop grew out of his experience with funding a large graduate student housing complex at Stanford University, his late wife Nancy's alma mater. He has worked with U-M to add to Stanford features, including more communal spaces, an improved commissary experience, extensive fitness facilities and a sky-lighted top floor for consumption of food and coffee within a structure that serves as either a screened porch or a solarium, depending on weather.

Munger says that he is "cheerfully cooperating in a limited amount of celebration of his gift," partly out of duty and partly because he enjoys the attention. "But I particularly want to avoid any perception that I claim large donative merit. After all, I waited until my 90th year before making the gift, then gained friendship and creative joy in working with the university in a very interesting design effort likely to have a good outcome, while I parted with assets I soon won't need."

"It is, of course, not intuitively obvious why, with no exact precedent, the University of Michigan should create a residence for graduate students in which almost every occupant has to share an apartment with six others," Munger said.

Neither Munger nor the university started with this idea. He says the idea gradually came to dominate planning through a confluence of six factors:

Desired geometric efficiency allowing more students to interact on the site. Almost universally changed building codes applicable to super-safe buildings. Success of somewhat similar four-bedroom apartments for graduate students at Stanford. Longtime success of large communal kitchens for graduate students at the University of Stockholm and in many modern private housing arrangements. The extreme space and quality per occupant made possible by spreading common space cost over seven occupants per apartment. The obvious benefit obtained when each apartment has a bathroom for guests and each bed/study room has perfect sound proofing and a private bath. The approximately 370,000-square-foot, eight-story building will be located on Central Campus on the north side of East Madison Street between South Division and Thompson streets. The anticipated opening date is fall 2015. Out of the total, $100 million of the gift will go toward the new facility, which will cost about $185 million. The rest will be funded by lease revenue.
The residence will be constructed based on the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver certification rating system, the recognized standard for measuring building sustainability. In addition to LEED Silver, the building will exceed standard energy efficiency codes by more than 30 percent.

U-M has more than 15,400 graduate and professional students from 113 countries, most of who currently reside in off-campus housing. This addition of about 600 beds of university-owned housing is not expected to cause much change in the long-existing housing pattern.

Munger, who studied mathematics at U-M in the 1940s, has long been a major benefactor to the university. He also has lectured at various schools and colleges on the campus and has advised the university on its investments.

In 2011, he contributed $20 million for renovations to the iconic Lawyers Club housing complex, which was named in his honor. Like this latest gift, Munger's intent was to help create a facility that would help students be successful, in this case by giving students the amenities they need. In 2007, he gave $3 million to the U-M Law School for lighting and other infrastructure improvements in Hutchins Hall and the William W. Cook Legal Research Building.

In addition to his gifts to Michigan and Stanford, Munger has given millions to various schools and organizations in the Los Angeles area where he resides.

A native of Omaha, Neb., Munger graduated from Harvard Law School in 1948 and eventually founded the Los Angeles law firm of Munger, Tolles & Olson. Olson and many others in the firm are graduates of Michigan's Law School. Munger stopped practicing law in the 1960s to concentrate on managing investments. After running his own investment firm for many years, he became vice chair of Berkshire Hathaway in 1978.


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**Note:** All rates are subject to change.