Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: July 3, 2013

Agenda

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. June 19, 2013

IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Phil
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Kaitlin
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, Chuky

V. Committee Reports
   a. Legislative Affairs
   b. Academic Affairs
      i. Conflict Res. Flow Chart
   c. Communications
   d. COSAC/Student Life
   e. Budgetary

VI. Open Discussion

VII. Adjournment

Included in packet:
RSG Board Minutes June 19, 2013
Communication Committee Minutes June 23, 2013
Academic Affair Committee Minutes June 26, 2013
Legislative Affairs Committee Minutes June 26, 2013
Conflict Resolution Flow Chart
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
BOARD MEETING  
6/19/13  
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING  
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE  
7:05 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:05pm
   a. Present: President Phil Saccone, David Malewski, Brooke Horton, David Barton, Treasurer Chuky Mbagwu, Ram Balachandran, Julian Bahr, Michael Benson, Mike Hand, Alex Gutierrez
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused: Kaitlin Flynn, Yiting Zhang

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
   a. MH motions to approve, seconded by MB. Approved unanimously, no abstentions.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 6/5/13
   a. DM motions to approve, seconded by MB. Approved unanimously, no abstentions.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS
   a. President Phil Saccone:
      i. Events: We have a Happy Hour tomorrow (Thurs), please come and socialize. Board members are required to participate in 3 events. Ice cream social this weekend (Sunday): Phil, Chuky, Julian, David M, can surely attend/set up. Tigers Game, chaperones: Mike H, Michael B, David M, and Phil can chaperone. Responsibility and behavior are obviously expected by chaperones and attendees.
      ii. Natalie’s Visit: Phil thanks everyone for their participation and input for Natalie’s questions.
      iii. Budget Review: Spring/Summer 2013
   b. Vice President Kaitlin Flynn: Big shout out to Julian for assembling and publishing this week's newsletter! Wahoo! I'd like to remind everyone that there are two events coming up, one being a bar night tomorrow night at Bills Beer Garden. Bill is graciously hosting us (hard for large groups) and importantly, the garden opens at 7 (when our event starts). In order to secure tables for the group,
we'll need people to show up on time. We will provide a small amount of appetizers. Secondly, we are having our canoe/kayak day and ice-cream social event on Sunday from 2-4pm. We’ll be subsidizing kayaks, having game time and ice cream time and so on. We need your help! Please show up to one if not both of these events ready to help. Remember that your representative requirement is to attend/staff at least 3 events per term. Finally, I sent out a mockup of our new staff t-shirts per the design/qualities we voted on over the past few weeks. Let me know ASAP via email what your preference is for the back of the shirt. A separate sizing form will go out soon.

c. Treasurer Chuky Mbagwu:

i. **Budget Review: Spring/Summer 2013**

1. Healthy budget: ~$20,000 in account, ~$12,000 after debits
2. ~$10,000 Spring/Summer budget, reserve money in accordance with 5-10% of yearly budget

ii. **Budgetary Committee:** Will be scheduled as needed

V. **Natalie Bartolacci, Rackham Student Affairs.**

a. Phil introduces Natalie from Rackham, a great help and partner to RSG with many events and other initiatives.

b. **Rackham Communication Strategy.** Natalie is excited about RSG’s desire to improve communications with student body, and Rackham is likewise interested in doing the same. Would be great to work in tandem with RSG.

c. **What kind of information is important to communicate to the grad community?**

Kaitlin: Academic policies and professional development resources. The most important types of information Rackham needs to communicate to the student body are academic policies and professional development resources. There are tons of offices, lectures and seminars going on all the time and often they get missed among other events. || Besides Rackham, RSG also communicates with the student body. To some extent, so does GEO. Primarily this is done via email, and some on Twitter/Facebook. Also student groups like SCOR and the LGBT orgs have facebook presences. || The feedback we get from students are positive (participation in newsletter polls, friends/constituents mention newsletter to me, people show up to events) but also somewhat negative (complaints about number of emails, not advertising events early enough, etc). || General advice for the next few years: stick with a newsletter format that's short and engaging (current Rackham newsletter with the list of items at the top is cumbersome), advertise early for events but not too often, provide clear and easy way to opt out of list-
serv.

Julian: When joined, excited by RSG but saw that there was not much interaction between departments and would like to see them improved.

Brooke: Along the lines of Kaitlin’s comments with regards to professional development, as well as communicating resources for assault/awareness issues.

Ram: Would like to see more of a VP newsletter from Rackham, consolidate emails and notices from all the VPs and Deans for the week, etc. Additional focus for North Campus community, often neglected.

Mike Hand: An infrastructure in place where information for events and activities are centrally located (online or otherwise).

Michael Benson: Agrees with Mike, but perhaps add customization where students can subscribe to the type or genre of events/activities that they would like to be notified of, and thus receive a somewhat personalized and targeted digest.

Alex: Seconds a personalized subscription of events to reduce missed or overlooked emails within the mass emails.

David M: Better ways to prevent people from missing emails or notices -- it is useful that Rackham has email list-servs that cannot be unsubscribed from. Also concerns with foreign national students, sometimes there is not a complete understanding of notices and communications for non-native speakers. MB mentions the international office assists with those kinds of issues, but that clarity and conciseness should indeed be emphasized.

David B: Agrees with most of the suggestions thus far.

Phil: Better communication for people just starting or enrolled, or perhaps when candidacy is achieved. Difficulty with this because grad students are all on
different time schedule… Formatting, frequency, subscriptions, and accessible website seems like the clear path forward.

Natalie informs Board that Rackham’s communication has changed from a previous large email blast of all items to somewhat more frequent topical digests regarding: funding, social events, etc.

Michael Benson adds suggestion for Rackham to improve financial aid training to grad chairs/coordinators who appear to be informed more towards the financial needs of undergraduates (MB’s experience in EE).

VI. APPROVAL OF THE SPRING/SUMMER 2013 BUDGET

a. Budget Issues: Unknown reason for $900 under-budgeting for Fall Picnic 2012, added to and accounted for in new budget.

b. Reserve money stands at $2349.26

c. Committee Budgets have stayed relatively consistent with previous years.

d. MH friendly amendment to add the August happy hour to budget

e. MB motions to approve budget, MH seconds with friendly amendment. Approved unanimously.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Legislative Affairs: MB: Did not meet last week, will meet next week. City planning staff have come up with a new “Student Zoning District”, RSG will like to weigh in on this issue. Has the potential to create a different (lower?) standard for student housing, etc. There will be more information from MB soon. Also, Mike Hand will be giving a Latex info session at the next LAC meeting (next Wed. at 7pm).

Phil reminds the LAC about its responsibility for RSG bylaw amendments, if needed.

b. Academic Affairs: Did not meet last week.

c. Communications:

d. Student Life/COSAC: MH motions, MB objects with an amendment: fix the list
of attendees to include titles (President, VP, Treasurer, Representatives)

e. **Budgetary:** Budgetary committee will meet as necessary, Chuky will schedule when funding applications come through.

VIII. **Open Discussion:** T-Shirt discussion, email Kaitlin about any concerns with the T-Shirt. MH says “Representative” is too long. MB and MH and Board agrees with “STAFF” for back of shirt

IX. **Adjournment:** Motion by DM seconded by DB. Adjourned at 8:18pm.
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Communications Committee
6/24/2013, 7:00 PM
ESPRESSO ROYALE ON STATE ST.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:10pm

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Vice President Flynn (Chair), Phil Saccone, Michael Benson, Julian Bahr

Excused: Chris Tom

Absent:

II. Website Updates (MB) and future directions

MB: Should have something basic to show us soon. Template was taken from U Wash.
KF: Things to add to website: blurb from each committee, what they are about and a list of accomplishments. Representative headshots with a brief biography. Pictures from events on the website.
JB: Need to work on branding everything we do.
MB: Archiving records on the website, so that we will preserve institutional memory. Website will control email list as well. Question for everyone in the group: what is the one thing that you want?

KF: List of all the events at the top?
JB: Comment box

III. T-shirt progress (KF and MB)

KF: Contact people about extra t-shirts for “Kiss me I’m a grad student”. Where are we going to get the RSG t-shirts?
MB and KF will contact “the guy” for t-shirts, pricing etc.
KF: Graduate student t-shirt design contest. Should we wait until the Fall?
MB: Should we test drive it over the summer? To work the kinks out?
KF: Decision—let’s do it in the fall but we’ll come up with the process for judging the contest, the email, the rules for entrants etc.

IV. Banner

KF: We need a banner!
MB: We have two banners. Michael will pass them on to us.
JB will design the new banner.
KF: On banner, put logo and that’s it.
MB: Will send current template out to the JB
PS: Keep it simple.
KF: Banner draft by next meeting.
MB: If we want it for the fall picnic we need it soon.

V. List-serv update (MB)

MB: Been in the works for a while. We will have our own network machine that will contain the list serve and all of the organizational components. As for the temporary list, Google did not work out. New list serve will be up next weekend or the week after. The new list serve will contain a number of improvements. We will be able to filter emails by subjects. People on the list serve will be identified by program so we can filter specific emails to specific people. Members can sign up/opt out of a number of different things. What types of communications do we want to make mandatory.
KF: Academic and election announcements should be mandatory.
MB: Should we have special subject heading for advertisements.

VI. Newsletter update (JB)

JB: When is the next newsletter going out? How do we make a decision as to when it should be sent.
KF: In general every two weeks, but in the summer it can be more varied. Send the next one out in July when we have the next set of events going out. Person who gets prize thingy pick on randomly.

VII. Sharing of Best Practices (CT)

POSTPONED!!!!

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

KF: Fest-of-Fall—should we look to have a presence there. Question to Benson, what was turnout like?
MB: Relatively low. We might be able to do something similar for grad/professional students. Do it in the first week in October.
PS: Where would we do it, given that everyone is so spread out?
MB: Shouldn’t be a problem, but maybe we can do it virtually. Online guide for graduate students.
KF: When do we need to get the conflict resolution flow-chart? Darlene Ray Johnson had a flow-chart that was inadequate and we are looking to make it more accessible. We need to get the board to take a look at it and approve it.
MB: RSG sends 5-10 volunteers to construct the packet for the orientation. Buy them pizza.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 7:55 pm
I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:40pm

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, Michael Benson, Phil Saccone, Janakiraman Balachandran, Alexander Gutierrez, Kaitlin Flynn

Excused: Ryan Roberts, Brooke Horton

Unexcused:

III. OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS

a. [Michael] Email Phil about Assistant Registrar contact information
   i. Bring it up during meeting with Janet.

b. [Phil] Email to Registrar about why course evaluation information is private
   i. University of Washington has made progress with releasing this information.
   ii. Work on issues with Registrar regarding certain cases where disambiguation in the anonymous information could be possible.

c. [Chris] Write to SACUA’s AAAC and set up meeting (see appendix)
   i. Waiting for their roster to settle down because of change of personnel

d. [Chris] Help edit Ram’s Resolution
   i. Chris was busy. Will do soon.

e. [Phil] Set up meeting with Janet re: Bill of Rights and other Resolutions
   i. Done.

f. [Michael] Get list (updated?) for SACUA committees that would like a graduate student on them
   i. Phil has some information and will share with Michael.
IV. UPDATED ACTION ITEMS
   a. [Michael/Phil] Talk to Janet during meeting about course evaluation privacy
   b. [Chris] Follow up with SACUA’s AAAC and set up meeting
   c. [Chris] Help edit Ram’s Resolution
   d. [Kaitlin] Find list of areas covered by Bill of Rights.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION
   a. Chris talks about BDSM to bring up to speed some new members with regard to the non-discrimination policy.
   b. Michael plays “Rude Boy” by Rihanna on his laptop.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 7:12pm

VII. APPENDIX
   a. Email to SACUA AAAC (Academic Affairs Advisory Committee):
      Greetings!

      My name is Chris Tom, and I am the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of Rackham Student Government. I am reaching out to a number of academic committees of the representative governments at the University of Michigan to touch base. Though our groups serve different constituencies, the academic branches of our governments have the common goal of improving the academic environment and research quality within the University. We believe that there are best practices that we each have that would benefit the other. Furthermore, there are initiatives that we are working on that we would like to collaborate and receive feedback for (and would be happy to give to you), strengthening our stance and reach across the University.

      For instance:

      -We recently passed a Board Resolution to instate a 1-month waiting period in which students would be unable to see their grades until they filled out the appropriate course evaluations. Upon filling these out, they would immediately be able to receive their grades. It is our hope that this will drastically increase participation and statistical significance of the course evaluation process. Since this feedback is a critical part of faculty tenure decisions as well as training for your junior colleagues, this will benefit both graduate students and faculty.
-We have been working on a Graduate Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities. Though we have been working with Rackham to figure out how to implement this, we feel faculty feedback would be important to consider.

-As part of the GSBoR, we are laying the groundwork for a Conflict Resolution Board. There have been a number of instances in the past couple of years of the conflict resolution process going awry, and we would like to create a Board composed of faculty and students that can help to mediate future conflicts and reach a place of concord. Because this would largely mediate conflict between faculty and students, we would want to include your input on any design and function we had in mind.

I hope that this is the first of many communications between our committees and governments. Please let me know if you have any questions, and if you would be willing to set up an informal meeting at some point so that we can make introductions.

Be well,
Chris Tom
PhD Candidate, Program in Chemical Biology
Chair, Academic Affairs Committee
Representative, Rackham Student Government
Resolution to make evaluations ‘semi-mandatory’

Whereas evaluations at the University of Michigan for Graduate Student Instructors (GSI) and faculty are completely voluntary on the students part, and

Whereas evaluation completion rate for paper evaluations used to be >90%¹, and

Whereas the current digital system has around a 30% completion rate², and

Whereas teaching evaluations for GSIs are a training tool for junior colleagues,³ and

Whereas teaching evaluations for professors plays a significant role in professional advancement within the University,⁴ and

Whereas a smaller sample size becomes less relevant for professional advancement and less useful as a training tool.

Whereas a system of mandatory evaluations would benefit both GSI, junior faculty, and the University as a whole, therefore

Be it resolved that a student who has not filled out the relevant evaluations for a class shall not be able to see their grades for said class within a period of not less than one (1) month from the end of the semester.

Be it resolved that immediately upon completion of the relevant evaluations, a student shall be able to see their grades.

Be it resolved that the President of the Rackham Student Body in conjunction with the RSG Academic Affairs Committee shall work with the Office of the Registrar to set these changes in place.

¹ In order to become a better teacher, and prepare for future leadership roles including tenure and salary adjustments,
Resolution to create a class-bank system

Whereas classes are a critical, mandatory component of the majority of graduate student education at the University, and

Whereas some upper-level classes are offered once every two or three years

Whereas these classes may prove to be advantageous for advancement

Whereas the current Rackham system for PhD candidates only allows for a single class to be taken free of charge per semester

Whereas a second class can be taken for a substantial fee to the student or the advisor

Whereas fellowships and training grants often require additional classes to be taken; these classes can negate the cost-benefits of candidacy and other training grants, therefore,

Be it resolved to convert the current Rackham system to a class-bank system in which graduate students are allowed (with their advisors permission) to take as many classes as desired, up until the class bank is depleted is met, at which point students are permitted to enroll or audit in one class per semester.

Be it resolved that this bank shall contain X classes/credits

Be it resolved that the President of the Rackham Student Government on behalf of the Rackham Student Body is instructed to work with the Office of the Registrar and Rackham Graduate School to implement these suggestions.
RESOLUTION TO EXPAND THE UNIVERSITY NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

WHEREAS, The Non-Discrimination Policy within the University of Michigan Standard Practice Guide exists to protect the diverse range of individuals employed by and attending the University from discrimination, harassment, and violence; AND

WHEREAS, the Non-Discrimination Policy states that the University “will not discriminate against any individual because of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status;” AND

WHEREAS, “gender identity” is interpreted to refer to the self-identity of the individual; “gender expression” is interpreted to the actions of an individual to realize their gender identity; AND

WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association defines sexual orientation to be “an enduring pattern of emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attractions to men, women, or both sexes;” AND

WHEREAS, sexual orientation refers to the nature of the person or persons that an individual is emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attractions; AND

WHEREAS, University protects the subject and the object of emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attractions through its Non-Discrimination Policy; AND

WHEREAS, the Non-Discrimination Policy does not protect the actions between the subject and object that are the primary means to sexual and physical fulfillment; AND

WHEREAS, “sexual expression” would thus refer to the actions of an individual to realize their sexual identity; AND

WHEREAS, “marital status” is defined as “never married, married, widowed

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5 Michigan Standard Practice Guide (sect. 201.35)
6 Jackie Simpson, Head of the Spectrum Center, adapted from personal communication on Feb 13th, 2012.
7 Dr. Charlie Glickman, Adult Sex Educator in San Francisco, adapted from personal communication March 31st, 2012.
and not remarried, divorced and not remarried, married but legally
separated, de facto union\textsuperscript{9}; \textbf{AND}

\textbf{WHEREAS,}
“marital status” does not protect a diverse range of emotional,
romantic, and/or sexual relationships that can occur outside of,
and coexist with, the institution of marriage; \textbf{AND}

\textbf{WHEREAS,}
it is known that individuals can and have been discriminated
against for their methods of sexual expression and non-marital
relationship status\textsuperscript{10}; \textbf{AND}

\textbf{WHEREAS,}
without explicit protection from discrimination, there may be the
threat of implicitly sanctioned discrimination; violence and
related hate crimes can accompany the lack of explicit
protection\textsuperscript{11}

\textbf{NOW ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENT BODY OF THE
HORACE H. RACKHAM GRADUATE SCHOOL, BE IT
RESOLVED,}
that the section 201.35 of the Standard Practice Guide of the
University of Michigan be amended as follows (without
emphasis):
“The University, in its employment and human resource policy and
practices, will not discriminate against any individual because of
race, color, national origin, age, marital status, \textit{relationship status},
sex, sexual orientation, \textit{sexual expression}, gender identity, gender
expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status,
except as allowed by the need for bona fide occupational
qualification. Reasonable accommodation will also be provided to
persons with disabilities, to disabled veterans, and to accommodate
religious practices;” \textbf{AND BE IT FINALLY
RESOLVED,}
that the President of the graduate student body is empowered and
directed to work with the Administration of the University of
Michigan to put into place policies that reflect the will and intent
of this resolution.

\textbf{AUTHOR}
Christopher Tuck Mung Baker Tom
Representative (Division I), Rackham Student Government

\textsuperscript{9} Handbook of Vital Statistics Systems and Methods, Volume 1: Legal,
Organisational and Technical Aspects, United Nations Studies in Methods, Glossary,
\textsuperscript{10} National Coalition for Sexual Freedom, Incident Response Report records
\textsuperscript{11} Rebecca Stotzer, PhD. Comparison of hate crime rates across protected and
unprotected groups. Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. June 2007.
ATTEST
By Signing below, I certify the this resolution was dispatched by the RSG Board under the rules as prescribed in section IX of the bylaws and that the vote count appearing at the top of this resolution is accurate.

____________________________________
Kaitlin Flynn
Vice President, Rackham Student Government

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION
I, Michael Benson, President of the Rackham Student Body, do hereby approve / veto this resolution on this the _______ day of _____, 2012.

____________________________________
Michael L. Benson
President, Rackham Graduate Student Body
RACKHAM STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Legislative Affairs Committee
Wednesday June 26th 2013
RACKHAM GRADUATE BUILDING
2ND FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM, NORTH ALCOVE
7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:37PM
   a. Present: Phil Saccone, Alex Toulouse, Michael Benson, Michael Hand, Dave Malewski, Julian Bahr, Michael Lang
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused:

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
    Our preliminary agenda includes:
    1. A presentation by Mike Hand on the joys of LaTeX. (Bring your laptop if you have one)
    2. Finalizing our Local, State, and Federal liaisons for the summer
    3. Discussing the issues at the state and federal level that we all volunteered to track.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

IV. CHAIR’S REPORT
    Benson: Lots of stuff happening and we need to decided what we will be involved in. Planning Commission wants to make a student housing zone. This has the potential to be really bad or not so bad. There is a hearing in a couple of weeks that Benson suggests we send people to as well as advising the board to take a position on the subject. A number of people contacted Benson in the past day asking if we want to get involved. Benson told them to talk to Saccone.

    Benson has not seen the actual language but they want to section off sections of the town as “student zoned” for construction.

    Toulouse: would we/grad students live there. Benson: yes/probably. It includes kerrytown.

    Toulouse: what’s the push behind this? To push the dilapidated housing in central campus? Benson: it was the planning commission that started this. Having heard this feedback, I’ll get more feedback on the issue and send it out to the listserv. We’ll discuss it online and see what we want to do from there. Is there anything else we want?

    Benson: timeline: its still in the early planning stage. Not immediate.
Dave: it’ll be interesting to see whomever brought this up, if they have a conflict of interest—ie they’re developers.

Hand: do we know exactly where? Benson: there is a map, let me pull it up. Hand: so we’re making an additional housing “quality” tier within Ann Arbor?

Benson: the establishment of a student housing zone… see attached map. We’ll discuss it more fully down the line.

Benson: At the state level, the governor was pushing strongly for the state to take on expanded medicade.

Benson: UofM is hesitant to mandate that all students have healthcare. For some of our constituents this would be nice because this would be an affordable way for some students to acquire health insurance.

If we were to accept the expansion it would add ~300K people to healthcare of which 200K are students.

Benson: Senate republicans are against this.

Benson: we’ll try to get someone in to talk about this. If we want, we should write Randy Richardville—senate majority leader from Monroe which includes Pittsfield township— urging on behalf of the graduate student body why/why we don’t support it. It would be relatively easy and possibly very effective thing we would do.

Saccone: I don’t have a state issue, so I’ll start to track this.

Federal level: immigration reform is moving along. The bill looks good for graduate students. NAGEPS has signed on with StudentsFirst to encourage students to call their congressmen/women. Lots of good stuff are happening that SAGE had pushed for and that we like.

Benson talked to someone in Pelosi’s office. A lot of the things that we wanted that were not included in the bill were included in Hatcher’s bill. A lot of the things that Alex spearheaded were included in the bill.

V. Mike Hand on LaTex

Hand: Latex is used in many textbooks and documents where you don’t care much about the fine layout but you want/have lots of equations, lists, and references. LaTeX is a great system to edit and review our bylaws, which is why we’re learning it.

See powerpoint for review of the program as a whole, commands/syntax, et cetera.

RSG-ByLaws:
Hand goes through the bylaws script and discusses the modifications that can be made and how to make them.

Benson: Add yourself to the LaTeX bylaws group. Look at it, play with it, and familiarize yourself with the overall system.

VI. Local, State and Federal Liaisons
Dave will be our Local Liaison
For the state level Mike Hand raises his hand
Julian and Talouse will be the federal level liaisons
Benson: Thanks for those that volunteered.

VII. Discussion: Individual Issues at the State and Federal Levels

State:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Committee Member Name</th>
<th>Committee Member Email</th>
<th>Introduced Bills</th>
<th>Status - Week of 6/17</th>
<th>Status - Week of 5/24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early HS Graduation Scholarship—Basically a college scholarship to encourage graduating HS early</td>
<td>Mike Hand</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelhand@umich.edu">michaelhand@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-1264</td>
<td>Introduced by Frank Foster (R-157)</td>
<td>Intro Marcia Fesys-Wright (D-62) Referred to Health Policy Comm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Contraceptives</td>
<td>Dave Malewski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:malewski@umich.edu">malewski@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-4722</td>
<td>Intro John Kostka (D-109) Referred to Health Policy Comm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephedrine/AIDS/Pseudoephedrine Reclassification</td>
<td>Dave Malewski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:malewski@umich.edu">malewski@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-4246</td>
<td>Patti Sasse</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sasse@umich.edu">sasse@umich.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Medicaid Issue</td>
<td>Alex Talouse</td>
<td>Alex Talouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public decency act</td>
<td>Alex Talouse</td>
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</table>

Hand: I sent out a pretty thorough description. It’s a state bill that encourages students to finish high school early and helps them to go onto college. It would help alleviate debt burden of the state overall.

Dave: Makes contraception to a wider audience. Graduate school can get them over the counter, but they may have kids. A lot of people get a lot of misinformation about this.

Federal issues:

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<th>Status - Week of 5/24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Funding</td>
<td>Michael Benson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbenson@umich.edu">mbenson@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-4228</td>
<td>Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means (12/3)</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credit for Scholarship Fund Establishment (if funds consider financial need)</td>
<td>Mike Hand</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikehand@umich.edu">mikehand@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-380</td>
<td>Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training (4/22)</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring Federal Educational Assistance Funds go to students (or at least not adorning)</td>
<td>Mike Hand</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikehand@umich.edu">mikehand@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-340</td>
<td>Referred to Ways and Means (1/5/13)</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Credit for STEM teachers pursuing college (or maybe they pursued college)</td>
<td>Mike Hand</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikehand@umich.edu">mikehand@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-119</td>
<td>Referred to House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (5/21)</td>
<td>Referred to House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (5/21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM Opportunities Act of 2013</td>
<td>Dave Malewski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:malewski@umich.edu">malewski@umich.edu</a></td>
<td>HB-1358</td>
<td>Referred to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (5/21)</td>
<td>Referred to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (5/21)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION
None

IX. ADJOURNMENT at 8:59PM.
Got Conflict?

Throughout your time in graduate school, you’ll likely encounter situations in which conflict has arisen between you and your advisor, fellow students or staff members. While many of these disputes can be resolved informally, Rackham offers a number of ways to pursue formal dispute resolution. The steps to conflict resolution are outlined below. If you have any questions, a great place to start is by contacting the graduate student coordinator in your program, school or college.

Steps to Resolution

1. **Student has conflict**
2. **Student seeks informal mediation from school or college Dispute Resolution Officer**
   - **Memo of Understanding**
   - **Dispute Resolution Officer organizes formal dispute resolution process under school/college procedures**
     - **Dean requests Rackham dispute resolution process**
       - **RRO organizes formal dispute resolution process**
         - **Memo of Understanding**
         - **Rackham Dean determination of resolution**
     - **Student asks Rackham Resolution Officer for reconsideration**
       - **RRO and Resolution Board asks the school/college to reconvene for mediation**
         - **RRO and Resolution Board sustains MOU**

Important definitions:

- **School/College**: The part of the University in which your program resides (LSA, College of Engineering, etc)
- **MOU**: Memorandum of Understanding, a document clearly outlining the resolution of an issue
- **DRO**: Dispute Resolution Officer, the faculty member responsible for coordinating the resolution of disputes. There is one DRO per school or college.
- **RRO**: Rackham Resolution Officer, a dedicated Rackham administrator for dispute resolution. This position is currently filled by Darlene Ray Johnson.
- **Resolution Board**: the Resolution Board is comprised of all DROs from all programs as well as five Rackham students. This board is convened by the RRO.