Rackham Student Government
Board Meeting: August 13, 2015
Agenda

I. Call To Order
II. Approval of Agenda
III. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. July 30, 2015
IV. Officer Reports
   a. Graduate Student Body President, Chuky
      i. IT Council Appointment
      ii. Fall Welcome Update
   b. Graduate Student Body Vice President, Abneris
   c. Graduate Student Body Treasurer, A. Buke
V. Committee Reports
   a. Academic Affairs
      i. GSI Training update
   b. Budgetary
   c. Legislative Affairs
      i. Approval of the committee minutes
      ii. Bylaws
   d. Student Life
      i. Approval of the committee minutes
      ii. Dominick’s HH recap
      iii. Next Event: Movie Day for Kids/Families (8/23 1-3:30pm)
      iv. Northwood Housing update
VI. Open Discussion
VII. Adjourn

Included in packet:
RSG Board Minutes July 30, 2014 (p. 2)
LAC Minutes 8/6 (p. 6)
SLC Minutes 8/6 (p. 8)
I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:43pm
   a. Present: Representatives Abneris, Lu, Lindsay, Sriram, Doug, Nate, Kyle, Katie, President Mbagwu
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused: Buke, David

II. Agenda Approved (Motion by Chuky, Seconded by Katie)

III. Approval of Previous Minutes (Motion by Chuky, Seconded by Kyle)

IV. Officer Reports
   a. President: Chuky

   Chuky: Our biggest event is the welcome upcoming in the fall where new students are welcomed to the campus. Fall social will be happening that evening taking place on Palmer Field, and this is a mandatory event. We need RSG students to meet people and help out. We provide DJ music, bounce house, food, etc. This is Sept 4th, a Friday at 5pm.
   Katie: Will there be shifts for the event?
   Chuky: The talking portion is from 9 to 10:30 and the info fair from 10:30 to noon. We’d like at least 2 volunteers for that. Can anyone commit to this now?
   Katie: I may be able to do this in the morning
   Lindsay and Doug: I can do the afternoon session
   Lu: Are we signing up now or later? I might have a meeting but I can be there before or after.

   b. Treasurer: Buke (Covered by Chuky)

   Chuky: I will be covering this while Buke is away. I’d like to approve the funding for the appropriation made at the Budgetary committee. We are doing this because any funding over $1000 is required to be approved by the entire board.
   Kyle: I can review the application for people unaware. The Karle symposium is a large event for basically all of the chemistry related departments. Industry recruiters will come in, as well as Chad Murkin who is a very well known chemist and is in line for a nobel prize. This year they are asking for 2100 for additional travel fees. We motioned for $1500 to cover speaker, lodging, and travel. They also asked for funding for Karle’s travel expenses because the event is named after her. I would add that the request amount discrepancy has been resolved. We thought that the $2100 is excessive, so we are funding for travel.
   Chuky: Clarifies that we require an approval is contingent on their fixing their numbers.
   Chuky: The event is Aug 7th, so we want to make this decision now. I’ll open to the floor
   Lindsay: Why is it $1500 and not $1000?
Chuky: The condition placed on any award is to indicate where their discrepancy is coming from.
Kyle: The idea is that any department funding for this is contingent on getting funding from any departmental groups.
Katie: They are asking for these specific things to be covered.
Doug/Lindsay: I mean that the numbers don’t match up
Sriram: The numbers don’t match up so anything is contingent on these numbers
Chuky: We didn’t reduce it to make their numbers work, we ended up here from bottom up looking at the line items they wanted to fund. This is still contingent on rectifying the other numbers.
Doug: Voices concerns about accessibility to other departments. I’d like to more directly promote these events to other departments.
Chuky: I’d like to bring it back to the current application. This is a concern but doesn’t have a direct impact on this discussion.
Lindsay: What’s our budget total?
Chuky: 4-6k, this is our first but this is one of our larger events
Kyle: They are trying to expand this symposium and thus the larger funding request
Chuky: Any more discussion points?
General discussion about wording and requirements of bylaws
Chuky: I want to give a couple of scenarios because I don’t think it’s clear. Best case is that their budget is not fully representative and thus the request is appropriate. If their event is indeed $7500 then they only need $1000 they will only be awarded the $1000.
Kyle: Motion to approve the $1500 cap (seconded by Sriram)
Chuky: Role call vote (Yes: Lu, Nate, Sriram, Doug, Kyle, Katie, Lindsay, Abneris, Chuky No: None Abstain: None). It is approved unanimously.
Katie: Buke out of order in role call

V. Committee Reports
a. Academic Affairs
   i. Approval of the committee minutes (Motion by Lindsay Seconded by Kyle)
      Unanimous approval of the minutes
   ii. GSI training
Lindsay: we realized that the GSI training issue is way bigger than we suspected and we are still working on our events for fall.
Kyle: we have decided to break the resolution into smaller resolutions.
   iii. COOP/Extended Internships for international students
Sriram: International students sometimes can't do extended internships on their visa because of this we meet with International Student Center and talked to them and what we could do. Our next move is to meet with several deans (specifically COE Dean). Our plan now is to create a course equivalent to being a full time student. This way students can work for the term as long as they are enrolled in this course.

b. Budgetary
   i. Approval of the committee minutes (Moved by Chuky Seconded by Dough)
Unanimous approval of the minutes

Chuky: I will be taking over for the time for Buke’s treasury position. We had our first BC meeting for which we just approved the minutes for. Since the BC motioned more than a $1000 for this event per our bylaws we are required to bring it to the board for approval. Since this is a chemistry department event maybe Kyle can talk to us a bit about the event.

Kyle: Certainly, the event is very broad and very important to all chemistry departments programs. The keynote speaker is a prominent researcher in the area of chemistry and this event is a great networking opportunity for students interested in pursuing a carrier in chemistry and nanoscience. We (the Budgetary Committee) motioned $1500. This is what we are presenting to the board contingent that they (the Chemistry Symposium Organizing Committee) verify their proposed budget and present their expenses to the board.

c. Legislative Affairs

d. Student Life

i. Approval of the committee minutes (Motioned by Abneris Seconded by Sriram)

ii. Day in the Park recap
Abneris: I am very happy and grateful to have such a great team. Everyone worked to make this event a success. This event seemed to run perfectly but those of us on the inside know it was a bit of a mess in the morning and we ran into a lot of problems. However, we worked through them and graduate students had a lot of fun. I sent out an email thanking everyone but I’ll acknowledge them here now too. Thank you to Katie, Dough, Sriram and Nate for your work and dedication to this event. I had several graduate students come up to me and thank RSG for putting this event together. Particularly I liked this student who came with his parents and thanked us for creating an event he and his family could enjoy.

iii. Next Event: Dominick’s HH
Abneris: Our upcoming event is a bar night at Dominick’s I will let Sriram tell you all about it since he was the one who planned and executed this one.
Sriram: We are having this event at Dominick’s on Wednesday 5th. We are buying pizza and reserving the back area for graduate students. We are expecting about 100 students. This will be our last bar night of the summer.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION

Katie: I feel as if we should regulate who gets food in events. Maybe by checking their MCards and making sure they are graduate students. I had a friend who got food for her and her friends at the Bill’s Beer Garden event and a lot of graduate students were left without food.
Abneris: I disagree. I think checking the ID’s might take too much time and it might be unnecessary.
Lindsay: I agree with Katie we might want to regulate who gets food at our events.
Kyle: I don't necessarily disagree but I think we might want to do it for some events and not necessarily others.
Chuky: We can try it at an upcoming event and see how it goes. We used to do it in the past and we usually do it at fall welcome.

Motion to adjourn Katie
Seconded by Doug

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** at 7:54pm
I. CALL TO ORDER 7:02 pm

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS
   a. Present: Sriram V., Lindsay B., David B., Doug M., Vice President Rodriguez, President Mbagwu
   b. Absent (excused):
   c. Absent (unexcused):

III. AGENDA ITEM 1
Doug: I have been following a couple issues on the spreadsheet. There is a tax credit for student loans, currently on committees. 2nd item is an issue regarding sexual assault; bill is also still sitting in committee. State resolution on the operation of Uber.

Sriram: No update yet.

IV. Local Issues
Lindsay: Well versed in city council stuff. There were 2 city council votes in the last couple weeks in A2. Not a large turnout. Two incumbents from city council were ousted in the recent elections.

Affordable housing in Ann Arbor. Public transportation: There are 2 new bus lines being added, and increased frequency of existing lines.

V. SAGE Update
Chuky: Fall Summit planning is currently underway. It is being held at UCSD and takes place from Oct 8-11.

VI. Bylaws Review
Chuky: I wanted an update based on what was discussed at the informal meeting.

Chuky: I will task everyone to review the bylaws individually, and then begin an electronic thread. Next board meeting I will issue the executive order for review and next LAC will be final recommendations to send to the following board.

VII. Congressional Newsletter
Chuky: We want to begin this initially such that we maintain contact with our Michigan congressional representatives throughout the year (semiannually or quarterly). This would be an update on state and local issues that affect and support graduate students. In it’s first form it would parallel the topics we cover in
SAGE white papers. Need volunteers to take this on for content and formatting.

Doug, Sriram: As the state and federal liaisons, we can take up putting together content RSG supports at those levels.

Lindsay: I can help with putting together a fresh newsletter format.

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION
Motion to adjourn by Sriram, seconded by Doug.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 7:38 pm
I. **CALL TO ORDER** 6:10 pm

II. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**
   a. Present: Nathan H., Lu T., Sriram V., Treasurer Hiziroglu, Vice President Rodriguez, President Mbagwu
   b. Absent (excused):
   c. Absent (unexcused):

III. **Dominick’s Happy Hour Review**
    Nate: The event went well. People enjoyed the staggered food. Around 100 people attended.

IV. **Fuller Pool Day**
    Chuky: We had this scheduled for Wed Aug 19th, and we’d still like to do this, but the next two weekends are full (in the sense that they have a shelter we can rent and that’s reserved). We then have it for the 29th, which is a week prior to the fall welcome on the 4th. This is for the shelter only. I’ll go tomorrow and look at the area to make sure that the other areas (grassy knoll and other public spaces). If the public spaces are not good enough we’ll have to do the 29th. We do provide discounted admission (5 adults/4 kids/3 for <3yr). Shelter rental is 25. Sounds like our budget is 600. We could potentially get food.
    Sriram: Maybe ice cream
    Buke: And not pizza
    Chuky: Rental is in 4 hour blocks
    Buke: How about the weather?
    Sriram: It should still be pretty hot
    Abneris: I agree with the 29th, I think most of the fall welcome work is stuff we’ve done before. We should do it before fall welcome.
    Buke: Labor day is the last day for the pool
    Chuky: The only small concern I have is that we have a lot of events in a small time period but they have slightly different demographic targets
    Abneris: We could do an RSVP for this event so we have a ballpark of attendance
    Abneris: Could we get the Rackham Merit Fellows added to the email list? We could put “new students welcome” in the email.
    Chuky: Who won’t be there? (answer Sriram and Nate)
    Chuky: If we anticipate 150 for attendance, we’ll have around $150 for food
    Buke: What about fresh fruit or drinks?
    Nate: I have money leftover from the movie day most likely.
    Sriram: We could also advertise the first 100 only and then decide later to pay for everyone.
Chuky: Sounds like we’ll advertise for first 100, budget for at most 200 dollars worth of drinks. If we want we can say more than first 100 are subsidized.

Buke: When should we do RSVPs?

Chuky: We could say we’ll cutoff RSVPs on the Wednesday before. Potentially could move that date around. We’re already reserved for the 29th from 1-5 pm.

Sriram: What about 1-4?

Chuky: Bring yard games that we already have, instead we’ll just do 1-4 for the event, but they can stay later if they want (or arrive earlier). Does anyone want to make a flyer?

Sriram: I can make the flyer

V. Movie Night

Nate: There are renovations in Pierpont for all of August, so we aren’t going with that. Instead we are doing it at the Northwood Community Center. As long as they can advertise the event, they will let us rent the room for free. I sent in the form today, so we are licensed. We are still working on audio for the room and the popcorn situation. We might just do a microwave and popcorn packs. I live in Courtyards and will see if I can borrow their popcorn machine.

The event is Sunday, Aug 23rd, 1-3:30pm. We have it from 12:30pm to 4pm.

Buke: It’s really nice that we will be holding in Northwood. Families already situated.

Nate: I will not be here on the date of event, will others?

Lu: I will be able to volunteer for this event. I will also be able to provide a computer with DVD to play the movie off of.

VI. Fall Welcome Planning

Chuky: This is taking place Friday, Sept 4 from 5-7PM. Requiring all members of the Board to attend. RSG is partnering with Rackham financially, and we are taking care of the Bounce House, field games, and music/DJ. It’s taking place at Island Drive this year.

Lu: Will we be providing transportation? Buses?

Chuky: I will confirm with Natalie/Rackham.

Lu: There may be parking issues at Island Park, and we don’t want people to get tickets, etc.

Nate: Can probably use the commuter lot.
Buke: The commuter lot might end at 5pm, so then it would be available for all.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION
Motion to adjourn by Nate, seconded by Sriram.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 6:51 pm