GC Minutes (09/26/2016)

Attendance (Departments): Anthropology, Art History, Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Cognitive Science, Computer Science, Economics, Electrical & Computer Engineering, English, Environmental Health and Engineering, EPS, GRLL, History, History of Science and Technology, Humanities Center, ISI, Materials Science & Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Philosophy, Physics and Astronomy, Political Science, Psychologial and Brain Sciences, Sociology.

1. Approval of Minutes (09/12): motion to approve minutes, second, motion carries

2. E-Board Report (09/19/2016)
Since it was the first regular meeting of the year, we focused on preparing the GC meeting. We had an informal discussion about possible floating chair positions. It stood out that many of us were interested in having an E-Board position focusing on engergy preservation and environmental concerns. We also decided on a general procedure of the election of these positions itself. In addition, we agreed that it'll be important to find valuable positions and draft short descriptions of those positions, asking the question: What's the purpose of the position?
Then, we had a quick discussion about how to use the website in the future in contrast to the fairly new feature called "Hopkins Groups." We agreed to having basic documents like the constitution and the policy document at Hopkins Groups but we'll also focus this year on polishing our actual website.
Finally, we briefly talked about the budget for funding requests and went over the rules of funding. In the future, we'll try to make clearer that not only groups can ask for funding but that individual grads can also apply.

3. Report from Meeting with Vice Deans (09/20)
On September, 20, Ian and I had a meeting with the Vice Deans Matthew Roller and Scheinerman as well as Christine Kavanagh and Renee Eastwood. We asked about the progress of the parental leave policy: It is in its final steps and only a few changes to the language are apparently needed. Renee announced that it will be in effect from the beginning of this semester. The deans said that they want to achieve more this academic year in the sphere of professional development with the help of the GRO since the Career Center is now more interested in working with grads. Christine and Renee are interested in having more town hall meetings with the GRO and they expressed their interest in coming to a GC meeting to inform us about initiatives and resources available for grad students. Maybe, they also might attend one coffee

hour. In addition, they want to connect new grad students at JHU not during orientation but already before that by offering entertainment from student groups.

4. Intro to being a GC Department Rep: explanation of document "Rights and Responsibilities" ("doc-grogcrep2016.pdf")

5. Group Recognition
Piano Practice Club: Motion to approve, second, motion carries; comment: file paperwork with university in order to get approved

6. Funding Requests
a) Pakistani Student Association – Fall Banquet: rep present, description of funding request, discussion: Is the event open to all graduate students? Yes.
Motion to fund, second, motion carries.

b) Mini-Case Competition
rep present, expect 80 students, same event like last time; discussion: – How do you know that you expect 80 grads from Homewood? – Strong tie with Career Center, Center of Leadership Learning, – How many grads from Homewood? – about 60% (50–60 students last year from Homewood)
Motion to fund, second, motino carries.

c) Hopkins Dance: Salsa Classes
rep present, funded in the past
Motion to fully fund, second, motion carries

d) Jewish Graduate Student Association: Welcoming Event
rep present, not funded before
Motion to fully fund, second, motion carries

7. Elections: E-Board Positions (Secretary and GRO Guide Chair)
Secretary Candidates:
Alishah Chator (ISI) and Kirill Tchernyshyov (Physics and Atronomy)
Result: Alishah: 9 Yes, Kirill: 16 Yes
(1 department not present during election, therefore 25 votes)

GRO Guide Chair Candidates: no candidates

8. Floating Chair Positions for this academic year:
intro of current E-Board positions and previous floating chairs, explanation of what GRO positions are doing: Advocacy chair says they're interested in having a town hall meeting on health care and they'll work on more food options for grads on campus, Professional

Development Chair is working on alternative careers and he met with Dean Roller

Discussion of Possible Positions: explanation of voting procedure; discussion about floating chairs at the end of last academic year but not quorum at the final meeting to make decisions; by default paid for 25 hours per position; floating chair good position to start working on the e-board; attend all meetings (GC and E-Board)

Suggestions for Positions:
Diversity: Hope to improve diversity in grad students/departments, recruitment; increase diversity in GC and other levels

Social Liaison/Intercampus Liaison: Bridge between this and other campuses; plan intercampus events; this year $25,000 to have intercampus events

Financial Concerns Chair: how to manage finances as a grad student

Wellness Chair: concern about mental health; physical wellness; counseling center, rec center

Motion to approve all positions; motion carries

9. Discussion about Streamlining Funding Requests
Have information ready: Did we fund X group last year? How much did they request? How much did they actually spend? Should we have a committee that deals with funding requests? In the future: compose summaries of requests; for groups: advertisement has to be clear; events should be advertised for one to two weeks so that people know that the event will take place

Procedure at Med Campus: groups apply over summer for funding; committee meets over summer to deal with funding; allocate funding for recurring funding and new funding; Response from E-Board members: we have yearly events but we're not funding clubs having events for the whole year; what is guarantee that they'll do event after they applied?

Swiping ID Cards in order to measure attendance: Social Chair: we used to swipe cards for Happy Hour but the system is hard to navigate; but it's in general a good idea to have attendance numbers; GC rep: other option is that you could take names and student numbers at events.