GC Meeting (02/22/2016)

1. Approval of GC Minutes (02/01/2016): approved

2. E-Board Report

3. Election of the new Treasurer (Special Election)
   Candidate: Shoumyo Majumdar
   Result: 23 of 23 votes for the election of this candidate

4. Funding Requests
   - History of Art Grad Symposium: discussion (event has been funded before, advertisement for event)
     ✗Motion to fully fund; result of vote: fully funded
   - TJ Ha Guest Lecture: discussion (not necessarily event for graduate students, already advertised, open to everybody; organization has been funded before this year but this is the last time they’re asking for funding this academic year)
     ✗Motion to fully fund; result of vote: fully funded
   - The Radical Rojava Revolution in Syria: discussion (last semester funded but different group name [Initiative for Syria])
     ✗Motion to fully fund; result of vote: fully funded

5. Quick Budget Update
   - explanation of allocated and unallocated funds ($ 40,000 left in budget)
   - GC wants to have a breakdown of remaining money (e.g. coffee hour)
   - GPSA Week not allocated, yet (event has to be planned)

6. E-Board Updates
   - Chair and Co-Chair: meeting with Tiffany Sanchez and Jeannine Heynes; focus on women’s history month: present more at next meeting; discussion of advocacy survey at meetings; discussion of different student life concerns that came up (maternal leave)/// meetings with Vice-Deans of KSAS and WSE (once a month): discussion of advocacy survey (academic concerns: structure of classes, mentorship, careers), feedback on movie night for MA students
   - Professional Development Chair: no recent updates on Versatile event; goal: distributing information about event; information about RSVPs (85% from KSAS or WSW, 125 replies so far); few applications from humanities so far (more advertisement!); inform more faculty about this event (email via Christine and Rene?); make decision about structure of the day: individual consults (15 minutes per grad student) versus thematic discussions/group consults
     ✗Motion to have group consults with Paula; vote: passes this week: send topics for group consults to chairs; topic not part of the workshop: international students vs. status of citizens (Paula’s decision)
   - Communications Chair: in the process of moving existing website to
new platform; dealing with out-of-date content; including more social media (contact with IT Department); question from GC about transitioning knowledge for modifying website to next person: explanation of transition documents and the transition month after elections
- Funding and Admin Chair: spent a little more than 50% of funding; no more reimbursements for 2015; travel grants: funding gap between May and July (“dead months”), need discussion to address this topic: votes on this topic at the next meeting; $9,000 set aside for travel grants and could be cut into three parts; selection process: document on website is not correct, now: lottery system with formula; not possible to give award to every applicant (much higher number of applicants than available money)

7. Introduction of Potential Intercampus Events Hosted by GRO:
- decision needs to made how to prioritize; total budget for academic year was $20,000 (this year we had some carry-over from last year’s BBQ from 06/28: $390)
- in the past: BBQs, tickets for Orioles games; this year: speed dating and intercampus party at Fells Pont, Powerplant last September (over 400 grads, over 150 from Homewood), Iceskating event (ca. 70 people RSVPed);
- $17,000 left to organize events, salary for social liaison chair comes out of this budget
- Possible events for the next weeks:
  - Peabody Cocktail Hour in conjunction with concert (04/22); $4,000 to rent library, $7,000 for catering; charging for tickets (question about bringing “plus one”); 350 people could come; maybe 200 tickets for Homewood; event covers appr. 300 people
  - Orioles Game: Friday night, if choosing not best seats: ca. $4,500; event can cover 450 people
  - Horseshoe Casino Event: event can cover 450 people
  - 5k Race in April: $10 per person; maybe sponsor students to participate in event; sponsor brunch; get t-shirts etc.; event can cover 150 students
  - Scavenger Hunt in Baltimore: $25 per person; idea to get 300 people participating from all campuses; event can cover 300 people
  - Happy Hours around ares, beer tasting
  - BBQ (end of the year): can cover 300 students
- discussion on how to make a decision on events: suggestion by chair to pick three events
  *Motion to rank events (no second)
- suggestion from GC department rep: get opinions from people in the departments; chair will send document (budget break-down) about events this week and then department reps will get feedback from grads in their departments; have dual process: GRO should send out google form about events that grads would like; continue discussion about GSI events next week and make decisions on events

8. Upcoming Events and Announcements
- Versatile PhD
- Launch Party for GRO Guide and GRO Website: will take place in Glass Pavillion; presentation, snacks, trying out website (beta-testing until orientation); vote next week on financing this event
- Announcement for Intercampus Events: Ice Skating, Speed Dating, Spring Tonic Talent Show

9. Other Business
- add as topic to the agenda next week: cost of GRO Guide (question from GC rep: why not worked with Wordpress templates?)