GC Minutes (10/10/2016)

Minutes (09/25/2016): approved

Elections
motion to vote by hand, second, motion carries

Intercampus Chair
Christos Sapsanis (elected)

Diversity Chair
Avery Baumann
Bria Macklin (elected)
Akash Rawat
Peilun Sun
(Comment by E-Board: We could allocate money to have an assistant to the Diversity Chair.)

Financial Concerns Chair
Laksh Agarwal (elected)

Wellness Chair
Peilun Sun (elected)

GRO Guide Chair
no candidates

Situation of the Humanities Center (HC)
HC might be shut down; necessity of the HC: interdisciplinary study; current situation of first-year grads of HC; announcement of meeting of the HC grads (10/11/2016); development from Dean’s Strategic Plan to attempt to close HC: tendency of Dean’s Office to reduce the power of departments; situation between HC and the newly founded “Alexander Grass Humanities Institute”

Meeting with TRU
two representatives from TRU present; meetings started about two years ago in order to have an independent organization for grads; related to Dean’s Strategic Plan; universal concern: health care plan (trouble paying high out-of-pocket cost); general comment: unionization would be possible due to NLRB decision; GRO and TRU can co-exist; discussion: Do you’ve got legal advisors? – No; Is the idea to have a union that represents all grad students? – Unions are usually for specific fields; everybody who is a TA or RA would be counted as employee; How do unions deal with the different situations in different departments? – Contracts handle bigger questions like child care, wages: those things apply to everybody; What is the process of unionization? – explanation of the legal process of unionization.