

GC Meeting Minutes

Date: 03/25/2019

Location: Great Hall, Levering Hall

Minutes taken by: Eugenia Volkova, Secretary

No quorum for the beginning of the meeting: moving votes to the end of the meeting

1. New JHU Student Center Presentation (Alanna Shanahan, director of athletics and recreation)
 - a. Expansion of the recreation center. Increasing the number of multi-purpose spaces. Construction will start in November of this year.
 - b. New Student Center to be built.
 - c. Webpage and application launched today. Seat on the committee saved for GRO. Committee will be 20+ people, 8 students. Application is live and online. Will have further engagement opportunities for all students. Will hire an architectural firm in May and will be working on this beforehand. 5 year project. Will happen on the Mattin Center Site.
 - d. If you take down the Mattin Center, it cuts down on practice space, so how will performing arts groups deal with this?
 - i. We are working on a more mature project proposition, we will identify temporary and permanent places where these groups will meet.
 - ii. Groups will be required to use potential temporary and current spaces.
 - iii. The demolition of the Mattin Center won't happen until it absolutely has to.
 - iv. We hope to use the rec center expansion to compensate for spaces that will be absent after Mattin Center destruction.
 - e. If there are new food and dining options, are they required to be only from Bon Appetit?
 - i. Interested in something like R House. Have some caution about this because it may not go through. Hoping for more retail dining options.
 - f. Music practice rooms: What will happen with this?
 - i. We still need to study this. Our focus over the next 9-12 months will be hearing from the community and understanding what will be open and closed. Other than providing the location, we don't know what else will happen.
 - g. Will things be closed?
 - i. They are looking into what will be available (Black Box Theatre) looking for swing spaces on the Homewood campus and finding acceptable alternatives. Some of these venues will be easier to find than others.
 - h. Will the powerplant be destroyed?
 - i. No. The Mattin Center and Whitehead will be destroyed. The PowerPlant is impossible to destroy and will stay

- i. Who is on the committee?
 - i. Renee Eastwood, 2 faculty members, Student Affairs Professionals, IT Rep, Public Health Rep, Medicine Rep, Laura, Dean of Students, Kevin Shollenberger and Bob McLean, hoping for a thoughtful cross-section. Applications are due April 8th. Week of April 8th we will select the students, and will have first meeting by end of April.
 - j. What has been ruled out? A bar? No, having a bar is still on the table.
 - k. One of the themes from the donors is about being thoughtful about open spaces and having multi-purpose spaces. Not having 62 organization-specific spaces that are not flexible. Increase connectivity to Charles Village.
2. GPSA Week Updates (Elmer, Elliot, Maansi)
- a. Next week. The flyer went out a few days ago and the event went forward today.
 - b. Monday Coffee Hour - Compared to current weekly coffee hours the food will be enhanced. There will be sandwiches, scones, and nachos from Carma Cafe. It will be at the regular time but in addition, the Great Hall will be set up for extra seating. We are doing a raffle (Fitbit, Google Home Mini, and Airpods).
 - c. Tuesday Waffle Bar Brunch - Glass Pavilion. Waffle Chefs will be arriving 30 minutes after it starts. Because the chefs need to be hired at 2-hour time points, they must start later. Other food will be available earlier.
 - d. Wednesday Wine and Cheese Night - Alumni Association has every meeting spot booked. In Gilman Atrium, more casual.
 - e. Many events are alcohol-based, looked into doing non-alcohol events. Many seemed far away from campus or out of our budget.
 - f. Thursday Happy Hour + Board Game Night. There is a JHU PhD student who has developed social interaction bracelets. First 50 people will get to demo the bracelets. Based on their answers to questions, bracelets will glow a certain color and you will interact with other people with the bracelets.
 - g. Friday Happy Hour - DogWatch Tavern. Appetizer Buffet and 2 Drink Tickets. Many games and other things to do.
 - h. Are we printing these (flyers) out and putting them out around campus? No.
 - i. One of the suggestions was not just to have non-alcoholic events, but beverages as well. Can we add those? We have met with Wine Source to get the pairings set up in advance. We may have some wiggle room.
 - j. What was attendance like in past years? The coffee hour and happy hour are better attended than regular. Usually 150 people per event, brunch will be more people. About 150-person mark. Are quite popular events. All events will be first-come, first-served.
 - k. Will we need volunteers? No, we will be fine.

At this point in the meeting, quorum was reached.

- 3. Motion to approve the minutes. Seconded. Passes**
- 4. Funding Requests

- a. These requests will fill up about 75% of the budget. We still have enough money for events that can happen until the end of May.
- b. JHU Modern Dance Company Spring Concert
 - i. Request funds for the modern dance company, requesting money for contest in April.
 - ii. Create dance pieces that are art pieces. Involves many skills, creativity, and expressing things non-verbally. Many people find this really aids in their development
 - iii. 50% of students attending classes are grad students, not all will be in the concert.
 - iv. Concert is open to in-JHU and outside-JHU students. 90 minutes of dancing, intermission. Spending will be to advertise the concert appropriately and then to lower ticket prices. We have expenses and we get some of our money from JHU, but there are many expenses left so we need to adjust prices. If anything is left we would spend more money on costumes and the reception.
 - v. Advertisements: IG, FB, today's announcements, GRO email list, GRO FB, Posters, Flyers, Paint a Mural Board, Flash Ads on the TV's, Chalking, Banners
 - vi. It looks like you have 3 graduate student performers and 10 total performers from JHU. We also have outside performers.
 - vii. Pure advertising costs will be about \$150.
 - viii. Incompressible: lighting, BMA auditorium, choreographer.
 - ix. Does the class itself has a budget? Yes, money for instructor. About \$1,000.
 - x. **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Motion Passes.**
- c. Spirit of Service Banquet
 - i. Expecting about 50 students, on East Baltimore Campus, have some funding from the School of Public Health (\$1,400). Requesting \$750 from the GRO for the remaining food, drinks, A/V costs. SPH allow a certain percentage based on the number of students that are expected.
 - ii. If approved, we can only fund \$10 per student
 - iii. **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Passes.**
- d. LGBTQ+ Life Event (Gaypril Social)
 - i. Undergrad and Grad LGBTQ association get together. Able to get the Peabody Library for the day, but it will be 1-4PM that day. Arts and Crafts. Requesting \$300, partly used for food and partly for art supplies.
 - ii. **Motion to fully fund, seconded. Passes.**
- e. Blockchain club presents Jump VC
 - i. Asking for \$360 for an event. Someone coming in from Chicago Booth, oversaw UIUC cryptocurrency incubator. Will have a discussion.
 - ii. Grad's expected: 20-30.

- iii. It's a new club, we have many members, not many people came to the kick-off meeting.
 - iv. This will be the 3rd event. 1st event was 15-20 people.
 - v. **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Passes**
 - f. Indian Graduate Student Association: Chai Samosa aur Trivia
 - i. Indian graduate student association helps many new graduate students understand their needs coming to the US for the first time. Trying to create a space for these students to interact and other people to understand Indian Culture. April 19th.
 - ii. Prizes will be items, small indian cups.
 - iii. **Motion to fully fund, seconded. Motion passes.**
5. E-Board Travel Policy Guidelines (Jaime)
- a. We have discussed policies about this. As of right now, changes we can make will only be applicable for next year.
 - b. Travel grants and other grants, the members have to be part of the department or program that has attended at least 50% of the meetings last semester. 4/7 meetings in order to be eligible.
 - c. At the beginning of meetings, we try to make sure that GC reps sign in to make sure your department is eligible. The policy is in the constitution. If this is the end of our year, it would be possible next year to make the changes and make departments
 - d. Each year we allocate 33 travel grants, and many people feel that they should be able to apply for travel grants if they want to.
 - e. Sai - GRO provides funding opportunities for groups. Send out emails when GC meetings are happening during the coffee hour meetings. When you send out emails about coffee hour, send out emails about the GC meetings. These meetings are open to all graduate students not just GC members.
 - f. All the events are always on the website, even if people do not use the website.
 - g. Better GC rep policies and how to make it easier to do the function as opposed to harder.
 - h. There are differences between departments. Some are large or small. Sociology has classes together on Monday night so that changes whether they are available.
 - i. You could consider that someone is eligible for the travel grant on the condition that for the next year, they serve as a GC rep. The way the lottery system works is that it incentivizes older students. We also process it as soon as it comes.
 - j. All travel-grant awardees end up missing a number of hours.
 - k. No photographs, but a list of representatives.
 - l. Letting people know that this exists. Letting a department know that they don't have a rep that isn't going.
 - m. Do people feel that it is too large of a burden? Do people not want to be GRO reps?
 - n. One of the departments is a Master's only department.

- o. Maya recently looked at the website and none of the GC reps are updated, so she tells people that she is the rep. She does that whenever there is an email. There is a better way of doing this. Meeting with the IT guy and it is difficult to set-up.
 - p. We will talk about this at the next E-Board meeting and present these.
 - q. If in the beginning of the semester, an email is sent out, and any department that is not eligible, you are required to get eligibility. Acting E-Board members are accepted.
 - r. More communication to each department that is ineligible at the beginning of the year. Most people don't know that this is a thing.
6. Graduate Spring Fair (April 27th).
- a. 12-1 Graduate Students on Saturday, 1 free ticket on their way in