A meeting of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly was held at 7:00PM on April 24, 2013 at the Law School.

1. **Members in attendance:** 52 members present, attendance information available upon request.

2. **Executive Committee members in attendance:** Chair, VC, Equity & Access, Professional, Research, Operations, Student Life, Student Programs, Finance, Communications, Social, International
   - Chair James Wiley welcomed everyone, commended David Bendell and the professional council for a productive meeting and year, and congratulated the new Executive Board as well as the old Executive Board. He also encouraged return membership for those not graduating this year.
   - Motion to approve minutes was approved
   - The Chair also introduced a gift of Insomnia Cookies donated in the wake of the bombings at the Boston Marathon as a random act of kindness, and encouraged members to in turn perform their own Random Acts of Kindness.
   - James Wiley then turned the meeting over to new Chair Steven Lin, who welcomed the members and thanked them for their time and went over the agenda. He also solicited suggestions for GA meetings.

3. **Chair and VC Updates:**

   **Chair**
   - Steven Lin gave the update
   - Executive Board (both old and new) met with the Provost and Vice Provost to update them on what GAPSA has done over the past week
   - James and Steven met with the Law School Entrepreneurship Clinic about their help with GAPSA

   **Vice Chair**
   - Update from David Sun
   - GA Karaoke night: follow-up to GA dinner, Friday April 26 8-11:30 at Fuji Mountain
   - President Amy Gutman Award search committee- students from each council to come together in May and review president’s award applications
   - Grad Fest planning: work group is formed, if you are interested, email David to meet before the end of the semester and work over the summer
   - Thank you to Vera and the Executive Board for their hard work

   **Communications**
   - Update from Luyao Wang
   - Introduced herself for the first time as VC for Communications
• Want to collect ideas in a short survey for any comments/concerns/compliments/etc about GAPSA. Ideas from insiders are more meaningful for future improvements and therefore very much encouraged. Found on the website and on Facebook.
• GAPSA gear for representatives that have not yet picked it up. Everyone is entitled to a sweatshirt and travel mug. If you don’t remember your requested size and style, see Luyao, if you do remember, see Jacob or the rest of the committee.
• Thanks to Jacob and Frank for transporting the cart
• Call to contribute to slogan conversation later

Equity and Access
• Update from Rajatesh Gujibande
• Planning a final open night mic with Rangoli on May 6-7. Thanks to Akeesha as always for planning this initiative. Event in conjunction with Rangoli’s senior celebration party. Details in the GAPSA newsletter
• Meeting with LaGAPSA and other smaller Latin American organizations. Shared GAPSA’s empowerment plan for funding, starting with eligibility for $2000 funding. We encouraged them to restructure, and are excited about their beginning.
• Call for sitting on external committees including encouragement from Rajatesh’s personal experience. Congratulations to those currently of external committees.
• Working on a multicultural alumni event at graduation with GSC

Finance
• Update from Steven Mong (heretofore known as The Mong)
• New Executive Board came to discuss the budget for next academic year, great help
• Thanks to Anthony for filling in on history

International Affairs
• Update from Paule Joseph
• Success contacting and meeting virtually with Tanvir
• Last soccer viewing event at GSC April 23 and 24, about 20 attendees
• Meeting April 25 for intercultural and international student programming with administrators

Operations
• Update from Katherine France
• Call for food recommendations for next year
• Happy hour at New Deck Tavern following the meeting

Professional
• Update from Kevin Zeng
• Thank you to David Bendell
• School updates and talking about new ideas for next year during professional council, particularly for increasing transparency, communications between schools and between GAPSA, and particularly working on attendance
Research
• Update from Justine Sefjik
• Thanks to Prashant for running the meeting jointly today
• Gave some money to a biology chemistry picnic, discussed budget for next year
• Looking forward to seeing everyone next year

Social Activities
• Update from Christopher Lam
• Has been meeting with Kim, visiting vendors, planning best practices and events for next year. Thinking about repeating Mad Men and Boat Cruise, bring back Mushulu, maybe opening up Wharton Fight Night and Fashion Show
• Thinking about redistributing happy hours between University City and Center City
• Focusing on recruiting for social committee for as many hands as possible, anyone interested should email Chris

Student Life
• Update from Charlotte Rose
• Thanks to Kilang for help transitioning
• Penn SHAPE: participants have been measured for the end of the program, final party April 26 6:30 pm. Program continuing next semester, getting feedback and have some former participants interested in volunteering
• SHIAC: Andy Binns very interested in feedback, satisfaction is proportional to knowledge about healthcare plan

Student Programs
• Update from Shyam Sun
• Sold tickets to Cirque de Soleil in 90 seconds for $120-20, line out of the GSC
• Tickets to Wicked in June
• Working on meeting with Effie and planning for next year, and call for ideas.

4. Budget Presentation for Academic Year 2013-2014
• No foreign currency to hand out tonight, with the next year’s budget was in another currency
• Put together in the last 7 days with help from Anthony and new Executive Board
• Draft budget, no numbers are final
• Review of FY13: greatest spending on academic costs, Prashant and David both gave out quite a bit of money both domestically and internationally. Second greatest spending (about 1/3) including student activities. About 8% on advocacy. Constitutional mandate for liquidity reserve, facilities costs, about 14%.
• Lots of people interested in allocation and spending, Steven is interested in efficiency or raising money. Executive Board met with administration, GSC, student affairs, as many groups as possible to afford power to Executive Board and GA for spending.
• Emphasis on how much money is already mandated
• Revenue: general fee allocation, gifts from Provost and President (i.e. for specific awards), some money protected for research students
General fee allocation determined by amount charged, type of student, how long you’ve been at Penn

- Reviewing stance against sequestration
- Concern about reaching out to those students not represented by GAPSA, particularly those that pay higher student fees. Counterarguments made that executive students do have the option to participate in the events, but don’t. Voicing that you have to go above and beyond to attend the events, including some schools that stop the newsletter from going to students.
- Preliminary explanation of sources of funding, tied funding. First tied funding, then schools, then holdings for liquidity and allocation for VCs and GA, budget is likely slightly conservative
- GAPSA empowers 12 schools to run their own programs and then runs their own programs, maintain G12 autonomy
- Interest in giving VCs as much discretion as possible, but most budgets are decreasing. Plug for the finance committee.
- Mandated spending: G12 synergy fund mandated $25,000 by GAPSA, $40,000 for select committee
- Many budgets go slightly down, but focus on collaboration and impact including collaborating on GradFest, travel grants, advocacy, etc
- Discretionary funding slightly more funding because there was so much demand this year and to put more power back into the GA if an internal event needs more funding
- Question: the budget was guaranteed to go up, where is the increase? Answer: increase in student fees and an extra $50,000, but that is tied. Any other increase would be carryover budgets, which are not guaranteed
- Case study on Penn SHAPE in terms of building partnerships, coming up with new ideas to illustrate that its not about the numbers but rather how we can work together

5. GAPSA Slogan

- Communications is proposing to create a slogan for GAPSA to 1) add to the name and logo and 2) Steven L.’s idea to transfer GAPSA into a stepwise model
- Want to brainstorm ideas for what best describes GAPSA’s mission: imagining how incoming slogans can catch attention and convey the mission
- Idea to outsource this search, or “outsourcing Wharton’s money”
- Brought up in Executive Board meeting because VCs are most familiar with GAPSA’s role and goals, but wanted to get more ideas. Don’t want to make it into a contest because it is part of GAPSA and we don’t want others to define who we are
- Interest in hearing ideas from communications committee, one is “explore more at Penn”
- Expanding “explore more at Penn”
- “We have a name” with all schools behind the logo
- Dissent on idea of keeping it local, because talking to the general public gives mixed ideas and asking for slogans would ask for ideas about GAPSA and we may get knowledge on what people think about GAPSA

6. GA Slideshow
After some technological difficulties, the body watched a slideshow put together by outgoing VC for Equity and Access Akeesha Washington of pictures taken throughout the academic year.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine France, Incoming VC for Operations
Steven Lin, Outgoing VC for Operations