Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting on February 23rd, 2011

The seventh regularly scheduled meeting of the GAPSA General Assembly was convened on February 23rd, 2011 at 6:00 PM in Bodek Lounge in Houston Hall.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:07 pm.

II. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present were Maher Zamal, Lee Solomon, Suzanne Bratt, Divya Menon, Michael Hore, Henry Friedman, Esther Yu, Maria Murray, David Pietrocola, Joseph Friedman, Sven David Udekwu, Emily Joy Rothchild, Elizabeth Roodhouse, Carla Medalia, Nate Brill, Scott Ordway, Rachel Delgado, Ellen Kamei, Alison Baraty, Jeff Li, Amy Lynch, Jason Cantu, Rebecca Wetzler, Seattle Wang, Thai Nguyen, Giselle Liu, Stephanie Pasquesi, David Conklin, Punit Gouthi, Shaina Oake, Mark Francisco, Elizabeth Feldmeier, James Wiley, Kim Wexler, Benjamin Ediger, Julie Crudele, Vera Mucaj, Sam White, Jessica Langer, Gina Siddiqui, Nina Zhao, Justine Sefcik, Ehriel Fannin, Carla Robinson, Tracie Husted, Sadia Kalam, Emma Stanley, Laura O'Sullivan, Tony Altimore, Becac Kleinstein, Matthew Verghese.

Quorum was declared.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

IV. Officer Reports

Chair – Mr. Zamal reported that there will be a rollback of the increase in gym fees and a decrease in the total cost to $300.

Vice Chair – Ms. Bratt had nothing of great interest to report.

Professional Students - Mr. Udekwu stated that professional council funded travel grants.

Research Students – Mr. Solomon stated that the research council continued to fund travel grants and academic events.

Finance – Mr. J. Friedman stated that he will discuss the budget later in the meeting.

Equity & Access – Mr. H. Friedman stated that elections will be April 6th.
**Student Life** – Ms. Rothchild stated that she will continue the nutrition series and will have a destress day on March 19th.

**International Affairs** – Ms. Menon tomorrow is karaoke night at Fuji Mountain and tickets are available at the Graduate Student Center.

**Social Activities** – Ms. Yu stated that she is engaged! ... and that Social Activities has many events planned in the coming weeks including a happy hour at Chifa and a multi-school wine walk.

**Student Programs** – Ms. Murray stated that the comedy night on February 22nd was very successful. Student Programs is planning more events including basketball and Mary Poppins tickets.

**Communications** – Mr. Gouthi thanks the GA for electing him to replace David Pietrocola who recently graduated. He has been working on promoting GAPSA and has GAPSA water bottles, t-shirts, etc.

**Operations** – Mr. Hore reported on nothing of great consequence, except of his love of good food.

**V. Follow-up Questions on Reports**

There were no questions.

**VI. Presentation from Privacy and Security Office**

Audit and Compliance teamed up with Information Security to speak with the General Assembly about topics such as Facebook, cloud computing, and identify theft. They are interested in an interactive discussion with students about how privacy affects them. Information Security stated that while they have the ability to view student e-mails, there are very strict rules for doing so which involve emergency situations, security concerns, or illegal activities. However, a Dean or Provost must sign off on any access, and this rarely occurs.

**VII. State of the Budget**

Finance Committee drafts the budget, and determines the amount of funding to the G12. They oversee all committee expenditures and oversee all student reimbursements. Mr. J. Friedman presented the GA with the current status of the budget, including each Vice Chair’s expenditures. GAPSA was not overspending its budget.
VIII. GA Discretionary Fund Requests

GAPSA funded four requests:

(1) An alumni event for Environmental Studies in the amount of $740.
(2) The Wharton/Law/Boxing Club for Philly Fight Night in the amount of $2000.
(3) The Beaux-Arts Ball by the Design School in the amount of $750.
(4) The Prisoners Education & Advocacy Project from the Law School in the amount of $162.88.

IX. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.