I. Dinner is served in Ben Franklin Room (218). 6:00 - 6:15 pm

II. Professional and Research Councils: 6:15 pm-7:15 pm
   Professional Council: Ben Franklin Room
   Research Council: Bishop White Room

III. Welcome – Chair – 7:15– 7:20 pm.
   • Welcome to the meeting.
   • Thanks to Katie France who will be filling the role of Vice Chair of Operations for the time being. Max Goodman did not feel that he had the time, Katie has agreed to step in.
   • If this is your first meeting and you have not been assigned to a committee, you will hear from each vice chair during the budget presentation and at the end of the meeting you will have a chance to rank which committee you’d like to be on.
   • When we break out Sam will meet with new members and give them an introduction to GAPSA. If you are new, please bring your card to indicate committee preferences.

IV. Vice Chairs stand for questions—see updates below—7:20-7:30 pm

   Chair – Samantha Miller
   • G12 Summit held Saturday, September 19. A substantive conversation was held surrounding how the schools, together with GAPSA, can better collaborate with each other throughout this year. A Presidents Advisory Council (PAC) and Financial Advisory Board (FAB) are being formed to facilitate this collaboration. Further, an expanded Synergy Fund will be presented as part of the budget. The G12 cohort will meet again in the next two weeks, with the next official PAC meeting being planned for later this semester.
   • Max Goodman has resigned as Vice Chair of Operations. We welcome Katie France as interim Vice Chair of Operations. We will be holding elections to permanently fill the VC of Operations position at the October 7, 2015 meeting.

   Vice Chair – Kelsey Van Gelder
   • I've been working hard on GradFest!
   • GradFest Events:
     9/18 Blue and Red Bash at the Armory (will be over before agenda/updates are sent)
     9/20 Museum Day at Penn Museum, the Institute of Contemporary Art, and the Arthur Ross Gallery (will be over before agenda/updates are sent)
     9/21 Alison Malmon Lecture and Reception - register at www.gsc.upenn.edu/register. Lecture is 6-7pm in the Hall of Flags, reception is 7-8:15pm in Cafe '58 in Irvine. Some campus resources will be present.
before/after the lecture.
9/22 Outdoor Movie Night - free candy, popcorn, and drinks; showing Inside Out on Shoemaker Green. Movie starts at 8pm!
9/23 Student Activities Fair, 10:30am-2:30pm - free lunch for attendees! Huge variety of resources will be present
9/23 Family BBQ, 5-7pm - for students with children, register at www.gsc.upenn.edu/register.
9/24 Reception honoring fellows of the GAPSA-Provost Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation - appetizers and drinks will be served, and you get to hear about some super cool summer projects!
• Please see the individual Facebook events for more details!

VC for Communications – Miriam Archibong

VC for Equity and Access – Justine Sefcik

VC for Finance – Paul Welfer
• Budget is submitted
• Held G12 Summit on 9/19.

VC for International Affairs – Sangya Agarwal

VC for Operations – Katie France (Interim)
• Operations has been busy continuing to organize the beginning of the school year! We have been in touch with the student government leaders of each school to make sure all General Assembly positions are filled and to support those elections in whatever way we can. We have also been planning the normal meetings and social events as well as an upcoming GA retreat: more information on that forthcoming as it is finalized! Operations is also working on an ongoing project with the libraries to effectively organize and digitize our historic documents- more on that to come in future weeks as well!
• Also, as a preview: Happy hour after all GA meetings this fall will be at City Tap House (3925 Walnut St). Come out to have a drink on GAPSA and get to know your fellow GA members!

VC for Professional Students – Taylor Knoche
• Professional Council Overview: financials and organization
• What Make a Good Leader Presentation
• Review of recent Sexual Violence Prevention Video; Jessica Mertz
• Discussion of current G12 Government structures; advocate for GAPSA GA rep role on each exec board

VC for Research Students – Laura Bryant
• Travel grant applications will open on October 1st
• The Provost Award Reception is on September 24th at 4pm. The event is free, but registration is required.

VC for Social Activities – Erica Shim
• October 1st MadParty. Planning to have 800 attendees and we need every GA to promote as heavily as possible! Please share the facebook event page (the most effective method of getting any events viral) and spread the word!

VC for Student Life – Kristian Taketomo
• I've been working on securing PennSHAPE room reservations for the term. I've also been in touch with LambdaGrads about the potential for a lactation space at the LGBT Center.

VC for Student Programs – Ruiyuan Ma

• Tickets: fringe art festival show (09/12/15), Flyers pre-season game (09/22/15), Philadelphia Orchestra concert (10/01/15).

• Trips: Columbus day shopping mall trip (tentatively on 10/12/15).

VCs for Equity and Access and International Affairs - Select Committee Update

• Empowerment Plan Applications for Affinity Organizations are due Wednesday, Sept 30th at 11:59pm. More information can be found at: http://gapsa.upenn.edu/sc-funding/

• You received the agenda, we will stand for questions or comments on our updates. Seeing none, we will present the budget, Paul will present and we will have questions. We will then break out into committees, new GA reps meet with Sam, we will present what was discussed in committees, we will have a brief open forum and break for happy hour

V. Budget Presentation – 7:30 pm – 8:00 pm

• 30 minutes allotted for discussion subject to extension by 2/3 vote
• 10 minute presentation, 1 minute each VC on priorities
• Move to debate, set for 5 minutes each pro and con subject to extension, then move on for the vote
• As per the constitution, we've been operating under a provisional budget since April, prior and next VC finance each yearpass a provisional budget in the spring during an Executive Board meeting, budget needs to be ratified by second meeting by a simple majority, if it does not pass the funds will freeze and no one can spend money until we have a budget
• Amendments- initial budget to be voted up or down, when that happens it can be amended by a 3/4 vote. There is a GA defense mechanism that any changes require 10 days notice
• Present, debate, up or down vote, for anyone who wants to amend it we can consider that and continue at next meeting or 10 days or more for now
• Question: no continuing resolutions? Paul: no, budget is not amenable in initial vote and riders can be added
• Budget on screen- nothing has changed for those that saw this presentation in the spring, but Paul has added absolute money number coming in which is 1.5 and change million and the amount increase from last year which reflects increase in head count at the G12 schools
• Reserve and carryover are subject to a 6 month holding period, we are comfortable with the recommended reserve
• New initiative- expansion of the synergy fund called the GAP fund that has as its purpose
building a bridge between G12 schools and GAPSA, total money available to students and student groups is increased by 3.9%, GAP is voluntary by each student government so no one feels imposed upon and this is all subject to ratification

- Total numbers: 1.5 million, 1.4 from VPUL, alternate sources such as president and provost fund and carryover, important because incremental resources are great and because some have strings attached making them a tied fraction
- How the money is split is even between GAPSA core VC budgets and student governments
- Reserve is an emergency fund, we budget assuming plus or minus 10%, there is also a mandate that at least 50 k is held in reserve, then there's the GAP fund that is the connection between governments and GAPSA
- Tied money: presidents and provost award and support for the GSC and various programs we initiated or co sponsored
- Reserves comes from a contingency fund and 10% release from last years carryover
- GAP fund- thanks to Anthony and Andy we have the G12 synergy fund for collaboration and membership between schools, this year it's a mission to bridge between constituents, the idea is of creating a compact saying that if student governments give a dollar we give a dollar up to 10% of their budget, if one or more does so we will match it for collaborative programming
- Without the GAP fund, the schools would have a 3.9% increase based on weighted average, but with it 10% is given to reserve fund and GAPSA matches. This means that maximally 141 k goes toward it, synergy fund that would have been under finance budget is added and then a small amount for overhead such as financial advisory board and presidents council is set aside
- Slide of budget last year and this year including the GAP fund, total eligible, and changes
- Student groups are also eligible with the support of the student government
- On average about a 20% increase in funding to each school reflecting the GAPSA match, if it's a smaller number is a decrease in student body and if it's up it's an increase. VPUL also weights certain students more than others, GAPSA doesn't have anything to say about that
- VC break downs- each VC can present their initiatives
- If money to students is being cut? No, on aggregate, what is changing is half of the growth and 5% from VC budget is going into the GAP fund
- Chair and finance have contributed the most because they very much support this fund
- One VC budget is constitutionally mandated to receive an increase with the overall increase, that's research
- VC Presentations:
  - Research- Laura Bryant  
    - Student travel grants, academic events, provost award
    - In research council we discussed student travel grants to fund travel to conferences
    - Academic event fund is used specifically for events that are academic as opposed to the discretionary fund which can be for social events, this is for conferences, ethics series, etc
Provost award funds research over the summer for a select 6 students, it is an earmarked fund

Social- Erica Shim  Going to spend every penny to make every party as cheap as possible
  - Three big parties- mad men, one in winter, boat cruise in spring

Finance- Paul Welfer  Kept every fund that goes to students or student initiatives unchanged so that no end users are harmed. The two councils with travel funds as well as select committee and student funds have preserved their funds

Vice chair- Kelsey VanGelder  Most of budget goes to Grad Fest which is pretty much over, lots of different and new events this year during the week. The events included a party, speaker on mental health, outdoor movie night, museum day which is a new event, student activities fair, BBQ for families
  - Talked last year about having more than just this week, for that we will have the wine walk in the spring and still have it count under the umbrella of GradFest
  - The rest is in training and leadership retreats for the Executive board

Student programs- Ruiyuan Ma  20% on flyers ticket  15% 76ers  15% orchestra tickets, 15% trips to Longwood gardens, KOP, Hershey's. Chillax 15%,  15% left over for events students want to go to

Professional- Taylor Knoche  Travel grants and funding for students of masters or professional status, rest of the money for initiatives and actions we want to advocate for, some events for networking and interdisciplinary

Operations- Katherine France  Money spent on logistics of meetings including food and happy hours, also on GA events including retreats and small group dinners, some spent on administrative duties such as business cards

Communications- Miriam Archibong  Swag, flyers, name tags, photo shoot, communications, and working with the vice chair to revamp the website

Student life- Kristian Taketomo  Most goes to Penn shape classes, costs around 3000 and will go into the summer as well, want to partner with indigo for a subsidized bike share membership, the rest are informational and awareness raising events

Equity and access- Justine Sefcik  Some on placing students on University-wide committees including an orientation with food, printing of a contract, thank you party at the end of the year
  - Advocacy- student held and co sponsored events
  - Advocacy and events for non traditional students
  - Lactation spaces and pumps split with student life
  - Supplement the select committee in food and other needs

International- Sangya Agarwal  Penn global partnership, programs with GSC, CAPS, supporting events with them
  - Pre-departure orientation and welcome reception
  - CAPS discussion series for international students
  - GSC partnership for intercultural buddies program, will happen in
November

- Select committee- funding to affinity groups
  - Chair- Samantha miller  Role mainly as an advocate in setting the agenda with administrators and students, didn't see a need for the budget so she is getting $5000 to send 6 members of the executive board to the ivy + summit, going to Dartmouth to collaborate with peer schools and share ideas
    - Budget also covers subscriptions for the New York Times at the GSC
  - Questions can extend this or debate section: Formally questions should be to the chair but can ask anyone
  - Q: G12 schools are allowed to opt out of the GAP fund but it's a matching fund- if schools opt out, what will happen to that money  A: had a great G12 summit this weekend, another time to socialize and refine the idea. 13/15 schools were there, most opted in provisionally. For those that opt out, they will have the equivalent transferred in and the matching the money from gAPSA will be held in the G12 synergy fund. They can come in and out with variable timelines, but in the mean time the matching money goes into synergy
    - Q: Can you explain the GAP fund  A: The purpose is to build greater collaboration between GAPSA and G12 schools, right now we just give them money, we want to proactively get them to come in and weigh in. We came up with a presidential advisory council to discuss advocacy and common issues, financial component is that if you invest in this money, GAPSA will match you. It is based on student head count so that if two or more schools decide to do a program other schools can participate and funds are released
    - Q: Heard that you can take that money out at any moment  A: G12 hasn't decided, they're worried that if there's an operational emergency and need that money they could take it out. One possibility is that they set times when they could think about what their budget was and take money out if they needed to if there's anything left. Nothing has been decided, we’re deciding with the schools. The withdrawals probably won't be at any time but at set points during the year, still being developed. Any portion left over goes back to the school and to GAPSA. At the end of the day, G12 schools will decide the governance, it's somewhat out of scope of this discussion.
    - Q: Is there a possibility of allocating the money that is not matched not to synergy but to allocate to other committees  A:  Yes, with 10 days advanced notice at any point throughout the year the GA can shift the budget in any way
  - Debate: up or down vote
  - No reason not to approve the budget or even to debate it, if we don't we leave everything a mess, if we do we can always amend it later
  - Debate closed
  - Budget passed

VI. Committee Meetings – 8:00 pm to 8:15 pm
    New GA Representatives will meet with the Chair for Orientation

VII. Committee Presentations -- 8:15 – 8:25 p.m.
• Communications: Plan and vision for the year, strategy for identifying a representative from each school
• Equity and access: For placing students on committees, learned that there is an environmental sustainability subcommittee that no longer has subcommittees but instead they're under a separate student committee, working on finding out more since other bodies are represented
  o Working on how many exec programs there are and how can we reach those students
• International: Mission for this year and events that have already been funded and what will be funded
• Finance: Organizing. About half of the committee has been placed, working on setting up deadlines
• Operations: Working on cleaning up and organizing small group dinners
• Professional: Figured out events and finance committees, engagement and save the earth
• Social: October 1 is first party, please promote and share and say you're going to the Facebook event
  o Just started committee, has been working alone, please help get the word out
  o $25 ticket for a $90 value so we are subsidizing a lot. This is hosted at one of the most luxurious venues in Philadelphia, so please come, bring your friends, tell them how expensive it is and how much were paying
• Student life: Organizing, getting to know each other, explaining tricky relationship with Penn rec and let us know of any rehearsal space for Zumba classes that do not require swipe access, please if anyone knows of a place
  o Student groups are now being charged for intramural fields which could shut them down
• Student programs: Selling tickets for orchestra and planning trip to KOP mall, talked about activities planned
• Bring ideas and activities to the meetings, we can vote on policy initiatives that we support or charge the body with, this can be powerful

VIII. Open Forum: -- 8:25-8:30

• Open forum: anything to add
• For social events, are GAPSA reps getting any discounts? Not for this one, but for the December one, this one is so expensive, can’t spend any more but in December we promise we will
• How many tickets are available, how many are sold: 800 available, not even 300 sold. Social has until this weekend to have a guest list, if not enough are sold we will have to renegotiate
• Do people know that they have to buy their tickets by this weekend? No, they don't know and are going to try to keep selling. We have to give the guest list by the weekend because we make contracts per person, on the day of we’ll count and pay accordingly
• Normally we sell out, if you have any ideas for how to promote the event they are welcome
  o Hanging up posters: do you guys pay attention? If they are in key places, if they were bigger and standing out, not usual locations. If everyone can put poster on department Facebook page
  o Part of the challenge is that we don't want undergrads to come- this comes out of your student fees, not theirs
• No field to upload a graphic on the GAPSA Facebook page: something we're working for, making sure to make it manageable
• Request that those not receiving the email raise their hand to see the distribution

IX. Adjournment.