**AGENDA FOR THE NINTH GA MEETING OF 2016-2017**

Wednesday, February 22, 2017
6:00-8:30 pm

**I. Food is served**

**II. Committee Meetings**
Ben Franklin room

6:00 – 6:30 pm

**III. Council Meetings:**

*Professional Council:* Ben Franklin room

*Research Council:* Bishop White room

6:30 – 7:30 pm

**IV. General Assembly Meeting begins**

7:30 pm

**V. Updates & Announcements**

7:30 – 7:35 pm

a. Fill out survey about Exec board duties

b. Trustee Committee Meetings
   i. Last week Exec was in Trustee committee meetings
      - President was in Student Life
         a. Talked about FGLI students
      - Operations was in FRES
         a. Talked about Dental building and Museum renovations
      - Finance was in Finance and Budget
         a. UG fee increased
         b. Approved various funding requests for renovations
      - Vice Presidents
         a. Talked about separate diversity office

   c. Sexual Harassment training for OSC Panelists
      i. Need a few students to sit on the panel for OSC and be a part of the panel that adjudicates sexual harassment issues
      ii. If interested, please let President know

c. Sanctuary Cities
   i. CMU is planning an event on March 2
   ii. Collaborating with schools around PA to talk about the bill regarding reducing the funding that goes to Sanctuary Cities
iii. This has implications for Penn in terms of undocumented students
iv. We have already approved the letter from last meeting, so GAPSA is on board with this
v. We will send out information about this, so please pass it along to your schools
e. Legislative Action Days
   i. From March 11-14, NAGPS will be in DC advocating higher education issues
   ii. Will involve training, and then going to meet with elected officials
   iii. 3-4 members of Exec are going, but anybody is welcome to join
   iv. Focus areas include
       - Visa/immigration issues
       - Research funding
       - Mental health and privacy
       - Sexual assault laws
       - Any other concerns
   v. President has also reached out to Penn’s formal advocacy/lobby in DC
f. March for Science
   i. Having an event on April 22
   ii. Goes along the lines of the consensus statement we signed in December advocating for science based policies
   iii. Also, looking for volunteers to help organize
   iv. If interested, let the President know
   v. BGSA
       - Is organizing a bus to go to the DC March for Science
       - Contact Alex Delaney for more information
g. Campus Culture Town Hall
   i. Apart of the work being done by the Task force on student safety
   ii. Will be held on Thursday, Feb 23, 5-6:30 pm in Arch
h. Other

VI. Finance
   7:35 – 7:55 pm
   a. Announcements
      i. Round 3 just closed
      ii. Awards announced Feb 24
      iii. Round 4 is opening, so please apply
      iv. This Thursday, there will be another GFAC Finance 101, GSC at 4pm, second floor
         - Go over the budget, help with applications, etc
v. PCDC 11th Anniversary Gala Tickets
   - This Saturday at 7pm in Irvine
vi. Wharton Charity Fashion Show
   - Upcoming in kind tickets
   - About a month before the event
vii. Wharton Law Fight night
    - Upcoming in kind tickets
    - About a month before the event

b. Budget Update
   i. On track
   ii. Refer to slides for exact numbers
   iii. Also reflect carryover releases
c. Discretionary Appeal
   i. Received the requisite 2/3s from their school delegation to appeal the initial decision
   ii. Allocated $30,000 at beginning of year, rewarded about $5,000
   iii. Motion to suspend
       - Second
       - Passes
iv. Wharton Latin America
   - Declined in previous fund
   - Four-day event
     a. Conference
     b. Professional events
     c. Soccer tournament
   - March 23rd to 26th
   - High profile speakers
   - Will be an interesting conference for anybody interested in Latin America Business
   - Target audience is all Penn grad schools and other universities
   - Attendance is about 250 students
   - Location in Huntsman Hall and Perry World House
   - Funding request
     a. $3000
     b. Have been fundraising extensively
     c. Why GAPSA?
        i. Brings students from throughout Penn and other schools
   - Motion to extend time
     a. Second
     - Panel topics are policy related and in the current news
Inherited debt of $18,000, raising tickets, going line by line to address the budget gap

v. Questions
- Is Wharton Student Government contributing?
a. They suggested to apply to Synergy and did not want to sponsor any conference because that would show favoritism
- Do you have a plan to inform students at other schools about this?
a. Yes, we have spoken to Latin Law, LAGAPSA, etc
b. And each member of the board reaches out to their contacts
- Do you know that with GAP, you don’t really need to Wharton GAP funding, you can go through other schools?
a. We went to Law school and business, and Wharton said no, so did Law
- Motion to extend questions
a. Second
- Will the increase in price affect the student attendance?
a. We decided on this last week, we are squeezing every penny in terms of expenses, and we inherited this situation
- Wharton will sign on with Synergy, are you working with any other affinity groups?
a. Law Latina and Latin business
- Do you have the school breakdown of past attendees?
a. Yes, 55% MBA, Law 25%, Policy 20%, 5% other
- What is your plan for retiring carryover debt?
a. We are trying to break it down as much as possible, without GAPSA funding, we are going to halve the funding
- Of the $50-$60 in ticket sales, what will this revenue go to?
a. Conference, and other expenses

vi. Discussion
- Finance suggestion
a. Pros
i. Potentially reputation building
b. Cons
i. Low diversity
ii. Potentially cost prohibitive
iii. Fiscally irresponsible
iv. Lack of buy in from WGA

c. Wharton representative’s clarification
   i. The WGA does not sponsor conferences
      1. There are 20-30 per year and that would be a lot
   ii. In terms of being fiscally responsible
      1. What happened last year was separate, they are rebuilding what happened in the past
   iii. They do have a strong presence at Wharton


d. Finance suggestion
   i. Utilize lending vehicle
   ii. They are taking in enough revenue to fund this year’s conference, GAPSA would be helping to retire their debt from last year


e. Debate
   i. How much have they asked and how much is left?
      1. What they are asking for is more than what is left
      2. Based on the voting from carryover and revenue, all release is going into discretionary
   ii. Is there a way to vote on saying that we will give you money, but that can’t be used for retiring the debt?
      1. That is hard to track
   iii. There is probably a reason that other groups did not put their name on this event, so we need to be aware of it.
   iv. You should not hold it against them that they were unable to get money from Law school
   v. LAGAPSA had a conversation early on, there were concerns that were brought up in that previous year, the speakers made people uncomfortable

f. In the past, what were the average amounts of funding requests for a conference of this size?
   i. 2–4 thousand


g. Motion to extend
i. Second
h. Motion to not fund
i. Motion to subsidize ticket sales in terms of $500
   i. passes
j. Motion to subsidize ticket sales in terms of $1000
k. Motion to defer to lending vehicle
d. Funding portfolio vote
   i. Because it is the end of year, we have too many applications and not enough time
   ii. So we vote by portfolio to vote in favor of the finance recommendations
   iii. Any member of the GA can vote in specific amounts to veto a line item
   iv. All applications went through the same formula as before
   v. $9750 of $11,417
   vi. Motion to approve
      - Second
      - Passes

VII. Penn Public Policy Challenge
    a. Will be upcoming this Sunday form 12-3 in Perry World House
    b. Lots of public officials, corporate, etc
    c. Five teams representing five different schools

VIII. Also, please join the GAPSA Work Group

IX. GAPSA Renewal Update 7:55 – 8:05 pm
    a. The mess formulation was the first phase
    b. To understand perceptions and the reality of GAPSA
    c. Biggest takeaway is the GAPSA is funding, and does not connect students well
    d. And then applied these lessons to Attendance, funding, advocacy etc
    e. Attendance and advocacy trending down
    f. Finance trending up
    g. Hypothesis is that GAPSA’s relevance is diminishing
    h. Next steps
       i. Town Hall Meeting
       ii. Saturday, March 18 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
       iii. Messaging will be going out to the wider Penn Community
       iv. There will be a competition between the schools to have the highest attendance

X. Resolutions 8:05 – 8:25 pm
    a. IDEAL: Central Diversity Office
i. This resolution is about the ongoing need for a centralized diversity office for students across campus
ii. This relates to the Student life task force which will be meeting on Thursday
   - There is a form where people can fill out about advocating for this
iii. Refer to IDEAL Resolution
iv. Motion to pass resolution
   - Second
   - passes

b. PAC/FAB: GAPSA & G12+ Funding
   i. This resolution would advocate for increasing the GAPSA Funding percentage from 5% to 10%
   ii. Each full-time grad students pays $2,788
   iii. The 5% is arbitrary and this resolution asks for a larger share
   iv. This is just the general fees, not the tuition
   v. Friendly suggestion
      - By graduate students, you mean graduate and professional students
   vi. Motion to close debate
      - Second
      - Passes
   vii. Motion to pass this resolution
      - second

XI. Open Forum 8:25 – 8:30 pm

XII. Happy Hour: 8:30 – 11:00 pm
    City Tap House