Minutes FOR GA MEETING

Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Houston Hall 6:00-8:00 pm

Ben Franklin Room

I. Food is served (5:45-6:00pm): New Delhi Catering

II. Council Meetings (6:00 – 6:55 pm): IDEAL (Brachfeld Room), Research (Golkin) Room, Professional (Ben Franklin Room)

IV. General Assembly (7:00-8:00pm)

A. Approve minutes

Approved

B. Presidential Update

Penn Franklins came to Introduce the program and solicit feedback
Some GA members were concerned about confidentially. One of the ways PF address this is to always have at least 3 peers on shift, so you can avoid someone you know, and informed consent occurs before each session.

C. Budget presentation and vote (7:10-7:40 pm)

Constitutional budget outline
Summarized FY17-18 budget
Talked about underutilization of GAP which is why the carryover was so big
Ticket revenue 30% increase for FY 17-18
Ongoing issues with Student Programs ticket sales
13,600 students, 11,000 full time students
Increase in fees (37 million paid in fees) (2 million dollars for GAPSA budget), increase in fees with this year (1.7 million for gym membership)
You pay $129 into GAPSA a year. Therefore Paul posed the question: “Do you feel like you are getting $65 in GAPSA advocacy and programming?”

9,000 people still not participating in GAPSA every year

Tied fraction: PGLA, GRAD CENTER, EMERGENCY FUND ($40,000)

GAP fund – all years were given 3 years to wind down their multi-year carryover, if you don’t use your GAP then you don’t get to roll it over -- some GA members were concerned about this.

--Passed the base budget--

Budget amendment – 150% increase to the provost, decreased VP budget because it was distributed across the chairs (separated grad fest budget)

Ben discussed what is happening with professional’s additional budget: they plan to give out more grants, smaller grants. 141% increase in travel grants, 18,000 provost, 4500 outreach, networking and other programming increased

-- Passed amended budget--

D. Advocacy on Centralized Penn Diversity Office from IDEAL Chair Francisco Saldaña (7:40-7:50 pm)

The reason for advocacy: Want to promote wellness of students.

Issues CDO would address:

Centralized office that works with G12 to promote accessibility, diversity and inclusion.

Resources for this are disparate at Penn, so students and faculty receive inappropriate or inadequate support.

There is no one who is responsible for identifying resources for students – need someone to collect and analyze data across all of the schools.

Overview of timeline beginning in 2014, and have been requesting that this exist for 4 years now.

Published bias incident reporting form (IDEAL), admin as bias best practice form where students can get input information as well.

Want to follow-up with admin to make sure they handle each incident

Some goals of CDO:

Creating workshops to promote multiculturalism, and support each school’s diversity team

Think about having graduate diversity ambassadors that are sent to each school and then report back to the main diversity officer.

E. Appointment of committee deputies (7:50-8:00 pm)

This was postponed until next meeting so we could adjourn on time.

V. Happy Hour (8:00-10:00): Wahoo’s Fish Tacos (3180 Chestnut St.)

Approximately 30-40 attendees