AGENDA
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY
44th GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION
November 30th, 2022; 6:30PM
Steinberg Dietrich Hall 211; Zoom Link (In-Person attendance required for GA Reps unless otherwise excused): https://upenn.zoom.us/j/91579346701

- Call to Order, Approval of Minutes and Agenda (2) Welfer
- Finance Sunshine Reports (5) Senthil
- Operations Budget Amendment (15) Jin
- Red & Blue Strategic Committee Updates (1) Watson
- GAPSA Executive Board Special Election (60) Welfer
- Open Floor (5) Welfer
- Adjournment Welfer

MINUTES

6:58 PM
I. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, and Agenda
   a. Motion to approve minutes, passed
   b. Motion to approve agenda, passed

7:00pm
II. Finance Sunshine Reports
   a. Number was calculated from resources from Office of Student Affairs
   b. During transition in June and July – June transactions will show up in July, but it was charged from previous fiscal year
   c. Most of the grants have not gone out yet – more accurate reflection by the end of the year
   d. Budgets and reporting from G12 schools are out of finance scope, but will be working on it
   e. If you’re interested in utilization, please check out the GAPSA financing website
   f. Question: What is the largest factor of underspending? A: That goes under each division and committee and how each individual group utilizes its allocations. It varies.
g. The goal is to spend 40%. Getting the student group and travel grants go out there’s a time delay between the claim and the use of the fund.

h. Per the constitution, you will more regularly see the sunshine report

7:09PM

III. Operations Budget Amendment

a. Not able to do dinners for December

b. Question: Is the $30 per person on the higher end?
   i. When you order from catering for massive amounts of people, it’s hard to quantify and measure the amount of food per person
   ii. We also need to think about the diversity of the food/allergies – when we decrease the amount, we lose contingency

c. Question: What is the contingency for?
   i. A: There are a lot of hidden costs – small fees to pay for delivery for example. The contingency is a buffer.

d. Move to a period of debate
   i. On the $30 per person – the bill you start off with isn’t the final amount at the end of the day.
   ii. Comment: Cost of meal is consistent across 110 people and 30 people, the pricing of each meal should be the same economically? With more people, service costs goes up but the cost of the meal should go down. How much of the cost is the meal and how much is the service?

e. Motion to formally adopt the amend the 2022-2023 budget to move $30,000 from the reserves into logistics. Motion Passes.

GAPSA Alumni Relations

a. Q: What is GAPSA4LYF? A: An award that looks into the service to GAPSA. Each director nominates a person.

b. Q: Reginal meetups vs Global Alumni mixers? Who’s attending?
   i. Regional meetups – local areas – DC, New York, Boston – tied to those cities so there are no transportation costs. We try to have a ratio of twice as many students than alumni.
   ii. Global Mixers: Part of Penn Global, engaging alumni there (July 6, New Delhi), to raise funds and networking, to also put GAPSA as part of it. Purpose? It’s largely for career networking and mentorships between alumni and students. Especially students who are considering Penn for school. Those connections are there, but we find that those that are extroverted fair fine in these events but not so for everybody else.

c. What does the cost cover? Food drink, cost of the venue. For example in 2022 – providing facemasks “Delhi program”

d. Alumni ticketing and contribution program? It cost us nothing.
I. When there are large-scale events, a portion of the ticketing goes to alumni. If they don’t claim it, it opens up to students. Trying to get alumni to come back.
- Don’t want alumni relations to be a cost to students, but a benefit to students.
- It’s an entirely opt-in program, voluntary by students and alumni. About 2000 out of 9000 checked the box. Leftover money goes to “Other Encumbrances”
- The alumni association is nascent and in formation, the operating assumptions are that there are ex officio seats – from different departments
  - In the actual resolution, it is subject to approval from the Alumni Relations and Finance committee.
- Do you see more alumni engagement? How many were open to mentorship after attending these events
  - Alumni engagement survey
- Concerns around where student representation comes in an organization we have zero control or visibility over?
  - It’s not up to two people, it is the Alumni relations and finance committee which is made up by the GA
  - You have at least two seats on the board
  - If you pass the second resolution, GA can stop it. It is full disclosure.
  - Question: Associations? A: TBD.
  - Motion to adopt this resolution, debated.
  - Motion to amend the amendment the section (3) release to alumni relation, second.
  - Open to debate period
  - Remove course 3 from the amendment
  - Before the amendment, are we able to know the details? A: no we vote on the original
  - Motion to table the amendment
  - Motion to close the debate to remove the 3rd course and moving to vote
  - The amendment failed
  - Motion to close and vote – passed
  - The amendment passed!
  - Motion to table the Executive Board Service Awards Model and Accountability System to the next meeting – passed

0:00 PM

IV. Red & Blue Strategic Committee Updates
  a. Please email President and advocacy
  b. Each council is doing a meeting with the Red & Blue Committee in Spring

7:50 PM

V. GAPSA Executive Board Special Election
a. Motion to extend meeting up to 30 minutes, second. Passed.
b. Motion to extend by an hour. No objection. Passed.
c. Motion to extend the meeting by up to 30 minutes. Passed.
d. The General Assembly has voted upon the following:
   i. EVP: Hoang Anh Phan
   ii. VP of Finance: Rexy Miao
   iii. VP of Programming: Keshara Senanayake

9:49 PM

VI. Adjournment