GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY 44th GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

February 15th, 2023; 7:00PM - 8:30PM
Huntsman Hall 370; (In-Person attendance required for GA Reps unless otherwise excused)::
https://upenn.zoom.us/j/91579346701

AGENDA

● Call to Order, Approval of Minutes and Agenda (2) Watson
● Lightning Update (10) Executive Board
● Constitutional Revisions Votes (10) Ristic
  - Elections Timing - Bill 14
  - Constitutional Fixes (GA/44/BILL/11/R.2)
  - Standing Rules (GA/44/BILL/12/R.2)
  - Procedures (GA/44/BILL/13/R.2)
● GA Incentive Fund use for Spring Gala (1) Miao/Ristic
● Graduate Student Trustees Seat Resolution Update/Amendment (10) GA Delegate
● GAPSA Leadership Summit (5) Phan
● Red & Blue Strategic Committee Updates (5)
● Iris Photo Booth Update (2)
● GAPSA Funding Ideas Brainstorming (10) Watson
  - Menstrual Product Idea Senanayake
● Small Group Dinners (2) Jin
● Meal Swipe/Coupon Resolution - Updates (5) Getzen, Phan, Hettinger
● Housing & Transportation Subcommittee Updates (10) Zhao
● Open Floor (5) Watson
● Adjournment

MINUTES

7:15 PM
Call to Order, Approval of Minutes and Agenda

  - No minutes to approve
  - Approval of agenda. Passes.

7:16 PM
Lightning Update

  - Spring Gala tickets are out and have sold 1557 tickets

7:17 PM
Constitutional Revision Votes
• **Elections Timing – Bill 14**
  o **GAPSA Elections Constitutional Amendment**: The GAPSA General Assembly hereby moves the date of elections to the April 12th, 2023 General Assembly
  o One concern if we move the election toward May is that we tend to lose quorum during GA meetings. Having early elections allows for elections, appointments, provisional and bylaws to be reviewed by GA.
  o **Debate Opens.**
    ▪ **Summary of Discussion**: Transition is crucial to best prepare the next board and questions surrounding the consensus of the executive board, plans to address appointment issues through interim directors, provisional budget
  o **Call to Vote.** Does not pass.
    ▪ 3 – Vote in favor
    ▪ 18 – Vote against
    ▪ 14 – Abstain
• Voting on:
  o Moving from Division to Committee
    o **Call to vote.** Passes.
      ▪ Unanimous
  • Amendment 5-Readings Section (8)
    o **Call to vote.** Passes.
      ▪ Unanimous

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Call to Vote for the combined three bills for the constitutional amendments.

• Constitutional Fixes (GA/44/BILL/11/R.2)
• Standing Rules (GA/44/BILL/12/R.2)
• Procedures (GA/44/BILL/13/R.2)
  o **Call to Vote.** Does not pass.
    ▪ 39 – Vote in favor
    ▪ 0 – Vote against
    ▪ 1 – Abstain

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**7:56 PM**

**GA Incentive Fund use for Spring Gala**

• GA please use your incentive fund to purchase Gala tickets and there is a block reserved for GA reps
• **Summary Discussion**: Clarification on purchasing on EventBrite and guests

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**7:58 PM**

**Graduate Student Trustees Seat Resolution Update/Amendment**

• Meeting with secretary
• Proposal to motion the following:
  o **Motion to amend the resolution by striking out any images or language suggesting that the Undergraduate Assembly has endorsed this resolution.**
  o **Motion to amend the resolution to call for two-year terms rather than one-year terms**
- **Summary of discussion.** Concerns around the length of the term, accessibility for professional students, transition period, representation of graduate students and suggestions around the structure of the term length.

- **Call to Vote.**
  - Motion to amend the resolution by striking out any images or language suggesting that the Undergraduate Assembly has endorsed this resolution.
    - Vote. Passes
    - *Unanimous*
  - Motion to amend the resolution to call for up to two-year terms
    - Vote. Passes.
    - *Unanimous*

- University Council Discussion
  - **Question:** Do we want to propose agenda items? (Not just open forum/new business) Yes.

**8:36 PM**

**GAPSA Leadership Summit**

- Reminder that GA responsibilities is to liaise with their respective student governments

**8:42 PM**

**Red & Blue Strategic Committee Updates**

*Update from the IDEAL Council*

- Great turnout – discussion on administration, advocacy efforts (menstrual products)
- Summary:
  1) increasing efforts from the university admin to foster and create spaces for discussion, socializing, and networking among folx from underrepresented backgrounds,
  2) making DEI initiatives and resources more decentralized to foster inter-school collaboration,
  3) providing increased funding in scholarships to international students and non-traditional students

**8:44 PM**

**GAPSA Funding Ideas Brainstorming**

- Reach out to VP of Programming for any ideas for initiatives and/or programming you may have

**8:47 PM**

**GA Small Group Dinners**

- $5-$10 deposit required to reserve the spots for the dinner
- Great opportunity to get to know other GA members in informal meeting
- Look out for emails to sign up

**8:50 PM**

**Meal Swipe/Coupon Resolution - Updates**
• **Summary of discussion.** Questions and discussion around the definition and criteria of food insecurity, working with Penn Dining facilities and unused meal swipes,

• **Proposed Solution:** As an additional resource, GAPSA will purchase $50,000 worth of *meal swipes* (pilot) for graduate & professional students who are in need of healthy meals on campus at: (1) dining halls, and/or (2) retail dining ($20 value). We will also conduct a survey to better understand food insecurity and the utilization of this pilot program.
  o More GA reps were in favor of a combination

8:58 PM
Housing & Transportation Subcommittee Updates

9:04 PM
Open Floor
  • Opportunity for Wharton African Student Association to present at the next GA meeting for funding request

9:06 PM
Adjournment