GA Attendance:

Ashley Scott  Fredrik Zhu  Kyle Rodriguez
Chloe Ricks  Harshil Parekh  Devo Probol
Samuelle Delcy  Sophia Li  Keri Davenport
Ananth Srinivas  Maya Singh  Alana McSween
Haarini Ramesh  Qiao Xu  Jayme Nordin
Joanna Wong  Zahabia Rangwala  Adam Ziada
Lisha Bhati  Ridhi Dar  Stephanie Schreiner
Michael Santos  Saloni Tandon  Benjamin Glass
Shivani Daftary  Nina Kalkus  Yumi Kodama
Lauren Verheyden  Merik Gillespie  Christine Soh
Radhika Mittal  Danielle Serrano  Chris Larson
Kendall Hart  Deeya Bajaj  Dimitris Boufidis
Uyi Oni  Mark (Kip) Werner  Simeon Ristic
Riya Choudhury  Garuth Acharya  Xufei Liu
Jamier Jones  Charu Maheshwari  Stephanie Rivera Fennir
Kaixi (Alex) Yang  Arianna Chang

AGENDA

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY
44th GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION
October 26th, 2022; 6:30PM Wharton JMHH Room 365
Zoom Link (In-Person attendance required for GA Reps unless otherwise excused (ie. part of an international program or other defined reason in attendance policy)):
https://upenn.zoom.us/j/91579346701

TIME
Call to order by Robert 6:42 PM
Call to Order, Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Motion to approve the minutes; moved and seconded
Passes

Motion to approve agenda; seconded
Passes
Questions: Penn club expenses, who approved the expenses, who the guest was, the expenditure caps for hotel expenses/travel.
Requested: More granular expense item points (Penn club, hotel expenses in New Jersey).
Agenda items of the retreat.
Concerns surrounding the usage of budget
Motion to create a budget subcommittee

Subcommittee reporting on Financial Responsibility
Charge of the committee:
  - Set standards for GAPSA expenditures
  - For fiscal responsibility under the division of finance

Bylaws: to suggest spending limits
When were they last updated?

The general opinion is that constituents are uncomfortable with how quickly we are going through budget expenses.

Committee to dive into details of the budget
- Watson: there are better ways to spend our time than line through line review of the budget, which is why this type of committee will be useful
- Committee will be a forum for these questions and concerns to be raised

Functions of these committees:
- Will function with the same purview as an already existing committee?

Motion to promote the creation of a subcommittee for fiscal subcommittee
- Passed - 7:17 PM

Parliamentarian

IDEAL Student Government Budget Amendment: JAY
- Discussion of the IDEAL Expenditure
  - Affinity Group Leadership Fund
  - IDEAL Collaboration Fund

Sammy
- Example: Review session for the first years for a safe space to study
- People that they relate to
  - 1st event 50+ students, budget not sufficient to provide for them
- The sustainability of all groups is to be considered in how this money is spent and

Keshara:
- Purchasing long-lasting durable goods that can add benefit into future years.

Discussion:
- There are going to be more avenues for individuals to be able to access these funds.

Motion to pass the IDEAL Budget Amendment (for full amendment see GA/44/RES/3): [7:43 PM]
- Passed

7:45 PM

GAPSA Professional Development Fund:
- Deliberation of University:
  - Has to be restricted to academic expenses and cannot just be straight compensation.
  - Following proposed amendment

Question:
- What is the number of people that can be added to the number of the executive board?
- There is a limit to how many people are able to have this grant?
- The selection is all internal
- Why is GA not considered in the scheme for payment/compensation for their work?
- What constitutes academic spending?
  - Tuition assistance
  - Academic conferences
  - Apply towards any academic expenses
  - Rent, transportation, and cars are not eligible.

8:07 PM

Motion to vote on the first resolution for Professional Development Grant.
  - Motion did not Pass

Debate on the checks and balances of those implementing the payment or distribution of this grant.
  - What deserves this compensation for this to be delivered?
  - What are we agreeing to?
  - What are the controls here?

Lack of putting full faith and credit in GAPSA Executive when $30,000 is spent on a whole semester and the equivalent is spent on just one weekend

8:21 PM

Motion to table the Professional Development Grant
  - Motion Passed [8:22]

Create a meeting on the specifics of the professional development grant.

POI: 8:26 PM
  - Is there time to adequately go through the process of stakeholder perspectives on the execution of this grant?
  - Potential for asking third parties within the grad center people

8:30 PM

Red and Blue committee:
  - Survey on them coming to a GA meeting

G12 road show for R/B committee to attend

Want feedback raised to get this going.
  - Try to add more seats to better accommodate seats for better diversity.

8:37 PM
Housing Committee Updates

Questions to pursue:
What questions do we have about housing?
   - Tabled to be sent out in a form
What are we asking for when it comes to getting grad school housing?
University business relationship with Campus Apartments?
Penn owns the land and they are allowed to grab it back at any moment?
In favor of knowing who owns what around campus?
Build housing that the university grad students can live at.

Comments
   - Housing that kicks people out in the summer

Food drive: 8:45 PM
   - Wellness leading an event this upcoming Friday to tackle food insecurity

8:45 PM

Ivy+ Debrief and Conversation

Discussion on meeting with members of pier institutions

8:48 PM

Open Floor

8:50 PM Adjournment

Adjournment