AGENDA

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY

44th GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

March 29, 2023; 7:00PM - 10:30PM

Huntsman Hall 370; (In-Person attendance required for GA Reps unless otherwise excused):

• Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, and Agenda (2)
• Open Floor (10)
• Group Event Funding Appeal Approval (1)
• Penn Fight Night Funding Approval (1)
• Executive Board Compensation (5)
• Resident Assistant Union Presentation (5)
• GAPSA Vote Regarding Resident Assistant Union (10)
• Drafting Committee Appointment (1)
• Constitutional Amendment re. Funding (2)
• Grad Center Resolution (2)
• GAPSA Elections (150)
• Student Trustees Seat Resolution Update (2)
• University Council Agenda Item Update (5)
• Lightning Updates (5)
• Adjournment
MINUTES

7:18 PM
Call to Order, Approval of Minutes and Agenda

- No minutes to approve
- Motion to move open floor after the lightning update - Passed
- Motion to move the vote of the union right after the election – Passed
- Motion to move the election above the RA Union Presentation – Failed
- Motion to approve the agenda – Passed

7:27 PM
Group Event Funding Appeal Approval

- Resolved, that the Wharton Africa Student Association is funded up to $25,000 from the GA discretionary fund to close their deficit, pending receipt of their after action reviews and financial disclosures for the Wharton Africa Business Forum in November 2022
- Motion to vote – All in favor: passed

7:28 PM
Penn Fight Night Funding Approval

- Resolved, per the GA Committee of the Whole vote on 3/15/23, that Penn Fight Night is appropriated $50,000 total in a combined cash and in-kind ticket Heritage Program package; the allocation is split $10,000 from the Student Group Event Fund, $20,000 from the GA Discretionary Fund, $20,000 from the Synergy/Interschool Partnership Fund; the in-kind ticket package includes 1 table (including 10 VIP tickets), 25 VIP tickets, 100 General Admission tickets, and option to buy up to 250 Palestra-Only tickets (at 50% discount); in addition, Fight Night will feature GAPSA Branding per GAPSA Finance Bylaws Article 3.5.9.
- Motion to vote – All in favor: passed

7:29 PM
Executive Board Compensation

- Resolved, that GAPSA Standing Rule 17(1) is substituted by: “The annual base pay “x” of the executive compensation scheme in Article 7 of the Executive Board Bylaws (EB/BYL:7) is set to ______ dollars.”
- First reading – to present and vote on
- The current number is $3000 (marked as x)
  - The President 2X
  - Vice President 1.5X
  - Directors 1X
Deputies 0.5X
• Motion to refer this to Council - Passed

7:32 PM
Drafting Committee Appointment

• Motion to approve That Simeon Ristic, Paradorn (Joe) Rummeneethorn, Maya Singh, Nandan Tumu, and Paul Welfer be appointed to the membership of the Drafting Committee - Passed

7:34 PM
Resident Assistant Union Presentation

• Current stage – Penn only marks RAs as Student Leaders rather than Employees
• The full current text of the BILL/23 Union Resolution:
  o Resolved, That GAPSA affirms Resident Advisors’ (RAs) and Graduate Resident Advisors’ (GRAs) democratic right to vote in a union election;
  o Resolved, That GAPSA urges the University to cease union-busting tactics and hold a union election for RAs/GRAs during the Spring 2023 semester.
  o Resolved, That GAPSA affirms Resident Advisors’ (RAs) and Graduate Resident Advisors’ (GRAs) democratic right to vote in a union election;
  o Resolved, That GAPSA urges the University to cease anti-union delay tactics and hold a union election for RAs/GRAs during the Spring 2023 semester.
• Next GA will be the vote to affirm how RAs and GRAs will present it

7:38 PM
Drafting Committee Appointment
Grad Center Resolution
Constitutional Amendment re. Funding

• First reading to the GA
• Plan to discuss more to the three councils
• Current stage – IDEAL council needs to make an amendment for budgeting
• To codify the allocations for all councils and allow them to work/manage on their own
  o Goal: to secure the funding $170 base allocation for the IDEAL Council
• Motion to refer to Councils - Passed

7:45 PM
Reading proxies to the GA members and break for food

7:51 PM
GAPSA Elections
President: 6 Candidates
• Newly elected GAPSA President: Michael Krone

[8:40 PM] Motion to extend GA meeting by an hour – Passed
[8:45 PM] Motion to let the candidates finish their responses and move to the next 15 minutes - Passes
[9:04 PM] Motion to extend the time to finish the full round of questioning - Passes.
[9:11 PM] Motion to close the session
[9:17 PM] Motion to amend the closed session only to candidates – Passed.
[9:38 PM] Motion to extend the time to close off the last round of deliberations – Passed. 
Motion to extend the meeting up to one hour 10:40 pm.

Executive Vice President: 4 Candidates
  • Newly elected Executive Vice President: Alex Chmielinski

[10:34 PM] Motion to move to next 15-minute session open to non-voting members – Passed
[10:39 PM] Motion to close the current session and move to deliberation – Passed
Motion to have candidates leave the room – Passed
Motion to move the secrecy of the room – Passed
Motion to limit the deliberations to one round – Passed.

Vice President of Finance: 2 Candidates
  • Newly elected Vice President of Finance: Nakisha Renee Jones

12:28 AM of March 30th – Adjournment