Introduction
1. President’s Report (5 minutes)
   a. Member Highlights
      i. Thank you Caleb for putting together the Preview Open House! We had a great turnout.
   b. Week in Review
      i. Monday: USG Open House for Pre-Frosh
      ii. Tuesday: Mental Health Task Force Meeting with Dean Fowler; Meeting with Shreyas from E-Club about efficiency
      iii. Wednesday: Dining Plan Proposal Letter Drafting
      iv. Thursday: Meeting with Dean Dunne and Dinner with Board of Trustees
   c. Looking Ahead
      i. Monday: Voting starts!
         1. We really want to have 50% student engagement. We should all table, reach out to friends, and try to engage the student body.
      ii. Thursday: Dean Avens will be meeting with USG members to discuss the dining plan.
      iii. April 28th: Training
         1. After all new members are elected, we will have an on-campus training (most likely in Prospect House).
   d. Action Items
      i. Everyone should show up to the open house.
      ii. Question: Would it be possible to get a table at the activities fair?
         1. Caleb will send an e-mail to the Assistant Dean of Admissions to ask.
      iii. If you can stay after for 5 minutes to help with small tasks, please do so!

New Business
1. PHA Mini-Grants Proposal: Parker Kushima (5 minutes)
   a. Parker is trying to get mini-grants started.
   b. The idea that Parker came up with is Princeton Connect, which is a program that will encourage people to meet new people (especially upperclassmen).
c. The layout would be that there would be a first session that would be similar to an arts and craft study break, and students could design a square craft. It would involve the overall goal of sharing stories with other people.
d. The culmination of this session would be creating a quilt out of these squares.
e. Parker is presenting to us because USG can help get the word out. If the event could be placed in the newsletter and e-mails, that would be great!
f. Question: Would it be possible to have surveys to see if long term connections are being formed? Why did you come up with this idea?
   i. If you are in a social group, it is hard to connect with others who are not in the social group.
   ii. The hope is that this will be a place for people to share their stories and their experiences.
g. Question: What attendance do you see at PHA events? What kind of events would you see here?
   i. Usually, the study breaks are residential college affiliated, and they have about 30-40 people attend. This one would engage a wider campus community, and because it would be in Frist, there would be more foot traffic.
h. Feedback: It looks like the event is focused on mental health. Perhaps you could reach out to MHI for help in advertising your event as well.
   i. Feedback: Perhaps you can work with Tania and USLC as her committee is working on the independent student experience on campus.

2. Movies Committee Budget Request: Jona Mojados (5 minutes)
   a. Movies Committee is planning an outdoor movie with foods, drinks and giveaways. All years were invited to this last year, and the senior class was heavily involved in planning this.
   b. Question: Is this open for everyone?
      i. It is open to everyone, but it is geared towards the idea that this is the last USG movie for the Class of 2018. The Class of 2018 will choose the movie.
   c. Voting: (Budget Approval)
      i. Yes: 19
      ii. Abstain: 0
      iii. No:

3. CCA Day of Action Presentation: Caleb Visser and Eliza Wright (15 minutes)
   a. The Day of Action was run in March of 2017. It was an opportunity for students and community members to engage in critical issues via dialogue and then plan action steps.
b. Mike, who coordinated the Day of Action, reached out to Rachel about USG taking on the Day of Action so that we can make this a sustainable event and part of our community.

c. Day of Action started as a way to protest private institutions taking in defense research. It continues today at MIT as an opportunity to engage in political, economic, and social issues facing us today.

d. Mission, Vision and Values
   i. The goal is to create a thoughtful day of reflection. It is supposed to be oriented toward the entire community.

e. For examples of promotion, see the presentation created by Caleb.

f. Why should CCA take on Day of Action?
   i. USG has the ability to organize and specifically has the resources to host this event in a continuous manner beyond just this year.
   ii. CCA is looking to build bridges between the community and the campus.

g. Next week, Caleb will present a resolution about this Day of Action.

h. This would involve active and organized work over the summer. This would be hosted in one of the first weekends in October, allowing people to engage with community partners before the midterm elections.

i. There are critical themes of exploration and learning. We will not shy away from any issues, but we will ensure to present a forum for growth-oriented debate and discussion.

j. Possible Ideas Discussed
   i. Legalization of Marijuana
   ii. Cyber Security
   iii. Free Speech and Gun Control

k. The budget will be $10,000 total. It will cover all of the food costs, publicity, reservation, clean-up, speakers, and any other miscellaneous costs.

l. Feedback: Voter registration deadline in New Jersey is October 16th, 2018 so perhaps the events should be held before then.

m. Question: How was this event funded last year?
   i. There were a lot of departments and external funds. The total budget was a little more than $13,500. They worked with Pace, CAF, the Women*s Center, etc. Most of the money was funds that were pooled together. Caleb can get the breakdown of funds to the Senate.

n. Question: Acknowledging the structural benefits of this falling under the USG, how do you feel about the institutionalization of this event? Often, grassroots efforts can be extremely useful.
   i. Princeton is an academic place, and these discussions happen in other contexts. None of the events would involve USG taking an official stance.
Even if this is a risk, the benefits outweigh this risk. The problem with running this in 2017 was that most people did not show up was because it was on a Monday. If this does become institutionalized, it would become a norm for students to attend this events as the years progress. As such, this would relate to longer-standing relationships with various student groups in the future.

ii. **Question: Would we be funding the entirety of this?**
   1. This would be the baseline budget. CCA would be open to partnering with other organizations. For example, Caleb has had a preliminary discussion with Pace. However, this will be a student-led initiative.

iii. **Question: Are we allowed to fund advocacy?**
   1. The event itself is not an advocacy event. We are not presenting an agenda. We are providing issue areas for student groups and community partners to engage in discussion. This is simply meant to be a forum. CCA is committed to ensuring that this is a non-partisan event.

iv. **Question: Why would $10,000 be needed from USG? Why would we allocate so much to an event that might not be as far-reaching in terms of turnout?**
   1. Long term, CCA is planning to have this every year. Last year, 1,500 were engaged throughout the day. We could get even more turnout. The idea is to pick a discussion that could engage the students. The idea is to pose issues that students care about right now.

v. **Clarification:** The Day of Action might seem advocacy focused, but the whole day was about teach-ins and discussions.

vi. This could also be allocated into the fall budget ahead of time.

vii. **Question:** Why are you still not reaching out to other people for funds?
   1. It’s not that CCA will not reach out to other funding sources, but it is more productive to institutionalize this within USG.
   2. The idea behind asking for money from USG is to ensure that CCA definitely has the funds to run this event.

viii. **Feedback:** One of the things Dean Dunne has seen long term is that when you do ad-hoc funding, there is reluctance to be the first to be event. As such, planners spend a lot of time in the funding phase as opposed to planning itself. Providing CCA this money would allow sponsors to pursue other endeavors (i.e. speakers), and this would allow for better relationships with sponsors.
ix. Reach out to Caleb with any questions.

4. **Projects Board Funding Approval: Isabella Bosetti and Eliot Chen (5 minutes)**
   a. The 25th Black Women’s Appreciation dinner is being hosted, and the Projects Board is seeking approval for $4,000 (between ODUS and Projects Board).
   b. This event is critical for building community between the black female community and black male community.
   c. The first black female graduate from Princeton graduated in 1972. One of the biggest things she pointed out was that black women were not able to integrate into Princeton’s society.
   d. This specific dinner will be used as a launchpoint to build better community relations.
   e. Feedback: This is one of the clear examples where the extra Projects Board budget allocation allows for more funding of affinity group events.
   f. **Voting: (Projects Board Funding Approval)**
      i. Yes: 19
      ii. Abstain: 0
      iii. No: 0
   g. Question from Projects Board
      i. Is the new website up?
         1. Brad is working with the technology staff in OIT to receive one security certification. Currently, there is a security notification that pops up when you access the website.
         2. The website URL will be usg.princeton.edu.

5. **Admissions Opportunity Campaign: Amanda Eisenhour (7 minutes)**
   a. Amanda is a freshmen who has been working with the Admissions Opportunity Campaign.
   b. To provide a quick overview, the AOC is an initiative that has been going on at Princeton since 2014. It began as SPEAR.
   c. The group is concerned with people who are denied admission to universities based on past criminal records (especially for people of color).
   d. In the past, the group has circulated a petition that received over 1,000 signatures (in 2015).
   e. Efforts culminated in a teach-in in front of President Eisgruber’s office in May of 2015. Since then, they have continued to advocate. They are continuing this year with a broader coalition.
   f. Our justice system disproportionately affects people of color and those from poor socioeconomic backgrounds. For people who go to prison, their median annual income is 41% less than their counterparts.
g. The box for people who have had a criminal background undermines their ability to compete on an equal plane against other students who are entering University.

h. Deterrent Effect
   i. For every 1 applicant who was denied admission after checking yes on the box, 15 students did not even finish or submit the application.
   ii. The application attrition rate was 3 times higher than the general applicant pool.

i. A large question that the movement has received is: is this a threat to public safety?
   i. No, this is not.
   ii. Our graduate school does not require the box on the applications.
   iii. Schools who do not include the box have no difference in crime rates than schools who do include the box.

j. Question: Why should Princeton do this?
   i. Over 50 schools are not receiving this information. The UC system and SUNYs have already banned the box.
   ii. The DoE has called on the University to reconsider this question.
   iii. NJ has banned the box for the first stage of the interview process for employment already.
   iv. Princeton wants to include diverse experiences. As long as this box is present, it is still another way to deter those who do come from diverse backgrounds.

k. AOC is asking for feedback. They want to get a sense of what USG thinks of this proposal. They hope to work with U-Councilors and Senators to write an internal resolution.

l. The University can choose to receive this information from the Common Application.

m. Question: On the Common App, once you check yes, are you given a place to explain?
   i. Yes. You are given a place to explain your charge or conviction.

n. Question from Academics Committee Member: Do you want to ban all of the boxes? Is there a way to modify the content of the box so that only violent/sexual crimes are included?
   i. AOC is not sure if this is possible. This is not something they are advocating for. As far as sexual crimes, although they have discussed this, it is not up to AOC or the University to discriminate.

o. Question: Could you re-explain President Eisgruber and the University’s rationale?
i. President Eisgruber agreed with most of what had to be said but did not agree on the action.

ii. The Committee on Undergraduate Admission and Financial Aid is currently discussing this, and AOC is waiting on a response from them. AOC presented to the committee in February.

iii. Question: What is the difference between the application for transfer students and normal application?
   1. There is no question like this on the transfer application. AOC is using this inconsistency to actively recruit students affected by the inclusion of the box.

iv. Question: Why would we not discriminate against sexual crimes?
   1. The AOC does not think sexual crimes should be included because it implies convictions are being done in a fair manner.
   2. Follow Up: There is evidence that says that people who have been convicted of sexual crimes are likely to be repeat offenders.

v. Clarification: The box is not an accurate representation of all of those who have committed sexual crimes because of the institutional injustice in the criminal justice system.

vi. Question: Would you consider banning the box for everyone who has committed sexual crimes? (in terms of the Senate resolution)
   1. AOC’s advocacy is focused on not discriminating. If that is how the Senate prefers to move forward, the AOC will respect that. They would prefer a resolution that does not discriminate among types of crimes.

vii. Question: Why USG? Are you hoping that USG would move things along?
   1. USG is a forum that shows students that debates are going on in campus. Yes, this is part of the reason why AOC is presenting today.

viii. Question: Did you consider writing a referendum?
     1. Yes, but the AOC decided productive dialogue via this channel might work better.

ix. Question: Would you consider partnering with other student groups as well?
    1. Yes.

x. Feedback: Here, we have a group of students bringing us something they are passionate about. It is our job to give them something in return.

xi. Clarification: Is this just U-Councilors?
    1. This would include Senators as well.
xii. Question: Can there a town hall about this?
   1. Yes.

xiii. Clarification: The materials e-mailed to the Senate has been agreed on by multiple groups.

xiv. Feedback: Perhaps you should consult SHARE about the consideration of sexual crimes in the box on the application.

xv. Question: have you guys thought about alternative ways to recruit students who are discouraged by this box?
   1. What AOC has been told by the University is that this is still a factor within the holistic admissions process. AOC can’t say this won’t be a factor, and this deters them for advertising and recruiting.

xvi. Feedback: This issue has been moving faster than some of the others, and this timeline is not an abnormal amount of time for change to happen.

6. **SGRC Co-Chair Appointments and Student Group Approval: Aaron Sobel and Emily Chen (7 minutes)**
   a. Dan Qian is the former Vice President of USG. He has been appointed as Co-Chair of SGRC along with Andrew Li.
   b. Voting: (Confirmation of Co-Chairs)
      i. Yes: 19
      ii. Abstain: 0
      iii. No: 0
   c. 10 groups presented to SGRC at this month’s meeting, and of these, 9 have been approved. One group is a revival of a former group. This is the Princeton International Society that is being revived as International Princeton.
   d. Question: Is shimmy a student class run by a student group?
      i. It is a student group that invites different dance groups and instructors to teach dance to members.
   e. Voting: (Confirmation of Groups)
      i. Yes: 19
      ii. Abstain: 0
      iii. No: 0

7. **Senator Accountability/Transparency Proposal: Kade McCorvy (15 minutes)**
   a. It is important to ensure that we are doing the right thing for the right reasons.
   b. This initiative hopes to address the issue of accessibility of senators.
   c. Currently, there is no real metric for senator engagement. It is kind of awkward to approach senators about their work right now.
   d. This would allow us to really hear from the student body.
The first proposal is to create a netID for senators or to give senators the class specific net IDs. This would give senators the mechanism to have access to listervs that allow them to reach everyone that they represent.

i. This proposal would require Senators to e-mail monthly a policy proposal that USG has worked on. There would also be a personal statement that the senators think is important to relay back to people. In addition, a survey would be included in this monthly e-mail.
   1. The survey helps to obtain metrics about what students want to see or what they do not want to see.

ii. This proposal would also require senators to talk about the responses they received from their class year. This would allow the entire Senate to be up to date.

iii. This would all be run through the Communications Committee.

iv. This is also a measure of accountability. It also helps us see how much people know about what we are doing (relates to transparency).

v. The reason that this is senator-specific is so we reach every class.

vi. If this is passed, there would be one e-mail in April and in May. There would be one e-mail this week and one in the week of May 7th. There would be one Senate report per month, and there would be a final report to the Senate.

The 2021 senators have discussed with their current Class Officers about study break costs. They will be presenting next week about a “Meet Your Senators” study break. They are also working on getting access to listervs.

Feedback: What is the outcome you envision of the survey? Would you take on class specific projects? Would these be in addition to the current projects?

i. In the past, usually, the entire student body at-large has been surveyed to see which projects we should take on.

ii. Having class senators reach out to their class directly might increase engagement. Class senators could propose ideas at meetings or perhaps they could report results in the final report.

iii. Follow Up: Students expect results. Would the class senators take on additional projects to our current projects? We should make sure we’re not just asking for feedback and not acting upon it.
   1. Part of this proposal is to increase the amount of projects we do that are meaningful to the student body.

Feedback: We should manage expectations about the survey. Communications Committee can help with framing of the survey.
i. Feedback: Perhaps after we have done these projects, we can put out a statement saying: “Hey, a year ago, you said this! We got this done!” This will show the student body we care about their opinion.

j. Feedback: This is great for accountability.

k. Feedback: Perhaps you could collaborate with class government e-mails so that the class president could send out the information in an e-mail along with class government information. People tend to have a saturation limit with e-mails from USG. Class government e-mails also have a lot more engagement since they are usually about study breaks and giveaways.

   i. The idea behind this proposal is that people feel more comfortable directly reaching out to senators.

l. Feedback: This is a nice accountability loop between senators and the class. Does the survey we send out to the student body about projects include class year? A lot of surveys in USG e-mails get hidden.

8. Calendar Reform Resolution: Olivia Ott (10 minutes)
   a. Thank you to those that sent in individual questions.
   b. Of the students that responded to the survey, 70% said they were in favor of this new calendar.
   c. One concern is that the new final exam period might be a larger stress on students that tend to have a higher number of exams. There are two recommendations that the committee on calendar reform will make:
      i. They will recommend that end of term work should be re-evaluated. This will hopefully help deal with the consequences of having a condensed exam period.
      ii. The policy around extensions of end-of-term work will also be recommended for review as well.

   d. Voting (Approval of Calendar Reform Resolution)
      i. Yes: 19
      ii. Abstain: 0
      iii. No: 0

9. Office Hours/Coffee Chat Proposal: Kade McCorvy (10 minutes)
   a. We want to make the USG Office more accessible.
   b. The Senate will book two hours of the USG Office on Sundays. One member of the U-Council, Class Senators, and ExComm will be present. We have at least $100 dedicated to buying food for people to enjoy while visiting the USG office.
   c. We will have an informal attendance sheet.
   d. We would analyze results, and then we would decide upon reinstatement for the fall term.
Feedback: There are so many office hours event that people will not show up. The intention behind this is great, but perhaps we should consider having USG members go to dining halls. The idea about having a U-Council, Senator and ExComm member is great. The ICC is also on board with having office hours in all of the eating clubs as well.

i. The USG Office is a great place to have a consistent place where you can know you can come.

ii. Also, independent students would not have access to conversations with USG members.

Feedback: Last spring, we did Coffee and Tea with USG, and we had bubble tea in Frist. Because there was a table in Frist, many people came with advice. Most of the advice was rather shallow. This is why holding this in the USG office ight be a good idea. Perhaps we could incentivize by changing the food weekly.

Feedback: Perhaps we should be conscious about repurposing the USG office. Many student groups feel that they can use the office to meet, and sometimes, USG can’t meet itself.

Feedback: ODUS has a service called Big Ideas at Small World. People can go to Small World with an idea as a monthly event, and this helps students bring ideas with intention.

Feedback: Perhaps this should be us sitting there and working and hanging out, so people feel comfortable to just hang out and spend time with us.

Feedback: Maybe we could offer the USG office as a nice place to study during, for example, reading period. This creates a better long-term relationship with the students that allows us to have a more vibrant, welcoming space.

10. MHI Video Project: Josh Gardner and Casey Kemper (5 minutes)

a. Casey and Josh recently met with Dr. Chin. Something that they discussed is that CPS wait times have decreased significantly, and they have secured funding for a trail satellite office in Mathey.

b. He had independent consultants come in from the JED foundation, and they have provided him a list of suggestions he is actively working to implement.

c. One of the biggest issues that CPS is facing is that there is an overwhelming fear about taking a gap year due to mental health issues.

d. CPS has had a policy change in that if your courses are permitting, you can take a semester off instead of a gap year due to mental health.

e. MHI is requesting help from USG about reaching out to people who would be involved in a video project they are planning. They are working on finding people who they can interview.

f. The video will be about anything mental health related.

g. Feedback: It would be great if the MHI published a piece about the policy change.
h. You can seek therapy off campus, and it is well covered by University’s health policy. There is also additional funding from the University that people do not know about.

i. Question: Is there emergency funding available for low income students?
   i. SHARE resources cover funding for any students of any background.

j. Question: Are you considering coupling your video initiative with a small blurb about these new facts and improvements so they can come together?

k. Feedback: A publication would a great way for MHI to send out information.

Consent Agenda (APPROVED)

Diversity and Equity Committee

1. Matthew Ramirez-2019:
   a. My name is Matt Ramirez, Class of 2019, Southern California born and raised. I’m an EEB major interested in Environmental Policy, and an elected officer of the Colonial Club. I look forward to serving on the Diversity & Equity Committee so that I can contribute to our inclusive campus culture, that has long been so welcoming to me.

2. Nivida Thomas-2020:
   a. Hi everyone! My name is Nivida Thomas and I am a sophomore from Seattle, WA. I am involved with the CONTACT Suicide Hotline, Princeton Bhangra, and WPRB News and Culture team. I look forward to getting to know you all as we work towards a more inclusive and diverse campus!

3. Hyojin Lee- 2020:
   a. My name is Hyojin (my email name is Joyce, which can be confusing). It's pronounced "YO" like the greeting and "jin" like the drink. I'm a sophomore from New Jersey. I'm looking forward to exposing people to unfamiliar other people -- and in the end, hopefully, encouraging people to make new kinds of friends.

4. Andy Zheng-2020:
   a. I’m Andy class of ’20 studying in WWS. The last place I lived was in Chesapeake, Virginia. I’m most excited in being part of USG and hopefully making this campus more welcoming to different identities.

5. Wendy Ho-2021:
   a. Wendy is student from Dallas, TX in the class of 2021. On campus, she is involved with the Club Climbing team, HackPrinceton, and Theatre Intime. She is most looking forward to helping to continue the campus conversation about diversity and inclusivity beyond just freshman orientation week.