University of Chicago Student Government

**Graduate Council**

09 February 2015

Stuart 104

6:00-7:30 pm

Attendance (**Bold** = absent, (L) = late)

|  |  |
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| Anthony Martinez | Graduate Council Chair |
| **Erin McCauley** | Graduate Council Vice-Chair |
| **April Chao** | GC Representative - Booth |
| **Paritosh Kumar** | GC Representative - Booth |
| **Haley Stinnett** | GC Representative - BSD |
| **Noelle Patno** | GC Representative - BSD |
| Aneesha Suresh | GC Representative - BSD  |
| Janae Gurley | GC Representative - Divinity |
| Elliott Balch | GC Representative - Harris |
| Laura Lee Burks | GC Representative - Harris |
| Hunter Vance | GC Representative - Law |
| Lisa Fan | GC Representative - Law |
| **Alyssa Weiner** | GC Representative - Pritzker |
| Caroline Meehan | GC Representative - Pritzker |
| **Hannah Roth** | GC Representative - Pritzker |
| Casey Anthony | GC Representative - SSA |
| **Julia Tier** | GC Representative - SSA |
| Levke Koop | GC Representative |
| Siddharth Venkatesh | GC Representative - Booth |
| Pavel Elkin | Proxy for PSD |
|  | GC Representative - PSD |
| Katie Schumacher | Graduate Liaison to the Board of Trustees |

Other students in attendance: Kevin Shi – IOP

 Stephanie Chiri – SSA

 Emma Epstein – SSA

 Eric Jaffe – Law School Musical

 Kara Ingelhart – Law School Musical

Meeting called to order, 6:10

**Announcements**

* Last meeting is coming up in two weeks (2/23)
* This Thursday the provost will be coming to the assembly meeting (2/12)
* PhD Comics is coming on Feb 18th at 6pm

**Funding Requests**

* SSA – Emma Epstein
	+ Asking GC to sponsor an event for a stand up comedian, Hari Kondablo, in April
	+ His humor is anti-racist comedy, brings light to discrimination and difficult situations through humor to put a microscope on these situations and create a safe space to address situations and empower those in it
	+ Who will benefit: students of color and all those who feel discrimination, also all students who may be secondary to these occurrences
	+ After comedy show there will be a co-facilitated dialogue with Hari and a campus rep
		- Will work with OMSA to create questions
		- Will also have a survey to learn what new events to do moving forward
	+ What they need: $4994-6,238 (Range is if they get no more stipends to if they get AMARMARK Dining Fund and other allocated funds)
	+ Requesting $3,000 from GC
	+ Received: $2500 from OMSA dialogue fund and $1000 from OMSA Allocation Board
	+ The event will be free, but you must have a UChicago ID
	+ Hoping to make it a global voices event to have a free space and save money
* Graduate Students United - Joya John – Ferguson and its Afterlives
	+ GSU made in 2007, works with graduate students allowing them to have a say in the conditions as employees as TA’s and teachers on campus
	+ Working on a event to help them build a relationship with the community
	+ Date February 10th 4-6:30
	+ Vincente Perez will start off the event by talking
	+ Other groups participating in or helping with the event: Brianna Tong from Coalition for Equitable Policing;Students for Health Equity are cosponsoring; Page May, We Change Genocide; Susan Gzesh, Chicago Torture Justice Memorials**;** Shirian D. National student for Justice in Palestine**;** JR Fleming and Shirley Henderson, Chicago Anti-Eviction campaign**;** Graduate employees organization, UIC**;** Students organizing united with labor**;** GSU
	+ Budget: $600 for Honoraria and $100 for participants
		- Saving money by making homemade food
		- Using Honoraria costs to cover any costs the speakers may incur including making a small donation to their groups
* Law - Kara Ingelhart – Law School Musical
	+ Student written musical that satirizes UChicago Law school experience, put on in late winter quarter
	+ This year they are lowering costs for other schools to encourage outside attendance
	+ Budget: $10,400 ($7500 I-House, $1500 Food, $1200 Alcohol, $200 Props)
		- Will be cosponsored by I-House for cheaper room and will bring in groups to sell food to lower food cost
		- Received $1800 from LSA, predict $4500 in ticket sales, $1000 from Dean of Students, $150 from Wine Mess Committee
		- Last year GC gave $750 in funding 🡪 actually two years ago
	+ Requesting $1,700 in funding this year
		- Want to make up for the decrease in LSA funding
	+ Worked with BAR review companies to solicit for food and other funding, haven’t solicited other campus groups
* Discussion
	+ SSA – Requesting $3000
		- Maybe we should just fill in the gap after other funding
		- Motion to fund up to $2,788 pending other sources
			* In favor: 12
			* Opposed: 0
			* Abstaining: 0
	+ GSU – Requesting $700
		- Motion to fund GSU event in full
			* In favor: 12
			* Opposed: 0
			* Abstaining: 0
	+ Law – Requesting $1700
		- Did not fund them last year
		- Haven’t funded a lot of law organizations this year (only $500) so they don’t often tap into the student activities fee
		- They cannot receive SGFC funding due to contract with I-House
		- Doubts about the costs of the I-House cost – high costs from microphones and multiple days, maybe this should have been reduced
		- Might want to earmark what the funds are for, like it must be used for space and not for alcohol which is very doable
		- LSA got less money for the law school, which is creating this shortage
		- Don’t want to fund such a division specific event, but at the same time almost all events are innately division specific without being so obvious
		- Motion to fund at $1700
			* In favor: 5
			* Opposed: 4
			* Abstaining: 2
			* **Motion fails**
		- Motion to fund at $1500
			* In favor: 4
			* Opposed: 4
			* Abstaining: 4
			* **Motion fails**
		- Motion for $750
			* In favor: 6
			* Opposed: 2
			* Abstaining: 4
			* **Motion passes**

**Institute Of Politics – Kevin Shi**

* David Axelrod wants to expand what it means to be IOP
* New committee: want to reach out to more bodies on campus
* About IOP
	+ Fellows program – practitioners come in and talk once a week, 5 fellows every quarter, small off the record discussions where people talk about various topics
	+ Speaker series – more like one time events, bringing in guest speakers with people to discuss topics
	+ Civic engagements – ways for students to get involved, including internships
* Ways to get involved
	+ Fellow Ambassador: act as liaisons to fellow
	+ Being on advanced team: help out with events, work with speakers, take pictures
	+ Specific events groups: ex. Chicago style
	+ International policy program: help put on events about international policy, 6 grad students and 6 undergrad students
	+ Career Opportunities: do treks to other cities open to all students to give them exposure, IOP sponsored internships ($4000 stipend domestic and $5000 international), can even bring in a personal unfunded internship to get stipends
	+ Speaker series proposal system: accepted 5 this quarter to fund some are IOP events and some are just on campus related to policy or politics
	+ IOP has a living room with up to 50 people that they can offer out and can provide funding for events brought to them related to policy and politics
* Please pass along this information to your constituents and let them know about these things and make sure to get involved yourself

**Social Committee Report Back**

* Casey, Lisa, a Booth student, and a Law student went
* Timing of social events: pushing pub socials back to end at 7:00 and start off year with a mix and mingle theme at the first of October to increase interdepartmental interaction
* Marketing of Social Events: hoping to ask Deans to advertise GC events at graduate leaders conference
	+ Want to start making Facebook event invites to increase awareness
	+ Give out prizes to encourage people, ex. Person with the most hashtags gets a hat
* Greater connection between departments
	+ Speed dating among schools maybe?
	+ Need to make sure there are events that aren’t alcohol related to encourage different groups and make them culturally diverse
* Restructuring recruitment of committees
	+ Build culture early on when momentum is still high
* Next social committee meeting next Friday (2/20) people are more than welcome to come, email Darren

**Additional Report Backs**

* Interdivisional Government Conference
	+ Alumni Relations Department looking for a speaker in Chicago, but we can also fundraise to bring someone from outside
	+ Uncommon fund application submitted to get funding
	+ Will need to get additional funding, maybe also include a leadership component to get Leadership funding
	+ Booth, Divinity, still aren’t on the list so reaching out to DoS would be appreciated – get them to start thinking of what their students want addressed
	+ Still looking for space
* International Student Support
	+ Have a survey for undergrads to know how their experience differs
	+ With café careers: pair international undergrads with international graduate students to let them know what it is like
	+ Let Anthony know if you want to get involved

**Concluding Remarks**

* Travel funding: don’t necessarily have not be presenters, can be posters, some divisions aren’t necessarily speakers, still don’t fund like I want to go and network, will fund travel to do thesis research
	+ So far have 16 applications for this quarter for travel after this quarter
	+ Not just one division, seeing a mix from all over the university
* Referendum goes out tomorrow (2/10) about UPass
* Pub social at 4-6pm on the 12th
* PhD Comics on the 18th – free

Meeting adjourned, 7:30 pm