University of Chicago Student Government

**Graduate Council**

09 February 2015

Stuart 104

6:00-7:30 pm

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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