University of Chicago Student Government

**Graduate Council**

06 April 2015

Booth C07

6:00-7:30 pm

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

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| Anthony Martinez | Graduate Council Chair |
| **Tyler Kissinger** | Student Government President |
| **Erin McCauley** | Graduate Council Vice-Chair |
| **April Chao** | GC Representative - Booth |
| **Paritosh Kumar** | GC Representative - Booth |
| Katie Perri | 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 |
| Hannah Rosenblatt | GC Representative - SSA |
| Gabriel Velez | GC Representative - SSD |
| **Levke Koop** | GC Representative |
| **Siddharth Venkatesh** | GC Representative - Booth |
| **Katie Schumacher** | Graduate Liaison to the Board of Trustees |

Meeting called to order, 6:10

**Opening remarks/getting settled**

* Pub social on Thursday 4-6pm
* Party in the Sky on May 2nd
  + Sold out in two days (sold 300 tickets)
  + Waitlist is over 200 long
* Interdivisional conference on May 9th

**Funding Requests**

* Center for Middle Eastern Studies
  + Exploring the gulf cooperation council on April 11, 2015
    - 9 panelists coming from 3 states
    - Want to bring together scholars from all over the country to discuss issues
      * Ethnicity, Identity, and the Development of Nationalism
      * Contemporary Politics and Society
      * Political Economy, Energy, and the Question of Hydrocarbons
  + Requesting $2000
  + Have already raised about $10,000 so far and just need this bit more
  + Dinner that they need funding for will only be the speakers and no grad students
  + Conference is free and open to everyone
    - Hoping 80+ attendees
  + Discussion
    - Haley: worried about how much graduate students will get from this since it is kind of last minute, seems like the budget doesn’t line up
    - Laura Lee: Haven’t heard of this and Harris is sponsoring it
    - Caroline: event seems pretty organized
    - Hunter: if we aren’t going to spend the money on anything else this seems a good use
    - Motion to fund in full
      * In favor: 10
      * **Motion passes**
* REMEDY – Sean McGuire
  + Remedy is an umbrella organization that Pritzker students partner with that works to decrease global health disparities – supply a clinic that does cervical screening, treatment, and HPV vaccines with funding and volunteers in Cusco, Peru
  + Shooting to provide the clinic with $8,500
  + Speed dating event
    - Everyone that signs up gets 20 3-minute dates
    - Current have 150 people signed up
  + Requesting funding $2,177.39 – the less they spend on this the more they can give to the clinic in Peru
    - Food, 2 drinks, space, and decorations
  + Also please help promote this in your schools
  + Discussion
    - Anthony: funded them last year, pretty easy to fund
    - Hunter: went last year, was a lot of fun, always well organized and put together, pretty good mix of divisions
    - Motion to fund in full
      * In favor: 11
      * **Motion passes**
* Pint of Science
  + May 18-20, 2015
  + International festival held across the world – Chicago has been participating since last year
  + Hoping to expand the event – 3 nights with 3 venues with 18-27 speakers
    - 50% UChicago faculty from various backgrounds and speakers from other universities and museums in Chicago
    - Expecting 75 attendees per night based off last year (~15-20 UChiago students per night)
    - Venues will be Beer Bistro (Lincoln Park area), Prairie Moon (Evanston), and third location in downtown 🡪 will nail down once have idea of funding
  + Trying to make science more accessible to everyone – researchers come to local pubs and bars and give short 20 minute textile talks
  + Partnering with UChicago Biotech group
  + Requesting $2000
    - For promotional items for attendees and speakers
    - For food to match the booze that will be at event
    - Will be charging $5 per ticket – expect $2200 from ticket sales
    - Would like slightly more than $2000 from GC ($2450 – if tickets sell as expected)
    - Looking at other sources for funding
    - If grad council provides funding will waive ticket fees for UChicago graduate students
    - Will promote GC and UChicago well to support an event like this
    - 12/20 organizers from this initiative are UChicago graduate students
  + Discussion
    - Anthony: wish that there was an event closer to campus, maybe give partial funding and suggest that one event is closer to campus, can give them some seed money to help them and if they plan closer to home then they can come back and get more money
    - Haley: had it last year without GC funding, so can do it again if we don’t help
    - Elliot: pub wouldn’t work because they don’t like to have these kinds of organized events but there are other options in Hyde Park
    - Motion to fund at $500 and
      * In favor: 11
* Latin@ Student Association
  + Made of students connected by working in the Latino community and spread advocacy, awareness, and information – brand new student organization in SSA
  + Launching an initiative to eliminate the word illegal from SSA
  + Human not illegal – April 17, 2015
    - Bringing in an SSA alumni who currently teaches at Harvard’s School of Education
    - Done a lot of work on what documentation means
    - Also have a panel made of three people that work with advocacy and are experts in this issues associated with documentation
    - Have 102 people signed up for the event already and expecting a few more
  + Previously requested $400 from SGA, but that was for only 50 people – now expect closer to 150 so need more money to support the higher attendance
  + Requesting $1000
    - Money for food
    - Funding for panelists
  + Motion to fund in full
    - In favor: 11
    - **Motion passes**
* Student parent writing group
  + Requesting $180 to dig themselves out of a deficit they spent themselves into last year
  + Motion to fund in full
    - In favor: 11
    - **Motion passes**
* GCTF late submissions
  + Anthony: don’t see a reason to make an exception and there is not much left over in the budget as of now
  + 4-5 students all from one program: $2500
  + Haley: already funded a lot of people in the winter quarter and there was a deadline that they missed
  + Precedent already set where other submissions were rejected after the deadline
  + Katie: suggest they reapply in the next quarter
* GCTF funding transfer
  + Transfer funds from events fund to travel fund
  + People from all over campus are really tapping into this funding
  + Motion to transfer $3000
    - In favor: 11
    - **Motion passes**

**Elections, continuity, and next year**

* Election vs. Appointments
  + Instead of having divisions appoint GC members have some kind of campaigning and have students in your division vote on it
  + Appointments varies in different groups
  + Lisa: don’t think elections will work
  + Anthony: some people don’t want their divisions to know they are participating in these types of things
  + If you are planning on staying on the council then that is great because continuity really helps
  + If you don’t want to stay on, please find your replacement (or tell Anthony if you can’t find a replacement) and bring them so they can’t start learning about the group
* Leadership
  + Anthony will not be returning as chair so we need new leadership
  + Talk to Anthony if you are interested
* September retreat
  + To set the stage for the new council
  + Form a team and getting people to meet each other
  + September 18-19
  + Going to be a great time and have some critical conversations about how to build the culture of grad council
  + Would be great if you could firm up your availability in May

Meeting adjourned, 7:00 pm