

Grad Council meeting  
1/27/20

## Representative Reports

### BSD

- Mental health initiative
  - Making resources more available to students
  - Working with GRIT to organize more mental health check-ins
- Increasing cultural diversity of events
  - Focusing on more events tailored to international students
  - Working with DC to plan events

### Booth

- Communicating resources that are available to students
- Promoted travel fund, professional fund, and cultural wellness fund among booth students
- If you feel like there is an underrepresentation of Booth students, reach out to the representatives

### Divinity

- The DSA has begun to offer "Let's Talk Hours" in our newly converted office space in the bottom of Swift Hall. The space has been updated in order to provide a relaxing area where students can meet with a counselor. The Let's Talk Hours are completely anonymous and are there to provide students a space to meet with a professional counselor to talk about anything they would like to.
- We're still waiting for more feedback but the reviews so far have been good! In addition, we'll be planning a DSA wide town hall, to take place at some point this quarter. Date TBD.

### Graham

- Part-time students/have children
  - Need for accommodations for classes and events
  - Figuring out how to make those accommodations

### Harris

- Last Friday, shut down heat supply line
- Spring Career Trek
  - Traveling to DC, NYC, and Chicago
  - Many applications for travel fund coming up

- HSG meeting with Chinese Student and Scholar Association
  - How to deal with rumors about coronavirus
  - Dean of students, VP of HSG, and put out an official announcement about the situation right now to help calm students down

## Humanities

- Humanities Dean of Students advisory meeting
  - Wanted representative from Campus and Student Life to be there to answer questions about the student life fee (renamed graduate student services fee), but this was not possible due to unavailability
  - Sending Dean of Students a list of questions to be answered by the CSL representative for the next meeting
  - If anyone has an idea for more specific questions, reach out to representatives
  - Some questions:
    - What proportion of students pay the fee quarter/waive the fee
    - What are the factors that go into the yearly increase of the fee
    - Quarterly stipend, and then have to pay the fee; is there an advantage to this structure?

## Law

- No one present

## PME

- Increasing mental health awareness
- Increasing diversity and inclusion
  - Hiring 5 new faculty members

## Pritzker

- Recent security breach
  - student banned from campus was still attending class
  - student was eventually removed (after 3 weeks)
- Looking to create new study spaces (BSLC is too crowded)
- Formal on Saturday (February 1st) at Harold Washington Library
- 1st year leadership event and talent show on Friday (January 31st) from 8am - 5pm

## PSD

- New members (welcome to Grad Council)!

## SSA

- SGA is working on creating a relaxation place for students

## SSD

- Meeting with the Dean of Students
  - Create a document to outline funding sources available to students
- Rumor about a student having coronavirus
  - Working on a list of precautions that the University and SHS can take to mitigate fears

## Social Map App (Spott) for students

- Tagline: Find the hottest places and events on your campus and in your city, instantly
- Connect with students around you
- Location services only turn on when you open the map
- You can see where your close friends are
- <http://www.spott.live/>
- For more information, email [dadeosun@uchicago.edu](mailto:dadeosun@uchicago.edu)

## Executive Team Updates

- **VP of Finance**
  - no updates
- **Academic and Professional Fund**
  - reviewing applications
- **Social, Culture, and Wellness Fund**
  - report of the events that have been funded
- **VP of Travel**
  - No updates
- **VP of Community**
  - Maddy will send out a poll on events tomorrow
- **Diversity Chair**
  - No updates
- **VP of Marketing and Communications**
  - Documentation on housing
  - Running surveys for feedback on the housing documentation
- **VP of Social Events and Programming**
  - Pub Social (438 people attended)
  - Rock Bottom (sending out ticket sale page soon)

## Updates from the floor

- Graduate student center is still on schedule to open by the end of the quarter!
- Want to hire a staff member to help manage the center (talk to Justin if you want more information)
- **SG Assembly meeting on February 12th at 6pm (Booth C-08)**
  - Email resolutions to [jahnekbrown@gmail.com](mailto:jahnekbrown@gmail.com) by next Monday (2/3)

New provost (Ka Ya Lee)

Michele Rasmussen (Dean of Students)

- Rohail met with Dean Rasmussen to discuss working relationship with the new provost
- Grad council is going to meet new provost
- Looking for new Chief of Staff for President Zimmer
  - Students might be involved
- Office of Institutional Research
  - Talking about the future of joint degrees at the University of Chicago
  - Sharing information in report form
- Funding burdens for specific schools
  - We will track the amount of schools getting Grad Council money
    - This will help us figure out how to best allocate funds from the fee