Meeting Minutes: Fri, April 9th, 2010 @ 5:30 PM, 1930’s Room in Rockefeller Center
(Attendance: Exec Board = 10, Dept Reps = 17, Non-Voting Reps = 2, Guests = 1)

WELCOME (Lola T. for Tina C.): guests please check in with Li C.
- March 2nd, 2010 minutes approved (yay : nay : abstention = 26 : 0 : 1)

OPEN FORUM
- Grad student space (Tina C., Michael H. & Thomas K.)
  The 1953 Commons will not be built. Instead, the Thayer building will be renovated. Space (1250 sq feet) and money ($500,000) have been set aside for grad students for the renovation. However, the school needs to be sure the space will be appreciated and well-utilized by grads before they grant us the space and money. The school would also like to receive a priority list of what is important for us for the space. We are asking for ideas of what you would like to see done with the space. Some suggestions for the functions of the space are:
  - GSC meetings (would need a projector and screen)
  - Social events and parties
  - Workshops
  - GSC-student recognized group events

Some questions / concerns about the space are:
- Alcohol policy
- Noise concerns (would like sound-attenuating walls)

The school plans to finish the renovation by winter of 2011. They set no deadline for our response but noted that the sooner the better. If you have any ideas / suggestions or would like to take part in a discussion meeting concerning the space, e-mail GSC!!!

OLD BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS
- GSC Recognition Groups (Lola T.):
  - Seeding Lab group approved (yay : nay : abstention = 27 : 0 : 0)
    Seek recognition for publicity. Also, need school recognition to let Seeding Labs know that we are serious about this.
  - Theater-On-The-Walk to be shelved until after the first event (yay : nay : abstention = 18 : 7 : 2)
    Reason: The council would like to see a group established before GSC-recognition is sought. Thus, this will be shelved until after the first event to see evidence that a group can be formed.

- It was noted that requiring grads composing a minimum of 75% of a group may not be plausible for a large student organization. It was thus suggested to decrease the threshold for large student organization.

- Funding Requests (Nimit D.)
  - Dance for a Dream approved (yay : nay : abstention = 27 : 0 : 0)
  - Love Themed March approved for $150 (yay : nay : abstention = 22 : 2 : 3)
    - Note: Exec board has already fast-tracked $250 for the event.
It was suggested that Fast Track items received close to and prior to the GSC meeting should be brought to the council for transparency.

UPDATES & REVIEWS

LANDERS REPORT (Kerry L.)

PRESIDENT REPORT (Lola T. for Tina C.)
- Exec board elections in May
- Grad student appreciation went well.
  - Congrats to Tina C. and Brad D. for winning the A&S Graduate Community Award!
  - It was suggested that we send out a letter of appreciation to Kerry and Brian.

VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT (James H. & Lola T.)
- Café North ready for use. Grad students can reserve the space after 5:30 pm.
- Have any particular concerns / ideas about improving blitz mail? E-mail James.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Nimit D.)
- Finance Snapshot for March 2010
  It was suggested that finance report be shown before presentations of funding requests.
- Review of student-based activities budget
  Even though we have approved $4800, not everyone has used in full the money requested. Currently, we actually still have about $2500 left in student-based activities. It was suggested that we include in our bylaws a deadline for reimbursements of approved funding request. It was also suggested that the finance chair should serve as an oversight of the papers and receipts submitted to Kerry.

ACTIVITIES REPORT (Katie K. & Jeremy H.)
- Brewfest (Sunday, April 18)

GSAC REPORT (Thomas Kilgore)
- Bowling night and book club went well.
- GSC Gazeteer. Any suggestions or comments? E-mail Thomas.
  So far, positive feedbacks about the GSC Gazeteer – feels like it is just for us and helps us feel like we are part of the community! Overall, people do not think the e-mail is too long and feel it is better than getting 50 separate e-mails. Thomas is in need of five or more people to be the grad of the week from GSC. Please e-mail Thomas if you are interested or would like to nominate someone!

NORTH PARK REPORT (Michael H.)
- Grad appreciation week: north park is having a party tonight!

STUDENT LIFE REPORT (Casey M.)

ACADEMICS REPORT (Lilian K.)
- Conference Travel Grant awarded to four people ($100 each).
  Next meeting will be in November. It was suggested to include in the bylaws that if it is a group, the main author should be specified. This would help facilitate the decision-making process.

COMMITTEE REPORT
A. NAGPS (James H.)
B. HOP SAC (Li C. & Aarathi P.)
C. Council on Computing (Jeremy H.)
D. Council on Libraries (Casey M.)
E. GSC Partners (Craig W. & Emily O.)

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned @ 7:00 PM