



**Undergraduate Student Government**  
204 Frist Campus Center  
Princeton, NJ 08544  
<http://usg.princeton.edu>

## **USG Senate Spring 2015 Projects**

Mission & Vision | Ella Cheng

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*“To lead is to serve.”*

### **The Three “R”s**

#### **RELEVANT**

Read the pulse of the student body  
Communications Overhaul, starting with a new website

#### **REPRESENTATIVE**

Connect with your constituents, collaborators and student groups  
Represent your topic area or issue (committees)  
Reinforcing accountability among members

#### **RESPONSIVE**

Following up on reports, research, outreach  
Pushing for answers and accountability



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## **USG Senate Spring 2015 Projects**

Senate Projects | Ella Cheng & Aleksandra Czulak

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*President: Ella Cheng (ellac@)*

*Vice President: Aleksandra Czulak (aczulak@)*

### **Bike Safety, Repairs and Rentals**

- This project is a long-term project that will explore bike safety, collaboration with Public Safety, covered bike racks, and bike rentals.

### **Department Writing Seminars**

- Freshmen students must take a writing seminar; however, most departments have their own style of academic writing. This project team will explore options for students in academic departments to learn more about the type of writing in their department (scientific papers, policy papers, etc.).

### **Eating Club Accessibility Follow-Up**

- The Eating Club Accessibility Report was a project proposed in Fall 2014. The report is currently being compiled. This project will follow-up on recommendations from the report and an Eating Club Accessibility Town hall (held in November 2014).

### **Extended Hours of Campus Study Spaces**

- This project will look into 24 hour library and study space options, publicizing, and working with stakeholders to extend hours for students.

### **Extended Leave Report Follow-Up**

- The Extended Leave Report was completed in Spring 2014 with recommendations to enhance the experiences of students who take time away from Princeton. This project team will follow-up on these recommendations and make changes and updates available to students.

### **Low-Income Student Resources**

- This project will work with students and administrators for resources to help support low-income students.

### **OIT Timeline: An All-Purpose Calendar App**

- OIT is currently working on a student events calendar with the USG Senate. This project team will work closely with OIT to make the calendar user-friendly and accessible to students.

### **Princeton 2019: Resource for Pre-Frosh**

- This project team will collaborate with the Princeton Office of Admission, manage the Facebook group for incoming students, and set-up a website that provides incoming students with useful information about Princeton.

### **Princeton Public Works: Promoting the Arts on Campus**

- This is an ongoing Senate project, which aims to create more spaces to display student art and engage student artists with the Princeton University community.

### **Real World Princeton: Classes on Real World Skills**

- This project will work with students and offices on campus to have more resources and classes on practical life skills such as filing taxes, finding an apartment, etc.



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### **Staff Appreciation Event**

- This project will explore a future campus wide staff appreciation event in collaboration with other offices on campus.

### **Stephens Center Side Door Project**

- This project team will explore the potential of greater accessibility to the Stephens Fitness Center through the side doors.

### ***Still to Come...***

#### **Food/Dining Ideas**

- Ella is exploring a comprehensive list of food-related ideas, from Dining (dining halls) to Retail (late meal), in collaboration with the Executive Director of Campus Dining, Smitha Haneef.
- Projects with potential, traction and student support will eventually become Senate projects.

#### **Green Initiatives**

- Supporting the work of the various green and sustainability groups on campus.

#### **Hallway Bathroom Locks**

- Focus group and new survey



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## **USG Senate Spring 2015 Projects**

### **Committee Project Priorities**

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**Note:** Committees can and often add or alter projects as the semester progresses. Feel welcome to e-mail the chairs with your ideas!

### **ACADEMICS**

*Chair: Ramie Fathy (rfathy@)*

- 1) Addressing the Exam/Break Schedule**
  - Winter Break Referendum – Changing the winter break schedule
  - Finals schedule/major reform
- 2) Following up on Grade Deflation**
  - Investigation of how departments, courses and professors actually implemented the end of grade deflation, and if any further changes should be made
- 3) Implement the Academic Exploration event**
  - An event which would connect students more closely with Peer Academic Advisors in order to better explore majors
- 4) Increasing input from student body**
- 5) Reviewing P/D/F Policy**
  - Investigating the possibility of a more flexible P/D/F timeline/deadline

### **CAMPUS & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (CCA)**

*Chair: Andrew Sun (ays@)*

- 1) Communiiversity**
  - Annual festival and street fair which brings the University and town of Princeton together for performances, food and games
- 2) Restaurant Week**
  - More collaborations and better prices
- 3) Tiger Deals/Discounts**
  - Student discounts at local stores on a weekly, monthly or long-term basis
- 4) Collaborations with others for NYC/Philly trips**
  - Facilitating more trips for students to go to New York and Philadelphia
- 5) More To Be Announced!**

### **DIVERSITY & EQUITY**

*Chair: TBA*

In the process of recruitment. **Apply to the committee [here!](#)**



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## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

*Chairs: Akash Levy (akashl@) & Zachary Liu (zslui@)*

- 1) Investigate ways for students to be able to **share their ideas and feedback with USG**
- 2) **Launch a wiki through TigerApps** for students to share information and tips about academic requirements and campus life
- 3) **Work closely with OIT** to prioritize new schoolwide apps and updates to existing apps
- 4) **Evaluate old TigerApps** and determine how best to move forward with these apps
- 5) **Expand TigerApps recruitment and support to encourage student app submissions**

## **MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE BOARD**

*Chairs: Naimah Hakim (nhakim@) & Amalya Megerman (amalyam@)*

- 1) **Policy:**
  - Follow up with the Administration on the efficacy and implementation of recent Mental Health Policy additions such as the new leave of absence FAQs.
  - Discuss the resources accessible to RCAs who may interact with students considering a gap year.
  - More to Be Announced!
- 2) **Programming:**
  - Increase the visibility of student-led groups and initiatives related to mental health such as: Student Health Advisory Board, Peer Health Advisors, Princeton's chapter of To Write Love on Her Arms, and Gap Year Network.
  - Advertise opportunities for students to enhance their understanding of support strategies such as friend-response trainings with CPS Director Dr. Calvin Chin.
  - Facilitate collaborative events and programs that inspire student groups to work with one another as well as with campus centers.
  - Launch a successful **Mental Health Week** that builds off the work generated over the past 3 years.
  - More to Be Announced!



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## PRINCETON PERSPECTIVE PROJECT

*Chair: Mary Manning (maryhm@)*

### 1) **The Princeton Perspective Project's Student Speaker Summit**

- This event will be held on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-4pm and is designed to create a place for students to share their stories, seek inspiration to fuel future stories, and continue exploring these dialogues regarding difficult issues on campus. There will be a presentation from multiple students in the form of anonymous story sharing, in addition to break-out groups to provide attendees with a time to reflect on the presentation as well as broach new subjects such as effortless perfection, social and academic stress, and other topics about which people wish to talk.

### 2) **Focus Groups**

- We are planning to have regular, more intimate events in the near future to spark conversations about particular topics PPP hopes to address this year. The primary goal of one of our first focus groups will likely be to collect information from students regarding reactions to PPP's work during its first semester.

### 3) **Stories**

- The fundamental component of PPP is the collection of stories. We hope that our events this semester will insight more students to submit stories and keep them reminded of the fact that these submissions can come in nearly any form. Ideally, we will continue to increase the variety of submissions we have on the PPP site ([perspective.princeton.edu](http://perspective.princeton.edu)). We would love to see more poems, photos, songs, dances, written pieces, visual artwork, as well as more video testimonials.

## SOCIAL

*Chair: Simon Wu (simonw@)*

### 1) **Lawnparties**

- Brunch, available to all students
- Student Act before opener
- Publicity Campaign

### 2) **Buses to Art Museums / Concerts / NY**

- Opportunities for students to go to cities and cultural centers near Princeton to visit museums, attend concerts, etc.

### 3) **Artist Musician Speaker Series**

- Have musicians, producers and artists come to campus to speak with students

### 4) **Howl Record Break**

- Breaking a World Guinness Record at Holder Howl

### 5) **More tickets for Passport to the Arts**

- Explore the possibility of increasing the number of Passport to the Arts tickets (especially Students Events eligible tickets) students receive to attend performances for free

### 6) **Spring Dean's Date**



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## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE

*Chair: Kathy Chow (kchow@)*

### 1) **Late Meal Report**

- Compile a report of suggestions for changes to the Late Meal Policy to be submitted to Smitha Haneef, Executive Director of Campus Dining.

### 2) **Food Requests**

- Design a survey to identify the top 5 most desirable food items that the student body want and present them to Smitha Haneef, Executive Director of Campus Dining.

### 3) **Review and Improvement of Centers**

- Collaborate with the administration to enforce improvements of the Women's Center, Fields Center and the LGBT Center.

### 4) **Increasing Common Spaces**

- Evaluate the current situation with common spaces in residential colleges and propose restructuring the use of spaces in residential colleges to increase communal spaces

### 5) **Club Sports Funding**

- Evaluate the financial need of various club sports and summarize them into a report.

### 6) **Reviewing Lock-Out Policy**

- Compile student opinion of the current lock-out policy, provide policy change suggestions to Public Safety/Housing in the form of a report.

### 7) **Increasing Access to Group Fitness Classes**

- Collaborate with residential colleges to make punch cards for group fitness classes more accessible to students (especially low-income students).

### 8) **Low Income Students Assistance**

- Work to create services that assist low income students, such as coat drives and textbook drives.

### 9) **Eating Disorder Awareness**

- Collaborate with UHS to create videos that answer the most pressing questions students have regarding eating disorders/nutrition. Work toward a bigger campus-wide campaign to raise awareness about eating disorders and/or promote healthy ideas of body image.

### 10) **Athlete Nutrition Awareness**

- Collaborate with UHS and Princeton Athletics to establish mandatory nutrition awareness programs for every varsity sports team.

### 11) **Grocery Delivery Project**

- Design a better program for grocery delivery that builds on existing framework, likely focused on publicizing available resources.

### 12) **Independent Students Listserv**

- Create a listserv for independent students that they can opt in to.

### 13) **Bus/TigerTransit Reform**

- Compile student feedback on the existing bus routes, and write up a report that outlines helpful changes.

### 14) **International Students & Careers Services**

- Identify areas where Career Services could improve for assisting international students and propose changes.

### 15) **Frist Reform**

- Proposing having more alternative furniture (e.g. napping lounge chairs) in Frist, and keeping Frist open for 24 hours