

Formal Minutes

USG SENATE MEETING

March 3rd, 2013

Frist 309, 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

President's Report

- Shawon Jackson congratulates the organizers of Mental Health Week. Mr. Jackson notes that a panel on ethical investments for Princeton will be held on March 7th – for which the Resources Committee is grateful for USG's help in recruitment. USG is also helping to recruit for a Labyrinth student advisory committee. Mr. Jackson gives an overview of his and Carmina Mancenon's administrative meetings. Elan Kugelmass notes that the Spring Break bus project will not happen due to lack of interest.

Ivy Council Conference

- Eduardo Lima gives an overview of the Ivy Council Conference that he attended in February as a delegate from Princeton. Mr. Lima finds the conference to be disappointing and asks the Senate to evaluate how Princeton can improve the conference, or if Princeton should continue to send delegates. The Senate discusses an idea that Mr. Lima heard at the conference regarding an inflatable air mattress rental service.

Princeton 2017

- Paul Riley and Katherine Clifton present the progress of the Princeton2017.com project. The Senate discusses the similarities and differences between this site and the Path to Princeton site, and provides suggestions for improving the Princeton2017.com site.

Centralizing Office Hours

- Eduardo Lima discusses the progress of an idea to consolidate office hours. The Vice President of OIT has been contacted and is on board with the project. The Senate provides feedback on how the system should work within the WASS and Blackboard systems, and how to provide incentives for professors to participate.

Bike Tune Up Event

- Dillon Sharp evaluates the success of the Bike Tune Up Event, a USG project in partnership with the Student Health Advisory Board. The Senate provides feedback and suggests that it become an annual or semi-annual event.

Executive Session

Meeting adjourned at 8:12.

Informal Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

President's Report

- Shawon Jackson: Congratulations to the Mental Health Week organizers, and all involved. There will be a panel on ethical investments for Princeton, it will be on March 7th at 7pm. The Resources Committee is thankful for USG for helping to recruit. USG is helping to get students for a Labyrinth student advisory committee. He and Carmina Mancenon had administrative meetings: with OIT, whom USG will help to promote student undergraduate engagement; and with Vice President Klaus, who wants to collaborate for USG.
- Elan Kugelmass: The Spring Break buses will not be happening, because not enough people signed up.

Ivy Council Conference

- Eduardo Lima: The conference was disappointing, not many policy ideas. One new idea from Harvard: rentable inflatable mattress - \$2 a night, profits are used to buy more mattresses and maintain mattresses. Could work well for Princeton. Do we want to continue to send a USG representative?
- Deana Davoudiasl: Did it cost USG anything?
- Eduardo Lima: No.
- Charissa Shen: Is someone required to attend?
- Carmina Mancenon: No.
- Yifan Zhu: Did every ivy league university attend?
- Eduardo Lima: Because of bad weather, some did not.
- Dillon Sharp: If we're sending somebody, they should be from USG.
- Eduardo Lima: Should Princeton host a conference like this? There's a lot of potential.
- Charissa Shen: It was held here my freshman year. The wasted potential has a lot to do with the Ivy Council's disorganization. It would be helpful to talk to the IVC themselves and make suggestions. It's a worthwhile conference, if only there were more manpower behind it.
- Zhan Okuda-Lim: IVC was founded as an organization to bring student government leaders together, but it's not formally a part of USG. It might be at other schools.
- Charissa Shen: We should find that out.
- Eduardo Lima: General thoughts on the air mattress ideas?
- Haebin Kim: It's an awesome idea, could be an extension of USG services and won't cost USG too much money. There are many occasions where hosts are asked for but many people don't have couches. So to spend just \$2 would be worthwhile.

- Gavin Cook: When people visit Princeton it's during popular times, so we would not be able to supply everyone who wants one. I don't think a huge amount of people visit.

Princeton 2017

- Paul Riley: Our main task is to update the content of Princeton2017.com, add quick links to the website, make sure the write ups are accurate, and we also want to add new things. We want to touch every part of campus with our advertising for this site.
- Katherine Clifton: The Path to Princeton site is run by administration. There's a blog and many resources included on the site. How does Princeton 2017 work alongside that? What do we provide that's different?
- Paul Riley: There isn't a blog on Princeton 2017, it's a more exploratory/independent site.
- Deana Davoudiasl: Why do we need it then?
- Katherine Clifton: It came out before Path to Princeton, it's interactive, easy to look at, and shows how to adjust.
- Dean Dunne: The 2016/2017 site has a longer arc than Path to Princeton. Path to Princeton has more student involvement and gives students information before coming, but Princeton 2017 has information all the way through midterms. Path to Princeton has many features but has a shorter intended timespan.
- Charissa Shen: We should go through the Path to Princeton site and make sure there's no clutter on Princeton 2017, and clarify information to students. Do we want a presence on Facebook with the Princeton 2017 site? Make sure you know where you stand.
- Trap Yates: Other than content, style and language is important. There's a certain style that one should adopt. Could reach students with the same info in a different way.
- Katherine Clifton: One of the best parts is the "glossary" feature.
- Paul Riley: The Facebook group was done in conjunction with Princeton 2017. We should talk in the future about how to navigate that over to the class governments once they're elected for the freshmen.

Centralizing Office Hours

- Eduardo Lima: We want to create an online place to click on your class and a calendar would show the time/date/location of all office hours for any individual class. So in case a student can't attend their office hours or want different explanations, they have more options. The Vice President of OIT said it was possible to implement through the WASS system. Every undergrad uses the site at least once a year, and a third of the faculty use

it. The head of a class gets a blackboard site and email list, but could also generate a calendar and the head would add precept office hours. All classes you're taking would pop up (sync'd with Blackboard) and students could search when other professors' office hours are. An email has been sent to OIT and it's on their agenda, so it will be done. Now we need to try to figure out faculty buy-in.

- Sarah Wiley: If you want to get professors on board, their hours shouldn't be opened up to everybody, so they can focus on their own students. Any student that wants to talk to a different professor can email them individually.
- Elan Kugelmass: How do we incentivize professors to upload their office hours?
- Eduardo Lima: Blackboard will automatically have the calendar included, so students may need to request that teachers upload hours, and departments could pressure professors to complete the calendar.
- Gavin Cook: Some professors can be convinced that kids will use this as a platform for involvement. If I had this I would go to office hours more.
- Charissa Shen: Eduardo can ask OIT to have visible office hours but unable to be scheduled through WASS.
- Zhan Okuda-Lim: Some preceptors only work by email appointments, they may not hold regular office hours.
- Zach Ogle: Maybe there can be a mandatory scheduling through WASS, so that students can't just walk into office hours.

Bike Tune Up Event

- Dillon Sharp: It was a success, any questions?
- Zhan Okuda-Lim: It was a great event. In the future maybe it could also be at the beginning of the year, perhaps more funding for extra supplies because some students need actual fixing rather than a simple tune up.
- Elan Kugelmass: People should be charged if they need new supplies. USG doesn't need to provide mechanical work.
- Dillon Sharp: We had a lot of tools but the complicated procedures took a lot of time.
- Paul Riley: CycLab used to be at the WaWa?
- Dillon Sharp: Yes, the former building is being demolished but they're coming back under Rocky College. Student Health Advisory Board was a great collaborator even though this isn't necessarily part of their mission. This is a lesson that when projects have a big draw, working with other groups is really useful.
- Paul Riley: Trap – could we reach out to get bike discounts from the community?

- Dillon Sharp: Current bike shops in the community have a monopoly and are over-priced.
- Gavin Cook: What happens to bikes left on campus by seniors?
- Dillon Sharp: Bikes tagged by PSAFE, and if they're not claimed in two weeks they're donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Trenton.
- Shawon Jackson: Should this be an annual event or a senate project?
- Dillon Sharp: We always thought of it as a one-time thing, but it was very popular. In the future we would need to pay mechanics to come in, which could be costly.

Agenda Setting

- Shawon Jackson: Christina will present a budget update. Mental Health Week organizers will present. Carla may present a budget request for Dean's Date. The Frist ad-hoc committee may present. Any other items?
- Elan Kugelmass: I have one for executive session.

Executive Session

Meeting adjourned at 8:12.

