

Action Items:

Harold: (from last meeting: Talk to Bill about election with Kate)

Jenn: Sam's Club Membership; Check availability for BBQ

Kate: Assume VP responsibilities; set up scheduling calendar New Officer's Retreat; Jenn needs Sam's Club Membership; (from last meeting: Talk to Bill about election; change GSA & GLC website passwords)

Laura: type up Locker/Items List; post needed Officer's guide items on Google Docs

Matt: (from last meeting: talk to Norris center manager to change access to locker)

Megan: Check when the budget is due; contact administration about new officers; send out reminder emails about meeting on Monday

Everyone: Meetings have moved to Mondays at 9am (at Starbucks in Norris); Register for and attend Townhall Meeting

Officer's Meeting Minutes - May 15, 2007

Present: Megan, Kate, Dave, Ruth, Harold, Jenn, Laura (quorum present)

1.) Interim Treasurer

- Harold was nominated (Megan, Kate 2nded); but he objected to training. After further discussion, Harold proposed writing a "GSA Officer's Bill of Rights"...

2.) Vice President

- Kate has been nominated (Kate wanted to clarify that as long as she can continue working on health care, someone else can be VP). Megan 2nded Kate's nomination of herself. Megan clarified that more people can come to GLC meetings, not just President and VP. We had a quorum, and voted on whether Kate should be VP. She was elected unanimously.

3.) Health Forum

- Megan will contact Chris Johnson about ordering/paying for pizza (Ashi has a secret deal with Domino's). Everyone should come tomorrow night and bring a friend! Located in Tech LR5 6-8pm. We're hoping for 50 people.

Issues

- Physicals (info on cost/test)
- Preventative care
- \$500 deductible
- Evening care = going to the ER... (big deal with \$1000 deductible... affects undergrads too)
- Building a new building
- Pharmacy issues! (online forms, HOURS, expiring health insurance cards for 3 weeks in the summer)
- Birth control (external pharmacy - can't get 3 months at a time!)
- PARKING
- No comprehensive plan
- What are the options for urgent care transport?

4.) Townhall Meeting

- May 22, 2007 Rebecca Crown Center 6:30-8pm

Issues

- Foreign Language Acquisition Protocol (Reading Only) Grad students required to take language classes, but now they can during the summer, but the classes include speaking, which isn't necessary for many grad students (therefore a waste of time!). Kelby Harrison (k-harrison2@northwestern.edu; President of Queer Pride) has worked on this problem, Jenn will contact her. School of Music students can't take classes in other departments (school won't pay tuition...)
- Faculty awareness of university policies i.e. final projects must be due before exams begin (McCormick)
- Exam scheduling (could the departments have more say or faculty have some ability to change the time if necessary)
- Graduate housing (no subsidized graduate family housing, housing office is horrible, information about good/bad places to live)
- Support services for grad students with children (finding affordable child care, information about enrolling kids in pre-school), especially international students
- TGS' webpage is a disaster...
- TGS' Night Out - a lot of \$, unfair access (2/3 of people who wanted to come were turned away), limited # people, people taking advantage of policy (less fancy? less expensive? more accessible? lottery?), ice breakers, location discouraged mingling (couldn't you pay for health insurance with that money?)
- Way to coordinate intermural teams for smaller departments
- Grad student classifieds (roommate search, buy/sell items)
- How do they expect to build grad student community without a central location (i.e. grad housing, grad student lounge/grad student organization offices with computers, tables, Wi-Fi, kitchenette, good lighting, large table, white board, printer, copy machines (free copies!), projector, phone)
- Provide childcare for events such as the Townhall Meeting and Health Insurance Forum
- Saferide authorized to take people to the ER (agreement with Taxi company)/ What are the options for urgent care transport?
- Intercampus shuttles (not reliable in bad weather...); tracking system?
- More travel money (\$300/year if presenting and department contributing equal amount)
- Server space for grad students (able to post resumes online)
- Email addresses should continue indefinitely (email addresses on publications, need the forwarding address; what are the alternatives? Gmail?)
- Stipend increase: much below inflation, and when was the last time it was done (if it's been a while, should be even more than per-year inflation)

5.) Meeting(s) with Administration

Penny Warren and Kate
Lesley Perry
Simon Greenwold and Andrew Wachtel

6.) Future Surveys - could we work with Richard Tucker or someone who knows more about surveys?

Kate knows people.

7.) Actions Items

- Do we want reminders? Megan should send out reminders the Friday before meetings.

8.) Meetings

- Moved to Mondays at 9am at the Starbucks in Norris

9.) BBQs

- Date: Friday June 8, 2007; backup date: June 1, 2007
- Food from 4-6pm
- Budget: ~\$450, about ~150 people last year
- Location? (south of NU? Lakefill?)
- Giant grills from Norris Outdoors? Reserve Location via Norris Website
- Kate will help advertise

10.) Sam's Club Membership

- Kate has one
- Jenn needs one

11.) New Officer's Retreat

- Kate will set up scheduling calendar
- Megan will check when the budget is due
- Megan declined use of a space in the Hotel Orrington

Next Meeting: May 21, 2007 (9am at Starbucks in Norris)

- Meetings with TGS people
- BBQ planning