**University of Chicago Student Government**

Graduate Council

Booth C-07

Monday, February 19th, 2017

7:29 – 8:01 pm

Attendance of Voting Members: (Bold **absent**; (L) late arrival; LO left early)

Graduate Council

**Soheil Ebadat - Law**

**Michael Christ - Law**

Daniel Cao - IME

Maddy Oswald - SSD

Hannah Burnett - SSD

Ailsa Lipscombe (proxy: Jo Brill) – Humanities

Jordan Johansen – Humanities

**Miles Williams – SSA**

**Phoebe Chen - Booth**

Taryn Segal – Booth

Shelly Tilton – Divinity

Alexis Monical – Pritzker

Jason Casteneda - Pritzker

**Chris Stamper – BSD**

Kartik Singhal – PSD

Rhys Povey – PSD

**Patrick Hanley – Harris**

Meeting called to order, 7:29 pm.

1. Quorum call
   1. Welcome
      1. Favorite theme parties?
         1. Max: Karaoke
         2. Rhys: Raining in Africa
         3. Joseph: Alcohol
      2. Buy tickets to Rock Bottom! Should be fun!
2. Updates from the floor
   1. None!
3. Voting items
   1. Approval of changed/edited minutes
      1. Hannah Burnett: How are minutes normally distributed?
         1. Normally through the mailing list, but we maybe mistakenly sent them through Slack, which I don’t know if you’re a part of, but we can add you
      2. Jo motions to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by Jordan
         1. No objections or abstentions; motion passes
   2. CSF seat
      1. One voting graduate seat, which Ryan volunteered to be on
      2. Similar to SGFC, except 50% of all proceeds must go to community members, rather than the University
      3. Ryan is now nominated
      4. Rhys motions to confirm Ryan by unanimous consent, Jordan seconds
         1. No abstentions or objections; motion passes
4. Committee updates
   1. Finance committee: Nobody is here, but they’re a bit under what was being given out last year—exact numbers will be sent out at a later date
   2. Travel Fund (Mary): Things are still doing great, we have tons of applications, including one, now, from IME. We’ve funded over $80,000, and it’s about the same as last year (fun! Interesting!), though there’s been a slight recent uptick in applications, but a lot of those are people who have been funded in previous years, so we’ve been rejecting more—tell constituents that you need to wait three years before applying again, having already been funded
   3. Marketing (Joseph): Collaborating with Mary, I’ve been talking to people with highest need for travel funding, and I’ve been interviewing some of these people, which gives us visibility, as well as visibility to exceptional research around campus. I’ve also been working with JD on actually getting GC swag. My theme is utilitarian items with GC logos; for example, beer cozies
      1. Coffee mugs are very expensive (about $10/mug)
      2. Bottle opener is an excellent idea
      3. Ice scrapers for Chicago, fantastic!
      4. Lanyards, t-shirts, backpacks (small quantities, for promotional giveaways)
      5. 4imprint.com’s Challenger Mugs are $3 each for big groups

Health & Wellness is developing an app, and it’s a potential platform for us to advertise events (it might be used to promote other groups’ events). It’s in early talks, but it’s being talked about with a professional app developer.

* + 1. Nick Williams: What would a GC promo event you mentioned look like?
       1. Maybe talking with students on the quad, having them spin a wheel and get swag, just to get our name out there
  1. Social (Katrina): Rock Bottom social is this Friday from 7-11pm, currently we’ve sold about 300 out of 500 tickets. Tickets go up in price from $15 to $20 soon. There will be campus shuttles from Reynold’s, and there’s an after-party after Rock Bottom. Party in the Sky, will be on April 21st/27th/28th, and we’re working on a better way to sell tickets without having a server crash. The Logan Center, which we’re using, crashes sort of often, so please let us know if people tell you there’s been a problem like that.
     1. Elyse: Still using that server?
        1. Katrina: Still deciding
     2. Jordan: What about a lottery?
        1. Katrina: The problem is people who want to go with friends but couldn’t get tickets together
     3. Elyse: How big was Party in the Sky last year?
        1. Rhys: 515? 600? The capacity is only 500, though…
     4. Elyse: Can we maybe have more food stations?
        1. Katrina: Yeah, I’ve been talking to Heather about that. Everything else is set.
  2. Community (Elyse): We’ve had a bunch of events recently: CSO, Chinese New Year events, print-making, jam sessions, etc. Upcoming: sushi making, paintballing, escape rooms, etc. For the last events, we’ve had 200-400 sign-ups, over 600 people on the mailing list, so things are going well!
     1. Nick: Make sure to keep reaching out to your divisions advertising these events, Facebook advertising has made this difficult

1. New business?
   1. Hannah: I have a friend in Humanities, who was the only person from Humanities at the focus group, and she had a good experience, and she talked to me about how when things are very important (like the perspective survey), we need a better way to communicate about this kind of thing.
      1. Jordan: Our student contacts do that, but if they aren’t doing it, that’s an issue. But we’ve also had complaints about amounts of emails, so maybe people just aren’t reading what they are sent…
      2. Elyse: Do other divisions get emails about community events?
         1. Hannah & Jordan & Maddy: SSD doesn’t have any system for that, you usually get an email from your administrator, though, if they’re good
      3. Jordan: Can we get numbers on communications by department (instead of just divisions, though that’s helpful as well)?
         1. Nick: Yeah, we can work on that—especially important for Humanities, PSD, SSD…
   2. Hannah: How were topics for trustee meetings (campus space; UChicago GRAD) decided?
      1. The student perspective survey, discussions on real topics that the board could deal with, etc.
      2. Housing, transportation, campus space, needs more work—the things that have already been worked on need less work
      3. As far as why we picked graduate career services, it’s because of many survey answers, student-PI relations, etc.
2. Jo motions to adjourn by unanimous consent, seconded

Meeting adjourned, 8:01 pm.