

GPIA Student Government

November 16, 2007

17:05

66 West 12th St, Rm 609

Meeting called by: Amy Walker **Type of meeting:** General

Note taker/Timekeeper: Emily Molfino

Attendees:

Amy Walker, Aparna Rau, Andy Thorton, Emily Molfino, Nick Barber, Tim Lang, Sarah Cunningham, Savith Sampath, Mansura Khanam

Minutes

Agenda item: Printing Issue: Learned and Final Issues

Discussion

- Praise of process and outcome. Savith: Evidence of what can be done with social action. Andy: outcome worth the process
- Keep process of what we went through so that future Student Government and others can go back, learn about the process, and implement their plan.
- Issue of reimbursements discussed. However, only one real complaint, and money does roll over into next semester and summer, so money isn't really lost.

Conclusions:

- Put entire process on Wiki so that can be used as reference.
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Agenda item: Student Government: The Future

Discussion

- With Amy graduating and much of student government body members graduating in May, need a new group of faces.
- Positions: President (no longer called Chair), Vice President, Secretary
- Unelected positions: Social outreach coordinator.

Conclusions:

- New positions take over in January

Action items

- Figure out roles that we need filled.

Deadline

Agenda item: Curriculum

Discussion

- We will conduct a survey on core curriculum focusing on some issues that have arisen. The results will be presented at the Dec. 6th faculty meeting.

- Issue example with Economics: Requiring economics no matter previous background makes some take an unnecessary course. Possibly require a test to “test out” of economics requirement.
- Issue example with Thesis: Some debate on whether writing the thesis should count as 6 units as the PIA does.
- Need to be careful about the survey because even the same course can be completely different depending on instructor.

Conclusions:

- Open ended survey with all 300+ students in email form. Need to come up with questions that won't lead to certain answers and that can be aggregated in some form.
- Mansura and Aparna will work with Amy on creating the survey

Action items

- Andy and Tim will conduct their own survey on Thesis issues
- Survey sent out
- Survey due date

Deadline

November 21st
November 30th

Agenda item: Peer Advising Program

Discussion

- There is currently discussion on changing advising and differentiating between people with an IR background (might need less advising) and those without an IR background (might need a little more).
- Jonathan liked the idea about a peer advising program
- Official training might be required if advising is about courses (plus require the leaders to come to Student government meetings?)

Conclusions:

- Program would be called: Student Support Program
- Will start next semester (a type of pilot program to advise the 30-40 new Spring Students)
- Would be nice to have 1 advisor for every 6 students

Action items

- Tim: Draft proposal and send out for feedback.

Deadline

End of Thanksgiving Break

Agenda item: Events Planning

Discussion

- Conflicts are going to happen just due to limited amount of days available for people to meet. But, there are ways to better plan around each other. For example, use the Wiki events calendar to both place events and a tool to plan when events will take place.
- Student Government will be sensitive not to plan meetings during documentary screenings.
- Nick: There is a proposal for an Events Committee next starting next semester that will have a substantial budget to fund special speakers and events. The proposal is likely to pass.