

# GPIA Student Government

February 15, 2008

18:30

66 West 12th St, Rm 609

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**Meeting called by:** Juliana Farmer and Sarah Cunningham

**Type of meeting:** General

**Note taker/Timekeeper:** Emily Molfino

**Attendees:** Mitch Cook, Nick Barber, Andy Thornton, Amy Walker, Aparna Rau, Annika Beaulieu, Emily Molfino

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## Minutes

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### Agenda item: Tutorial Class Response

#### Discussion

- Tim Lang wasn't present to discuss how his How-To Workshop went, however Emily said how it went well. Only two new students did attend (bad weather that day), but got positive feedback from both and Jonathan Bach.
  - Emily is going to try and put together a faculty handout about Blackboard.
  - Also, the handouts have been posted on the newly re-done Student Support Program page so that everyone can benefit from them.
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### Agenda item: Wiki Issues/GPIA.info

#### Discussion

- Student Government Page on the Wiki was updated and looks good!
  - Student Government email works well. Thanks Andy!
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### Agenda item: Biweekly Social Events

#### Discussion

- They have disappeared! Consensus that we need to bring these back

#### Conclusions:

- Mitch Cook has been made the new Social Outreach Coordinator (Will unfortunately seems to be busy at the moment).

#### Action items

- Thursday at Bar One Nineteen (on 15<sup>th</sup> street near Irving)

#### Deadline

February 21st

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### Agenda item: Core Curriculum

#### Discussion

- More on this topic after Juliana and Sarah can have a meeting with Jonathan Bach
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### **Agenda item: Stuyvesant Issue**

#### **Discussion**

- No response has been given by Robert Lutomski personally.
- The original email (which was only CC-d to Michael Cohen and Jonathan Bach) has now been forwarded and CC-d to several other people. A Celesti Fechter (who is the Associate Dean for Academic Services) has contacted both Juliana and Sarah about the issue. She said that there is nothing she can do, but suggested to take this issue with Student Senate (pushing us into the Bureaucracy?). But Sarah is co-chair of the Advocacy Committee at Student Senate, so they know the issue already.
- Final email sent was saying that Ms. Fechter and Robert Lutomski will “continue to talk.” What are they talking about?

#### **Conclusions:**

- If no response is received by Mr. Lutomski, then we will go the next step
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### **Agenda item: University Student Senate (Sarah’s notes are on the last two pages)**

#### **Discussion**

- Sarah went to the first Student Senate of the semester and updated us all on the meeting.
  - “They are trying” – Sarah. It seems like their Code of Conduct is preventing things to get completed.
  - However, they did receive an anonymous donation and thus have a \$45,000 budget (which must be spent this year). However, \$8,000 of it needs to be spent on elections that are happening this April. (?)
  - Sarah has offered to co-chair the newly created Advocacy Committee and they back the Stuyvesant issue. Would like to hold a town hall council of sorts so students can openly discuss problems with housing.
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### **Agenda item: Funding from GPIA**

#### **Discussion**

- Nick described how money is there at GPIA to be taken (the issue is budget streams). Nick suggested that it isn’t unreasonable to be funded by GPIA as we don’t get funding from the university because “we aren’t open to all the students.”
- What is needed to get funding from GPIA is a professional proposal and detailed budget.
- What about getting some of Student Senate’s money? But don’t want to be limited by their Code of Conduct (though do agree that if budget is received, there needs to be some procedure). Who is responsible to fund: Student Senate or University?
- Creating a proposal and budget will also help us focus on what Student Government’s role should be and help strengthen our Mission Statement.

#### **Conclusions:**

- Nick and Juliana will work together to create proposal and budget

#### **Action items**

#### **Deadline**

- Send Juliana and Nick ideas and thoughts about what you think Student Government role should be and what it should be doing
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## **Agenda item: Career Development**

### **Discussion**

- Summarized what we discussed last meeting on how we wanted a full time person. Bach thought this was a good idea and asked us to do research on what similar programs have.
- Mitch forgot to do this research, but mentioned that through personal research, he noticed that Columbia, NYU, and even San Diego State has their own person.
- Even we just had a person to update the employment binder! (Some parts are over 5 years old.)
- Consensus was that it would be great to have this position
- Inter-department employment opportunities for students were also brought up. Need transparency and formal procedure. Why can't we TA in the undergraduate GF?

### **Conclusions:**

- Juliana said that she will bring this issue up again to Bach

### **Action items**

### **Deadline**

- Mitch will research other program's career development positions
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## **Agenda item: Panel Discussion for PIA versus Thesis**

### **Discussion**

- Mitch wanted to organize a panel discussion to talk about the pros and cons of each option.
- The panel will be as honest as possible with both current students and alumni
- It was mentioned how there might possibly be a Town Hall meeting with Jonathan Bach and Michael Cohen in March to talk about the program with current students. This can also be a forum for this discussion.

### **Conclusions:**

- Good idea!
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## University Student Senate Agenda

2.5.08

### Report Backs:

- 1) Linda Reemer – President of Student Relations
- 2) Roger Ward – Liaison of Student Affairs
- 3) US Student Association (USSA)
  - a. Lobbies on behalf of general student issues (cuts to financial aid, resources to student governments, etc.)
    - i. USS to join? Pay a yearly fee (will the New School cover this?)
- 4) Graduate Faculty Student Senate (GFSS)
  - a. 2 representatives from each department of NSSR
    - i. Wants to propose \$5 tuition increase to go directly to USS so it can have more decision making power and better separate itself from the University.
    - ii. RA, TA, Teaching Fellows (Room issues, salary: not providing enough means for grad students)

### Elections:

- Next elections proposed for April 11<sup>th</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup>??

### Budget:

- USS received a \$45,000 budget donation (\$36,000 remaining which needs to be used this year)
  - Required to spend \$8,000 for next elections (to have outside group fun election)
    - Can they get out of this?
  - Spend \$ on:
    - Publishing articles, office hours (65 5<sup>th</sup> Ave), student rally (funding available from President's office), create Tab on mynewschool, want to great Student Governments in each department and possibly fund them?

### Proposals:

- Create specialized working groups that work on particular issues. (\*USS voted and passed)
  - 5 Committees are:
    - 1) Finance Committee:
      - a. Fundraising
      - b. \$5 tuition increase (to go to USS)
      - c. Elections (price)
    - 2) Events Committee
      - a. Parties
      - b. Venues/acts/shows
      - c. Other events
    - 3) Communications Committee
      - a. Communication with all of University
      - b. Newspapers
      - c. Website
      - d. Minutes/meetings

- 4) Advocacy Committee
  - a. Special interests
  - b. Housing issues (Stuyvesant Town and all student housing)
  - c. Campaigns
  - d. Health Services
  - e. Funding for student groups
  - f. Labor violations
  
- 5) Academic Committee
  - a. Is the NS doing what it needs to be doing in regards to meeting academic needs and desires of the students?
  - b. Are certain schools and programs not profitable enough and the school doesn't want to spend money on them? (Liberal Arts Programs)
  - c. Academic structure of the University
  - d. More progressive programs