

# Minutes Jan. 16, 2013

A special message from Kathy Kash:

- Grad student tuition is real money, even if you are on a TA waiver. The department budget from the School of Arts and Sciences gets charged even if you are on a TA waiver. This is why the department instituted the course registration packets, and why it is so important for you to email your advisor, Corbin, and Betty (or Kathy Kjaglien in Betty's absence) about changes to your course registration.
- Course evaluations get used by the department chair to influence future teaching assignments and course offerings. Please fill them out and leave comments for your instructor. Suggestions were discussed for making course evaluations more effective and incentives for students to fill them out. Other ideas about how to improve course evaluations should be communicated to Kathy.

President Updates:

- Previous events recap
  - Welcome Back BBQ
  - Community Service: Saturday Tutoring
  - Pumpkin drop
  - Game Night/Potluck
- Brainstorm spring event(s), budget of ~\$325
  - A camping trip was suggested for the weekend after the quals. PGSA funds would be used to rent a cabin somewhere with hiking such as Hocking Hills. The contribution per student for this event would be higher (~\$30-\$50) depending on how many people go.
  - Cheaper event ideas: whirly ball, trip to room filled with trampolines in Columbus, laser tag, flight zone.
- A doodle poll will be sent out to gauge interest in these events.
  - Spring Community Service: Tutoring with Church of the Covenant is too early on Saturday mornings, but Lisa will send out an email about volunteering for Brite Winter Festival and the Senior Olympics.
  - Grad student welcoming committee for incoming students
    - Provide information, answer specific questions
    - Keep track of arrival in Cleveland and make sure they get invited to events
    - Organize event after most people arrive so incoming students can meet.
    - Volunteers: Johanna, Ryan, Luke, Kati, Grant, Lisa, Rosie

VP Updates:

**- Fundraiser:**

Wednesday, February 20 at Bier Markt

We will receive 15% of sales; person ordering just has to tell them they're with PGSA.

In the process of requesting funds from GSS

### - Cleveland Info Update

In progress... University Circle and Little Italy are done, working on the rest  
Will be finished by the time students have accepted.

### - IM sports Update

Racquetball*	January 23, 2013	January 26, 2013
Floor Hockey Tournament	January 23, 2013	January 27, 2013
Bowling*	February 6, 2013	February 9, 2013
Basketball	March 7, 2013	March 10, 2013
Swim Meet*	March 7, 2013	March 20, 2013
Bench Press*	March 7, 2013	March 20, 2013
Softball	March 21, 2013	March 24, 2013
Dodgeball*	April 3, 2013	April 6, 2013
Par 3 Challenge*	April 12, 2013	April 20, 2013

PGSA can organize these

The rest are on your own!

Will send out emails as registration approaches.

### - Game night / Potluck:

First Friday in February (February 1): bringing alcohol to this event is against the Case alcohol policy if we hold it in the department

### -Other events:

Tobogganing in Strongsville after Colloquium (Student ID night): Thursday, Jan 24

Don't forget to use physgrad-social!

### Sec/Treas Updates:

- Budget Update: We are on track to spend all of our money
- Flowers/Card for Betty
  - Sign the card, donate to the flowers fund (give \$ to Jim Mertens) before next Monday!

### GSS Updates:

- Social events were brainstormed to hold more social events this semester. Fewer events were held last semester because no one planned them.
- GSS endorsed a proposal to all faculty members to undergo background checks before being hired. This was already the case for staff members and is a policy at many other universities
- GSS is looking for a new VP and Arts and Sciences Representative
- Fill out the forthcoming grad student life survey.
- Working on Professional Development Center Resolution
- Research showcase (April 12, submit abstract by Feb 1). Win money!

### Faculty Liaison Updates:

- Faculty Meeting Updates? None
- Student Concerns? None

First Year Rep:

- 1st year issues? No new issues

Other business?