

PGSA Agenda: December 4, 2014

1. Officer Updates

President

Not much to say... Good first semester. Special thanks to rob for pumpkin drop and melody for DC. And tate for being awesome

VP

no updates

Treasurer

Budget: 755.46

maybe nothing from pgsa for the pumpkin drop

welcome back reimbursement submit to tate and wait for response

Faculty Liaison: not been a job. Hasn't been invited to meeting. wants to talk face to face with corbin.

from Amanda- Wants to set up lunch with first years weekly or monthly to get to know research/advisor. PGSA will coordinate (schedule)

Corbin will come and talk about course requirements next semester.

Credits cost money; keep in mind.

Open discussion for Colloquia speaker- submit to Phil Taylor or Harsh Mathur
phil talyor for colloquia

GSS Liaison

GSS and GPC Merger

GSS is representation for grad students

GPC is representation for professional students

Two separate funds etc. want to merge so we have more bargaining power when we address our needs

Concerns about representation set up:

Currently every Department has a senator

Not feasible for entire University body

Countering by College of arts and sciences would have a student body—> GSS+GPC

current proposal is 4 per college plus 1 for every 500

Everyone is welcome to any meeting

CAS body creation? EGSA (english) if you want to add to this discussion

contact mel

Straw poll: Interest in relay for life?

Luke*

Rob
Amanda ?

First Year Rep Mike McMaster:
first years seem to be slackers.
nothing going on, classes seem to be fine.

2. Amendment to Constitution

Small admentement to be recognized by GSS

From PGSA Constitution:

Article VII: Amendments to this Constitution

- A. Any PGSA member may propose an amendment to this constitution.
 - a. An amendment must be submitted to the standing President no later than two (2) weeks prior to the next scheduled general meeting.
 - b. The President shall distribute copies of the amendment to all PGSA members within one (1) week of its receipt.
- B. An amendment must be approved by a two-thirds supermajority of Quorum at a general meeting.
- C. All amendments shall take effect at the adjournment of the general meeting at which it is passed, unless the amendment includes a specific schedule otherwise.

Proposed Amendment: to agree with CWRU policies passed except for first years

"No restrictions on membership or participation in PGSA-sponsored activities on the basis of handicap, race, sex, sexual preference, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, or status as a veteran will be permitted, in complete accordance with the CWRU anti-discrimination policy."

3. Events for next Semester

Recruitment:

Ian (interest but not head)
Tate (ad hoc head)
Mel
Mike McM
Andrew
Mike W
Nick G
Amanda
Luke
Jim

Fundraiser:

Good idea,
Andrew will look into this
Barcentto

can get some money from GSS to help fund for this

Mel becomes ad hoc tate
Corner Alley? just as PGSA event, not necessarily fundraiser

4. Diversity Committee Update

Committee Members: Melody, Amanda, Luke, Rob, Mohammed, Andrew

present mission statement

re-word to sound more "through recommendations on... [action items]"

include "for all graduate students"

included on e-mail exchanges: Mike McM, Tanglong Wang

power of the DC: serve as voice for underrepresented groups, provide recommendations for faculty/PGSA

spoke today to Kathy and Corbin, "pleasantly surprised"

goal to aggregate/centralize data on demographics within the department

Corbin: "graduate students tend to err on the side of caution"

In general, faculty is open for suggestions

5. Other Concerns

Trip Ideas:

International students (esp First Years) have difficulty with transportation out of the city and would like to have a planned trip

Suggestions: ski trip (Alpine Valley, Boston Mills Brandywine)

People staying over Winter break

Chicago trip (Megabus tickets in advance)

International Student interests:

visit the Amish

give advance notice

be mindful about extending invitations

Meeting adjourned?