GSA Council Meeting Agenda — December 2012
Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 6:00 pm
Graduate Lounge, RMC

Attendees: Anna Saikin (English), Niffy Hargrave (English), Anne Hellebust (BIOE), Aparna Sagi (ChBE), Kelly Weber (History), Jacob Wahlen-Strothman (P & A), Michelle Sneck (EEB), Jaclyn Kettler (Political Science), Christopher Dohna (Philosophy), Dan Puperi (BioE), Christine Peterson (STAT), Michael Sinai (Architecture), Erika Monl (Rice Annual Fund), Lu Wang (STAT), Nick Schafer (Physics), Chih Wei (Physics), Pei Dong (MEMS), Kiri Kilpatrick (ChBE), Carolyn Van Wingerden (Art History)

I. Announcements and Updates

1. Past Events
   a. Coffee Break w/OISS: Wednesday, November 14, 3 pm - 5 pm
      i. more successful than our Wellness Coffee Break
      ii. hoping to offer mugs in the future
   b. Sausagefest: Friday, November 16 (co-sponsored by Chemistry and Physics)
      i. no shortage of food
   c. Ten Days of Service: December 3 - December 12
      i. CS is currently in the lead with 36 points
      ii. Encourage people in your departments to participate
   d. GSA Holiday Party: December 7
      i. used 1.5 of 2 kegs (pretty decent showing)
      ii. handed out pint glasses for people who donated canned goods or cash
      iii. thanks to Valhalla for supporting events

2. Upcoming Events
   a. Charlie Brown Coffee Break: December 12, 3:00pm-5:00pm
      i. link with Ten Days of Service (ten points for people who bring blankets)
      ii. will accept other donations (except canned goods)
   
   b. GICN: February 1st
      i. annual event (fourth year)
      ii. if you're interested in planning please contact us--decorations, food,
etc.

iii. contact Heng Ji directly if you're interested

c. GSA 2013–14 Officer Elections: March Council Meeting (Tuesday, March 19)
   i. will start recruitment/luncheons starting in late January, early February
   ii. opportunity to meet lots of people, very rewarding experience

3. Looking for Beer Bike Coordinators (contact gsa@rice.edu)
   a. Official Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013
   b. Need to have these by January 1
   c. Need two coordinators--have one coordinator already.
   d. Involves going to weekly meetings, coordinating with Valhalla, admin, undergrads
   e. graphic designer at the school of architecture has volunteered to design the t-shirt: theme should be decided by January Council Meeting

4. Elevator Pitch Competition - Volunteers needed! Contact Pei (pd6@rice.edu)
   a. Need volunteers
   b. Want to bring together multiple departments
   c. aiming for early April for event
   d. SCREECH was very successful, we hope that this will be just as popular/successful

5. GSA Survey update
   a. Advisor/student relationships as well as other issues that face grad students
   b. we’ve had meetings with Paula Sanders, Arnaud Chevallier, John Cornwall (Office of Institutional Research)
   c. target date of Spring Break (end of February/beginning of March)

6. Rice Security update
   a. graduate student mugging in parking lot
   b. Paula Sanders was immediately on this issue; Chief Whitehead immediately contacted the entire campus
   c. meetings have been held--how to change bus routes (will go into effect in January as a kind of pilot program), how to increase security, how to make students more aware of issues, talked about Greenbriar
   d. lots of concern about Greenbriar
   e. Chief Whitehead is working on staffing (lost staffing at beginning of
f. more Night Escorts

g. not great recommendations from administration

h. over the next 18 months we will be seeing a lot more LED lights on campus

i. will be new construction areas in the parking lot (Continuing Education
building and a world class tennis court)--but this will probably increase
crime rates

j. additional cameras will be placed in Lounge to help with security

k. following in the middle of campus--need to increase security

l. during the holiday, then the parking lots are on weekend hours: will keep
reps posted on this issue about the upcoming winter break

m. happy to forward concerns/emails to the administration (like Paula Sanders
and Chief Whitehead)

III. New Business

1. Clubs

a. **Rice Skydiving Club** - Joe Boben, APPROVED

i. wanted to be an intercollegiate team--liability issues were too much
of an issue (Risk Management shot down the idea)

ii. establishing an interested community, but we will not participate as a
club in the sport of skydiving

iii. talk about relevant issues; will be advertising about discounted
opportunities to go skydiving

iv. hoping in the future to be able to skydive as a club

v. would be USPA associated, liability is offered through Drop
Zone--this is the direction the club would like to go into (Texas A&M
and recently UH acquired clubs)

vi. would like to be able to compete as a club in future years

vii. dues would not be asked until the club decides to be USPA associated
or until the club is able to actively skydive

2. Grants

a. **AWM hosts Coffee & Trivia**

i. Requesting Organization: Rice University Student Chapter of the
Association for Women in Mathematics
ii. Amount Requested: $200, APPROVED
   1. AWM treasurer
   2. Math/Stat/Camm: wants to fund coffee and snacks from Coffeehouse
   3. Also an opportunity to recruit new officers for next year
   4. Event is planned for a Friday afternoon in January

b. **Rice Badminton Tournament**
   i. Requesting Organization: Rice Badminton Club
   ii. Amount Requested: $250, APPROVED
       1. Two Officers from the Club
       2. Tournament: Men’s Singles, Women’s Singles, Women’s Doubles, Men’s Doubles, Mixed Doubles
       3. Money for food and snacks; also for the shuttlecocks
       4. Cap number of games to 64
       5. Open to graduate and undergraduate students
       6. Will reserve space in the old gym
       7. Do have a deficit so they can ask RCSSC for funds as well

c. **5th Biennial Conference: Language, Culture, and Cognition**
   i. Requesting Organization: Rice Linguistics Society
   ii. Amount Requested: $1000, APPROVED for $875
   iii. Free to attend for all grad students so long as they register, involves a dinner as well as appetizers during poster session
   iv. Daniel Everitt will be speaking; offers a huge challenge to Noam Chomsky (will interest lots of different disciplines--linguistics, sociology, cognitive science)
   v. There will also be a speaker from Rice (Michel Shard)
   vi. Have reserved the Pavilion; recommended additional spaces on campus

*Total Requested in December: $1450*

*Amount left in Grants Budget as of 12/11/2012: $6880 (prior to Grants Approval)*