GSA Council Meeting Agenda — October 2012
Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 6:00 pm
Graduate Lounge, RMC

Officers: Anna Dodson Saikin (President), Kiri Kilpatrick (Internal Vice-President), Aparna Raju Sagi (Treasurer), Niffy Hargrave (Secretary), Anne Hellebust (Parliamentarian), Jeanette Pasuizaca (Marketing and Publicity)

Representatives: Lynn M. Fahey (Sociology), Justin Chen (P & A), Dan Puperi (BIOE), Kelly Weber (Hist), Lu Wang (Stat), Sydney Boyd (Engl), Euvgeniya Paluektova (Ling), Kenya Gillespie (Shepherd), Mauro A. Rinaldi (BCB), Zholin Lin (ESCI), Claudia Ziegler (Psch), Deepti Ballal (ChBE), Michelle Sneck (EBB)

Other Attendees: Charles Conn (ChBE), Tyler White (Jones), Andy Meretoya (OISS), Chinh Nguyen (ESCI), Christine Peterson (Stat), Ali Ayremlou (ECE), Emily McCarthy (CEVE)

I. Announcements and Updates

1. Past Events
   a. Fall Picnic - RESCHEDULED - September 21, 5:00 PM
      i. Despite the delay, still very successful with approx. 700 people.
      ii. Issues to Address: Ran out of food, long lines (food wasn't cooking quickly enough.
      iii. Gave away 400 steins at the picnic--very popular giveaway.
   b. GSA Tailgating - September 22, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
      i. Not so popular (3 attendees total)
      ii. Advertising didn't occur (never forwarded to reps) and also occurred the day following the Fall Picnic.
   c. Houston Food Bank - September 22, 2 - 5 PM
      i. Very successful with 10 volunteers
      ii. Looking, in future months, to do some different volunteer events.
         1. Don't need to worry about burning any bridges with the Houston Food Bank because we have to schedule our visits on a monthly basis.
   d. GSA Wellness Coffee Break - September 25
      i. Not well attended.
ii. Advertising from the Wellness Center and the GSA was not successful
   1. Students may not have realized that this was the usual coffee break that we host every month.
   iii. Still working with the Wellness Center to develop further programming.

e. Blood Drive - October 8
   i. Quite a few volunteers, but not as popular as past drives.
   ii. Lower numbers might be attributed to the fact that this occurred the week of Centennial and that the event was organized very last minute.
   iii. Next Blood Drive is scheduled for January.

Centennial - October 10, 11, 12, and 13: Huge thank you to the Centennial Committee! Also to Heng Ji for translating the entire Centennial schedule into Chinese!

f. Wednesday, Oct. 10: GSA Centennial Coffee Break
   i. People line up out of the RMC for the free GSA-Centennial coffee mugs.
   ii. Ran out of food and coffee.
   iii. Lounge looked amazing! (Thanks to Kaushik, Aru, and Gabriel for designing new lounge posters and getting past Beer Bike t-shirts from Valhalla)
   iv. Unfortunately, one of the first Centennial lectures occurred simultaneously.
   v. Lesson Learned: More giveaways increases graduate student participation/attendance.

g. Thursday, Oct. 11: Glass Night at Valhalla
   i. 500 Valhalla-Centennial glasses were distributed in under one hour.
   ii. Valhalla was very appreciative of all the GSA publicity; created steady business all night.

h. Friday, Oct. 12: Academic Procession
   i. Thank you to all of the participants for withstanding the heat!

i. Friday, Oct. 12: Centennial Picnic
   i. Held mid-day and served over 8000 people.
   ii. Lots of options between food trucks and dessert tents; some
concerns were expressed over the presence of Chick-fil-a, but overall very smooth event.

j. Friday, Oct. 12: GSA and GAC Picnic
   i. Huge success--ran out of food in under two hours! Handed out 804 wristbands and we had food for 1000 attendees--approx. attendance between 804 and 1000 people.
   ii. Great having Goode Company cater as the lines moved a lot faster.
   iii. Great alumni presence--even able to connect with two ex-GSA presidents.
   iv. Also really helped to have split lines for beer, food, and giveaways.

k. Friday, Oct. 12: Esperanza, 10 PM - 2 AM
   i. Great DJ
   ii. Good graduate student presence (especially first-year grad students and international students); Sold 207 tickets (the Centennial Tent seemed to encourage higher attendance rates)
   iii. Excessive food and beautifully decorated

l. Saturday, Oct. 13: Rice vs. UTSA Tailgate and Game
   i. Gave away all seat cushions
   ii. 75 pizzas gone in 2 hours; 2 kegs (not completely finished, but able to use later at Valhalla); still have cosies left to distribute at future tailgates.

m. Saturday, Oct. 13: Spectacle
   i. Overall great feedback (better than fireworks)
   ii. Valhalla had increased business the nights of the Spectacle
   iii. Video provided online
   iv. Surprisingly, Baker 13 was more low key that evening and did not disrupt the Spectacle.

2. Upcoming Events
   a. Chief Justice Roberts, Wednesday, October 17
   b. Halloween: Saturday, November 3
      i. Tentative Plans: Not yet recruiting volunteers; will be providing chips, snacks, beer; will host costume party

3. Family Committee: Still Need Volunteers! (Contact gsa@rice.edu for more information!)
There is a framework in place, but we really need to work on developing this committee.

b. Have no remaining members! Need new energy!

c. Email gsa@rice.edu or atd2@rice.edu

4. Looking for Beer Bike Coordinators (contact gsa@rice.edu)
   a. Will need two coordinators
   b. Will attend Monthly campus-wide meetings (need 2 GSA reps at these meetings)
   c. Will also need: Men’s/Women’s Bike Captains, Pit Crew Captain, Chug Captains, Alumni Captains

II. Presentation: Meagan Whaley, Valhalla Manager (“Department Nights”)

FYI: Social activities can be hosted by any department at Valhalla. It is possible to create a tab for an entire department. Possible to reserve grills for these events. Will need to get SJP approval for any of these events.

Email Valhalla@rice.edu

*TG events can receive funding from GSA*

*Thanks again to Valhalla for all of their help during Centennial!*

III. New Business

1. New Department Representatives
   a. Barbara Redeker (Master of Liberal Studies)
   b. Cheryl Thompson (Master of Liberal Studies)

2. Proposed Dates for November and December Council Meetings:
   a. Tuesday, November 13, 6:00 pm
   b. Tuesday, December 11, 6:00 pm

3. New Clubs
   a. Earthquake Engineering Research Institute Rice University Student Chapter (Emily McCarthy): APPROVED
      i. Get speakers to come, anyone is welcome to join, initially geared towards civil engineering, will be doing outreach with high school students next semester, prestige and networking benefits that will come with this, have a blog, mailing lists, post flyers, and are creating
a website, $25 to be part of the national organization (will get some rebate from the national organization), t-shirt fundraiser, academic and professional group, speakers will primarily be a Houston area engineers, will have the money to bring in one person from out of state, so far 10 members (only a group for 2.5 months), a lot of undergraduate interest as well (esp. in a national competition)

b. Beer Club (Tyler White): **APPROVED**
   i. Jones School there is a wine club, but no beer club; learning about the beer industry as a whole as well as the differences between types of beer; entrepreneurial ideas—how to start your own brewery; also having social events; $30 annual dues (would cover annual events—like a kickoff event, maybe hosted at Valhalla; home brew competition—lots of ideas in the works)

3. Grants
   c. ChBE GSA Seminar Series, **APPROVED FOR $450**
      i. ChBE GSA, Lucas Kinard (different representative: Charles Conn)
   d. Career Opportunities in the Mathematical Sciences, **APPROVED FOR $400**
      i. Rice University Student Chapter of the Association for Women in Mathematics, Taylor McNeill (different representative: Christine Peterson)
   e. Graduate Student Seminar Reception, **DENIED FUNDING**
      i. Geounion, Monica Erdman (different representative: Chinh Nguyen)
   f.IEW Mini Soccer World Cup, **APPROVED FOR $320**
      i. OISS, Marco Santoro (different representative: Andy Meretoya)
   g. Welcoming Newcomers and Iranian Reunion, **APPROVED FOR $250**
      i. Rice Iranian Society, Ali Ayremlou
   h. EERI-RU October Seminar Series, **APPROVED FOR $200**
      i. EERI-RU, Emily McCarthy
   i. Latin American Leadership Seminar Series, **APPROVED FOR $250**
      i. LAGSA, Matias Kinzurik

*Total Requested in October: $1970*

*Amount left in Grants Budget as of 10/15/2012: $8750 (prior to Grants Approval)*