

GSC General Meeting
Wednesday, November 1, 2006

Minutes

Notes:

1. Crystal welcomed the meeting to order.
2. Jonathan announced Student Group Funding decisions and provided rationale on budgetary decisions for all 16 groups. He also generally noted that funding requests were not honored for food that was too expensive or events not specifically related to the mission of the organization. The vote on approving the student group funding decisions was passed.
 - a. A representative from the Harvard East Asia Society passed around information about the organization.
 - b. The Harvard Korea Society advertised an upcoming movie showing.
 - c. The GSAS Christian Fellowship advertised a talk that same night.
3. Robin Mount and Laura Malisheski from the Office of Career Services (OCS) spoke about academic and non-academic programs offered by the OCS (e.g. the Becoming Faculty series). They encouraged students to sign up for the OCS listserv. Also, **they discussed the proposed speakers for the 3rd Annual Spring Lecture** including Neil Degrasse Tyson, Peter Fiske, Mary McKinney, Valerie Young (the speaker two years ago on the topic of the “intellectual imposter”), and Jorge Cham (the speaker last year).
4. Crystal explained that the assortment of departments and programs makes it a bit difficult to figure out which programs “belong” to which At Large GSC Representative. Sofia stated that the appointments of GSC Representation have not yet been made official in the constitution, so there is room for discussion if a department representative feels that his/her program has been associated with the “wrong” At Large Representative. **A constitutional amendment to finalize the designations will be presented in the coming months.** Crystal answered a question about whether there can be subs for department reps. This practice is no longer alright, as department representatives need to be documented in order for their presence to “count.” For voting purposes, those who are not department representatives cannot participate. **The current constitution does not have a mechanism for choosing department representatives, but Crystal encouraged everyone present to work with their departments to create a mechanism for selecting next year’s representatives.**
5. Sarah thanked everyone for their participation in the Presidential Search Survey, which was a success. She announced the opportunity for department reps to help with compiling and processing the data that was collected. Information for that opportunity would be distributed the following week.
6. Representatives from a few organizations (including the Ethiopian Students Association at Harvard and the Harvard Chinese Students and Scholars Association) were not present at the general meeting, so they forfeited their funding for Fall 2006.
7. At-Large Reps were introduced and a break-out session was held so that the concerns of department representatives could be shared with the At-Large reps.