

GPIA Student Government

November 14, 2008

18:00-20:00

66 West 12th St, Room 619

Meeting called by: Emily Molfino and Sarah Cunningham

Type of meeting: General

Note taker/Timekeeper: Emily Molfino

Attendees: Sarah Cunningham, Emily Molfino, Brian Terranous, Amy Frame

Minutes

Agenda item: Thesis vs. Practicum Panel Planning

Discussion

- This panel is all set to go for the scheduled time Monday. There are 2 current students, 2 alumni, and 2 faculty members will take part.
- There was a push in advertizing during peer advising, especially those still unsure about which option.
- Get this institutionalized

Action Items

- Reserve Video Equipment and make forms for panel members for permission to post video
-

Agenda item: GPIA Town Hall Meeting

Discussion

- Though attendance was not as high as wanted (22 students, 8 faculty, 1 alumni), this event was a great way and helped bridge student concerns and ideas with those of the faculty.
- Emily wrote the minutes for this meeting, which are posted on GPIA.info.
- Some areas that Student Government can/will/has taken up: full time GPIA career service position (petition General Studies), continue peer advising every registration period, student profiles, and better lay out Research Methods (what should we get out of it, what other classes count for, etc).

Action Items

- Many of what was covered will be covered by other action items in these minutes.
-

Agenda item: GPIA Alumni Survey

Discussion

- This survey will act as the first step to create a position for a full time career advisor. Also, responses will help students plan their coursework and faculty/administration can use it to shape future changes.
- Brian and Amy came up with some questions based on what they and other people's responses of what would be interesting to know from alumni.
- Google Docs Form application is going to be the best way to get this out (free, no limits in questions, and in a simple format)
- Also, there are so many current students that are working full time. These resources aren't being tapped.

Action Items

- Get alumni list from Phil to start emailing this out and for a possible reward gift card.
- Finish survey and get this out Monday

Agenda item: Student Services Update (From Sarah)**Discussion**

- USS met with Academic and Student Services representatives (after the executive board met with Bob Kerrey)
- Items that were discussed: space constraints, building hours, library issues, and 13th Street Building renovations (when will café and reading room be open and stairwell use in buildings). They were told to compile a comprehensive list of priorities so that administration might take some on.
- The University would like to start co-sponsoring events with USS to include such things as food/toy drives, inauguration party, and NYC Care Day. In addition, the author of Vagina Monologues will be coming to conduct a training of production.
- Another issue is the lack of a Student Union. This might help improve the current lack of community spirit at The New School. Last year, it was mentioned that the basement of 11th St can act as this. However, it was deemed too expensive to move the boiler onto the roof and thus the project was cut.
- The Plans for 65 5th Ave is still in the works. The Board needs to approve. However, the current financial constraints only add to the previous lack of funding. There will be no classes held there during the spring, but groups can meet there possibly. President Kerrey would like to move quickly to tear building down.
- The Student Activities Fee that was passed last year is still in the process of coming into action. The question now is who will get charged (i.e. should people taking only one class be charged?)
- USS now has permission to send a monthly school wide email. (The University doesn't like the idea of USS being able to email the school.) They are current paying a group to create a website for them (weren't given a page on newschool.edu).

Agenda item: Budget**Discussion**

- Sarah went through and tried to rework the draft budget proposal so not to include any printing or food costs.
- Some ideas about what we can use money for: incentive for peer advisors, start-up costs for fundraising, gift card rewards for alumni survey, and money to get speakers to come in.

Action Items

- Sarah will email Mike about this

Agenda item: Elections**Discussion**

- Current term for Student Government President and Vice President ends in December. This allows for a Spring-to-Fall term for continuity.
- Emily's plan until her term ends: institutionalize!

Action Items

- Send out feeler email after Monday's Panel, Peer Advising, and Alumni Survey
- Find out about voting online

Agenda item: Student Profiles**Discussion**

- These need to be available as soon as possible to all students, alumni, and faculty.

- Just as what was done with the Wiki, these need to be incorporated into the rest of the site. (Use them for elections and how they are used on the student government website) These profiles can be used to improve class discussion pages.
- As per inappropriate material, it was brought up that beyond discriminatory/illegal material, there should be no other limits. With an initial disclaimer about the purpose of these profiles, people will know what not to put and what not. There should be no limits on what type of content (i.e. extracurricular activities, hobbies, interests).
- How are other schools using this? At American University, they can post jobs, blogs, employment information, etc.
-

Agenda item: Peer Advising

Discussion

- As requested during the Town Hall Meeting, peer advising is being held once again this past Thursday and once again Monday.
- This past Thursday can be seen as a success with lots of people. Many thanked Student Government for doing this service.
- Many of the questions were related to the difference between the CDE and RM classes, when they should take RM, which concentration should they do, IFP questions, and elective advice.
- However, response to be peer advisors was low. At the Town Hall Meeting it was mentioned that peer advisors might be able to get paid. However, it was then decided that this wouldn't fit in with the already set paid faculty advising.

Action Items

- Peer Advising will continue on Monday, 11am to 5pm
- Need to find out what courses count as Research Methods in other departments and the process to go about this (and what about 1 unit courses? How many of those?)
- Need to find a way to give incentive for more peer advisors (as a way to institutionalize this)