



GPSC General Assembly Meeting Agenda: October 1, 2013: 6:30pm, 0016 Westbrook

Presiding Officer: Shannon O'Connor

Refreshments: Daniel Brown

6:30pm: Welcome and Call to Order

Shannon O'Connor

6:31pm: Mahato Memorial Event

Laila Roudsari, Vice President of the Engineering and Graduate Student Council (EGSC)

- Introduction
 - 4th annual event
 - Put on by the EGSC to honor a former graduate student who was murdered in 2008 who had a particular passion for photography
 - It has 2 major components: A photo contest and an awards ceremony/event.
 - Go to mahato.duke.edu for more information
 - Submission link was in GPSC news
- About the image and photo contest:
 - Submissions are now open and will close on October 15th (note that the original deadline was October 1st)
 - Anyone can enter! You don't have to be in the engineering department. You can be a student, faculty, staff, or someone from the community
 - There are 2 categories for submission: the first is more tradition (science and arts oriented) and the other is for any cool image. The images can be manipulated
 - The prize money is funded by GPSC
 - Last year the winning picture was taken by an undergrad who photographed water falling in his dorm shower
 - The top 10 images are hung in the CIEMAS atrium for the whole year
 - They are also hoping to make calendars to sell this year as well
- Event
 - The photography contest awards ceremony will be held
 - Award ceremony
 - Dec 5th, at 6pm
 - Still finalizing keynote speaker. They have 3 excellent candidates from which to choose, including someone who takes bacteria images, someone who takes SEM images, and someone who works for the government who photographs insects.
 - Reception following the awards ceremony
 - Pratt will then award the Mahato scholarship
- Submit a photo and come to the event!
- Photos are to be submitted on Qualtrics. Again, this was in the GPSC news. Email lcr22@duke.edu if you have questions or want the link.
- Questions:
 - Dave Bollen (Divinity): does the photo have to be recent? Response: no it does not

6:37pm: Invited Speaker

Richard Riddell, PhD: Duke University Vice President and University Secretary

- Dr. Riddell states he would like to be a resource for us, and invites us to ask questions throughout his presentation
- There is a long tradition of cooperation between GPSC and the Board of Trustees (BoT) that has taken different forms
- There are 9 standing committees on the BoT, which have both graduate and undergraduate students on them as full voting members. This level of participation is different than many other universities, but we consider it a proud tradition to have this student participation
- What we will touch on today:
 - About the BoT, what they are thinking about, and what is expected of students who serve on the committees
 - Young trustee selection process
- What is the BoT?
 - All non-profit institutions have a BoT. They are legally responsible for the institution and this is written in the charter. Also, the buck stops with the BoT.
 - They do a lot of discussion about strategy looking ahead, the future of the university. They oversee the finances of the university. They also hire the president of the university, which is the only hiring they do.
 - The BoT also has two sub-boards
 - Health system: we have a very large health system. They operate separately within certain parameters
 - Investment company: manages \$6 billion. They report to the main BoT
 - Who are the board members?
 - There are 36 people. One third are elected by alumni, one third by the Western Conference of the United Methodist Church, and one third by the North Carolina United Methodist Church. This is written into our bylaws.
 - The process for selecting new board members has evolved over the years. The trusteeship committee nominates new members and forwards its selections to the church, which then receives the suggestions and ratifies them.
 - Meetings
 - The BoT and committees meet 4 times a year
 - The executive committee (who is empowered to do anything the board can do except hire and fire the president) meets 5 additional times a year (total of 9)
 - Most of the work of the board happens in the committees.
 - There are 9 standing committees with various scopes (business, academics, student life, development, facilities, etc).
 - The board essentially works through the committees. Any ideas that administrators want to bring to the trustees generally goes through the committees first. Rarely, it is first brought up to the executive committee.
- What issues are currently on the board's mind?
 - The board likes to focus on strategic issues
 - On a rotating basis, the board will examine each school carefully. This year, the Divinity School will be discussed. The dean of the school will make a presentation, talk about any challenges, suggest ways the board can help. The Sanford school will be examined at the end of the year. They have a new dean
 - There will also be a special review of Provost Peter Lange, who will be wrapping up 15 years as the provost. Over these years he has developed 2 strategic plans. He will discuss all the things he has learned and his vision for the future of the university

- Higher education is always of concern: they are concerned about the cost and value of particularly the undergraduate education. They have also looked at the cost/value of the business school and law school
- Health care happenings: although there is a health sector sub-board, the healthcare changes have broad impact on the university. It impacts the health system, health care plans for university employees, funding going into the medical school and other programs. It's important to hear from leaders on how these changes are being managed
- IT security: especially now that we have a campus in Singapore and soon in China. How will we manage security and information in remote places?
- There will also be a retreat of the BoT in February
 - They do this yearly as one of their meetings to step back and look at the big picture and take the long view
 - This year it's different because they are going off-site, to Stanford
 - Stanford is a university our board thinks a lot about because we are similar in many ways: we are a top academic university, with top athletic programs, and with a health system on campus. There are not many top 10 schools with all three of these characteristics
 - This actually closes a nice circle: Yale came to Duke 5 years ago. They were interested in starting their own Singapore venture. Stanford went to Yale to look at building more residential colleges
 - Of top 10 school, there are not many that have all 3 of these things
- The China campus is opening in May. They will look at any emerging issues
- Any questions thus far?
 - Jacob Hausman (Fuqua): are there any poignant issues that lack consensus on the board?
 - Response: the board always seeks to reach consensus. Only rarely are votes taken. Usually the vote by voice vote. Regarding what issues are on the table, he cannot talk about this as only the chair of the BoT can do so. Debated topics in the past have included Duke Kunshun and the cost of higher education. Overall, it is a very collegial group of people with differences in opinion, but who operate under a culture that allows them reach consensus.
 - Rui Dai (Medicine): Provost Lange as a major driver behind Duke Kunshun. How is this project going and how will it transition once he leaves?
 - The project is going very well. They are setting up a board for DKU. The construction people are confident that it will be finished on time.
 - Programs are developing rapidly, with lots of faculty that want to participate.
 - Provost Lange was indeed a big driver of this project as the provost, and as the new provost is hired in 2014, the handoff will occur. Peter has lots of connections and we greatly helpful in the transition.
 - Peter may wish to take some well-deserved sabbatical time after her retires, but is still a faculty member and will remain engaged with Duke in some capacity
- GPSC representatives on BoT standing committees
 - There are GPSC reps on the BoT standing committees who are full voting members. They are elected by the GA in the spring semester.
 - GPSC reps have a unique perspective and experience of Duke as a graduate student, but are not there to advocate on behalf of GPSC. You are there to consider and advocate for Duke as a whole, not just for grad student or to push a GPSC agenda.
 - Bringing up a topic that is not on the agenda raises eyebrows that this is a pet agenda, and is not productive to bring up.

- Members need to have a broad vision of the university
- Confidentiality
 - There is a board policy that the proceedings are confidential for 50 years. The minutes go into the archives and you need the permission of the chair to read them
 - If you serve on a committee, you will see that members are candid because everyone understands the conversations are confidential. This tradition of privacy is true of other private universities.
 - Some actions may be taken that become public
 - If you hear something and want to talk about it, you can talk to other committee members, the chair of the committee, or to Dr. Riedel
 - If there are things from GPSC that may be relevant to discussion, talk to the chair of the committee who can help you decide what to do
- Young Trustees
 - One of the 36 BoT members is a recent or current graduate or professional student with full voting rights
 - GPSC GA is the one who votes on who this person is. For the undergrads, they have a more public election process
 - When we get to the time of year where we elect our young trustee (spring), here are some qualities he would like us to consider
 - He has a document describing what they look for when finding a trustee that he will share with us
 - The person must think about and value the role of a research university in the world today
 - The person must be independent of mind, coming to conclusions themselves, and putting forward what they think in a group of people in a respectful and strong manner, yet at the same time know how to be collegial
 - The person must really like Duke. It is difficult being a board member and takes a lot of time commitment.
- Questions from the GA
 - Paul Triulzi (Liberal Studies): when we elected the young trustees, there was a question of what kind of feedback we would get from there. What can they talk to us about?
 - Since the meetings are confidential, they can't report back with what the board is discussing. Instead, they may talk about the work of the trustees, what it is like to be a trustee

7:05pm: Introductions from Reps

Shannon O'Connor

- Today we separated in 9 groups according to the 9 schools. We were tasked with coming up with a problem shared by each school that GPSC could help solve. Any ideas should be brought up at the end of the meeting during the announcements section

7:20pm: Committee Approval

Shanna Lehrman

- Two weeks ago we approved all external committee positions except for those positions that were not filled and those for people who had two appointments (because we still had GA reps without appointments). The GA asked that we approve the new positions this week
- The final list of committee appointments including those that have changed from last time were emailed to all the reps today.

- Internal committee appointments do not need to be voted upon. We only do this for the external committees, by our bylaws.
- We will be approving all the changes by slate today
- Questions:
 - Katie Bidding (Chemistry): she is a new rep and was placed on an internal committee. How should she proceed from here? Response: the internal committee chairs will contact the people selected to be on their respective committees and give them more information
- Bill Hunt (Englis) voted to approve this by slate, it was seconded, and the question was called to vote. The appointments were approved by slate by consensus of the GA
- There is still some availability in case you want to do a 2nd appointment
 - Send Shanna an email: [gpscuac@duke.edu](mailto:gpscuaac@duke.edu)
 - We then voted to allow Shanna to fill these few remaining positions without a subsequent vote by the GA. This was approved by consensus.

7:25pm: 5k Charity Race

Daniel Brown

- The Race Home 5k is on October the 19th at 8:30am
- Money raised will go towards refugee resettlement in the Triangle and outreach.
- Price is \$35 after 1st of the month
- Upcoming Charity Event:
 - Movember:
 - When the fellas grow out their moustaches to raise awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer
 - We will advertise it, and have an organization associated with Movement where people can donate money
 - Jeff Alpert (Law): we should advertise it in the newspaper
 - Jenny Rinker (CEE): we should have a moustache contest

7:28pm: Fall Social Events

Tiffany Wilson, Ben Shellhorn

- Thirsty Thursday is this week at Shooters
 - Initially, we had advertised it as free cover, but Shooters informed us that if we wanted them to open the space for just grad and professional students, they had to charge us a \$5 cover.
 - Instead, we will still be offering our generous bar tab so come and get your money's worth
 - Questions:
 - Rep from Fuqua: what is the budget? Response: It's \$800 which is standard for our bar tab
 - Ellen Rivers-Gambrell (Liberal Studies): Is this supposed to be every week? Response: no, we normally do this on the first Thursday of each money but campout threw off the schedule because it was so early in the semester
- Bowling party/inter-school competition
 - October 17th, 10pm, at AMF Lanes in Durham
 - There will only be Duke graduate and professional students there
 - We will try to make it an annual event
 - We want to make it a whole grad school competition. People will compete within their schools, and there will be prizes by school for the highest percentage of people who come (by enrollment) as well as for the best average single game score for each school

- Questions
 - Rep from Divinity: Will there be any provisions for child care? Response: This is an event where you could bring your children. Generally, we have never provided child care in the past. You can also bring your spouse to events, with a spouse card
 - Rep from Sociology: Do you need to preregister? Response: you can just show up. We will have people sign up with their schools one they are there.

7:40pm: Officer Updates

- Shanna Lehrman (University Affairs)
 - Now that we have finished elections, she will now be sending out your info to university contacts for the various committees. They will contact you. You need to be at each meeting and Shanna will know if you aren't there. If you can't make it, notify her and the university contact
- Brad Hover (Attorney General)
 - He is proud of our excellent implementation of Robert's Rules of Order

7:50pm: New Issues/Announcements

- Discussion of increasing attendance at social events
 - Paul Triulzi (Liberal Studies): There is typically poor graduate school participation at GPSC social activities, but it's unknown if this is because of the times the events are held or the variety of the events
 - Ben Shellhorn (Social co-chair): This could be for two reasons, either the programming is not what graduate school students are looking for, or graduate students do not know about the events. Addressing the first point, up until today, Tiffany and Ben (the social co-chairs) were the only ones running the events. Now that the social committee has formed, you can expect to have more variety of programs upcoming. If the reason is that students are not aware, it is part of the responsibilities of the reps of that school to make their constituents aware and increase participation.
 - Lee Hightower (Divinity): it's important for us as reps to be attending these events, that we can we know what is and is not working. The reps should also contact their constituents.
 - Dave Bollen (Divinity): a lot of the Divinity events are advertised on white boards in the lecture halls. They can advertise GPSC events there as well
 - Umar Nadeem (Engineering Management): events in their program are advertised on Facebook. We can post GPSC events there as well
 - Tiffany Wilson (Social co-chair): Ask your constituents to join the GPSC Student Life Facebook page (which is the easiest way to get the most up-to-date information) as well as subscribe to the new GPSC Google Calendar. Since the graduate school is the only school of the 9 without their own student government, perhaps they can join together. In addition, if people want to suggest types of events, please email Tiffany or Ben.
 - Jeff Alpert (Law): There is no substitute for face-to-face contact between the reps and their constituents. GPSC reps should try to find a place central in their respective schools where they can greet their constituents, and maybe hand out trinkets or flyers with GPSC logos on them.
 - Shannon O'Connor (VP): when you send your biweekly updates to your constituents, you might want to have an office hour listed so people can talk to you about their concerns.

- Kelli Kosuda (Divinity): She is attracted to events more like bowling, where she is more likely to attend knowing that people from here program will be there, yet still be part of a GPSC community event. In addition, events are appealing when it can be said that family members (or at least spouses) are welcome.
- Discussion about getting updates from reps seated on external committees
 - Stephanie Reist (Sanford): there have been some issues about parking. If you are having problems, email the reps on those committees
 - Shannon O'Connor (VP): Would it be useful for these committee members to give periodic updates and get feedback from the GA? We haven't done this in the past with a couple of exceptions. This would be easy to incorporate into the meeting agendas. Or should we stick to email updates?
 - Paul Triulzi (Liberal Studies): if there is a hot topic that we may want to talk about, we can vote for the rep on the committee to talk about it at the next meeting.
 - Alton Wright (MPP): Perhaps we can sent out a poll with the meeting agenda for people to vote on which 3 committees they want to hear from.
 - We may want to hear from each committee once at some point throughout the year
 - Scott Winton (Nicholas School) - we should have a version of "meet the reps" for the committees to learn what each committee does
 - Paul Triulzi thinks this would take up too much time because there are so many committees
 - Scott Winton suggests we can limit it to 3 minutes per committee.
 - Shanna Lehrman (University Affairs): we can have 4-5 reps each time talk 3-4 minutes about their role, to put a face to the name.
 - Amol Yadav (President): we can have a committee updates section at the end of the meeting, similar to the officer updates we have. Anything particularly important can be brought up.
- Discussion about Duke DIVEST
 - Scott Winton (Nicholas School): There is a student movement on campus called DIVEST. Duke has committed to becoming sustainable and carbon neutral by 2024, however the school has not disclosed its investments, including those potentially in major polluters. This movement asks administrators to disclose what investments the school has in major polluters. He just wants to make the sustainability committee aware that there is such a thing
 - Paul Triulzi (Liberal Studies): the undergraduates have a similar movement called Duke Open which asks to open details about the endowment.
 - DIVEST and Open are not the same movement
 - Brad Hover (Attorney General): the exec board has talked about this a lot and the issue is very complicated.
 - Scott Winton: will see if we can get the leader from DIVEST to come and speak

7:57pm: Reminders and Wrap-up

- FREE keg happy hour for reps outside the French Family Science Center after the meeting!
- Approval of previous meeting minutes
- Don't forget to send out your biweekly update to your constituents!
- Remember to send your updates, and get students to social events

8:05pm: Adjournment

GA meetings, 6:30pm, 0016 Westbrook

September 3, 2013

September 17, 2013

October 1, 2013

October 29, 2013 (Next one)

November 12, 2013

December 10, 2013