18:30  Call to Order
Abigail LaBella

18:31  Summary of Summer Activity
Ben Shellhorn

- Introduction for new reps, with three main topics: who you work with, what happened over the summer, role of the GA (details in meeting slides).
- Who you work with:
  - GPSC is a hub of several organizations
  - Eight schools have their own student councils, but GPSC is the only student government for the Graduate School, so GPSC has a direct impact on students of graduate school.
  - Quick overview of officers.
- What happened this summer:
  - Switch from "jip-see" to "G-P-S-C" to help with recognition as a governing body, not an affinity group.
  - Student survival guide wiki - potential to be a valuable tool
  - Tailgate - lots of time put into obtaining location
  - Orientations, executive accountability and legacy (wiki and memos), website redesign, GPSC news redesign, better relationship with DSG, relationships with other schools, Thirsty Thursdays
- What is the role of the GA?
  - Duke admin. goes to GPSC for student opinions, so role as a rep has a large impact for students on campus.
  - Things may not happen overnight, but opinions still matter - think prospectively for future students
  - Committees and caucuses - way to act as legislative body to regularly liaise with administration.
  - Meeting attendance is mandatory. Send a proxy in your place if you cannot attend.
Basketball Committee Updates
Ben Gaines and Ralph Michael Peace

- Registration closes Wednesday 9/17 at 5pm
- 3 sites at campout - starts Friday night in Blue Zone probably after 8 pm
- K-ville: Campout Carnival event, family friendly part of Campout
- Card gym all day Saturday: morning yoga, afternoon/early evening studying, late night dance party
- Checks throughout the weekend
- Different events at Campout at the main site (Blue Zone)
- Google Duke Basketball Campout for [website](#), links for registration and event timeline
- Relay to constituents - registration closing soon, more of a community event instead of just basketball
- Blue zone grass field is now gravel. Tenting will be on gravel or on pavement, bring pallets
- RV participation will be by lottery if more people sign up than slots available
- Exemptions - must gather materials and submit to box in UCAE
- Dorehn Coleman, Director of Student Life - exemptions process available? Yes, on website.
- Part-time students - eligibility is if you are a full time student and/or pay the student activities fee.
- Umar Nadeem, Master of Engineering Management - where does the canned food go? Food bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina
- Contact the Basketball Chairs ([bball.cmte@gmail.com](mailto:bball.cmte@gmail.com)) if you have any questions. Re-send an email if no response within a day or so.

Student Health Survey Results
Aaron Towers

- Example of something that can be led by a rep as Aaron was last year
- Goal: find out how G&P students feel their health needs are being met
- 424 students took survey
- Details of statistics in meeting slides. Highlights:
  - General satisfaction with health insurance overall and student health services
  - Many services at CAPS not used very much by graduate students
  - Desire for vision insurance: 46% want it only if there is no increase in premium, 40% want it even if the premium goes up. Lack of vision insurance increases stress for over 60% of respondents.
Desire for dental insurance: 53% have no dental insurance, 35% want it if the premium does not increase, 61% even if the premium goes up, 80% report increased stress due to lack of dental insurance.

- Can use results to draft a resolution (see below).
- Wei Han, BME - many graduate students don’t pay health insurance premiums. Will additional cost be covered by Duke or passed along to students? We don’t know yet, ideally wouldn’t want all of cost passed to student, shouldn’t be more than what students pay at peer institutions
- Abhi Chhetri, biochemistry: will reps have access to the data? Yes, the summary will be distributed through the meeting slides with the minutes, but the raw data will probably only be given to the caucus working on the health resolution.

19:02 Introduction to Resolutions
Abigail LaBella and Ben Shellhorn

- Why write resolutions? Express a wish of the GA to the administration: desire for policy change, adopt a course of action, dissatisfaction, etc.
- Basic structure of a resolution: situation, recommendation, supporting material.
  - Present an issue: state facts, support with data instead of anecdotes.
  - Recommendation: conclusion where you resolve something. Generally not implementation based.
  - Supporting material: data, appendix, etc.
- Only a GA rep can bring a resolution to the floor.
- Two standards, American Standard and United Nations. AS: "whereas" clauses stating facts. UN: format uses specific terms, technical and highly structured
- Details of formats in meeting slides.
- Either style can be used, but the draft resolution should be properly formatted. Once introduced, it is no longer property of the author - the GA can change it as they see fit.
- All resolutions will be kept as part of GA records, even if they are not passed.
- Example for dental resolution in UN format, sent with agenda and shown in meeting slides.
- Draft will be passed to a caucus. This is so the Duke decision makers know that this is something that the GA believes in, and the information can be useful for someone to advocate on our behalf.

19:14 Committee Approval
Colleen McClean
Committee appointments - can be approved by slate by simple majority or suspended with 2/3 vote and voted on individually.

Draft slate sent out on September 12th, Judicial committee has to be approved separately.

New appointments will be approved as a slate at the next meeting.

Call to vote and approve by slate: First by Rui Dai, Medicine; second by Scott Winton, Environment.

No oppositions to vote or to approve by slate.

Judicial Committee nominations: Rui Dai (Medicine), Thomas Cole (Classical Studies), Natalie Salmanowitz (Bioethics and Science Policy), John Howard (Divinity).

Judicial committee reviews and updates bylaws, takes on contentious topics or questionable actions, helps with allegations of misconduct, and supports the Attorney General during elections.

Call to vote and approve appointments: First by Scott Winton, Environment; second by Cullen Roth, Genetics & Genomics.

No opposition to vote or to approve judicial committee by slate.

19:21 **Caucus Ice Breaker**
Colleen McClean

- Caucus groups gathered.
- Introductions of caucus members, what they want to change at Duke, why they love Duke, why they selected their committee.

19:47 **Intro to caucuses and prep for next meeting**
Colleen McClean

- Next meeting will be dedicated to caucuses.
- Purpose is to share ideas from committees.
- Dental resolution is example of what we can do this year.
- Next meeting will be at the medical school in the Mary Duke Biddle Trent Siemans Center for Health Education, a.k.a. TSCH [link to map](#). Enter through ground level entrance on the southeast corner of the building, at the top of the staircase.
- Bring a laptop for recording. Caucuses will elect a secretary and include Colleen on their Google Doc group.
- Hanna Ontiveros, history, email with info? Yes, info about next meeting will be sent to all reps.
- Contact from university committees: they have already been informed of reps who are serving, they will reach out to rep for meetings. Contact Colleen in two weeks you have not heard from your committee.
• Give yourself extra time to park for the next meeting.

19:53  **Student Life**  
Ben Shellhorn  
• Stephanie Reist leaving to go to Brazil, Dorehn Coleman nominated to take her place.  
• Abhi Chhetri, Biochemistry moved to vote, seconded by Stacey Zhang, Marine Science and Conservation  
• No opposition to voting or to affirmation, Dorehn Coleman confirmed as new Director of Student Life.

19:57  **New Issues/Announcements**  
General Assembly  
• No GA issues or announcements

19:58  **Officer Updates**  
Executive Board  
• Abigail LaBella, Executive Vice President: Fall funding closes Sept 23rd at 11:59 pm. Note that there is a new event reporting requirement. Contact Yilin Liu (yilin.liu@duke.edu) with questions.  
• Stephanie Reist, Director of Student Life: consider cosponsorship from student life, if your event is outside the funding cycle guidelines. The event must be open to all students.  
• Abigail LaBella, Executive Vice President: Issue in progress: grad student payments and reimbursements. Types of payments, issues with whether they are taxed or not and how, access to funds, etc. slide with payments shown in slides. Contact Abbe (abigail.labella@duke.edu) with questions or comments.  
• Tiffany Wilson, Executive Secretary: don’t forget to provide a proxy if you can’t attend a meeting, leave your voting cards in the meeting room  
• Rachel Rothendler, Director of Student Life: tailgate Saturday, happy hour at The Loop after the meeting.

20:02  **Reminders and Wrap-up**  
• Send an update to your constituents  
• Next GA Meeting - Tuesday September 30th at 6:30pm in the Trent Semans Center

20:03  **Approval of Minutes and Adjournment**
• Call to approve minutes and adjourn: Rui Dai, Medicine; second by Abhi Chhetri, Biochemistry.
• Meeting minutes approved and meeting adjourned with no opposition.