

Princeton USG Senate
Meeting 7
March 20th, 2022
8:00 pm EST



Introduction

1. Question and Answer Session (2 minutes)
2. President's Report (Mayu Takeuchi, 2 minutes)
 - a. Listen → Adapt → Take Action
 - b. Want to learn from mistakes and move forward as a team
 - c. Mid-Semester letter
 - i. Inform student body and collect suggestions
 - ii. Discusses meetings attended
 - iii. Examples of committee work

New Business

1. Committee Updates (10 mins each)
 - a. Austin Davis (Academics)
 - i. Committee programming
 1. Concentration Declaration Open houses
 2. ODS accommodations webinar
 3. Academic integrity refresher
 - ii. Finalized minors proposal
 1. Will go to faculty vote this week
 2. Changes how certificates work
 3. Dean Peebles will come for questions in future meetings (April 10)
 - iii. Health Survey Report
 1. Working with Dean Stanton to operationalize recommendation for Attendance Module in Canvas
 - iv. Next fall and this semester
 1. Academic expo planning
 2. Focus groups on grading and assessment
 3. First year orientation
 - a. Will meet with heads of residential colleges
 4. Academic integrity and financial aid
 5. Coursebooks
 6. Taking feedback from undergraduate community
 - v. Carlisle: Can you elaborate on the focus groups on grading and assessment?

1. It's not finalized, but the structure will be 3 groups: one with just students, one with just faculty, and a mixed group
 - vi. Carlisle: What are the central questions or themes?
 1. Mental health mostly. Grades are key to mental health for a lot of students and can affect students' perception of self worth, discussion of how grades impact further study
 - vii. Kanishkh: Why are academic integrity and financial aid together?
 1. It's weird. Most of academic integrity stuff happens under Avi's committee but financial aid happens under Academics, and we want to examine how violations affect financial aid of students who have to repeat semesters
 - b. Audrey Zhang (Sustainability)
 - i. Values: LOVE, respect, empathy
 - ii. Embrace sustainability, connect with administration, hold ourselves and each other accountable
 - iii. Coffeehouse
 1. Art gallery and event to celebrate sustainability
 - a. April 2nd @ 12pm
 2. Please publicize if possible
 - c. Madison Linton (Social)
 - i. 10 total members
 - ii. Reviewed past Lawnparties Survey
 - iii. Date for Lawnparties: April 24th
 - iv. Sent Lawnparties interest form
 1. Pop ranked #1, followed by alt indie and hip hop
 - v. Forming list of food trucks
 - vi. Planning promotion for this week or next week
 - vii. Student opener form sent out last week, will most likely pick this week
 - viii. Kanishkh: This is also during Ramadan, so you may want to reach out about that
2. DEI Referendum Vote (Braiden Aaronson, 15 mins)
 - a. Parliamentary Procedure
 - i. A third of the Senate must approve to sponsor the referendum
 1. USG says that it wants to support the referendum
 - ii. 2nd vote to approve language (*Will discuss next week*)
 1. Does not deal with content
 - iii. Carlisle: What if the language pertains to the content?
 1. Kate: That would be resolved with the vote relating to support
 - iv. For student sponsored referenda, the Senate only votes on language
 - b. The Charter

- i. Institutionalize DEI and ensure longevity
 - ii. DEI Chair will be elected, sit on ExComm, and be a voting Senate member
 - iii. Goal: Promote diversity and pursue equity (Article I, II, III)
 - iv. Thank you to everyone who helped create and edit this document
 - v. Stephen: Does this conflict with USLC jurisdiction?
 - 1. Avi: USLC defines jurisdiction by saying we have power over what the other committees don't have jurisdiction
 - 2. Kate: You would need to amend the USLC charter (by a majority vote) but that does not need to happen for us to vote on supporting this referendum
 - 3. Sean Bradley motions for a vote, Austin Davis seconds
 - a. 21 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions
 - b. *The vote passes*
3. Budget Proposal: Princeton Perspectives Project - \$1000 (Stephen Daniels, 2 mins)
- a. Reveals student stories and talks about campus life, specifically how failure intertwines with students' lives here
 - b. Audrey: Will it be a college or headshots? How will this work?
 - i. I think it will be headshots → Ask Lauren and there is much more info on the website
 - c. What has the general impact been? Has there been feedback that has shown it's worthwhile?
 - i. Stephen: I don't have quantitative data but I know qualitatively we've had positive responses and it has personally been helpful for me
 - ii. Sean Bradley motions for a vote, Mariam Latif seconds
 - 1. 21 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions
 - 2. *The vote passes*
4. Internal Resources working group Update (Dillion Gallagher, 15 mins)
- a. Mayu and Hannah created Chief of Staff to help with internal operations
 - i. Day to day operations + long term projection
 - b. USG Reform Project
 - c. Disinterest among student body in the work of USG
 - d. Biggest strength everyone pointed to was members of USG themselves
 - e. Internal goals:
 - i. Responsibilities republished
 - ii. Attendance enforced
 - iii. Task forces institutionalized
 - iv. Historian in charge of the USG survey
 - v. Potential for expanding the size of USG → discussion

- f. External goals:
 - i. Efforts to recruit people to run for positions
 - ii. Vote100 partnership
 - iii. Integrated efforts with class government to clarify who students should be communicating with
 - g. Want major changes presented to student body
 - h. Reforms to be implemented by Winter Election Cycle
 - i. Avi: The constitution was drafted in '94, do you know how big overhauls have gone in the past?
 - i. Dillion: No, that's partially because I'm new but I'm not sure anyone does.
 - ii. Kate: The Parliamentarian position was made in 2015. There has been no major revival since my sophomore fall (2020) when we needed to change the election cycle, which changed the elections handbook and parts of the Constitution. All of that is on the website.
 - j. Adam: It seems part of the issue is the pace of change. There are a lot of hurdles so how will you institute these changes by the end of your term?
 - i. Dillion: There's both on-paper change and cultural change. We do some self moderation of our ambitions so we would have to change the culture around that. The on paper changes are about publishing responsibilities. We have good relationships with administration but we don't want to be an extension of administration. We need more active engagement with students and not just the assumption that they will pay attention to what we do.
 - k. Audrey: What is the long term vision and ideal future of this project of USG?
 - i. The USG would be an active representative of the student body. It would be as diverse as the student body and these meetings will be more engaging. We want to be a partner with administration not an extension of it and we need to be a voice for the students.
 - l. Carlisle: This is excellent and I'm happy you are doing it.
5. Mental Health Referendum Update (Stephen Daniels, 2 mins)
- a. Condensed the referendum to call on administration to investigate gaps in current framework for mental health
 - b. Going forward:
 - i. Finalizing draft
 - ii. Vote next week on whether the Senate supports this referendum
 - iii. Strategy meetings to gain support from student body
6. Attendance Report (Charlotte Selover, 2 mins) (*Pushed to next week*)

President's Report, March 20
Mayu Takeuchi

From week of Mar 14

- Weekly meeting with Dean Tom Dunne, 3/14
 - Discussed efforts to increase engagement in USG elections, especially running to serve on Class Government and U-Council
 - Discussed strategies for advocating for mental health resources
 - Checked in about progress of task forces and accountability mechanisms to ensure effective work
- General Elections Open House, 3/14
 - Went great!
 - Thanks to Sarah, Stephen, Isabella, Dillion, Mariam, Audrey, Braiden, Eric, and Adam, and Hannah for repping USG at the open house!
 - Had 100 boba teas - all gone, which meant we shared elections info with at least 100 people
 - Had sit-down 1:1 and small group conversations about our roles on USG
- Elections, generally
 - Referendum open house
 - Audrey & I put up posters – thank you Sarah for designing them and Dillion and Hannah for reviewing!
 - I've had about a dozen one-on-one conversations with students so far, including calendly sign-ups and at the open house
 - Developed a video, to be posted on Instagram
- Strategy for mental health referendum
 - 1:1 meetings with VP Calhoun and 15 USG Senate members to discuss the substance of our advocacy for the mental health referendum
 - Updates to be shared by Stephen at 3/20 Senate meeting
 - The referendum is just one tool in our overarching strategy to advocate for better mental health resources for students
- Town Hall, 3/15
 - Went well!
 - Approximately 15 administrators and 60 student attendees
 - Covered topics including the reasoning behind the recent updates to guidelines (monthly testing, masking optional) and support and resources for immunocompromised students
 - Thanks to Hannah & Sarah for coordinating, and to Charlotte, Braiden, and Alen for taking notes!
- Meeting about Move-Out/Resale+ with Kristi Wiedemann (Office of Sustainability) and Sean, 3/16

- Discussed strategy for institutionalizing the Move-Out/Resale+ program for future years (donating dorm items at the end of spring, sold at lower cost at the beginning of fall → affordability and sustainability benefits)
 - Recognized significant and increasing student demand for the program
 - Will convene meeting in mid-April with key administrator stakeholders
- Communication with Emma Parish and others (Office of Admissions) about the Princeton Pals program
 - Announced in March 20 newsletter
 - An opportunity for '26 to be paired with current students – exciting!
- Meeting with Emily Singer and Mary Buckley (Office of Admissions) and Walker
 - Planned steps for creating a Welcome Video for the Class of '26 from the USG
 - Since the meeting, Walker and I have contacted select USG members to schedule a filming session in late March
 - Vision: a friendly/personal ~3 minute video where USG members share their favorite moments from their Princeton experience, followed by me encouraging Princeton Pals
- Meeting with Jessica & Maddy, University Office of Communications, 3/16
 - Discussed opportunities for me to share a message via central Princeton accounts as we head into the later half of the semester
- Meeting with Madi re: Lawnparties Updates, 3/17
 - All moving forward smoothly, including with artist bids, taking into consideration pre-Lawnparties survey feedback
 - Thanks Madi and to the Social Committee members for all your thoughtful work to bring together our first Spring lawnparties in three years!
- Meeting with Caitlin re: role of historian and archival projects, 3/18
 - Planned for projects to move forward: developing a landscape analysis assessing the archival materials currently available
 - Will check in in two weeks to assess progress
- Meeting with Audrey, 3/18
 - Great presentation to the Princeton Sustainability Committee (administrators, faculty, and students convened to discuss campus issues relevant to sustainability) this past week! Audrey shared updates about the work of the Sustainability Committee
 - Thanks Audrey and to the Sustainability Committee members for all your hard work to build sustainability our campus culture!
- Meeting with Avi, 3/19
 - Discussed priorities and progress of the USLC
 - Avi advocated to bring mental health as a focal theme of the upcoming USLC meeting on March 28 – amazing! USG, GSG, and the USLC working group will

be presenting updates. Either I or Hannah will be presenting updates on behalf of the USG.

- Moving forward conversations about disciplinary processes
- Thanks Avi and to the USLC for your continued efforts to better represent and advocate for student interests!
- Meeting with Austin, 3/19
 - Discussed priorities and progress of the Academics Committee
 - Anticipating an exciting update at the March 21 CPUC meeting!
 - Thanks Austin and to the Academics Committee for your ongoing work especially on long-term initiatives!
- Meeting with Braiden, 3/19
 - Discussed DEI referendum and opportunities to institutionalize DEI in the work of USG
 - Planned towards meeting with the Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
 - Thanks Braiden and to the DEI Committee for your thoughtful work to weave the principles of DEI into all aspects of our work as USG!
- Meeting with Isabella, 3/20
 - Checked in about progress and priorities of CCA, planned a follow-up conversation
 - Thanks Isabella and to the CCA Committee for your innovative ideas and plans for connecting us with our local community!

Upcoming items for week of Mar 21

- Meeting with VP Calhoun and Dr. Chin, 3/21
- Weekly meeting with Dean Dunne
- CPUC 3/21
- Meeting with Jed Marsh, Office of Institutional Research, 3/22
- Meeting with Michelle Minter and Shawn Maxam, Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
- Meeting with new President of the Inter-Club Council
- Meeting with Cecily Swanson and Mary Alexander to begin planning Academic Expo for Class of '26

USG Movies Committee Spring 2022 Mid-Semester Report

Committee Members:

Addele Hargenrader	addeleh@ 2024	Garden Theatre
Melina Huang	melinah@ 2023	Social Media
Sam Liu	stliu@ 2022	Partnerships & Outreach
Will Rehm	wrehm@ 2024	Garden Theatre
Charles Roth	charlieroth@ 2024	Outdoor Movies, Garden Theatre
Cheyenne Zhang	cz10@ 2022	Chair

Committee Meetings:

- Thursdays @ 4:45pm (Previous: 2/4, 2/12, 2/15, 2/24)

Garden Theatre:

Spring 2022 Garden Theatre Data:

Event	Registered	Waitlist	Attended	% Attended	\$
2/18 (Fri) – The Big Sick	66	0	31	46.97%	\$279
2/19 (Sat) – Pride & Prejudice	163	0	90	55.21%	\$810
2/24 (Thu) – Belfast	62	0	35	56.45%	\$324
2/25 (Fri) – tick...tick...BOOM!	49	0	24	48.98%	
2/26 (Sat) – tick...tick...BOOM!	30	0	18	60.00%	\$387
3/3 (Thu) – The Batman	287	8	119	41.46%	
3/4 (Fri) – The Batman	207	71	109	52.66%	
3/5 (Sat) – The Batman	209	43	136	65.07%	\$3,429

Takeaways from Data:

- Average attendance is currently **53.35%**, up from last semester's 48.59% - Total spending of **\$5229** for the first half of the semester
- The Garden Theatre was able to start Thursday showings again for us this semester; seem to be the most popular (**Thursday > Friday > Saturday**)
- New releases have the most attendance (and also are the most expensive); unfortunately, not too many in the spring that overlap with student interest / Garden Theatre availability
- Other: Spring 2022 Undergraduate Student Body Movie Poll had **559 responses**

Goals Moving Forward:

- Capitalize on having Thursdays again!
- Increase attendance:
 - Instagram engagement

- Reminder emails
- Continue to tweak allowed capacity on CampusGroups
- Aim to have movies not available on streamers
- Work on marketing (have started using listservs in addition to USG newsletters)

Outdoor Movies:

**Note: Due to winter weather, we have not held any Outdoor Movies in the first half of this semester*

Last Semester:

- Mean Girls, Knives Out, Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings

Upcoming:

- Planning to hold 3-4 from early April to mid-May, with the first one being a larger kickoff event

Outreach/Partnerships:

Last Semester:

- Eternals @ AMC Marketfair

Upcoming:

- Dr. Strange in the Multiverse of Madness @ AMC Marketfair
- California King — feature film by Princeton alum, to be released in April - Ivy Film Festival — collaboration with the Ivy League's premiere film festival - Possible guest speaker

Social Media:

Instagram: @princetonusgmovie

This Semester:

- Currently 800+ followers; started from 0 in November 2021
- Weekly stories + posts promoting our events
- Recently transitioned to a more “meme”-focused style
- Ongoing giveaway series has already greatly increased engagement; will run for the next couple of weeks

Upcoming:

- Continue giveaway series to further increase following and thus attendance at our events