

**Princeton USG Senate
Meeting 5
October 10, 2021
8:00PM**



**Undergraduate
Student
Government**

Introduction

- 1. Question and Answer Session (15 minutes)**
- 2. President's Report (5 minutes)**

General Updates

- Lawnparties experience survey launched Thursday 10/7
- 21 students have been placed with the Semester Internship program
- COCS met on 9/28 to discuss USG priorities such as mixed concentrations
- Office hours
 - USG Senate Wed 8-9pm
- USG x Athletics programming
 - Thursday 10/21: Outdoor movie
 - Saturday 10/23: Food trucks for Homecoming game

New Business

- 1. Presentation and Q&A: VP Calhoun (20 minutes)**
 - CPUC Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Climate, Culture, and Conduct was created in 2019 to investigate sexual climate and culture on campus. The committee aims to create prevention strategies. The committee met with students, hosted a presentation to faculty by Shamus Khan and Jennifer Hirsch.
 - In Spring 2021, the We Speak survey on sexual assault will be administered to gain a deeper understanding of climate and culture on campus.
 - ODUS has focused on bridging leadership gaps between younger and older classes as student groups have resumed activities on campus.

Questions from the Senate:

- What are the expected outcomes/deliverables from the committee?
 - First, the Ad Hoc Committee met with Housing and campus architects to discuss how to create safe dormitory spaces (e.g. seating, lighting). The committee hopes to engage different parts of campus to view their work as integral in promoting a healthy sexual climate on campus. Secondly, the committee is also examining evidence based practices and prevention-oriented practices that have worked on other college campuses. Thirdly, the committee will be using institutional

research. Lastly, the committee will continue to educate students and faculty on creating a healthy sexual environment on campus.

- Given students' difficult experiences with the COVID-19 related disciplinary procedures last spring, are there any plans to reexamine the disciplinary outcomes?
 - The University determined that upholding a tighter social contract was important for making expectations clear. Clarity about expectations was an important part of allowing all students to come back to campus last spring. The University decided not to begin this semester with a Social Contract in an effort to resume normalcy in disciplinary action. Though the stricter regulations may have strained some students, they were necessary expectations for public health last spring.
- How should students with COVID-related disciplinary probations apply for scholarship/post-graduate programs if they are no longer in good standing with the University?
 - The University wishes to support and help students contextualize students' disciplinary records, especially if disciplinary action happened due to stricter Social Contract regulations at the time. This support can be in the form of recommendations, explanations, or endorsements.
- What is the University's policy on restricting international travel for undergraduate students, especially those who are traveling to countries with high vaccination rates?
 - The Global Safety and Security team have reviewed travel guidelines and are revising international travel rules for students. Personal, family-related travel, especially to one's home country, will be allowed.
- Has there been any conversation about how the social contract might have affected and discouraged reporting of sexual misconduct?
 - Offices have been engaged in conversation about those concerns. Students should await conclusions from these conversations.
- What is the general status of the anti-racism initiatives from last year?
 - A report on the initiatives undertaken under cabinet officers will be released next week. These initiatives are an ongoing dialogue to create racial equity and antiracism on Princeton's campus on a systemic level. The University is also engaged in conversations with an external committee to assess Princeton's progress. The University will aim to produce annual reports and an external review in several years.
- How has the University been monitoring mental health on campus this semester?
 - The University is engaged in a 3 part conversation with Trustees. Mental health is not an acute issue, though the University aims to address acute issues as they happen. The University monitors both mental health and mental illness through an integrated process. Outreach counselors who work with sports teams, the Carl A Fields Center, CPS, graduate students, E-Quad, and other areas of campus

monitor for early signs of distress in the community. This approach is comprehensive, strategic, and early. The University considers the level of staffing at UHS and CPS as well as programs like Cognito for students and faculty.

- What steps are being taken to address issues specific to Princeton that negatively impact students' mental health?
 - A toolkit for faculty to create a healthy learning environment will be released later this semester. Dean Dolan has engaged faculty in discussions about grading, learning, and progress. This ongoing dialogue underscores that compassion and care can exist in a rigorous academic environment.
- How will the University help students who are unable to meet with CPS because they do not have a private space to talk?
 - The University is aware of this issue, but would appreciate student input.
- Will there be a follow up to the grading report released by the Faculty Committee on Examinations and Standing? There were questions included in this report that remained unanswered.
 - The committee met again last week to discuss how to bring further clarity to those issues.

2. Resolution to charge USG-ODUS Lawnparties Review Committee: Christian Potter (15 minutes)

Questions from the Senate:

- What kinds of students is the committee looking for?
 - This is still undecided, but the committee is open to students who want to offer input. However, this question is important as this was the first Lawnparties with two years of undergraduate students who had never attended an in-person Lawnparties, so the University would like to aggregate all perspectives.
- Will there be a town hall to address concerns about Lawnparties?
 - This resolution aims to engage this community on an expedited timeline. Most members of the community are students, with the exception of Dean Dunne and Lexy from ODUS. This committee was created by USG—not the University—so it will aim to integrate as much student input as possible. A survey was sent out in relation to this committee, which has already received over 500 student responses. ODUS has engaged in conversations with students who had severe difficulties at Lawnparties.
- What is meant by selecting representatives from the Social Committee who will participate in this committee?
 - The Social Committee will determine amongst themselves who will serve on this committee.
- Why does this resolution not include students who are not in USG?

- Students who are in USG are already student representatives and searching for other students outside of USG to serve on this committee would delay this timeline. Furthermore, students engaged in USG are already committed to serving the student body, and Lawnparties was a USG event. Outside student input will be considered even if those students are not sitting on the committee through channels like the survey and the Transparency task force.
- How will the committee interact with the ICC, as the ICC provided the venue for Lawnparties?
 - The committee will determine how to structure those conversations. ICC has informally welcomed the idea this charge.
- Would the committee consider making agendas for these meetings publicly available?
 - Yes, the committee could consider this idea.

Votes

Yes: 20

Abstain: 4

No: 0

Consent Agenda

1. Committee on Discipline
 - a. Diana Espindola '23
 - i. My name is Diana Espindola, I am a junior studying Computer Science, and I am from Miami, Florida. I love to play Mafia with Liars' Club, network with PWICS, and organize fun study breaks for my zees! If you are ever looking for a friend, find me in a Firestone library study room or Baker Hall's 2nd floor lounge.
 - b. Austin Glover '24
 - i. Austin Glover is a sophomore and an intended SPIA major from Syracuse, Utah, with interests in politics, history and French. He is a member of the Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu club who likes to spend his down time exploring the outdoors or collecting books that he swears he'll get to reading eventually, and his goal beyond Princeton is to work in the service of the nation and of humanity as either a Foreign Service Officer in the US State Department or as a Peace Corps Volunteer.
 - c. David Veldran '23
2. Movies Committee
 - a. Addele Hargenrader (returning)
 - b. Melina Huang (returning)

- c. Samantha Liu (returning)
- d. Charles Roth
- e. Will Rehm