

**Princeton USG Senate
Meeting 2
September 12, 2021
8:00PM**



Introduction

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

General Updates:

- U-Council and CPUC
 - U-Council applications closed; interviews will be conducted Monday 9/13-Wednesday 9/15
 - After U-Councilors are selected, two U-Council representatives will be elected to serve on the CPUC Executive Committee. One of these two U-Council representatives will be the U-Council Chair.
 - CPUC subcommittees need student members; see Newsletter for information on application, which will be open to all undergraduates.
 - Committee applications close tomorrow (9/13) at midnight
 - Next CPUC meeting will be Monday, Sept 20th; U-Councilor attendance is mandatory

Committees:

- Judicial
- Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities
- Naming
- Governance
- Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Climate, Culture, and Conduct

New Business

- 1. Wintersession: Judy Jarvis (20 minutes)**

Wintersession is a two week experience in January for Princeton University community members to experiment and explore through non-graded learning opportunities. It seeks to use the talents of undergraduate and graduate students as well as staff and faculty as teachers, learners, or both.

- Free to attend
- Housing and dining is free for all undergraduate and graduate students
- January 10-23rd, 2022

What's New for 2022

- In person

- 250-300 workshops will be offered
- 10-20 sessions will be virtual
- Local and regional trips
- Daytime and evening workshops
- Evening events every night of Wintersession

Schedule

- Intensives run 10am-4pm
- Double evening workshops are offered Mon-Thurs
- No formal programming during the day on Sat and Sun with events and workshops offered in the evening

Why Should You Lead a Session?

- Provides opportunities for students to delve into their passions
- Promote the work of and gain new members for your student group
- The Office of Wintersession handles logistics including room reservation, outreach, registration, promotion, etc.
- Funding is available for student session materials and trips
 - Student proposals are prioritized for funding

Important Dates:

Workshop proposal deadline: Sept 28, 2021

Evening events proposal deadline: Dec 10, 2021

Registration: Nov 1-19th, 2021

Final registration: Jan 3-5th, 2021

Wintersession: Jan 10-23rd, 2021

Questions from the Senate:

- Will evening events require registration?
 - Some will require registration while others will allow anyone to drop in. This will be announced closer to Wintersession.
- Will evening and day time events/workshops be eligible for funding?
 - Yes, both are eligible for funding.
- Can students move into housing for part of Wintersession?
 - Yes, housing dates are flexible. Students can drop in for certain parts of Wintersession and come in for sessions even if they are not living on campus during Wintersession.
- Will the Eating Clubs be open for meals?
 - This needs more clarification. However, one of the goals of Wintersession is gathering participants together for meals.
- What are double sessions?

- Many arts sessions will meet for a second session to finish a project that cannot be finished within one session.
- What are the funding amounts available for proposals?
 - Last year, the average funding amount was \$300-500 due to the virtual nature of the events and the costs of shipping materials. This year, the Office anticipates that there will be more requests for food. There is no formula or established numbers, and faculty and the board reviews proposals to determine how much funding is appropriate.
- Could the Office fund trips?
 - Yes.
- Can students lead intensives?
 - Yes.
- Would transportation be provided for student-led workshops/events?
 - The Office cannot organize the logistics of transportation, but it will review and approve requests for transportation in applications.

2. Elections Announcement: Brian Li (5 minutes)

Class of 2025 Elections

- 20-30 candidates expected
- Sept 13-14th: Open House for Candidates (all candidates expected to attend at least one)
- Using CampusGroups (instead of ElectionsRunner); will be using CampusGroups for future elections
 - May use ElectionsRunner for ranked choice voting elections
- Approval voting system

Questions from the Senate:

- What are solutions for ranked choice voting elections systems?
 - Yes/no/abstain can be accommodated by CampusGroups. Using a different ranked choice ballot is also an option. If other solutions do not work, reverting back to ElectionsRunner is a possibility?

3. Projects Board Funding Requests: Nelson Dimpler (10 minutes)

Asian American Students Association Speaker Request: \$1,500

- Votes:
 - Yes: 20
 - Abstain: 0
 - No: 0

Muslim Students Association Welcome Back Banquet: \$2,000

- Votes:

- Yes: 20
- Abstain: 0
- No: 0

J-Lat Shabbat: \$1,800

- Votes:
 - Yes: 20
 - Abstain: 0
 - No: 0

4. Task Force Proposals: 30 minutes (5 mins each)

Date: September 12, 2021

Title: Transfer Program Task Force

Description and Objectives

The Transfer Program Task Force seeks to improve the experience of transfer students given the recent resumption of the transfer program. The task force will investigate issues areas particularly relevant for transfer students and their integration into Princeton life and work with administrators to address challenges that transfer students face.

Background Information

In 2018, Princeton reinstated its transfer admissions program, which particularly encourages applications from low-income, community college, and veteran students.

Leadership and Membership

Co-chairs: Christopher St Hilaire, Muskan Effendi
Other members: Christian Potter, Stephen Daniels

Potential Issues, Activities, and Deliverables

- 1) Pursuing unconditional parking pass waivers
- 2) Priority draw for Single transfers in room draw selection
- 3) Meal plans and dining, spouse passes



Description and Objectives

The Mental Health Task Force seeks to promote mental health as well as awareness of and de-stigmatization of mental health needs across the Princeton Community. It will continue to identify needs

Background Information

The Mental Health Task Force, founded in Fall 2019, has focused on increasing the visibility of resources on campus. In Spring 2020, in partnership with Letters to Strangers (L2S), it published the Mental Health Resources Guide; in the Spring and Fall 2020, it worked with CPS to adapt and create resources to support students during remote learning. In Fall 2020, following conversations with student groups such as Our Health Matters, the task force identified two challenges to access to mental health care: the visibility and diversity of CPS staff and the availability of appointments.

Leadership and Membership

Co-chairs: Vian Wagatsuma, Will Hunt
Other members: Stephen Daniels, Sean Bradley, Christopher St. Hilaire, Ashwin Mahadevan, Austin Davis, Mayu Takeuchi

Potential Issues, Activities, and Deliverables

- 1) Working on TigerWell and ultimately pursuing mental health training modules for faculty
- 2) Identifying staffing and other needs at CPS and helping to address them
- 3) Generating feedback after counseling services
- 4) Prioritizing self-care within student organizations and building upon student group PDAR training
- 5) Integrating sleep quality as a mental health issue

Date: February 12, 2021

Title: Transparency, Engagement, and Community Relations Task Force



Description and Objectives

The Transparency, Engagement, and Community Relations Task Force's mission is to make USG more accessible to the general student body. Increasing student involvement in USG Senate meetings and USG organized events is a main objective of the task force. Another goal is to create opportunities and resources that increase the student body's understanding of the impact USG has on the undergraduate community.

Background Information

The Transparency Task Force was created in the Fall of 2019 and hosted weekly USG office hours in Frist Campus Center. In the Spring of 2019 these office hours were continued in person and then online. A graphics initiative was also created in Spring of 2019 to create graphics that organize USG-related information into one central location and explain its structure, role/impact, and how to get involved. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it innovated the office hours program.

Leadership and Membership

Co-chairs: Hannah Kapoor, Riley Martinez

Other members: Ceon Sun, Josephine Kim, Stephen Daniels, Will Gu, Will Hunt, Reade Ben

Potential Issues, Activities, and Deliverables

- 1) Supporting general USG communications, including the weekly newsletter, by offering more hands on deck to increase the content USG can disseminate
- 2) Re-shaping office hours for the in-person environment
- 3) Engage leaders of other student groups across campus, particularly affinity groups, in USG communications and programming
- 4) Organize USG-Administrative Town Halls as needed
- 5) Develop new methods of communication to explain USG structures and initiatives to the student body

Date: February 12, 2021

Title: Housing and University Facilities Task Force



Description and Objectives

The Housing and University Facilities Task Force seeks to improve the quality of the residential and campus experience by raising awareness of facilities-related issues and working with administrators to address them.

Background Information

In recent years, the USG has constituted ad-hoc housing committees that have liaised with housing administrators and conducted reports on room draw. Recently, further issues have arisen during the room-draw process (mainly concerning students having to redraw, sometimes multiple times) and other facilities-related issue areas include the many construction projects on campus and the inequities in housing quality across dormitories.

Leadership and Membership

Co-chairs: Mariam Latif, Reade Ben

Other members: Muskan Effendi, Stephen Daniels, Christopher St. Hilaire, Sean Bradley, Ashwin Mahadevan, Ceon Sun

Potential Issues, Activities, and Deliverables

- 1) Conduct a room draw survey to understand issues affecting students during room draw
- 2) Ensure that campus construction is as non-invasive into students lives as possible, including as regards timing of construction
- 3) Advocating for improvements in dormitories with lower quality-facilities

Date: February 12, 2021

Title: Community Dining Task Force



Description and Objectives

The Community Dining Task Force will seek to develop a long-term and financially sustainable community dining program in which students will have greater options to dine at establishments in the town of Princeton using a model like meal swipes. A key goal of the program is to promote equity in the Princeton experience by ensuring that students of all socioeconomic backgrounds have the opportunity to experience the town of Princeton during their time on campus.

Background Information

In the spring of 2020, an analogous community dining task force received funding from University offices to pilot a community dining program geared specifically to FLI students; however, the pandemic forced the community off-campus and the program could not be implemented. When students returned to campus in the spring of 2021, USG spearheaded the Tigers in Town program, in which the USG financed large-scale community dining events for the entire student body in pandemic-safe ways with an eye toward community-building, supporting local businesses, and promoting equity in dining and community experiences. Tigers in Town will continue this semester, but a longer-term program is needed.

Leadership and Membership

Co-chairs: Brad Phelps and Stephen Daniels
Other members: Lehman Montgomery, Riley Martinez, Will Hunt

Potential Issues, Activities, and Deliverables

- 1) Exploratory FLI pilot for community dining program
- 2) Report on peer institutions' community dining programs
- 3) Ultimately develop the infrastructure for a long-term community dining program

Date: February 12, 2021

Title: Internal Resources Task Force



Description and Objectives

The Internal Resources Task Force is designed to strengthen internal USG community and take advantage of USG resources for the best use for the service of the student body and the mission of our organization. Like all other student groups, USG suffered during the pandemic and virtual-remote format from lack of opportunities to connect. We believe that a healthy USG organization can best serve the student body.

Background Information

During the pandemic semesters, community-building in USG was more challenging than usual. Given the collaborative nature of USG work, it is critical that USG be internally coherent and energized. It is also critical for the USG to be well resourced as far as institutional knowledge, which will be another focus of the task force. Finally, USG carries a substantial surplus this semester from its traditional budget in previous semesters, which it will use to improve the USG office which has not seen recent capital improvement. This is a project that will not only improve the USG experience but also produce a space more open and accommodating for all students to engage with USG.

Leadership and Membership

Co-chairs: Josephine Kim and Lehman Montgomery
Other members: Ashwin Mahadevan, Austin Davis, Bradley Phelps, Turquoise Brewington, Lauren Fahlberg, Caitlin McNally, Katya Kopac, Muskan Effendi, Mayu Takeuchi

Potential Issues, Activities, and Deliverables

- 1) Generate institutional memory documents, including administrative relationship documents
- 2) Develop USG mentorship programs, both among current members and with USG alumni
- 3) Plan a USG service learning project
- 4) Oversee and execute capital improvements to the USG office
- 5) Develop new performance management techniques for USG operations