Princeton USG Senate
Meeting 1
September 5, 2021
8:00PM

Introduction

1. **Question and Answer Session (15 minutes)**

Senate Fellowship Program

- Applications launch 9/6/21 by CCA to partner students with organizations in the Princeton area for 5-10 hour/week internships
- Host biweekly speaker series for interns

2. **President's Report (5 minutes)**

3 objectives

- Exchange of ideas during Senate across different groups/interests
- Build community
- More visibility with the student body; share USG content on social media; engage Hannah (Director of Communications)

Upcoming dates

- 9/6 Involvement Fest
  - USG will have table
- 9/6 U-Councilor applications due at 11:59pm
- 9/6-9/13 Committee Application period
  - Senate members should share applications with Hannah, Ashwin, and Christian latest morning of 9/6
  - Applications due at 11:59 on 9/13
  - Interviews, selection processes, and informing applicants of their results do not have to be coordinated across the Senate

Summer 2021 Initiatives

- Budget
  - 2020-21 school year did not use student activities fees for the USG budget. The USG budget came from central University funds.
  - Normal USG surplus (from previous semesters) ~$200k
  - Pandemic surplus from University ~$200k (allocated for specific initiatives)
  - Student Activities Fees ~$200k
- Lawnparties
  - Being planned with ODOC supervisor Lexy

- ○ Received approval to host LP over the summer
- ○ LP usually happens at the beginning of fall semester, but is planned for October due to timeline of approval from Committee on Gathering
- ○ Working with ICC and graduate ICC on mutually agreeable date
- Virtual Academic Expo
  - ○ Yearly Academic Expo hosts all departments and a few University offices for sophomores and freshman to receive more information
  - ○ Attendance is consistent or higher than usual

Questions from the Senate:
- Is this year's budget larger than usual?
  - ○ Yes. The budget is typically composed of the student activities fees and normal USG surplus.
- Does the surplus indicate the entirety of the surplus or the portion of the surplus that USG is able to use?
  - ○ The Pandemic surplus is for specific initiatives. The normal USG surplus is available for use as USG sees fit.
- Does the programming for Tigers in Town change with the constraints of the Pandemic surplus?
  - ○ USG and CCA are discussing ways to permanently shift Tigers in Town to a long term, embedded program with broader University support.

New Business
1. **Introduction: Christian Potter (5 minutes)**
2. **Onboarding Document: Ashwin Mahadevan and Josephine Kim (10 minutes)**
3. **Budget Approval: Turquoise Brewington (10 minutes)**

Votes
Yes: 22
Abstain: 1
No: 0

Questions from the Senate:
- What are the renovations to the USG office?
  - ○ The office renovations will be used to enhance the space for USG members and the student body. The office is located on the 200 level of Frist Campus Center. The space is shared with Class Government and any student groups that want to use meeting rooms. These enhancements will improve space for USG Office Hours and meetings, student groups, and Class Gov in the long term future.
- What are Projects Board and ExComm?

- - ExComm is composed of elected core committee chairs, Dir of Comms, Executive Sec, VP, and President. Projects Board is a body of USG that approves funding for student groups.
  - What is the reason for the larger budget allocation for Projects Board?
    - The allocation is intended to help student groups launch their own Tigers in Town initiatives.
  - Will the student body provide input for the renovations?
    - This can be discussed during ExComm.
  - What is the collaboration with Class Gov for the renovations?
    - This will be discussed in the future.
  - Will the space that is open for all student groups to use be communicated to the student body?
    - Yes.
  - Do committee leaders need to sign up to use the office?
    - Once committee members are selected, they will be given prox access.

4. **Committee Applications and Social Media Strategy Discussion: Hannah Kapoor (15 minutes)**
- Visibility is a priority with the aim of engaging students as much as possible.
- 2 key avenues for disseminating information: newsletter and social media
  - The newsletter goes out every Sunday evening, so Senate members should send their materials by Saturday.
- Upcoming dates:
  - Committee applications launch 9/6 and are due 9/13

Questions from the Senate:
- If a Senate member wants to advertise a committee, should they do it through the USG Instagram or should the committee make its own account?
  - Committees can create their own account with Princeton USG in the bio, but larger announcements should be sent to Hannah for the main USG account.

5. **Orientation Schedule: Ashwin Mahadevan (10 minutes)**
- Start time has been moved to 10am.
- Dress nicely for group photos and individual headshots.
- Dean Dolan, Dean Deas, and other guests will be attending.
- Notify Ashwin for absences or leaving later/earlier.

6. **SGRC Confirmations: Lehman Montgomery (5 minutes)**
Votes

Yes: 22
Abstain: 1
No: 0

Consent Agenda

1. Movies Chair Confirmation: Cheyenne Zhang '22

Hi! I'm Cheyenne, and I'm a senior concentrating in Computer Science with certificates in East Asian Studies and Cognitive Science. On campus, I'm involved with the COS Council, USG Movies Committee, and the Chinese Language Association. I'm passionate about media, business, technology, and diversity, and am looking forward to working with you all.

<u>Votes</u>
Yes: 23
Abstain: 0
No: 0

Senate Onboarding Document

SUMMARY:

- Senate members email Josephine (Exec Sec) at jk40@princeton.edu to submit agenda items along with any materials needed for their presentation by Friday before the Sunday Senate meeting.
- Notify Josephine in advance about absences and who will be attending as a substitute.
- Josephine sends out the meeting packet before the meeting and meeting minutes after the meeting.

WEEKLY TIMELINE:

SUN: Senate meeting

MON-WED: Senate members attend committee meetings and work on committee, task force, and individual business. Executive Committee (ExComm) members attend the weekly ExComm meeting (Tuesday). Josephine sends out meeting minutes on Monday.

THURS: Contact Josephine to submit an agenda item

FRI: Send Josephine materials for the packet (e.g. bios, spreadsheets, docs)

SAT: Josephine sends out the finalized packet (agenda and materials)

When to contact Josephine

- 48 hours before your absence at a Senate meeting, along with the name of the person who will be subbing
- Submitting agenda items
- Sending in materials for the packet
- Questions about what happened during the meeting
- Voting, confirmations, referenda, presentations—if you have procedural questions about how to present, prepare your documents, format correctly, or who to invite, you can ask Josephine.

Confirmations

Background: When new Senate members are elected/appointed/selected, or when committees select new members, they are confirmed at Senate meetings. They will be introduced by a current Senate member and then approved by a vote. Short bios for each confirmed individual will be included in the packet before the meeting.

Action Item: Send Josephine bios for anyone you/your committee will confirm by the Friday (see timeline above) before the meeting.

Referenda
Background: Referenda are petitions that have garnered enough signatures from the student body to appear on the ballot during elections. In order for a referendum to be presented before the Senate, it must be formatted correctly and sent for the packet by the Friday before the Senate meeting. Often, referenda will be edited and re-drafted, incorporating suggestions from the Senate, before the student body votes on them.

Action Item: Send Josephine the version of the referendum that you want included in the packet by Friday. This will be the language that the Senate will be reviewing, so please make sure that you are sending the most up-to-date versions.

Budget proposals/funding requests
Background: Senate members can present budgets or funding requests for approval through a vote.

Action Item: Spreadsheets or documents outlining budget/funding allocations should be sent to Josephine by Friday to be included in the packet.

Voting
Background: Some Senate members are voting members and some are non-voting members. If you are unsure about whether you have the capacity to vote, you can ask Josephine. Voting members can vote on budgets, funding requests, motions to vote, confirmation of new members, and other items.

Action Items: If you are missing a meeting, your substitute will vote on your behalf. Please notify Josephine of your absence and your substitute at least 48 hours before the meeting, or your absence will be noted as unexcused.

Clearly signal when you abstain or vote against something. If you do not make your vote clear, it may not be counted in the meeting minutes.

SGRC Club List

The Princeton D&D Club

- "The Princeton D&D Club proclaims that it has been founded and is dedicated to promoting and encouraging, amongst its members:
  - A love and understanding of the Tabletop Roleplaying Game Dungeons and Dragons: 5thEdition, including its rules and narrative capacity,
  - A lively community of players and Dungeon Masters (DMs) bolstered by a regular meetup schedule for campaign sessions and viewing of actual play shows,
  - An ability for storytelling, cooperation, and improvisation as fostered by the creative environment of a live D&D game,
  - A BIPOC and LGBTQ+-friendly space in which members can experience and empathize with the personal narratives of other players."

Princeton Impact Capital

- "Founded in 2021 and based at Princeton University, our finance club is a devoted community of undergraduate students who want to reimagine the approach to financial education. We put sustainability and responsible investing at the heart of our mission, and we aim to make a difference with an innovative educational curriculum focused on aspects beyond typical accounting and financial modeling, but also on the environmental impact of investments and the ESG scale. Our mission is four-fold:
  - Educate members and the community on ESG, Impact Investing and SRI
  - Host industry experts in ESG and impact investing to give talks to our general membership
  - Establish metrics to manage an ESG simulation portfolio that beats the market on a risk-adjusted basis
  - Create opportunities for the furthering of professional development of University students"

Princeton NeuroTech

- "Princeton NeuroTech proclaims that it has been founded and is dedicated to promote and encourage, amongst its members:
  - Provide a place where students can access resources, so they have the opportunity to get hands-on experience earlier in their career
  - Facilitate students to do hands-on work on neurotech projects and take part in hackathons and competitions hosted by domestic and international entities, also getting to know other students and projects from universities.
  - Allow students to get involved in the neurotech community with access to professors, students, researchers, companies, startups, opening up opportunities for the future."

(Preliminary) Orientation Schedule

10-11:15 am - Headshots with Sameer & Breakfast
*Dress nicely :)

11:15-12 - Welcome Address - Dean Deas + USG Alumni

12-1pm - Lunch & Constitution Training + Senate Procedure Presentation

1-2 - Goal Setting; Design Thinking

2-2:30 - Dean Dolan Address

2:30-3 - Open forum with Christian & Ashwin - What do you want to see from USG this year?

3-3:30 - Break

3:30 - 4 - Icebreakers/Get to Know You Activity

4-5 - Position Specific Breakouts:
Senators, U-Councilors, ExComm

5-6- Task Forces

5:30-6 (we have the space until 7) - Dinner