

**UNITED GOVERNMENT OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER**

ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA – April 2, 2014
Ramaley N240
5:00 PM

- I. 5:00 Welcome / Food**
- II. 5:00 Call to Order**
- III. 5:04 Approve 3/12 minutes**
 - 1. Motion Passed
- IV. 5:02 Open Forum**
 - 1. AJ Johnson – PHYS – Will Ames is the current physics rep but I wanted to mention that I'll be the main rep starting at the end of the semester
 - 2. John – PSYC – the grad student ski day was great, we had about 40 people
 - 3. Joey – EBIO – hopefully you got the roundtable reception invitation. Please respond so we know the amount of food to order. Grad student appreciation is next week. We'll send out emails but we will have coffee hour on Monday for \$3 of coffee (also giving out water bottles and some other stuff), Friday will be at Absenthe house. We'll run a facebook drawing commenting on some prompt. We'll have 2 \$25 amazon gift cards based on responses to the prompt.
- V. 5:10 CUSG Spring Elections**
 - 1. We have 3 tickets. We'll hear from for a few minutes and ask question
 - 1. 5:10 Unite (incumbent)**
 - 1. Katie – I'm a 3rd year undergrad studying ethnic studies & gender studies. We've been working hard to get dental insurance covered for grad students. At the latest this will be done by Fall 2015, maybe by Spring. We also have been working for fees (fees due at or before work even starts). Finally, we've been working on housing planning on boulder creek and want to make sure we've been advocating for the grads so that grad voices are heard on the planning committee. If we are elected again we want to make sure this community is a better place for everyone especially marginally represented groups. Some of this included bystander intervention and proactive training so that students can be better community members before they see problems. We also care about grad student safety. Do you have any needs or questions?
 - 1. Kathy – GEOG – question about your safety point. Do you have specific measures?
 - 1. Increased lighting and cameras in underpasses. We don't want cameras to be used to get people in trouble (mainly violent crime). Also regarding the Patty Adler incident specifically, several undergrad & grad TAs did not feel safe. We were concerned that the student's voices were not heard in some of these meeting and want to work for these student opinions. We recognize there is a power

dynamic and want to work to help the students as much as possible.

2. Alan - CHBE – You mentioned planning of student housing. There used to be a CUSG representative for transportation committee and they disappeared. How can you assure you don't disappear from other committees?
 1. Thanks for your concern. We will make sure this doesn't happen and have been actually increasing student presence on some of these committees. It is unacceptable that these committees are not being represented. We will implement penalties for people that don't show up to these responsibilities
3. Ben – PSCI – what are your thoughts about the rec center and title 9 (e.g., loss of women's gym)? What can be done to make sure women feel welcome in the weightlifting area
 1. I'm glad you brought this up. I think it is problematic they took the women's gym away and think we need to survey students and see what they want. I don't have a solution right now but think we can gather this information quickly

2. 5:22 Movement

1. Ben – senior in Aerospace department – our ticket is about representing different groups on campus as much as possible. We want to make sure we represent students as much as we can. We mainly focus on changing the relationship with the administration (being better about direct contact). For grad students, we want to know the issues that affect you as much as possible, by creating a committee that represents the grad students in different colleges. This committee will try to accomplish important issues as much as we can financially and responsibly.
 1. Angela – PSYC – how would you identify the grad students you'd pick for this committee?
 1. We want to reach out to as many people as possible. Getting input, finding the people who want to be involved. There are a lot of people that want to be involved, and know that we won't have a problem getting them involved but need to identify these people
 2. Will – PYSC - have you been reaching out to grad students in the past?
 1. Some prelim reaching out but not on a large scale yet.
 2. Will – what are some issues you've heard about so far?
 3. One is about insurance and how it is handled. Also, student fees.
 3. Kate – EDUC - I'm curious about this committee. How is it different then what we're doing here?
 1. It is similar to UGGS, but we may be able to be more efficient with a smaller committee.
 4. Carlos – MCDB – you may have a bias there. This committee does bring things up at the department level and this type of committee might cut things out

1. This committee would be in contact with UGGS and make sure everyone is represented, and that there is not an overlap
5. Ben – PSCI – what are your thoughts about the rec center and how title 9 (loss of women's gym)? How are you going to attack this issue.
 1. The issue is why does the rec center create an environment where a women's gym is needed. We need to find a way to make sure people feel included.

3. 5:30 Inspire

1. Mitch – Junior in PSYC and PSCI – as members of leg council currently we have a lot of CUSG experience and a good perspective of how much we can do in one year. We try hard to achieve the goals we can realistically focus on. This year we have managed to get back some funds for club sports that we care a lot about and have managed to accomplish. We care a lot about opportunity from freshman-grad students, making sure people get represented. We care a lot about underrepresented students and want to have a stronger position who can address underrepresented students. We want to introduce people to important opportunities as soon as they get here (transfer or new students, but also for people who have been here and are interested). We want to try to keep student groups alive by both funding them more, by advertising for events in a good way, and by creating a culture of inclusion
 1. Brandon – Law – you talk about quick turnover in CUSG. Maybe the best way to achieve goals is to keep people who are active there?
 1. Like I said we will be good at setting realistic goals. One way we want to do this is to include grad student connection on our website. Letting people know about TA, RA, group events etc. I think what sets us apart is that we have realistic goals and means of achieving them
 2. Alan – CHBE – as someone who works on east campus there is a lot of bad communication (something you mentioned). How will you increase channels of communication to east campus?
 1. This is a big talking point for us. A big issue is that we want to have a polling place on east campus to make sure people from over there are represented. We also want a student group council which exists but is not very good. We want to make sure student groups are advertising meeting events and emphasize that advertising on east campus will be successful (some of this is through leadership training)
 3. Ben – PSCI - Talked about inclusion a lot. I asked the other groups about the rec center gym and how you would make the rec center gym a more accommodating place (see other questions).
 1. This is a big issue. I thought it was great that women had a place to go. We've talked about ways of icing over

certain windowed areas to make things a bit more private (also specific times for women). Title 9 has made this very difficult but there are ways we can make this work.

VI. Discussion/vote

1. Ben – PSCI – I think Ben has done a great job with Inspire (we sit on the same board) and this was not the case when Unite was on the board I sit on.
2. Kate – EDUC – I am anti-committee (Movement). It was difficult to justify the idea of having a smaller committee that supposedly could be more efficient than UGGS and
3. Richard – ATOC – I would have like to see him engage UGGS prior to proposing this idea. We have done sub-committees and these have been successful but did not think this particular idea was well thought out
4. Evan – LING – asked Laura about why she reacted to the gym question(s)
 1. Laura – a lot of the issue was because things were illegal and some solutions proposed were impossible
 2. Ben – some of this issue was about the women’s having a lot of smaller weights (Apparently some of this is in a different gym on the 3rd floor gym)
 3. Laura – PSYC – I recently put in a complaint about weights and they handled it well internally
 4. Ben - this was sort of a test about how they know how to handle this and some did better than others.
 5. Laura – the issue in my opinion is about women feeling comfortable everywhere.
5. Laura – PYSC – I think in the past 3 years I’ve been here that we’ve had a tri-exec attend the committee. My sense is that Unite would keep this up
 1. Joey – EBIO - to add: at the end of the fall there was talk about following up on these important issues. It does seem like the dental/fee issues have been followed through on because of Unite as a whole
6. Brandon – LAW – if we are happy with the representation we’ve gotten, why do we want to change
7. Ben – Why do these other parties mention they also sit on committees?
 1. Walker - LAW/CUSG - While the tri-execs are a single ticket the other elections can be varied for the individual representatives
8. Joey – EBIO – we typically endorse a ticket. Do we want to do this this year? Usually we just have an email that is sent out that suggests which party to vote for. It is helpful to get grad student voices represented in the elections. There is not a huge turnout in these elections to this is important
 1. Ben – PSCI – I was surprised last year that many people complained about UGGS endorsing a party. There was a sense that UGGS should not be endorsing a party (many people).
 1. Laura – Do you think they would have voted anyway?
 1. Ben – I don’t know but there was this sense that this shouldn’t be done
 2. Laura – maybe we can adjust the email to encourage people to vote, but that in general we do suggest one party
 3. Kate – EDUC – Before we endorsed people we had an email where we explained too much about each party and

it was hard to get people's attention this way. I found that emphasizing voting in general was helpful

4. Brandon – LAW – I had the opposite experience from the law department. They thought it was helpful
5. Even – LING – what did you do before?
 1. It sounds like we outlined the pros and cons of each ticket
 2. Kate – EDUC – but it was difficult to access all of this information and it is hard for people to not spend a lot of time
6. Will – PHYS – I had the same reaction as the PSCI comment at first. Now that I'm involved I know we don't have a party affiliation so I understand this response, but agree that we should make it clear that we are part of student government, we are very different than CUSG. I think it is important to endorse someone, but understand we need to make it clear that it looks a bit tough
9. Joey – EBIO – motion passed to endorse a ticket

VII. 5:50 Bystander training resolution - Chris Schaeffbauer/Walker Williams

1. Walker – LAW/CUSG – the long-term goal is to make sure that everyone in a classroom has bystander training so that they know what to do when they see situations in classrooms that are problematic. We acknowledge that there is discrimination training, but we are in a strange place where we both have authority over students but are often underneath faculty/departments. This resolution supports the idea that all grad students agree to do trainings to make sure that people get out of this training what they want and need to – eventually making it a requirement to all TAs
2. Will – PHYS – how big is the problem? How well will it work? And how much will it cost?
 1. Walker – It is pretty clear that these discrimination events do occur even at CU and this is fairly well established. In terms of costs, we do not know quite how it will work yet, but we want UGGS to support this idea and figure out how to make this work easily. We have great centers that are able to take on these trainings, but we do not know how much the cost to these places are yet. We just want to be able to say that grad students want this training. Even on this campus, this year people have been victims of racial/gender bias etc. As far as cost is concerned, there is no cost to UGGS right now. We want to get centers that CUSG is already involved in to take on this and we want to make sure that this is not a burden to grad students
3. Ben – I have a question about language. How do we align this with what exist in some of the other documents and get people to be trained on issues more relevant to them (e.g., incidents about teachers asking vets if they've killed someone)
 1. Yes we want to deal with these issues to make sure grad students can take classes in an area that interests and is relevant to them. Also how to deal with situations in a classroom/faculty/office etc
4. Eric – FRIT – Are we asking for work on behalf of faculty for this?
 1. Walker – We recognize that a lot of the problems are from faculty. We don't know how we can affect these specific faculty, but do think we can

reach out to grad students who are dealing with these faculty members who may bring these issues to light. We would like to have faculty involve but cannot now

5. Drake -APS – how much time will this take?
 1. Between 1-3 hours. They would not have to happen during orientation week, but rather shortly after employment time begins
6. Will – PHYS – Does this mean grad students have an obligation to intervene?
 1. This is part of training. Basically, if you feel comfortable and safe you should bring it up, but it is more about making sure people feel safe. You are definitely not obligated to do this.
 2. Ben – I thought there was a legal obligation as TAs to intercede
 1. This will not change the legal status of TAs. Discrimination and harassment etc.
 3. Katherine – GEOG – question about last section about requiring grad students to attend orientation.
 1. We initially talked about this as part of orientation. We realized this was not feasible, but that there are a lot of groups that students can go to. It is more important than grad students are aware and have access to these resources during orientation but not necessarily requiring the training to be done by the end of orientation
 4. Walker – I will make the edits that Ben suggested about making the language more similar to other resolutions etc.

VIII. 6:09 Announcements:

1. Next week we will discuss this briefly again after Walker makes these edits. We will also talk about the budget next meeting and vote on it during the 30th. We also have UGGS elections on the 30th. There are many positions that are up for election and at least a few that we need to fill.
2. Laura – PSYC – we will be endorsing Unite based on the voting. We will send out the email to you before we send it out to everyone so please give us feedback.
3. Joey – EBIO – next meeting we will be back in the ATLAS building.

IX. 6:11 Meeting Adjourn

| <u>UGGS REP</u> | <u>DEPT</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Sara Cullen | ANTH |
| Drake Ranquist | APS |
| Lauren McManus | ASEN |
| Richard Bateman | ATOC |
| Alan Izar | CHBE |
| Daniel Poochigian | CLAS |
| Dmitry Duplyakin | CSCI |
| Walker Williams | CUSG/LAW |
| Joey Hubbard | EBIO |
| Antonio Rodriguez | EDUC |
| Kate Allison | EDUC |
| Erik Nesse | FRIT |
| Kathryn Wright | GEOG |
| Patricia Helfenbein | HIST/ALAC |

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|----------------------|------|
| Chelsea Daggett | JMC |
| Brandon Archuleta | LAW |
| Evan Coles-Harris | LING |
| Sarah Alcorn | LING |
| Michael Gillis | LING |
| Carlos Vera | MCDB |
| Justin Whiteley | MCEN |
| Chaz Vollmer | PHIL |
| Al Johnson | PHYS |
| Will Ames | PHYS |
| Ben Purser | PCSI |
| Angela Li | PSYC |
| Dan Gustavson | PSYC |
| John Lurquin | PSYC |
| Laura Michealson | PSYC |
| Juli White | SLHS |
| Christen Dalessandro | SOCY |
| Xavier Espinet | CEAE |