UNITED GOVERNMENT OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA – August 31, 2015
ATLAS 229
5:00 PM

I. Welcome / Food
II. Call to Order: 5:04 PM

III. Introductions
   a. What is UGGS?

Richard – New President
UGGS – the United Government Graduate Students
Select or Elect one or more people to bring up graduate student issues, set budgets, and plan social events

b. Introduction of other Officers:

Melinda – Social Chair/Executive VP
– but our VP stepped down and was appointed to EVP position. Still doing social chair work and adding other meetings. Not yet official, but as official EVP. We will need a new social chair.

Gregor – VP of Student Affairs
I focus on issues related to quality of life and quality of being a student on campus (and off campus too). I work with health and transportation issues.

Allison – CUSG co-senator
GO to student council meetings and go as graduate student rep

Alan – The other CUSG co-senator
We sit down at their legislative board and give graduate student voice. It is our gateway to higher echelons of CU government and to Boulder itself. Last year it was up to the Leg Board to talk about housing and business. If you ever need something that is not specific to grad school, it would be good to contact Alison or Me.

Dan – VP of Finance
Main thing I do is keep track of the budget. I deal with all the travel grants and group grants. I will talk about it later. I also put together the budget for this year and will be stepping down in January; if someone is interested we will need someone to take over pretty soon.
Paty – Communication Chair
In charge of all things communication, posting thing to website and Facebook. Keeping track of attendance, meeting minutes, and email clean up.

Laura – was EVP for few years and co – senator and now I am CUSG liaison
My role is to be liaison to graduate and professional student. Grad in Psychology – Sign in on Attendance to get bonus points on travel grants

c. Introduce assembly
   i. 1st-time attendees?

d. Rep email list
e. Meeting format
f. Name and department: keeping minutes
g. Voting (Robert’s Rules)

Richard and Dept.
- Open Forum is a place to talk about topics of choice, if it goes over 2 minutes we will schedule for another meeting

For Record Keeping purposes and typing Meeting Minutes please state Name and department.

We will practice today and we will ratify for different positions
- Brief primer on these rules

OPEN FORUM
Drake Grant – Astrophysical – Will meetings will be Monday?

Richard – ATOC
Meetings were last year on Wednesday – but for now we are going to be on Mondays (we just changed the locations) every other Monday

Gregor – APPM
There is some progress on the bicycle infrastructure – Folsom as an extra wide bike lane – this sample project/test pilot project – under fire because people don’t like it and people don’t want to wait for data. How we can make this critical piece of infrastructure and how it will help grad students and how to tell city council what your opinions are

Laura – PSYC
What was the original plan? Not waiting for data, what was the original plan? What are doing that is not matching the original plan?
Gregor – APPM
People are lobbying to keep it in for a year. There are automated censors for the number of bicycles and how long it takes and where people turn and even Wi-Fi to see where people are going. If we had one year, we could have data to expand in a successful way. Similar projects have been successful and this one has bumps.

Trevor - CSCI/GTP
Transportation – locked down for parking – for training grad students of being teacher sand getting oriented. Two days of the three days – no one was allowed to park on campus. But it is of concern –

Richard – ATOC
Good point – we came from the BFA meeting – different vantage point – not the only ones affected. Didn’t get from the meeting who is responsible? New parking person? And they hired some professionals to on their own to decide to implement this plan as it was implemented in other

John - PSYC
Housing and Dining have managed – largest – orientation and move in. Campus wide student, but 5000 are not undergrads – the new orientation (the welcome week) is for first year students. Not even transfer or grad. UGGS orientation – for we just do it ourselves.

IV. Goals for academic year
This is ongoing – increasing and maintain department representation – communication chair for maintain a list of attendance. This is the accumulated by department. See the attendance. Attendance for other departments Art History - Art Studio – I am teaching Monday nights - But as long as you have one for the department that counts – students need to write their department down on the sheet– so even if there is one rep from Art and Art History that counts – Charlotte – will you go over?

John – PSYC
This might be one of the most important – if we don’t have representation – it is hard to have leverage – then we can be more powerful. We need to get more voice out to see what we provide. It is a way to express voice and concerns on behalf. We go with departments we see and those we don’t see. We have been working on this. Some of the most disgruntled are the ones not represented –

a. Department representation

Richard – ATOC
If you think your department attended more – we can amend the minutes if you can demonstrate that you attended. We were good about taking attendance. John’s points are very valid. We will be reaching out to those other.
The same person doesn’t have to show up, so we – As long as one person from that department shows up – if you can’t make it, send someone else. They don’t have to be up to date, but attends

b. Graduate student climate issues

Would not have happened without John and Laura – to make this happen for graduate students. Extraordinary response rate. There was many across. Surrounding the results – not just to collect data but to craft and implement policies to make graduate student lives better.

We worked on some smaller things and some bigger things on – we will spend significant resources on bigger issues that we need to really address. We need that diverse and broad range of departments to push with administration

John – PSYC
40% of people who come to graduate school do not leave with a degree – worse for undergrads
Oh – highly variable – and they don’t know in their own

Laura – PSYC
And if you – that is no different from peer institution – where we are – doesn’t justify that it is terrible everywhere – working with data – that there is a gap in expectations and reality. Training, meetings with advisors, cost of living, things that predict poor outcomes – on this gap. Trying to close that gap. And clear up transparency before they come here and before they accept their admission letter. Looed at admission letter/acceptance to see guaranteed funding, student fees, how much to pay in health insurance – in the process of what we hope to do is to come up with a template for grad programs can use – so they can fill in with – they have one for offer letters for TA and RA – but not a lot of essential and now create one with admission letters. One other minor thing, climate issues – SOCIAL CLIMATE – graduate student experience,

WOKRING GROUP TASK FORCE
Richard – hot topics that come up during the year – need graduate student involvement. How to address the problem? Sometimes takes too long to get a critical mass – to actually start working on this? To try to identify interested graduate students who are not officers – who might be interested in working in a number of topics – not a lot of work but to have them ready when an issue comes up to send information to talk about the topic. Have a small group started – people who want to be a little bit more involved – please let us know

Laura – PSYC
Great segue as a potential for getting involved as an officer – it is fine to jump in with no experience – but ideally people who have institutional knowledge – it is less than a time drain – nice to be involved and to be productive. If you are interested in going into higher education – this counts as service. Give you a level of respect and credibility – you get respect for going above and beyond with knowledge on campus. Things your faculty advisor
John – PSYC
Great for resume – managed a 80,000 budget

V.  Travel and Group Grants - Dan Gustavson
a.  Attendance incentive for travel grants

Group Grants -

We have some submissions – at the end of the week, we will not be talking about them until we have them. Last semester we got 6 – if you have friends or student groups – we can get $750- usually to cover food – can pay for speakers – not for lodging – we usually pay for food and various supplies – open to all graduate students. As long as all grad students can come. It is less competitive in the fall. Definitely send it out.

Travel Grants –
We have a record number – 45 grants this year – open for about a week. They close on September 16ht a little bit more time. We will send out another reminder. Travel grant - $300, typically for conference – to present research – usually we get about 100 apps in the fall a little more in the spring – but Oct. to Feb travel

Main thing is to be careful – this is not the same as the Grad Student Grant – which you can only get once. The submissions – short essay and very important to not put their name. Check out the website and see some examples. To present your research, to help career – and will help market CU as a whole too – they usually do a pretty good job. Close in 2.5 weeks = The following Sunday will meet at back country pizza. Each needs to be graded by 3 people. Trying to get a really fair thing going. Usually only a few people show up. We want to show up. Try to make it more blind – 12-4 pm Sunday September 20 – but can get free apps – and help to grade. If not, you can help to grade online – but might not be able to do if we do more blind – interested in helping get in touch with Dan.

Grading –
10% GPA
90% based on three raters - average score of the three raters – most points for how well travel will help degree and why they are traveling in the first place and how well the essay is written
5% boost from the last semester showing up at meetings
There is usually a clear line – usually the 5% is not enough to get the work funded – but helps out if there is some that are close. Have an extra chance – incentivize people to come here and we don’t want it to be unfair

Laura – PSYC
I think this is the only travel grant – where you don’t have to present your research
-  We don’t give preference, but you don’t have to have a poster or a talk, but if this is a conference in your field and trying to break into or to network - even if they are not
presenting, you can apply for this grant - we are like the only ones doing this kind of travel grant - this is a good fact to tell others – that they can apply to just attend a conference.

Dan – PSYC
Also works for workshops – like a conference but if you are going to learn skills that will help you be funded. Questions? Next assembly we will vote – I will send a reminder

b. Grading date announcement

VI. Officer Positions

a. Ratify CUSG Liaison

Ratification – no specified procedure –
We can start practice the Roberts rules

Bring something to the floor – Make a motion – John made a motion to ratify Laura as Approve through acclimation – Laura was interviewed through CUSG – you can all not ratify me, but was officially interviewed among other applicants

There is a motion on the floor – so we entertain the motion
Vote by acclimation – uncontested motion – vote by acclimation by hands or secret
Requires a second
Call to Question –
Vote by acclimation – if anyone would object would object –seeing no objection

b. Exec VP

Technically open – appointed Melinda – once we got notice that Jen could not fulfill her duties. First available meeting that any appointed oppositions would be nominated and elections. In this one we are nominating and then next time they will be voted. You can nominate yourself or someone else. Nominations are open.

John - PSYC
To officer position – it is really bad for democracy that these are not contested – it takes a good amount of time. Encourage if you are interested to run for one of these positions.

Alison – MCDB
I nominate Melinda

Gregor - APPM
Second

Melinda – EBI0
Richard – ATOC
anyone else who would like to nominate? Think about it, let me know. Run for positions.

Laura/Richard - PSYC
You can nominate by email as well.

Nominations for Social Chair –

Melinda – EBIO
Really fun! Plan events, fall picnic, network opportunities, rewarding to meet new people, familiar faces, and more fun for me, because it is a job – but enjoy it.

Laura – PSYC
was going to nominate Javi – declined

Richard – ATOC
Advantage – Social chair already did so much work final details – but now the bulk of the work is actually completed – that way there is advance notice that there were plans that were already done – nominations

Laura – PSYC
Jessica

John – PSYC
Second

Jessica – ATOC
flattered – I can’t do it this semester –

Richard – it could be a one-semester term. Any other nominations. If you are interested. Please email us? The job is pretty much done. You get paid to do this. $150 a month – a little more

Dan - PSYC
Credits this as a 10 hour job – doesn’t usually conflict with work.

Laura – PSYC
nominate Shawna

Shawna – PSCI
willing to accept – provisionally –

Richard - ATOC
undefined – no longer after January – someone who could step in to get you involved now so that you can see the processes that are set up now. A lot easier if you need – unofficial but huge benefit – anyone have a passing interest?

Elizabeth – HIST
sticking around

Board Positions
– Some times things happen in the meetings that are objectionable, so we need to be there to have a presence – They were trying make it out that Rec center was not needing to be open certain hours. When to have the facility open – nobody uses it – but graduate students use it to avoid the undergrads and jobs that we have to go to and that – it blew their mind to think about it. These boards need gradate – paid $75. Recreation – one hour every other Tuesday – more intensive during budget time – formulating budget – usually at night – health and finance probably night. Health at 6:00, not during the day. You have to interview – You attend meetings and then they will have another meeting and they will go into executive session for voting. Move you on to CUSG and there is a process to approve you formality. Health – 2 people – there are other grads but they don’t come to UGGS, but might come to a UGGS meeting to give updates –

Richard - ATOC
– Resigning Recreation Board position

Diba - IPHY
– Health Board meets every week – 6:00 in Wardenburg, Wednesdays – undergrad co-chairs, sometimes it is tedious because, fun run, what you think needs to be changed and insurance.

Laura – CUSG liaison/ PSYC
– other project – the Dental RFQ for Gold insurance and working with health board and reps and Wardenburg – more about this in another meeting – there is a lot of proactive things, between CUSG, a lot of time to get involved to get dental like vision – free preventative.

John - PSYC
So important to have grad students – gold plan to negotiate before, AIG – to be the grad students 90% covered so we don’t care – UGGS played a pivotal role, it would have been the least comprehensive and cheapest plan.

Richard – ATOC
if you are interested let us know. At the Uggsoinfo email

   c.  Social Chair
   d.  Identify VP Finance - trainee

VII.  Fall Picnic and New Graduate Student Orientation Recap
Went really well – August 17 – August 24
Both at relatively new locations – 600 chairs – all but 50 were filled – about half – 1000 and 1100 – decent amount

New international orientation – and got a lot of emails about participating in UGGS.

**VIII. Announcements, Questions, Concerns**

  a. Revisit budget after fall census is complete – there is a link to the current budget (online you can click on the link – confusion about payment schedule)

Heard from several people that were confused or confusion of others about when student fees are due. One-month extension for fall – if you are on a RA or TA appointment – these are not well advertised – please forward the email to reps list – and make sure that new graduate students are aware – spread the news! A true rumor. UGGS successfully fought for, for when student fees are due, before getting paid. Most students don’t know this. Another thing to keep in mind is some departments to post tuition reemission – some students are taking out loans for 11 to 12 thousand to pay their tuition before they get that tuition – if you hear about this, please let Gregor know and we want to keep in track. UGGSinfo

ART HISTORY - TA and RA waiver - $17,000 and then have to deal with loans companies and not the only one -

  b. Graduate student fee payment schedule

Our first Happy Hour – Thursday Sept. 17 – Biergarten! Great food and attendance – in the back room – just for Grad students!! Happy hour specials and food 5:00 to 7:00

**Attendance Officers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Richard Bateman</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>ATOC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melinda Markin</td>
<td>Exec. VP</td>
<td>EBIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Gustavson</td>
<td>Finance VP</td>
<td>PSYC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregor Robinson</td>
<td>Student Affairs VP</td>
<td>APPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paty Holt</td>
<td>Communications Chair</td>
<td>EDUC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Izar</td>
<td>CUSG co-senator</td>
<td>CHCSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Michaelson</td>
<td>CUSG Liaison</td>
<td>PSYC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance Representatives:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catheryn (Caty) Reed</th>
<th>COMM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Libero</td>
<td>HIST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley Wood</td>
<td>CLAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Last Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie</td>
<td>Kruase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Reinthal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn</td>
<td>Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Michaelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>Mortl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan</td>
<td>Izar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor</td>
<td>DiMartino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Lurquin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drake</td>
<td>Ranquist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Ranquist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diba</td>
<td>Mani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher</td>
<td>Maloney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Kenigson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawna</td>
<td>Mullenax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine</td>
<td>Carterwright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>Espinet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer</td>
<td>Ida</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IX. **Meeting Adjourn: 6:06**