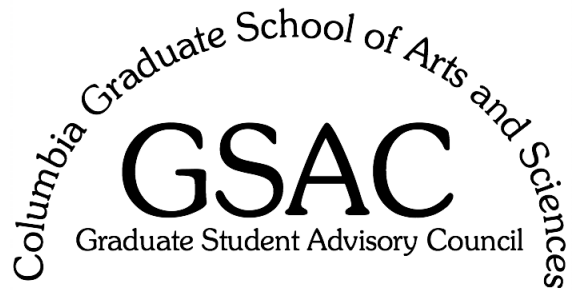


Minutes from GSAC Plenary
Nov 12, 2013



ITFSF/CUFSN

Ms. Ling & Ms. Kershaw
Student Parents Outreach

Developments over the last year – workshop during orientation for families led to realization that more support was needed. CUFSN is not exclusive to graduate students. Support network for parents and families (partners, spouses, children) in the Columbia student community. Goals were to create a network of support for these students, serve as a centralized resource for information. Bring awareness for students with families, integrating family members of these students into the community during events.

In the last two semesters, have been working with Dean Karen Singleton to create an extended orientation workshop for GSAS and GS students during the fall semester. Other events included Kid's Mixer (for anyone with children) during the summer (which led to an informal babysitting group being formed amongst the students), Halloween events, Easter events.

Because this group has a minimal amount of time, they often face challenges in becoming involved in student government, and other activities. Thus, there is potential for this group to become invisible within the larger Columbia Community.

With the construction of the new Manhattanville campus, there is an effort to start a permanent child care center on campus for these students.

Interschool task force on student families: goal is to look at the status of families on campus, working with different clubs and resources, how this may differ between schools or departments. This group was created last year. They offer an open invitation for feedback on the needs of graduate students in different departments.

GSAS does recognize a parents group, so collaborative work would be beneficial.

cufsn@columbia.edu for contact information. flk2107@columbia.edu for the task force.

Budget – Ivy+ Summit

Mark Hendricks

Largest line item on the budget for this year was \$10,000 for the Ivy + Summit, which was held this past weekend. Budget is not quite finished yet. Received \$2700 from the Provost funds. At this point estimated \$9700 for the budget. At the most recent summit meeting, the Ivy schools agreed that an admission fee will be charged for each year so the budget will not fall solely on the hosting school.

Group Recognition

Cathy Chen

Independent Student Theater

Representative Present – Mia Shandell

Club for producing independent work. Current groups around campus are very restricted in what they produce. This would be more experimental, not solely restricted to performance on a stage. Want to perform a Hungarian play, Henry VI, which has never been performed in English. Also The Logics of History, and Samuel Beckett shorts. In summary, a group for performance that are for a broader base than just theater students. Also, plan on applying for the Gatsby Fund scholarships. Belief that there is a broad interest base, and that group will continue.

Votes in favor of Group Recognition: 20

Votes Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Group has been approved!

Graduate Association of Latin American and Iberian Cultures

Representative Present – Diego Azurida

Involves people from within their own graduate department, as well as graduate students that are of Latin American and Iberian heritage. Collaborate with NYU for an annual conference. Provides a forum for discourse and debate between different student groups at different universities on relevant topics.

Votes in favor of Group Recognition: 18

Votes Opposed: 1

Abstain: 1

Group has been approved!

GSAC Update

Hamdi Cavusoglu

Ivy+ Summit Recap

Was the past weekend. Feedback from other schools was that it was a very successful event. Many great discussion points. Much of the information will be posted publically for any interested students to view. There were 9 breakout sessions, summaries of which will also be posted online.

Faculty Mentoring Award

Reminder to all department reps for students to consider nominations for faculty awards which are due at the end of the year.

Philosophy 301 Update

The windows are covered! It is still on target to open at the end of January. Looking for volunteers to work at an opening ceremony. There may be stricter limitations on reserving space due to the goals of having the space open for all graduate students as much as possible. There will be a small seminar room adjoining the area.

Admin Presentation Requests

Are there any particular requests from the floor for administrators that should be invited to speak at an upcoming GSAC meeting.

Suggestions:

- UAH – housing problems
- 9 month vs 12 month stipend problems.

Alumni and PR Update

Neena Chakrabarti

Updates from Ivy + Summit presentation: Careers outside of Academia!

This presentation will be posted along with all of the additional Ivy + Summit presentations.

History in Action: group in the Columbia History department, focus on finding careers outside of academia. What is the value of a PhD outside of academia?

Michael Kideckel

Hoping that this talk will inspire more administrative support from within Columbia for career development.

Potential for making a new survey – may include this in the quality of life survey – that will have more detailed data (e.g. department breakdown).

Social Update

Sarah Tisdale

TEASE

Upcoming this Thursday at the Parlour.

Wine and Cheese

Upcoming this Friday. Six different wines paired with six different cheeses.

End of Semester GSAS/TC Party

More information to come.

Open Forum