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## **Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting on December 10, 2008**

The fourteenth regularly scheduled meeting of the GAPSA Executive Board was convened on December 10, 2008 at 6:15 PM at 501 South 45<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### **Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

Present were: Andrew Rennekamp, Sarah Smith, Natalie Williams, Esther Agbaje, Christa Heyward, Christina Arlt, Nikki Thorpe, Jessica Kim and Mat Abramsky.

Notes of absence were received from Alejandro Hagan, Omar Khan and Jonathan Lukens.

Quorum was declared.

### **Reports**

#### *Chair's Report*

#### Congratulations on a Productive Fall Semester

GAPSA Chair Andrew Rennekamp congratulated the Executive Board on a great year. He thanked the board members for all of their hard work during the semester and pointed out that the 2008-2009 Executive Board term was more than halfway done. He also stated that he received several positive comments, from various people in the University, concerning December status report to the University Council and the work done this semester.

#### Provost Search Committee

Mr. Rennekamp announced that President Amy Gutmann has requested that he and Vice Chair for Student Life Nikki Thorpe serve on the Consultative Committee on the Selection of the next Penn Provost. Both will serve as the two graduate and professional student representatives on the committee, which consists of two undergraduates and multiple faculty members and will be chaired by the Dean of the Wharton School, Dr. Thomas Robertson. Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs Dr. Vincent Price will be appointed Interim Provost. Mr. Rennekamp congratulated Ms. Thorpe for being selected to take part on such an important committee. Anyone who wishes to nominate a candidate for Provost, either internal or external should e-mail that person's name Mr. Rennekamp or Ms. Thorpe.

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### Recap from Meeting with Drexel and USP

The meeting held two weeks ago on November 25<sup>th</sup> at USP was productive. The main take-away item is that GAPSAs has volunteered to organize a community service event for the three school student governments sometime in the middle of the spring semester. Vice Chair for Student Programs Christina Arlt will take a lead role in planning this event.

### Chair will be Out of Town

Mr. Rennekamp stated that he will be out of town from 12/11-12/14 and also 12/23-1/5. He will still be accessible by e-mail and by phone.

### December Meeting with the Provost

There will be an upcoming meeting with the current Provost Ron Daniels and Associate Provost for Education Andy Binns on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm in the Provost's conference room in 122 College Hall. Any Executive Board member who cannot make it to the meeting should let Mr. Rennekamp know. Also e-mail the Chair any items to be placed on the agenda.

### March Meeting with the President

The tentative date for the spring meeting with President Gutmann is March 31<sup>st</sup>, possible at 3pm.

### January Report to University Council

Please send Mr. Rennekamp any items for the January report to the University Council before the next Executive Board meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Possible Executive Board meeting at the Division of Public Safety

The Vice President for Public Safety Maureen Rush has invited GASPA to host either an Assembly meeting or an Executive Board meeting at the Penn Police Station on 40<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Streets. Mr. Rennekamp stated that if there were no objections he would try to plan to hold one of the Executive Board meetings at DPS in the spring.

### *First Vice Chair's Report*

First Vice Chair Alejandro Hagan was not present.

### *Vice Chair for Professional Students' Report*

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Vice Chair for Professional Students Mat Abramsky had nothing to report.

*Vice Chair for Research Students' Report*

Vice Chair for Research Students Jonathan Lukens was not present.

*Vice Chair for International Students' Report*

Vice Chair for International Students Omar Khan was not present.

*Vice Chair for Equity & Access's Report*

Vice Chair for Equity and Access Esther Agbaje stated that she and Ms. Williams met to randomly draw names from the lottery entries for the GAPSA-UA-VPUL trip to the 2009 Presidential Inauguration. Twenty-one names were drawn for seat on the bus as well as five waitlist names, which were also drawn at the same time. In addition to the 21 lottery winners Vice Chair for Social Activities Jessica Kim and BGAPSA Chair Brian Coleman will also be taking the trip as representative of graduate and professional student government.

*Vice Chair for Finance's Report*

Vice Chair of Finance Christa Heyward reminded members of the Executive Board to submit their total Fall 2008 budget expenses as soon as possible. According to the GAPSA constitution the Vice Chair for Finance must present the General Assembly with a mid year budget report in January.

*Vice Chair for Student Life's Report*

Vice Chair for Student Life Nikki Thorpe stated that the winners of the Landlord Survey Prizes will be selected by the Office of Off-Campus Services and notified by GAPSA on Monday.

*Vice Chair for Social Activities' Report*

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Vice Chair for Social Activities Jessica Kim stated that the wine tasting at Supper Restaurant would be held tomorrow and that several events have already been planned for January including a wine pairing dinner at Lacroix Rittenhouse, happy hours at Tinto, Distrito and Pino Boutique, and a trip to a Philadelphia Wings lacrosse game.

*Vice Chair for Student Programs' Report*

Vice Chair for Student Programs Christina Arlt stated that the recent ice-skating event went well and that there will be an indoor rock-climbing event at Pottruck gym in January.

*Vice Chair for Communications' Report*

Vice Chair of Communications Natalie Williams had nothing to report.

*Vice Chair for Operations' Report*

Vice Chair for Operations Sarah Smith reported that rooms have been reserved for all of the meetings in the spring semester with the exception of the first Assembly meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The people in Perelman Quad will not confirm that room until the planning for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday has been finalized.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.