

SASgov General Body Minutes 1/16/18

- Vote on Physics merit fund (joined late last semester)
 - Approved
- Mid-year Updates (what the executive board members have been doing)
 - Communications:
 - Tracking down department representatives (only missing three programs/ departments now!)
 - GB and exec meetings (location, food, minutes, attendance)
 - Run elections
 - Emails to the GB
 - GAPSA rep
 - Collected data for Research Council
 - Public Affairs:
 - Published new website with a working domain name!
 - Publicized social events
 - Instagram not used as much as facebook and twitter
 - BEN Talks is coming up (Feb 23rd)
 - Applications due Jan 26th
 - Need student and faculty judges (one from each division social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences)
 - Also going to blog the events that SASgov have funded
 - Social
 - Past:
 - Wine and cheese with Engineering
 - Halloween (Design)
 - National Museum of African American History and Culture (Education)
 - Happy Hour after Town Hall
 - Future:
 - Back to School (SP2)
 - GB Dinner
 - Other:
 - A lot of money left
 - Other schools want to collaborate
 - Policy:
 - Updated the constitution
 - A few lingering items we have to return to
 - Town Hall in November
 - As a result of the concerns at the Town Hall, Greg and Tom met with the head of CAPS
 - Greg spoke with the head of Penn Violence Prevention to get policies changes
 - Solidarity fund in the planning

- Finance:
 - 44 of 51 travel grants funded (86%)
 - \$15,323 awarded (for year 17/18) out of \$27,000
 - 7 declined due to ineligible program/dates/purpose
 - Discretionary Funds: \$1,250 awarded out of \$10,000
 - Merit Funding: 19 departments have sent an email to claim merit funding
 - Ongoing/Future:
 - Application date for spring travel grants will be decided soon
 - We should encourage SAS student groups to apply for discretionary funding
 - Remind department reps to claim merit funding
- President:
 - Meetings and Emails
 - Meeting with Eve Troutt-Powell next week
 - Meeting with Jessica ... to change the sexual violence policies
 - Penn, because of the union campaign can't give us money as that will be seen as a bribe, but they can change policies
 - Re-Organizations
- Budget:
 - We are running into a lot of troubles as we are not spending money
 - Out of a budget of ~108 000 we have more than ~70 000 left (still some expenses that have not been processed, but we have not spent half of our budget yet)
- Discretionary
 - We need more people to apply
 - Greg gave a brief explanation of what it is and who can apply (up to the GB, the only real requirement is that it benefits SAS graduate students)
- Goals for the semester
 - Run for exec (elections April 10th)
 - Can small groups apply for small groups of people?
 - Yes! But small new groups can also get money through green leaf in GAPSA
 - Should we organize a large event or advertise to others that we have money and can fund large and small events
 - Annual grad student event?
 - SAS don't have any annual large events
 - GAPSA have two large formals
 - They are a little out of our budget, but we could hypothetically do something like that using GAP money
 - Barbeque?
 - A grant for research supplies and materials/ books etc.?
 - Maybe we need a SAS Finance 101

- Individual department meetings this semester
 - Policy driven with the SASgov reps + other people from the departments
- Committee Meetings
- Happy Hour