Meeting Agenda
March 20, 2018; 6:30 PM
Philosophy Hall, Room 301
http://gsac.columbia.edu/

I. **Sign-in**

II. **Approval of February 2018 Minutes** (President)

III. **External Presentation by Mental Health Task Force** (MHTF)
   A. Nicole and Omar: developed group 4-5 years ago by members of Student Council; prior initiatives = increasing walk-in hours at CPS, making ADHD testing free, etc...; MHTF is largely made of undergrads but also want to reach out to graduate students to see if anyone else wants to join, be inclusive, etc...
   B. Outreach: will send email to pass along

IV. **Announcements (President)**
   A. **Faculty Mentoring Awards, Service Awards**
      1. **Deadline**: Week and a half left for nominations; please send out word throughout departments
      2. **Volunteers**: Need help with determining recipients
   B. **University Senate Elections** (link)
      1. **What**: student government for whole university; GSAS has 3 seats, and all seats need to be reelected
      2. **Time**: Time commitment is similar to being a GSAC rep; big plenary meeting once a month and smaller meetings, too. Can move a lot more within the university if a senator.
      3. **Who**: Consider people within your departments and speak with them; consider running yourself for senator
      4. **When**: Nominations period then campaigning period in early April; information will go out in newsletter. Technically, positions are for 2 years, but it’s possible to run for 1 year.

C. **Next meeting (April 24th)**: Thank You Party for Department Representatives at Arts&Crafts, right after GSAC Plenary Meeting (so, no food at plenary meeting)
V. ASGC Executive Board Elections

A. Brief explanation of the positions

B. Results:

1. **President** - Sarah Arkebauer (uncontested)
   a) Q: What is your overarching vision for the year to come? Where should we take it? A: Continue to streamline the organization, make as efficient and effective as possible.
   b) Q: How would you bring more student involvement into student government? A: Increase in involvement from MA students; want to be proactive to the heads of all the MA programs to get them to be part of this. Already has worked in reaching out to PhD programs. Continue to advertise opportunities to a wider pool. Want GSAS to also tell students of what we do.

2. **Vice President** - Andrew Hsu (uncontested)
   a) Q: What would you say is the hardest thing you’ve had to deal with in your VP position and how did you overcome that? A: This year, we had a lot of reorganization with the student groups, including grandfathered in groups; some groups only had 1-2 people but were super vocal. Lot of back and forth with negotiating with them.
   b) Q: Any plans to work with MA groups and leadership? A: Will follow Sarah’s lead.
   c) Q: Do you think smaller departments should be streamlined into combined MA-PhD representation? A: No preference either way. A lot of votes are so unanimous that doesn’t really matter. *(later note from Lisa: things might change with new ASGC board, but for now, want to give bigger voice to MA students)* A: In the new constitution, it’s written that VP has to prep materials for new students; will you be doing that or will it be Sarah? A: I’ll work with her on it.
   d) Q: How many of the organizations that you listed are you actually part of? A: I was an officer for Columbia Grad Council (Festifall - officer elections this Friday in Philosophy Hall 302!), etc... if you want to run for any of these, that would be great.

3. **Communications Chair** *(no nominations; position is open)*

4. **Finance Chair** - Mike Ford (uncontested)
   a) Issues with SIG allocation timing, how will you fix? A: Do some surveys to figure out what people want and work it out from there. Same with travel grants.
   b) Are you a good negotiator? A: Yes.

5. **Community Chair** *(no nominations; position is open)*

6. **Quality of Life Chair** - Kate McIntyre (uncontested)
   a) Q: Some other Ivy League schools have 5 year plans for subjects that come out from QoL surveys; would you like to start a 3-5 year plan so next QoL chair could help with making your vision come true? A: Yeah, I’d love to do that.
   b) Q: In the constitution, it says that QoL will help with bigger 5 year plan, so wouldn’t have to do alone; also, would you be willing to work with member of GSO board on issues covering both campuses? A: Yes
c) Q: Do you think the ASGC taking an official stance on the union would impact quality of life? A: I don’t feel like the Quality of Life chair would be constrained by the steering committee choosing to stay neutral or changing position; I am pro union and think majority of students are pro-union and would be in favor of the steering committee deciding that, but that’s separate. (comment from Abby: It’s the plenary, not the steering committee that decides position relative to the union)

7. **Media Chair** (no nominations; position is open)

8. **Events Co-Chairs** (Emma de Beus and Milica Ilicic ran; Milica Ilicic, uncontested)
   note: Emma de Beus was not at the plenary meeting and will be contacted by steering committee about interests
   a) Q: Besides Broadway, etc... what sort of new event do you have in mind that you would like to do? A: Interested in alternative theater and music stuff.

9. **Alumni Chair** (Debbie Sokolowski)

10. **MA Affairs Chair**: (this position will be voted on in the fall)

VI. **New Department Representatives and MA Representatives process** (VP Communications)
   A. **Approach**: please start looking and talking to colleagues in departments if not planning to stay on as rep; if change, please fill out form and bring successor to April plenary meeting (last meeting). We have three methods of determining a new representative on our website, but ultimately, it is up to each department.

   B. **Duties & Method of Selecting**: [link]

   C. **New Representative Registration Form**: [link]

VII. **Recognized Student Groups** (VP Admin)
   A. **Decision on ASGC re-recognized student groups** - several groups will be de-recognized or sent to other student councils; 5 groups will be continuing on in ASGC; 3 were pre-2014, so they will be brought in next month to reintroduce themselves. De-recognized groups, some screwed up on final report, but have appeal chance. They might come to next plenary meeting to state why they should not be de-recognized.

   B. **Next steps**: town hall, transition, appeals, timeline and deadlines

VIII. **Committee updates**
   A. **Alumni & Career Development**
      1. **Alumni & Student Boat Cruise w/Social, April 19th**
      2. **GSAC & ASGC Alumni Database**
      3. **3MT**: (with CCE)
         a) **Prizes**: $1000, $500, Choice Award $200
         b) **Description**: 3MT is a competition over 600 universities do, we are starting now. Opportunity for PhD students to practice giving elevator pitch to a lay audience. Present on given night, three minute talk; judges vote on best - 1st, 2nd prizes and choice awards. Date not yet set; either late April or May - there will be emails (both CCE and GSAC newsletter)
         c) **Note**: After discussing this event with GSAS Administration, there were some concerns raised about the short notice for this event as well as the potential for conflicting with an MA equivalent that has existed for
several years and also takes place during this proposed period. More discussion is needed and the event may be delayed.

4. **Velocity**: bike tour next October; talk to Frank for details

**B. Budget & Finance**
1. Next application deadlines: 3/23 Travel Grant

**C. Culture**
1. *NY Flamenco Festival: Rosalía y Raúl*, March 23, 9PM
2. *Turandot at the Metropolitan Opera*, April 5, 7PM
3. *NYC Ballet - Balanchine Black and White*, April 24, 7PM
4. These are all sold out, but there will be *Sleep No More* events in April

**D. Quality of Life**
1. GSAS/GSAC resource guide for students - edits ongoing on GSAS side
2. *Quality of Life Survey*, concluded March 18, report forthcoming: 405 responses; about 10%. Report will be out in April; GSAS and provost will be receiving results. Last GSAC Quality of Life Survey.

**E. Social**
1. *EGSC/GSAC Board Game Night*: 4/12, 6-8pm - $5 tickets; bring up to 4 friends
2. *Alumni and Student Boat Cruise with Alumni and Career Dev*, 4/19 ~ $35 tickets (invite alumni)
3. *Dear Evan Hansen* 4/25/18 2PM

**IX. External Representatives Updates:**
A. **Health** (Morningside, CUMC)
B. **Libraries**
C. **Graduate Workers of Columbia (GWC)/Union** - what’s happening with the strike vote? Still evolving based upon conversations happening within departments; seems likely there will be a vote around the first week in April, but nothing is set yet. Should be an official email coming out in a week or two. If there’s the vote, and if we win it, and if Columbia still doesn’t come to the table, it’s possible that a strike would be called for about a week (a short term strike) around the last week of classes.

**D. Office of University Life Events Council**

**E. Disabilities**

**F. ISSO - Tax Workshops**: March 29

**X. New Business** (Open Forum)
A. Even with ASGC turnover April 1, non-GSAS departments currently part of GSAC will still have access to events and funding for rest of the semester.

**XI. Committee meetings & Adjournment (President)**