

HGC Meeting  
January 29, 2018  
SOCH - HILLES  
7:15pm

First meeting of Spring semester

In attendance, were:

Tracie

Mariano

Ken

Dan Egel-Weiss (HLS)

Dana

Jennie Williamson

Kelli

(see sign in sheet - lots more came in whose names I did not know)

10 reps present, 2 absent

#### OPEN FORUM

Started off with open forum.

Mariano from HKS wanted to create a "SOCH" for the graduate school, wanting to promote greater coordination among graduate schools.

Thought to create digital space, as well as a physical space for this interaction. Said there is a potential for greater interaction across the various schools that is missing. Asked how to initiate such a conversation to begin? For example, he brought up how extremely difficult it is to cross-register. Realized there are some legacy challenges.

Kevin agreed with the sentiment, said it is fortuitous that the Smith Campus Center is due to reopen in the Fall to give us this "meeting space" as well as a more centralized hub for student activity. Kevin said there IS NO HUB for Graduate students, unfortunately, and this does require a much longer interaction and discussion. Will bring more info about the Smith Center shortly.

#### I-90 CONSTRUCTION

Galen (from HBS?) poke about upcoming construction due to a bridge about to collapse. Instead of a "highway redesign," thought to make better use of discussion time to pressure DOT (assume state of Massachusetts) to also build a bus connection to connect Allston to Harvard, potential trollies to MIT. Spoke about potentially making better use of space.

Tracie asked if it could be used for housing? Extension school needs it.

Mariano asked about stakeholders? Galen said it's a DOT project. Harvard has the land - will have to grant use of the land. The city of Boston will have to determine zoning. MPTA - in charge of rail lines. DCR - concerned about parklands.

Galen thought it was important to not wait until 2040 to think of its use. Most likely it seems ripe for "urban rail" and "trolleys." However, encouraged us to bring up this issue with our respective deans since this will be an ongoing issue for decades to come.

Kevin spoke about the opportunity to give input for an outdoor art exhibit.

Also, spoke about events co-sponsorships. Public Health Review (\$500), Asia Business Conference (\$1000) , European Conference (\$2000), India Conference (\$500?)

Anika Mansour spoke about the 2nd Annual National Muslim Womens Summit at Harvard University, Mar 31 - April 2nd Wants to recruit 50 women from across country and bring them to Harvard for a one day training, create a network for future support.

Budget is \$6,550 but has a shortfall of about \$4,050. Asking for \$1000 from HGC. It's a Harvard-wide initiative. Asked about students being recruited, who will speak, etc. Payum asked about % of Harvard affiliated speakers and how to best engage Harvard graduate students? Anika said that the Harvard College is also involved. Dana spoke about it being only the second year - but with today's anti-Muslim sentiment - it's more important than ever, however would like to tap into cross-Harvard network. So far just four colleges are involved - Harvard Divinity, HKS, Harvard College.

Kevin made a motion to vote on all event co-sponsorships:

Muslim Womens Summit passed for \$1000

Mariano thought it may be helpful to understand the HGC budget, event budget, to better understand how much proportional investment are we making and to take into consideration the number of students that benefit. Thought we need to better understand the ratio to have a better idea what % of the conference will be subsidized by HGC. Mariano also thought a "package" like acknowledging our sponsorship should get a requirement.

Tracie asked what do we get out of it? Kevin asked for a summary of the event. Should we get tickets? Someone from HBS and Payum thought we could ask for space as a way to promote HGC and our other upcoming events.

Asia Business Conference passed for \$1000  
Harvard Public Health Review passed for \$500

European Conference for \$2000 ended in a tie, was tabled.

Someone from HMS thought we should lower the amount the European Conference was asking from \$2000 to \$1000. In response, Krishna, as the former chair of events, said to keep the \$2000 since they gave us lots of exposure and was nicely run event in the past. Also, someone else felt that the European Conference representative attended the meeting last month, and no one raised the issue of lowering the amount. Also, 70% of tickets for European Conference are subsidized by the organizers and it makes the attendance much higher.

India Conference passed for \$500

After some brief remarks, Ken was nominated and unanimously elected to serve as the next Chair of Student Groups.

Kevin mentioned that Hanes will be discussing whether to keep the Vice-Chairs in their respective positions over the summer.

Tracie also spoke briefly about the upcoming HGC Masquerade Ball scheduled to take place on March 10, 2018. Said it will take place at the museum with over 350 activities available. Also, there will be an event at the "Electricity Theater" where one person (up to 3 people) will be an "actor" and have their hair electrified for entertainment purposes. Explained there is a VIP/Platinum Package. Said there will be mixed drinks, hors d'oeuvres and holds over 300 people. Should be lots of bars. Only VIP tickets can see dinosaur room. A Harvard student, Agnes Frey, will help with the marketing of this event. Said Sam needs to "wire" money so deposit can take place, unfortunately he is away in China at the moment doing an internship.

Payum spoke about event involving professors that students would be interested in hearing speak at an upcoming event.

Introduced Shira from the Harvard Crimson to talk about the recent rising of rent on Harvard University Housing.

Dan Egel-Weiss introduced himself, taking over for Sam Spearman.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm