**GSA General Assembly Meeting**

March 30th, 2016

1. Approval of Minutes
	1. No changes or corrections. Minutes stand as written.
2. Approval of Agenda
	1. No changes or corrections. Agenda stands as written.
3. Deep Dive – Transit and Security
	1. Continuing work on old projects while trying to branch out into new projects.
	2. Met with Ed, head of transit unit at Yale, and gave him the idea to put posters on shuttles to talk about rights and responsibilities of riders. Fabian S. (Economics)—response has been positive to put posters on shuttles. Has been moving forward slowly—been given permission for using Yale’s name, logo, GSA’s logo, blue has to be changed to Yale blue. In general, they have accepted the two sample designs for the poster that have been shown in a previous meeting. It will go forward as a trial period on the Red and Blue lines and hopefully and eventually it will be more widespread. Bill (immuno)- more posters than two options? Fabian- Uncertain on whether it will be two posters for six months, then new ones, or just same posters for a long time. Joe (Public Health) might not be a good idea to change because we might not be at Yale long enough to cycle through all rules.
	3. Emilio (Neuro)- students who ride bikes and where to leave them. Sol- Yale bike map is available online that shows where there are bike racks within the Yale campus. There are a lot listed here and this is from 2009—might not have been updated since then. Reached out to Sustainability office to ask about what efforts are to update it. Has not been updated. They argue that they have added more racks, but they are not reflected in the map. Trying to improve and update the map. Can suggest additional places for bike racks. Apparently no budget for it, though. Are there not enough? Are they not in the right places? Are they not lighted at night? What are the issues? Will issue a survey to try to figure this out. Bryan (FES)- can we get a better line of communication because Ed only has so much power and control.
	4. Liz- Yale had a transportation survey in 2015—might be something about bikes in there to see what they’re doing, but she’s unsure.
	5. Emilio- big problem is that the office in charge of the bike racks on campus doesn’t know where they all are
	6. Emilio- Lots of questions last year about security in last year’s deep dive. Had the idea to look towards the community to see what it can offer. Went to a few community meetings. Andrey (Comp Lit)- Not much to report back, but went to community meeting in East Rock. Divided meetings between two areas of East Rock. Emilio went to the downtown community meeting. These meetings could be good ways to get some things happening that are more community-based. Security was not hugely addressed, but the police department holds weekly meetings where police talk about crime rates.
	7. Sarah (MB&B) went to police meeting with Emilio. Got crime statistics. Simple assault this year to date is 274 but last year there were 360 by this point. Yale covers a lot of the policing district. Each district commander gives a summary of what has happened in his/her area. Lots of larcenies from vehicles in the East Rock area. Shell gas station in East Rock gets robbed frequently, but apparently not frequently enough for security. This is a really great way to get a pulse of what’s going on in the community. These are open to the public. On the 4th floor of the police station Thursdays at 10 AM.
	8. Emilio- Talking with Ed- maybe have some more shuttle lines or changes in routes. Ed made some suggestions about changes. Using all available resources so it’s about changing what we have, not adding more. Sarah (Chemistry)—working on a survey to ask students general questions about shuttle usage and to see what they want so we can talk to Ed in a more informed way. 11 questions right now—trying to understand when people are traveling to and from work/lab most frequently and how they get there. Do people use CT transit? Night shuttle vs. law vs. med shuttle. Where do you live, etc. Where do you spend workday? Security issues on commute to work? How can it be improved? Area map that will be a heat map to understand where people might want more bike racks, assuming people use bikes. Questions to get rid of, modify, add? Could add this to the GSA survey? Liz- we will discuss this because we might send one out with GPSS.
	9. Liz- questions bout how often students travel back and forth during the day? Sarah (Chem)- time blocks throughout the day to ask people when they’re traveling should cover this.
	10. Andrew (Genetics)- questions about how often busses pass you by because they’re full? Sarah said they can add something like this.
	11. Sarah (MB&B) Everyone should download LiveSafe app to report issues. Sarah (chem)- have you heard of it, yes/ no, etc.
	12. Emilio-should be transferring to app version of door-to-door soon. The TransLoc contract is going to be running out soon.
	13. Christopher (linguistics)- why is the orange the one that disappears in the middle of the day? Why not the blue line? Orange and Red cover separate territories, while Blue and Red cover much of the same territory. Wendy (MD/PhD)- historically Orange is newer so it was probably just approved for limited durations of time during the day. Could create something that combines the blue and orange lines.
	14. Bryan- What about a sort of commuter line to Westville given that people seem to be moving out there.
	15. Sarah (Chem)- imperative that people take this survey so when it happens send it to your constituents.
	16. Other questions or comments? Contact Emilo

IV.           Elections

 a.     Graduate Faculty Mentor Award Selection Committee

1. Humanities- Mark (music) nominates Laura Brown (music) and Laura accepts Laura approved for selection committee unanimously by acclimation

2.     Social Sciences – Christopher (linguistics) nominates himself. Christopher approved for selection committee unanimously by acclimation.

3.     Science – Stephen (Physics) nominates himself. Stephen approved for selection committee unanimously by acclimation.

V.             Department Meeting Reports

 a.     Linguistics – Christopher Geissler

i. Christopher- extended gym hours are a plus, extended pool hours? Hole for the students between being domestic and international—OISS won’t help those people. Perpetual question- when TFs are obligated to do things they are not supposed to do. How to deal with this? Something that works is that there is a Box folder for sharing resources (thanks to DGS). Grad students can upload answer keys and resources to stuff for sections so future TFs can use them in the future (for undergrad classes). Also two faculty searches and the DGS posted information about candidates who are coming to visit and give talks so everyone knows—statements of purpose, research agenda, writing samples, etc. Other departments should do this.

ii. General dissatisfaction with fact that things happen at Yale and you find out the day after they happen. How to better centralize things? Crosslink departmental calendars or something? 500 dollars to every student every year for travel guaranteed to every student. Can also use this for other research purposes to pay consultants to collect language information, can use to pay people for experiments—would like more funding.

iii.     Bryan- taxes-for tax purposes whether you qualify as resident even if you are an alien. In this case, can use other resources.

iv.     Nick (Microbiology)- Jennifer Brinley working on a letter (add this later)—could help.

v.     Laura (Music)- health insurance form that came into filing? Liz shouldn’t have to worry about it this year.

 b.     History – Mireille Pardon, Gabriel Winant, Lena Eckert-Erdheim, Andrew Epstein, and Ricardo Alvarez Pimentel

i.     Mireille reported- lots of concern about lack of tax guidance, but university cant give advice. Discussed healthcare and study spaces. Healthcare- mental health: apparently used to be a session cap, and now there isn’t one, but they’re not telling people there is no longer one. Childcare- affects a small number of graduate students, lots of people did still care about it strongly.

ii. Study spaces: no offices in the history department. Concern about lost space in the McDougal space. More spaces that aren’t just silent study spaces.

iii.  Bryan- GPSS and GSA reps had meeting with Yale health membership coordinator. Lots of changes because of Affordable Care Act Communication issues that need to be ironed out—rumors circulate and they don’t get to everyone who needs to hear. Bryan will provide a one page document with information for all of us that we can disseminate.

iv. Alex (Philosophy)- 320 york committee has talked about it but hasn’t made decisions. Likely will be space in 320 for graduate student use that is a mix of quiet spaces and offices that can be reserved for office hours. Space might be in basement, but still will be there and functional. Decisions by the end of the semester.

v. Fabian (Economics)- humanities students only or graduate students in general? Alex: Decisions about access have not been made. Three possibilities 1. Humanities grad students based in this building only 2. Humilities grad students overall 3. Students with certain affiliations or advisors, etc.

VI.           Update from Forum on GSAS AAU Sexual Climate Results

a.     Some data were just GSAS and not GSAS and Professional schools. Data were very similar to aggregate data. About 8% of population has been assaulted while at Yale. Concerned with the level of harassment by faculty. Around 11%. Included offensive jokes, inappropriate comments on appearance, continued requests for dinner/ drinks/ etc. About 25 people were there. Chris attended- has some comments. What are the barriers of reporting—offense was not serious enough. What does this mean? How can we work on this? There is no statute of limitations for complaints. Complaints can be brought against a faculty member after finishing a rotation, after graduating, but only WITHIN Yale (not with police, for example). Disciplinary actions are not the only response. Powers that be are trying to frame this as not letting people off the hook, but to encourage people to come forward and know that there are lots of things they can do and that people are there to help and to guide. 10-15% of complaints over the past 4 years have been brought to the UWC where there are tribunals and hearings.

b.     Liz- trying to help the faculty have bystander training; talking about trying to improve mentorship—instead of saying how not to do something, trying to teach how to be better mentors and therefore not take part in these offenses. Trying to have department meetings—DGS should be having a meeting to discuss results and to discuss misconduct here at Yale. Brief update to Liz if you had meeting (even just “it went well” “it was awful” etc.) DGSs might report that it went fine, but students might have different idea.

c.     Steven- forward to him and Rachel because they’re on title IX committee and this could be a good thing for them to keep track of.

d.     Emilio- deadline for these meetings? Before the end of the semester.

e.     Mark (Music)- add to Steven’s comment- send to ad hoc committee .

f.      Andrey- was any discussion of role in Provost of punishments being changed? No real discussions here. People were more concerned with actual graduate student problems rather than hearing aspects.

g.     Joe- putting in plug for post-docs again. How do you address issues with post-docs because point similarity is advisors. Just always be cognizant of post-docs too!

h.     Christopher- trying to build things in where you can talk to people in other schools instead of ones in yours to remove uncomfortable conflicts, etc.

VII.         Best Practices for Graduate Student Mentoring – FAS Senate

a.     What’s the best way for faculty to mentor graduate students? HUGE QUESTION. FAS Senate wants information from us.

b.     Sol- one of rotation PIs meets with students twice a week. Once a week to discuss data and once a week to discuss one-on-one papers to make sure project is on the same page.

c.     Wendy- don’t play favorites with students

d.     Christopher- Meeting with advisor weekly as a checkup but also reading articles with advisor to help formulate research questions

e.     Andrey- bad practice- sometimes reluctance to meet with advisors because they’re so busy. Mentorship as a process is discouraged. People who have time for you don’t get tenure.

f.      Fabian- Important to be open with mentor/ advisor. Still a stigma in econ to not go into academia. If you can be open about professional development, this is a huge benefit. Informal regular discussions are great, too.

g.     Katie (Psychology)- 1. Asks how you want to be mentored and then follows through on that request. 2. Gives semester feedback for graduate students and goes over it with you.

 h.     Making expectations really clear is essential. Go to advisor with mistake, advisors respond by saying this is great that you found it early on. This is so important! All advisors should do this.

 i.      Joe- Set up students with outside collaborators to bridge you into the next step rather than waiting to get to post-doc mode before doing this.

 j.      Ashley (Psychology)- Help students with professional development and making connections with other members of the field

 k.     Bryan- Academic professionals are not great managers all the time, but clear expectations are essential.

 l.      Sol- 1. Professional development- having a mentor who understands that intellectual development is not tied to data production.

 m.   Wendy- encourage to know that you need a break is huge

 n.     Sol- understand that you’re the most effective once you have personal time. Being in lab 15 hours is not going to make you productive or effective.

 o.     Fabian- propose a motion to table discussion of teaching. Liz- it is one question, so let’s keep it.

 p.    Future comments, Liz will make a form for any other comments so we can send them to the FAS senate. Will try to send out finalized copy so we can approve it at next meeting before sending off.

VIII.       Teaching at Yale Day Question

 a. Trying to make teaching fellows have better training. Including this in teaching at Yale Day. Should the day be mandatory? Now it is not mandatory. How many went? Around 5 to 10. How many have been TFs almost everyone in the room (about 30-40 people). Should teaching at Yale day be mandatory?  Andrey- there’s a certificate of college teaching. That’s the thing that should be mandatory if anything. Liz- challenges to making huge changes this quickly. so easier to make shorter thing mandatory rather than longer course like this. Fabian- make it more useless.

 b. Bryan- make it into online training? Liz- online training can be utterly useless for everyone!

 c.  Andrey- there are some things in place. Teaching writing-intensive course? Have to take a training course. Katie- would rather have fundamental teaching for your division be mandatory than teaching at Yale be mandatory.

IX.          Concerns from the Floor

 a.     2 meetings left before end of semester and then a barbecue at GPSCY.

                                               i.     Next meeting- lots of deep dives

                                             ii.     Meeting after that- elections for officers.

                                            iii.     Elections across the graduate school for GSA representatives are in between these two meetings.

                                            iv.     Meeting with provost- only so many spots available but will be opened later this week.

                                             v.     DeStress fest Tuesday April 5, 3-5 PM Science Hill

X.            Adjournment

 a.     Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM. Meeting ended at 8:05 PM.

**Parliamentary Procedure Basics Reviewed**

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| **Type** | **Purpose** | **To Enact Motion** |
| Main Motion“I move that…” | To take action on behalf of the body | Second needed. Debatable. Requires majority vote. |

**Privileged Motions**

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| **Type** | **Purpose** | **To Enact Motion** |
| Call for orders of the DayChair asks if there are any objections to the agenda. | Asks Assembly to stick to the agenda | Not debatable; approved unless there is an objection, requires 1/3 to sustain. |
| Adjourn“I move to adjourn” | End of meeting | Second needed. Not debatable. Not amendable. Meeting closes unless there is an objection, otherwise immediately voted upon and requires majority vote. |

**Subsidiary Motions**

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| **Type** | **Purpose** | **To Enact Motion** |
| Table Current Business“I move to table the current business…” – Indefinitely or a set amount of time. | To lay one matter aside temporarily so that a more urgent matter can be considered. | Second needed. Not debatable. Not amendable. Requires majority vote. |
| Call the Question“I move the previous question” “I call the question” | Closes debate and forces vote. | Second needed. Not debatable. Not amendable. Requires 2/3 vote. |
| Motion to Limit or Extend Debate“I move that debate be limited to (or end at)…” | Limits or extends debate. | Second needed. Not debatable. Not amendable. Requires 2/3 vote. |
| Motion to refer“I move that we refer the question of…to…(name of group) for…(further study) | Another group considers the motion and may change or modify the motion and then present it to the assembly. | Second needed. Debatable. Amendable. Requires majority vote. |
| Amendments“I move to amend the motion by…” | Used to change a motion. Change must be related to the subject of the motion. | Second needed. Debatable. Amendable. Requires majority vote. |

**Incidental Motions**

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| **Type** | **Purpose** | **To Enact Motion** |
| Point of order“Point of order” | A question about the process or a particular motion. Typically to call attention to a mistake in parliamentary procedure or a question of Scope based on the Charter and Bylaws. | The member addresses the Chair. She/he need not be recognized before speaking, She/he may interrupt a speaker who has the floor. Automatic if granted by the Chair. No second needed. Not debatable. Not amendable. No vote. |
| Point of information“Point of information” | To ask about the particular motion | Automatic |
| Parliamentary Inquiry“Parliamentary Inquiry” | To ask about the particular process | Automatic |