Facilities and Healthcare Committee Meeting 5th March, 2014

Present: Michelle Kriner, Angharad Davis, Chad Marion  
  
Apologies: None recorded  
  
Meeting opened 8:31pm

1. **Project Updates**
   1. Tax Advice
      1. There were no significant updates to report.
   2. Housing
      1. MK noted that following the success of the recent Housing Fair, Wendy Xiao is being approached by various housing companies asking her/the housing committee/the GSA to co-host their own housing events. MK is of the opinion that it would be better to have some sort of vetting process (similar to the ‘Yale seal of approval’ that has been discussed previously) than to collaborate directly with individual companies.
      2. CM agreed; he observed that collaborating with individual companies could lead to problems down the road – to start with, collaborating with any one company could lead others to expect similar treatment.
      3. MK wondered if this issue could be passed on to the Graduate Housing Office, who may know better how to handle issues of this type (including the various legal issues raised). MK will contact the grad housing office and report back.
   3. Mental Health
      1. AD reported that the Coalition for Mental Health & Wellbeing at Yale (an action group comprising primarily undergraduates) are going ahead with plans for a Mental Health Weekend, to be held on April 11-13. Current plans include holding a number of student panels, and perhaps also a faculty panel and a university administration panel. Other events include a peer counselling workshop, a seminar on something called ‘wellness skills’, and more interactive events such as various art projects, a yoga event, and so forth. The Coalition would like to know what events graduate students might be interested in, and how best to share the relevant information with them.
      2. MK asked if Yale Mental Health and Counseling are participating in the event; AD replied that the current plans did not seem to incorporate MH&C representatives or initiatives.
      3. CM suggested that the GSA Publicity Committee might be applied to for event promotion within the graduate student body. AD will contact them and share basic event information that can be distributed accordingly.
   4. Healthcare issues
      1. MK noted that the Healthcare Survey has been forwarded to the GSA Steering Committee for approval. AD enquired if they had any feedback; MK noted that it was included on the agenda of the most recent Steering Committee meeting but she hadn’t heard anything back yet. MK will contact Brian Dunican to see if there are further comments; following this, the survey should be ready to be sent out.
      2. MK has already added the adjustments and additional questions suggested during the discussion at the previous HFC meeting and raised through other avenues of feedback.
2. **Concerns/Ideas from the floor** 
   1. There being no further concerns, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned 8:39pm