General assembly 10-15

Meeting start: 6:46

1. Anthony Violano from development
   1. speaking about Elihu Day for Elihu Fund
      1. Arose from need of pool of current use unrestricted flexible dollars
         1. current use; raised and spent in two fiscal years; not in endowment
         2. unrestricted: donor cannot specify use
      2. Money is for GSAS not just yale college
         1. work with gsas volunteers; reach out and encourage gifts to the grad school
   2. Elihu Day is the ‘Thank-a-thon” to create thank you cards for alumni donors
      1. do not have specific name, just write what you are thankful for from your grad school experience
   3. Questions: what happened with the 800,000 dollars?
      1. grad school is unique in structure; alumni funds: a portion of each gift goes to grad school to fund over arching priorities, resources like the career center; basic day to day needs; a portion also goes to their department; all decisions made at the provost office
   4. What is the percentage of gifts for the grad school:
      1. hovers between 12-15%
   5. What is the mean of the median donation?
      1. not sure; average gift is around 200-300 dollars
2. Approval of the minutes
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Facilities and Health care
   1. major focus is childcare and mental health
   2. Work on Mason building and gym
   3. resolution to ban styrofoam; scharwzmann committee
   4. childcare
      1. shared with gpss; mcdougal and womens faculty forum
      2. finding out the number of children
         1. we really dont know how many students have children
            1. looked at enrollment in the yale health plan, perhaps 151 children; extrapolated to about 172

70% are ages 0-4 need daycare

* + - 1. really need exact numbers to properly calculate need
         1. FHC has made a short survey; asking reps to send the survey out to their department
      2. Yale currently has an affiliate system; none of them currently operate on a sliding scale
         1. sliding scale is when you pay a certain percentage of your income
         2. there are yale affiliated places that very expensive and hard to get in
      3. various systems for how income, health insurance, subsidy, etc are taken into account for admittance and enrollment in day care at peer institutions
         1. GSA would like to make the case for subsidies
      4. Co-op visit report
         1. can we convince the gsas to sponsor a childcare center or co-op
         2. sliding scale, from 30- 18000 dollar tuition; parents must contribute 1.5 hours a week up to four hours per family
         3. if a parent volunteers in person, need a full govt background

staff and teacher costs and insurance costs are massive

* + - * 1. important that they have full paying parents to balance out cost

but also have subsidies from new haven that we will not qualify for

current sliding scale day cares do not accept grad students

* + - * 1. probably looking for a in-house model

can we make an in home model viable for just grad students or do we need involve faculty

* + 1. Mental health
       1. student wellness initiative
          1. we can apply for funding to pilot new programs for physical and mental health

applying for two grants for two programs

focus group study proposal

instead of surveys we are trying to et groups together to have discussions under the supervision of mental health providers

head of mental health has already agreed to work with us

once the program is in the works, we will be asking reps to announce to depts

destress fest

undergrads get a lot of focus on de-stressing

mcdougal does spring chillout day; perhaps we can collaborate with mdougal, but mcdougal is held only hgs

destress fest would be held around science hill

try and get in contact with the dgs to allow the pis and advisors to let student go to destress day

ideas for the day include: therapy dogs; mental health outreach; local brews, slip n slide; bake off

what is revolutionary is getting DGS’s involved

Perhaps there is a therapy dog at the law school? has it died?

reach-out DGS

create a forum where everyone is involved

* + - 1. Comments, suggestions and requests
         1. maybe it is time to request a UWC on healthcare
         2. what about potentially including faculty? how hard has this been pursued?

there is a risk that the faculty sees our push as potentially taking away spots from faculty members

are we actually working with faculty?

yes; but it won’t be a one size fits all solution; combination of subsidies and centers

faculty is already paying a lot for childcare and have that as a

complaint

they will not be interested in footing the majority of the bill for a childcare center

* + - * 1. Mcdougal has a family life notes that is well read; might be a better turn out for the survey; also use the facebook page, Bulldogs with pups
  1. PR
     1. projects that are currently under way
        1. the gas website; mate is working on it, but it is large task for anyone to take on
        2. gsa bulletin board; looking to update and make it more visually appealing
     2. main ways to reach out to people is through the facebook page
        1. like it if you havent already; we see good turn around when the Facebook page is active
     3. other main project is the monthly newsletter
        1. graph show that around 20% of people are opening our newsletter
           1. numbers are in line with industry reports for newsletters that are sent out for PR type mailings
           2. actually pleased with numbers
        2. question: have you looked at the newsletter on phone or tablet and is it readable
           1. people found it impossible to read last year, problem ironed out

gmail app messes with newsletter

* + 1. the gas newsletter is a place to advertise gas sponsored or gas specific events
       1. always looking for new material, please
       2. Question: is there a way to use a newsletter template program to avoid opening issues
    2. please contribute to newsletter
       1. we send monthly calls for stories for the following month’s newsletter
    3. talk about ideas for taking on bigger project
       1. GSA video or podcast
          1. 2 or 3 minute snippet; a flashier way to get out newsletter information

we do have pretty good readership on facebook, so could have big outreach for cast

downside is that is requires specialized equipment and personelle

* + 1. met wil jennifer grinley
       1. came up that her office is trying to better communicate tax situation
          1. looking for a way to emphasize variabilty in tax issues
          2. looking for a way to do a type of faqs program

talk to daisy cardona

* + - 1. we do put on a tax facts events every year, has been met with a lot of interest
         1. it is difficult for that person to advise individuals, and it ends up being a blanket policy system
    1. for video podcast it is necessary to provide info that people cant access elsewhere
       1. maybe rely on resources and speakers we bring into GSA
       2. podcast will not be more than once a month
          1. question: have you thought about recording the GSA meetings and then letting people listen?
    2. are we making up a reason to do this? why would we do this?
       1. idea was that this could potentially be a more effective outreach
          1. if the videos aren’t regular, maybe a series of short instructional video would be better or the committees create short PSA type video
    3. would the taxes partnership be worthwhile?
       1. lots of students want better guidance from the tax office
       2. if you are having withholding issues, email liz and she may have a solution
          1. jennifer seems exasperated by their inability to get the info out that they want to get our
    4. Recruitment call: we have about 6-7 people but we always want more people and can easily find jobs for them
  1. Resolution F15-004
     1. meant to address the strategic plan
        1. strategic plan is the best way to ensure institutional memory and set the course for upcoming GSA bodies
     2. call to vote; confidential by hand
        1. resolution has passed
  2. concerns from the floor
     1. gypscy drink up after meeting
     2. ctf is currently in its fall cycle
        1. please see patrick about reading
     3. dine with the dean back in order
        1. survey link back in newsletter, also an email to sent to constituents
     4. first meeting of the ad hoc on campus climate and sexual misconduct is tomorrow at noon
  3. motion to close meeting
  4. meeting adjourned 7:55pm