

CAA and CCE Open Forum

Richard Kurtz talks about the events being planned by CCE. CCE serves the 5 schools and the professional schools with ~8100 students. They try to leverage their resources in the students' career search. The objective is not to replace the PI in the academic job search and focus mostly in the non-academic job research. Fireside chat series- small group of graduate student, intimate conversations with people with careers outside academia. Two speakers for the fireside chat next week and 27 students have registered. The following Tuesday (2nd April) another Archaeology fireside chat. There are two more scheduled at the end of April. These events arise out of conversations with students. Feedback from the students is important for planning the events and find speakers. They hold a Startup career fair that is not only for undergraduates. They also deal with International students' concerns. Department Reps may be useful for their event promotions. They hold conversation and assessment sessions for the students. If students are looking for jobs and internships, use Lionshare-over 3000 jobs and internships with employers only looking for Columbia students and alumni. Surveys show that around 75% of jobs through networks and contacts. They also provide informational interviews and opportunities for meeting people with similar experiences. Also tools for preparing good marketing material-cover letter and resume and practice interviews. It is very rare to have a question asked that has not been asked before. You can call them for an appointment or a counseling session. They hold activities and career fairs throughout the year. Their website has resources like tip sheets on how to find jobs overseas, etc. The largest Columbia networks in New York and the Bay area. GSAS alumni association-36000 people are part of it. The Board has 20 alumni. 6 committees. The Alumni fund is used for students. The Student-Alumni networking event at Low Library typically has 200 student participants and a capacity of 20-40 students during the Fireside chats.

Evolving Faculty House situation

Steering committee decided not to make a statement after the last Plenary. No strike or boycott is scheduled before March 31. Vote on discussion to continue-15 approve, 1 abstain. PR chair has contacted two people from the administration but not gotten any response. Administration has not allowed any outside discussions. GSAC may risk hurting its constituents by taking a strong stance in this matter, since there are talks of downsizing GSAS and Admin is not interested in talking with students in the Faculty House matter. The undergraduate student body Student Governing Board has issued support. Vote on endorsement for staff and asking for greater

information from the university-15, Oppose-1, Abstain-0. A draft letter will be drafted and sent around the plenary body for approval by the weekend.

Quality of Life Update

The survey will carry 65 prizes with a deadline of April 19th. There were 250 respondents in the first hour and the numbers are expected to grow with every reminder.

Group Recognition

Motion to have a cap on group recognition deliberations to 3 minutes. Robotics Club-Yes-15, No-0, Abstain-1. DJ Club-Yes-12, No-0, Abstain-9

Social and A&E Updates

Ski trip-2 buses with ~100 students, second wine tasting was less attended probably due to a price increase. There were a couple of events downtown-Trivia nights. There will be a Beer tasting event next month. Annual Boat Cruise is in May. GSAS wide e-mail will be sent out. There is a Chamber music concert to be held.

GSAC updates

LUMEN conference will be held this Friday. Department DA's have been informed and advertising is ongoing through the various channels. There is a new senator position in Social sciences-this will be advertised as well.

GSAC Travel Grant Petition (Simon Stevens, History)

One of the travel grant awardees for the Spring 2013 semester, whose grant had been withdrawn due to his unavailability at the Research Conference, petitioned to the plenary that his award be reinstated. The Plenary is informed that one more student is in an identical situation but has not petitioned. The issue was that the website and information prepared by GSAC didn't specify in clear terms, this requirement and the dates of this conference. Plenary voted to provide \$1000 to the two awardees and they are invited (but not obligated) to give the talk at the next conference. Yes-20, Abstain-0