Agenda for BoD meeting, 12:00 noon, Wednesday March 2
2011, Schlinger 101.

Attendance: Patrick Sanan, Luke Boosey (minutes), Jelena Culic-Viskota, Jai Shanata, Jacob Sendowski, Milo Lin, Terry Gdoutos, Jose Mendoza-Cortes, Alex Lockwood, Lauren Edgar, Landry Fokoua, Becky Tucker, Brett Cornell, Toni Lee, Megan Dobro

I. Brief reports:
   - Academics

   Needs to be someone to run the take a professor to lunch program. Coordinate through email – find a professor who would like to participate, then send out the email to potential lunchers.

   Landry will help out with this.

   - Social

   Ice Cream social (nonalcoholic) to welcome back students for Spring term. GUSH will then be 3rd Friday in April as per usual.

   Artemis mentioned that we can use the Alumni house for events – could be good for a low key event to have to end the term. Will check out the contact and we can email and reserve the venue.

   - Advocacy

   • 2 weeks ago met with Tom Mannion about housing and discussed what sort of spread there was about diversity across the houses. The President’s Diversity Council then met and put together some figures analyzing race, gender, and other aspects of diversity amongst the undergraduate houses. Concerned with making diversity about other things as well. A small victory is that they realized that they don’t discuss graduate students enough and so there will be an extra meeting this month about graduate students with the same figures and statistics to be presented by Joe Shepherd.

   • Megan called for anyone who does so and diversity issues arise on campus, should bring those up with Megan so that they can be addressed at that meeting. She brought up with the Diversity Council that there is not someone at the Institute trained with an
LGBTQ background to help with planning LGBTQ events, support.

- Looking for volunteers to help out with Gaypril events – would like the GSC to sponsor some events as allies – “drive-in” movie (Priscilla: Queen of the Desert) or a support petition to be sent around with a simple statement, like, “Gay? Fine by me” (suggested by Felicia) and just have people sign the petition. Have it published in the Tech newspaper – show that there are hundreds of people who claim to be allies. Could also have it online, where they can just click to show their support and have their name added to a list online. Also, a club night idea in West Hollywood at a gay club – usually they are packed, might make it difficult to arrange a deal with the club, but we could still put together transportation for a trip out there.

II. Discussion

1) LA River volunteering project coming up in April

Continuing collaboration with Net Impact – has a speaker that will talk about the project to be undertaken with the LA River. Afterwards, Toni will organize a volunteer project where they go down to the river and start the clean up – should be a series of 3 events that will be bunched in within two weeks. Probably Thursday 30th April for the Net Impact movie.

Have an email sent out and a flyer. Toni brought a flyer along, which needs to be updated a little bit with some information about the project.

2) Coffee hour progress- low attendance recently, remember to sign up: https://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?hl=en&key=tFHFNu4tz6F_4oMoFHE2msg&authkey=COD6olMB&hl=en#gid=0

Attendance has been a little low and there was a suggestion that we can reduce the time that people need to be there.

Are we seeing our investment pay off? How effective is the coffee hour? Is it worthwhile doing this every week? What about the process of getting reimbursed? Is there a cleaner way of getting this process done?

What about trying 5pm for the Coffee Hour? Jose – if he gets a Dining card, will go every Monday at 5pm. Artemis said yes, she will get a Dining card.
Megan – we should put a big sign saying “Free Coffee! Every Monday at 5pm!!” on the GSC Board.

Jelena – by the way, cups are now stored in her office.

3) Faculty-grad student conference: need to start planning now.

Came up in the meeting with Anneila – the administration pledged that if we plan it, they will get upper administration to attend. Need a team of people to find out about the process – find out what topics to talk about. Have a short conference – three 45min conferences. Would be for next year in Spring. Why don’t we survey the grad population?

Also could do a Pecha Kucha style conference – usually a short (5min, 6min) presentation to discuss research and/or topics of concern.

Will this be mandatory? Not sure. Megan thinks that it will be highly recommended by the Provost and supported strongly by Anneila. Artemis said - We don’t want to organize something that the Faculty then treat as a joke and don’t show up for. We want at least one faculty from each option to attend.

We will send to the grad student population looking for a committee.

III. Requests:

From Becky and Artemis: Please take a look of the new website: caltechgsc.dyndns.org If you would like to add content, please ask for a username from Becky.

The new website will be much more dynamic – many people can edit and fix things. Option representatives – emails, so that whenever a survey is out, the option reps go ahead and email their option saying “fill out the survey!”

Sustainability rules need to be sent to all the clubs and the BoD and put on the new website. Becky and Jelena to coordinate on this. Need to remodel the reimbursement form as well to make sure the sustainability requirements are also met.