

IGB Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2018
11:30am-12:30pm

1. Roll- IGB delegates (11:30am-11:35am)

Present (13): Rhea Nagpal (Barnard), Nicole Allicock (CC), Dennis Zhao (GS), Andrew Hsu (Chair, GSAS), James Martin (GSAS), Arvind Srinivasan (Grad SEAS), Jacob Nye (UG SEAS), Sarah Goddard (SIPA), Chris Maxwell (Arts), Angelica Hill (Journalism), Theresa Droege (SPS), Caitlin Murray (SSW), Krystal Cruz (SAC, TC)

Absent (2) (Excused): Allison Fricke (GSAPP), Nino Lucci (MPH)

Absent (4) (Unexcused): Connor Stovall (Business), Aja Johnson (CC), Vera Smirnova (Grad SEAS), Susan Palefsky (JTS)

2. Senators' Requests, Updates from Student Affairs Committee (11:35am-11:50am)

- a. Updates from SAC (11:35am-11:40am)
- b. Request for Funding, Taiwanese Graduate Student Association (11:40am-11:50am)
 - i. Vote 2/3 majority to take up the request This resolution passed with 8 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSTAIN
 - ii. Vote 1/2 majority for finalized allocations

This group was able to request an exception from their student senator. The group begged for funding, even though they missed the last two funding cycles. Additionally, last year, they overspent their allocation and went in the red. Their executive board turned over in December and requested a total of \$1100 for two events, one being Chinese New Year. Because of the tardiness of their submission, we were unable to review the funding request until after Chinese New Year (\$700/\$1100). Thus, it was proposed to fund TGSA with \$400 for their other event towards the end of March. This proposal was passed with 10 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSTAIN

3. Press Pass Review (11:50am-12:00pm)

These sets of press passes were for student media outlets: Spectator, BWOOG, and the Blue & White Magazine. The chair asked whether any of the individuals listed should not be given press passes from Columbia University. No one had an objection to any particular name, but it was proposed that in the future, applications should contain at least one piece of writing or "work" from their publication, as well as their public social media handles that they plan to update while having the press pass for review by the IGB. This was emailed to the University Senate, who said that our requests would be forwarded to the Rules Committee of the Senate.

4. New Business from IGB Executive Board and Delegates (12:00pm-12:20pm)

a. The future of IGB

Currently, groups recognized by the IGB have mostly been assigned to an advisor that is hired by the School of Engineering. This advisor (Betty Matias) was originally hired to exclusively manage CUCSSA, one of our largest groups. The reason why our groups have been going to Betty is because the office we currently sit under (temporarily) is Undergraduate Student Life, Office of Student Engagement. They are funded by CC/SEAS (and other undergraduate) Student Life fees, fees that are much more substantial than is charged for graduate and professional students. Currently there is no explicit funding for hiring dedicated advisors for the IGB (administrative backend support). Next month, Betty is going on maternity leave, and when she returns, she no longer wants to manage these IGB groups. (Regardless, it is all inequitable because we are always borrowing another schools' resources to help us run the IGB. Anyways, the clubs recognized by IGB are now transferring advisors back into USL, but this is net new work for them, and they are unwilling to take on new clubs for the IGB unless they get more specific advisory hires from the IGB. Thus there is an urgent need to make fixes and ultimately, make decisions that will have long term ramifications in regards to the future and sustainability of this organization.

i. What the Senate says

The most obvious solution would be to place the IGB under the Office of University Life. Their mission is to improve and support the lives of all university students. However, there are many conflicts of interest that make this next to impossible- first, the Board of Trustees of Columbia University have entrusted us to get the final say of who gets press passes. The head of OUL is also the Rules Administrator, the person who doles out potential punishments to those who protest and participate in major campus events. This is already a large conflict of interest. Second, OUL tends to be a very administratively-heavy organization, which means that there is a large chance that the IGB will be absorbed into an administrative-run events council without strong leadership or there will be large conflicts that arise based on this "student-led" vs "administrator-led" principle. Third, OUL simply does not have the capacity or institutional knowledge to properly advise our student groups at this time and would not be able to effectively learn how to do so while still sitting away from their mentors/ peers. It's also unclear who would write the policies governing student group conduct.

The Senate believes creating an independent office is costly and is unlikely to be created in one semester, though they do agree that this should be an eventuality since it doesn't make sense for the IGB to always be in limbo. Their proposal requests that Dean Kromm of Undergraduate Student Life request additional funding to hire 1-2 new advisors explicitly for IGB support and to perform an audit, potentially getting rid of student groups who get outside funding (say, from the School of Engineering). They want us to continue to recognize new student groups for the time being.

ii. What CC/SEAS Undergraduate Student Life Office of Student Engagement says

They do not really have a position in this "fight". They agree it doesn't really make sense for a graduate-heavy governing board to be advised by undergraduates. The undergraduate delegates from CC also noted that she feels uncomfortable with the fact that undergraduates are taking a large burden of the cost, explicitly and implicitly through borrowed support. However, regardless, because of Betty leaving for maternity leave, there is urgent net new work for USL, and they refuse to recognize new student groups until we get this straightened out.

iii. What the individual schools are saying? (CUCSSA)

We don't know what the individual schools will say. The chair wants to meet the deans or equivalent for the schools whose students utilize the largest portions of IGB funding. In particular, he wants to discuss the situation with CUCSSA, in which he learned that their events were costing in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, while we only supplied them with approximately \$10-15K of funding this year. Normally, this would be a quarter of our budget. Additionally, they have hired their own advisors and have the backend support for this group. This entanglement with IGB while not having full control of the group makes the IGB very uneasy. Therefore, the chair believes that he can seek support from these deans to come up with a creative solution beyond what is being discussed in the Senate. He expects to meet with them sometime in early March.

We anticipate inviting the following deans to the meeting, just based off population and usage:

Carlos Alonso, Dean of GSAS, Vice President for Graduate Education
 Soulaymane Kachani, Senior Vice Dean of SEAS, Vice Provost for Teaching & Learning
 Cristen Scully-Kromm, CC/SEAS Dean of Undergraduate Student Life
 Thomas Rock, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Teachers College
 Cory Way, Dean of Students, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, SIPA
 Tatum Soo Kim, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, SPS

iv. Current situation is untenable

See above.

v. Input requested/ advocates

Comments regarding this matter:

- We should continue to try to see if the Office of University Life is a workable solution
- We really should move away from mooching off Undergraduate student support, particularly due to low usage of funds from the Undergraduates
- We should not be using Undergraduate advisors, because they are held to a different standard and there is a significant difference in the makeup/ maturity of the students
- The delegates strongly support the notion of seeking support from the individual school deans, who may be able to come up with additional funding to support the IGB appropriately, or come up with additional creative solutions

(see the very end of these minutes to see the graphics created to highlight these disparities)

b. Logo, Graphic Design?

Post meeting update: Current logo did not meet Columbia standards, so it has been redone to conform to their standards. It is a lot simpler.

c. University-wide Student Government Summit?



- d. Website (did everyone have a chance to review the website?)
 - i. <https://igb-studentgroups.site.drupaldisttest.cc.columbia.edu>
 - ii. Username: ias, Password: dev
 - iii. Does anyone want to help maintain the website?

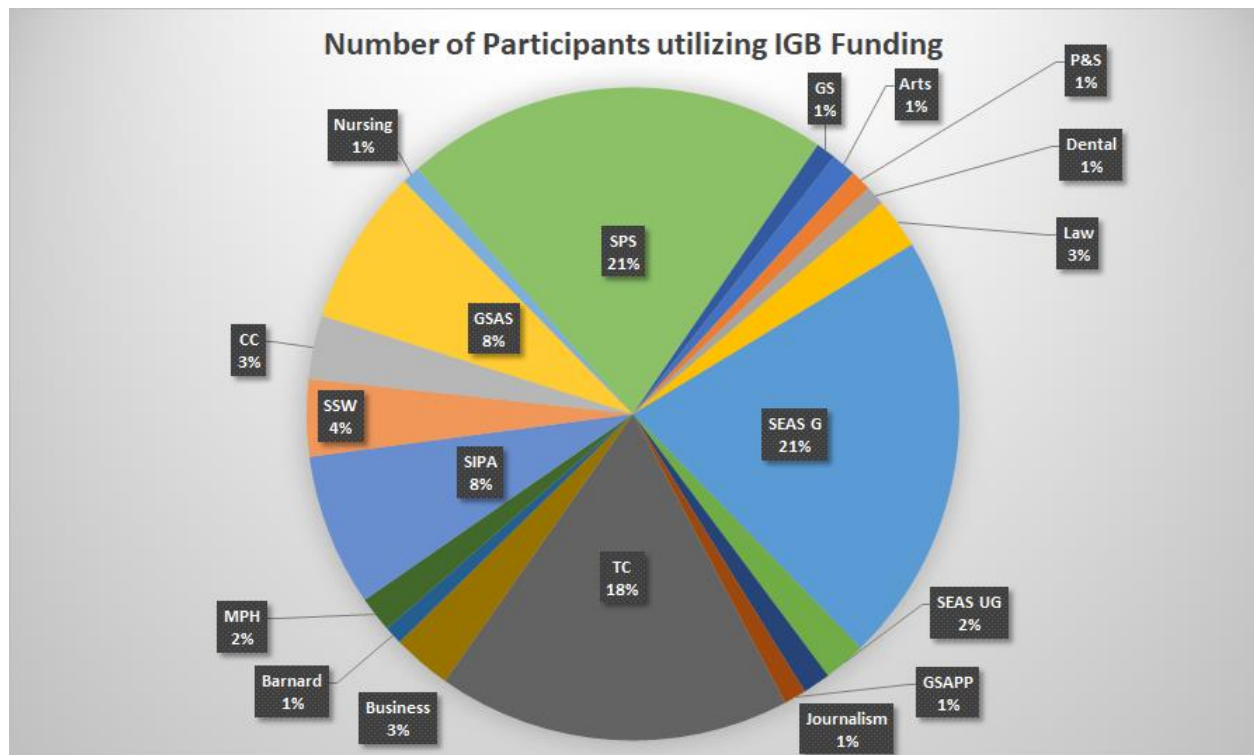
Post meeting update: Website launch will be for Friday, February 23. New group recognition for the Fall will be due on March 1. Applications were sent to all delegates.

5. Other Business (12:20pm-12:30pm)
 - a. Student Group Adjudication Board- Updates

Elected a head/ chair for the board, but no cases heard so far.

- b. Calls for officer applications, we need a vice chair, treasurer, and secretary at the very least!
 Hopefully can serve the entire school year, turn over in the summer
- c. Rotate meeting rooms, based on school, thanks to Graduate SEAS!
 - i. Next school?

Next school is General Studies



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