

ISAB Meeting Minutes 2/13/2013

- i. Introductions
- ii. Student Government presentation by Yusef and Renard
 - Brief presentation of the role of student government at the University of Chicago; bridging gap between campus community and administration, response to challenges within community
- iii. Q & A with student government executive council representatives
 - How does SG gather and relay information to/from students? How does SG communicate with the student body? Are the methods effective?
Via newspaper and website but they realize the communication might be insufficient. Proposal for a monthly newsletter for recap of progress of SG and in case of important /emergency situations then email update for example the UCMC incident, SG communication would have been helpful. Even with transportation, the school body needed to be informed.
 - How does SG reach out to the student body?
Organize events where they interact with students. SG hosts panels/ forums for discussion of important issues. Surveys after some events to see areas they can focus on.
 - Are there any International students in Student government? Why not?
None so far but maybe International Students should run for positions. Proposal to inform International students about these positions.
 - How does funding for RSO's work? Are some cultural RSO's inactive because of insufficient funds?
SG allocations happen at the end of each year but half the funds remain for the rest of the year. So maybe the RSOs need to put in more effort to remain active.
 - How many terms do representatives serve for? Does that make transitions difficult?
Positions are for a year. And they publish a white paper for the year about experiences goals and accomplishments to be used by the next student government councils.
 - Has the administration given explanation or tried to find solutions for need sensitive financial aid for foreign students? Financial aid for graduate students? Loans and grants for Masters programs
No, but they will definitely find out about this.

- Why do so many restrictions exist for RSO formation? Can exceptions be made for cultural RSO's for example those with less than 9 members?

Some restrictions are reasonable but they agree to be very lenient for cases where they need to be

Recommendations for SG from ISAB board.

- Improve communication with student body; send email updates on work being done by SG.
- Find out about Financial aid for both undergraduate and graduate school programs for international students.
- Improve communication between SG and ISAB to discuss issues that may arise during the year.
- Leniency for cultural RSO's that may not have enough representatives.

- iv. Deepa and Lena Update on Graduate Undergraduate mixer.
 - **Date:** May 2nd. **Location:** 3rd floor theater Ida Noyes.
 - **Time:** 5pm. **Duration:** 2 hours??
 - Looking for 2-3 graduate students per grad school division for initial introduction panel then there will be a session for mingling and interaction.
 - Need OIA and ISAB board to get word out about the event.
 - Contact Deepa or Lena if you know any grad students willing to participate

- v. Elections for ISAB board 2014
 - Application materials are on website, encourage other students to apply. Get ready to look at applications.