



THE HARVARD GRADUATE COUNCIL  
The Representative Body for All of Harvard's Graduate and Professional Students

HGC General Assembly Minutes (Proposed)  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Harvard Business School, Aldrich Hall

- I. Peter's introduction
  - Welcome, and thanks!
  - HGC is the official coordinating body for Harvard University's 12 graduate and professional schools, has enabled us to meet many students outside of our communities, serve students through events and advocacy
  - No officer roles yet officially assigned for the year; a small group (especially Peter, Kevin, Sana, and Simeon) has been ensuring continuity through the summer, organizing attendance at student orientations and this first meeting
- II. Marshall on the history of HGC
  - The organization likely started in the 1990s, has grown and been through different name iterations, including Harvard Graduate and Professional Student Government (HGPSG)
  - HGC officially reports to the Office of the Provost; Marshall will be present at the first 2-3 Council meetings, after which they will be entirely student-run
  - Last year, HGC began a restructuring process that is still in process; the major change is requiring one primary, voting rep per school who will be heavily involved
  - Expect somewhere around \$32,000 to be provided by the Provost's Office for the fiscal year, managed in partnership between Provost and HGC; for large, individual budget items such as events, plan to submit a one-page proposal outlining anticipated expenses
- III. Simeon on two proposals for upcoming events
  - Running dinner: run out of HBS as a social mixer event involving different schools; HGC expressed support for the initiative at the last spring meeting
  - Harvard-Yale football game tailgate: Simeon can organize
- IV. Peter on other past events and advocacy initiatives
  - Lectures that Last: a professor/lecturer from each school gave a talk, ~820 in attendance
  - HGC Leadership Conference: brought in leaders from business, government, nonprofit sector, military, religion and community organizing, etc.
  - Masquerade Ball: typically organized by HGC and/or HES; has attracted 2,000+
  - Volunteer activities: Cradles to Crayons
  - Other social mixer events co-organized with different schools: Halloween party with HKS, downtown mixer with HBS and HCSPH
  - Advocacy: sexual assault prevention, other safety issues on campus

- V. Lola on the sexual assault prevention initiative
  - Convening last semester, organized by Zachary Herrmann, brought all Harvard graduate schools together for cross-coordination, developed proposal for the administration
  - Plans to continue the initiative this fall and would like significant HGC involvement in organizing, invites anyone interested to contact her at [fagbami@g.harvard.edu](mailto:fagbami@g.harvard.edu)
- VI. Everyone introductions
  - Rachel Wang proposed sign ups for small group dinners across graduate schools
  - Misan Oteri mentioned that HES has started planning for the Masquerade Ball, based on discussions from last year, and wants to collaborate
- VII. Peter on opportunities for involvement and immediate needs
  - Website: old website was deleted, though we have archived; needs someone to develop
  - Events and advocacy: should decide soon for the fall, will need chairpersons
  - Budget: need to craft a plan for this year's expenses, can use previous years as template
- VIII. Marshall on elections
  - Will be held on Sept 27 for four officer roles: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer; further elections will be held at the following meeting
  - Will be valid as long as enough schools are represented (at least 6, by old constitution) and one candidate has the majority of votes
  - Each of the primary representatives designated by their school (12 total) will be eligible to run, and each school present will have one vote
- IX. Peter on other initiatives
  - Harvard Alumni Association and Harvard Club of Boston: potential sponsors of events, and we can help connect grad students upon graduation
  - University-wide Student Groups: HGC may be involved in approving and allocating funds
  - Smith Center Committee for designating future space: HGC should be represented
  - Advisory Council and CODOS (Council of the Deans of Students): will facilitate greater connection with the faculty and administration to facilitate HGC's influence
  - Harvard University IT: wants to convene advisory board involving all schools
- X. Closing, and next meeting reminder
  - Next meeting will be held in the same location, HBS Aldrich Hall room 108, on Tuesday, September 27
  - Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20pm

#### **ATTENDANCE (SCHOOLS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)**

- Provost's Office
  - Marshall Page
- GSAS
  - Peter Dyrud
  - Lola Fagbami
  - Yajui Ku
- GSD
  - Oliver Curtis
  - Carla Ferrer Llorca
  - Antonios Thodis
  - Natalie Wang
- HBS
  - Simeon Bochev

- Amy Shaw
  - Rachel Wang
- HDS
  - Sana Saeed
- HES
  - Misan Oteri
- HKS
  - Akinwande Lalude
- HLS
  - Maseeh Moradi
- SEAS
  - Kevin Tian