

Meeting Minutes: 2/24/2017

- Immigration consultation for international students

Offered for free.

For more information, Emily is the point of contact alongside Michael Cataliotti.

Career committee will be contacted for further consideration.

- Unionization information

Voting happened and winners will be updated soon. Information is already sent via mail.

There were a lot of concerns raised regarding voting language, asking for the support and then voting (which doesn't make any sense). Bargaining committee transparency issues were raised.

Another concern was raised that the union meetings are held closed door and hence they seem shady according to many people. There were also concerns regarding who should be allowed to vote and hence lack of proper procedure. It was also raised by few members that they voted on something that GWC hasn't followed.

Megan suggested that 'Support GWC-UAW' reference needs to be removed from the entire system to make sure that the democratic process is followed in the election. Union members insisted that they tried a lot to make sure that the language is removed.

Emily put forth side that they shouldn't continue meeting with union, if they aren't going to handle things properly. Union members should put forth a report explaining the scenario. She observed that the UAW members were irresponsible about the matter and hence nothing is going to get done.

'You should believe on the organization if you are going to work for the organization', was the argument put forth by the union about the mention of 'support', but there were good counter-arguments placed against that. It was suggested that union people are moving too fast and need to go steady but better on the matter.

'No one is an official member and hence nothing is official.'

Concerns regarding identification of the votes and member names from Union. 'GWC violated democracy' is a recurring sentiment going on in the common people.

'If you don't get an email, why not email them, why not following up with them and held them responsible?' was really an interesting argument raised by one EGSC member, regarding not getting email complaint.

EGSC Vice-president suggested that DRs should take week from now onwards, discuss things within themselves, contact the members of the departments and get back with the opinions from their departments till next week.

Fred suggested, we need to create consistent talking points between members and EGSC. We need a lot of level-headed view on the matter.

Concerns were raised regarding the fact that there were people who were part of GWC and other student councils, but once they got into GWC, they resigned from other councils. Counterpoint was made that this might be due to conflict of interest matter.

An EGSC DR also raised a concern that many people in the room aren't even aware of the entire story. 'Few people in this room know more than others', was the sentiment.

In response to this, encouragement to make people aware of what is going on is a better way to give people information. *'If you don't know anything about union and if these people are representing us, then there is a no meaning in anything'*. There needs to more clarification on who is representing us (undergrads, PhDs, Masters etc) and people need to be aware of what is happening around them.

Chair Updates:

Social:

18th of February Bonding event was pretty decent and we had scavenger event.

In Fall boat cruise, there were a lot of tickets left after the requests and the requests changed from 250 to 350.

Chance for modifications?

Have to change boat, which in turn needs change of contract with the boat owner.

Sold out scenario?

Tickets will be sold out as per the social chair.

Tim Lee is going to be the photographer.

Social committee has most of the events on Friday and Saturday and hence other chairs were suggested to plan their events accordingly.

Alumni:

Alumni from Columbia are interested in attending the event and hence will be allowed to attend for free. Already sent 50 emails to alumni. Big influx in Alumni might be seen.

Fred's updates:

Monday meeting on student's wellness in room no 317. Invitation is sent to Exec board.

EGSC has offered ESC testing of printer. Payment and perimeter will be handled by ESC, testing sites are set up by CUIT always and hence advise was made by Fred to correct the CUIT part.

Graduate students party on May 17

Gift ideas for Graduate students: Passport holder vs Business card holder were the two ideas that were put forth, apart from something like class day memorable photos.

Other updates:

Columbia Engineering Alumni event: Saturday Match 25th, 75\$ tickets it's at Chelsea piers, 'Blue invite gala'.