

GEOC Steering Committee  
Friday, September 25, 2009  
3pm, Conference Room

In Attendance: Carissa, Mark, Phoebe, Kate

I. Updates 3:00 – 3:25

a. Treasury (Carissa)

Looking all right, there are some pay roll issues we are still waiting for the University to work out but our budget is in order and fine. Devon is also working on a bill from AFT that included 2 months of Bayley's payment that should not have been charged. He is working to resolve the issue.

Devon and Carissa scheduled a meeting to work on next year's budget meeting that will be presented at the next GMM.

b. Stewards (Phoebe)

i. Meeting

Many new Stewards are interested, better than hoped for but scheduling will probably be two meetings a week or four meetings per month. Carissa will alternate which meeting she will attend. People are interested from all 3 pay tiers. Phoebe is waiting on a few more emails and will then establish a meeting time.

ii. Rally

Nick Bergeron is working on it. He finished a flier and things look good. Nate suggested a poster board for undergrads to sign to thank their GTAs. Bayley will be called by Carissa to make brownies and suggested that new Stewards also bake something for the rally.

c. Newsletter (Carissa)

First draft of the special edition has been created, Carissa is getting feedback from Mark and Bayley before it is sent to Lisa. It will contain dates and possibly leadership bios so Carissa will send out an email for brief bios to put this updated info on the website. The email will contain a deadline for this info, probably Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.

d. Grievances (Mark)

Carissa stressed targeting those on the interest cards to become more involved. Specific concerns should be researched further before going to Nate.

Mark reported that our membership is half of what it should be, which means that 100-200 people are not getting paid in their first weeks, which also makes it hard to work on the budget.

Good news: we are doing what's necessary to get people paid, some have been. Bad news: list of people who are not getting paid keeps getting longer. The procedure for figuring out why is very time consuming and Nate, while doing a good job, has a lot he has to do. A better way: informally try to get someone paid and find out who else is getting paid and fix it for them as well. Another aspect is when a member questions as to whether or not a problem exists, Nate troubleshoots this procedure and we need to find a way in which members can speak to a broader community or a forum. Phoebe suggested a FAQs section on the website, which Jason could work on with information forwarded by Nate. Mark stressed the importance of getting more people involved in the grievance process.

Carissa suggested others should take phone calls/ acquire further information and Nate does the formal aspects of the job. Carissa and Mark will split the interest cards and look into volunteers. Carissa will ask Nate what would be most helpful for him.

e. SEVIS (Mark)

Student Council meets once every two weeks on Thursdays at 6. They are public. Mark attended, and Jason set up a SEVIS committee, three student council members are on it and Jason can add as many more as he needs. This committee will look into the fee and to see if there is a way of reallocating it. Finding international students to participate would be beneficial.

II. Audit (Carissa) 3:20 – 3:25

It was conducted on Monday by Lisa, Nick and Amy. They found that everything is in order, Carissa checked and approved it. It will be sent out Monday to AFT.

III. Soaring Eagle (Carissa) 3:25 – 3:35

a. What's going on there?

In the past, only the president has gone, however, it is open to additional members. Carissa will be going. They will be doing a variety of specific training, including: health care advocate, financial analyst, retirement rep, treasurer, community outreach, and political action. If anyone else would like to go they are welcome and also welcome to ride with Carissa, who will not be staying over. Please let Carissa know ASAP.

b. When is it? Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 10-4.

IV. General Membership Meeting 3:35 – 4:05

We will try and reserve the Student Center Ballroom. The GMM will take place October 14<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. We will reserve for 50. Kate will try and reserve the room and determine their policy on food.

The suggested location is Cass Café. The agenda is TBD at next meeting. As far as the menu is concerned, they do have party trays including cheese and crackers, hummus or any of the appetizers. Spinach dip, hummus, egg rolls and chicken tenders are the suggested menu. We will also provide pop (Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite) water, and iced tea. Alcohol will be decided on at a later date but either way will not be advertised. Carissa will call Sandy next week to verify the menu.

V. Voting on Minutes 4:05 – 4:10

Voting on minutes means that at the following meeting, everyone votes whether or not to officially adopt the minutes made at the previous meeting. Should we do this? Carissa stated that we are thinly spread and reading the minutes is not a requirement. Generally, they are only read by those that did not attend the meeting. After discussion, it was decided by those in attendance that voting on minutes is not necessary. If the constitution states that we need more members in attendance to vote or if someone else would like to discuss this further, it can be readdressed at the next meeting.

VI. Higher Ed (Jen) 4:10 – 4:20

Jen said Higher Ed cuts are being made. Every Steering member in attendance called their representative to protest. She also stressed the importance of calling next week to protest the Dillon Healthcare Plan, aka the Big Pile of Smelly Poop.