

## RAPPS General Meeting

September 10, 2008

Minutes by Emily Guskin

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Emily Grant, Matt, Shannon, David, Frank, Chris, Patrick, Scott, Kelly, Sarah, Vinnie, Katie, David, Nick, Catherine, Jason, Emily, Graydon, Tamaria, Steve, Judd, Rena.
2. Social Networking
  - a. Facebook Bloustein Group...join! You can get more information there.
  - b. LinkedIn alumni group for networking purposes and events. There might be a separate group for students, but we don't have one yet.
3. RAPPS membership list for Graduate Student Association (GSA) budget submission. We need a list of RAPPS members and e-mail addresses so we can get GSA funding. Please sign-in at today's meeting.
4. Non-RAPPS events that we are invited to
  - a. Tailgating on September 27<sup>th</sup> with the Alumni Association. Game vs. Morgan State. Game at 3:30, tailgating a few hours before that. Working on getting tickets or a television so we can see the game.
  - b. Democratic Campaign Kick-Off September 16<sup>th</sup>. E-mail Emily Grant.
  - c. Bloustein BBQ tomorrow at 12 pm.
5. RAPPS Fall Semester Academic Events
  - a. Urban Food Systems Panel week of November 10<sup>th</sup>: if you're interested in helping out talk to Emily Grant and Katie Himmelfarb. Invitations going out at the end of next week. We also need help planning and publicizing the event.
  - b. RAPPUP Newsletter: Saesha has requested a two-line bio from all first years to include in the newsletter.
  - c. Movie Series:
    - i. Any theme ideas?
    - ii. Documentaries you'd like to show and plan. All you have to do is get the movie, we can see it in the lounge for free. We get pizza and everything else.
    - iii. "Garden of Eden" about different cities and different building initiatives. Each segment is roughly an hour and ranges from green roofs to community organizing, housing, quality, transportation. –Jason
    - iv. Jason will e-mail Emily to set up a date
  - d. Lunchtime Speaker Series--Vinnie
    - i. Thinking about changing it around a little and having first-years and other people who have had internships in the past ask their supervisors or other

interesting people from jobs come in and give talks. Good for networking and would “increase our professional development” at Bloustein. If you have ideas talk to Emily or Vinnie. If you have someone in mind, we’ll approach them. We can’t compensate, other than the food we provide that day.

6. Dean’s Lunch: September 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:30
  - a. The Dean’s Lunch is monthly.
  - b. Agenda items? E-mail Emily
  - c. Judd: Would anyone be interested in putting a magazine together that would showcase Bloustein students’ work? Travelogues, articles, projects, etc. This could be useful and good for prospective employers. Could be interesting to combine with the Mason Gross people who are probably better at visual art than many of us. Columbia has something like this that includes a variety of creative things.
  - d. Vinnie: Just spoke to Adam S. who was thinking of the same idea. He’s gone as far as writing a proposal for it and writing an outline for it. He’s meeting with someone from the law school tomorrow who started the law journal a few years ago.
7. Steve Weston:
  - a. Bloustein School put together a LinkedIn page for Bloustein Alumni. You can now have discussions among groups and discuss things. Second years will see a lot of value joining for career purposes.
  - b. Formal Facebook group, the AU School of Public Affairs is very valuable to them; would allow people to attach themselves as “friends” of this institution. A significant way to reach out to new students and alumni.
  - c. At this time five years ago, but Lynn and Steve were inducted into RAPPS as “lifetime members.” We started interacting with students in the capacity we are now five years ago.
  - d. The fifth floor lab: is it being utilized well. Should it be used for studio classes? Don’t forget it’s there! Tell the Dean how you feel.
  - e. RAPPS Funding:
    - i. Emily Grant: Could RAPPS raise funds?
    - ii. Steve Weston: Almost all funds are sent through GSA; Lynn Astorga knows how this system works. The Dean has discretionary funds that he can use to support things that are going on here. For example, every year we have the APA conference; every student that attends that conference has the right to apply for resources through the school. He’s able to put some money toward costs of the conference. There have been policy conferences as well where Dean’s funds have been applied to offset costs for students. Application system through Lynn. Dean’s Office will work

with RAPPS for major conferences to help with funding. If you go through a student organization (or GSA) for funding, you can show it to Lynn, who will present it to the Dean and he will help with extra funds to cover the event. Steve has been working with RAPPS for 10 years, they have gotten a lot of funding through GSA as of late; that should be the primary source of funding. Get your applications in for events and things you want to do, and then come to the Dean when you want extra support.

- iii. Emily: If we charge more than the actual price for the t-shirts, what can we do with the funds?
  - iv. Steve: there are strong state restrictions on what we can do with money we raise. Money can go into the scholarship fund, but not toward bar nights and potato chips.
  - f. T-shirts! They were created and we have them, but they were done incorrectly. They have the Rutgers logo correctly, but the vendor typed in “The Bloustein School” underneath and it doesn’t look right. The vendor is going to reprint all the t-shirts, we should have them within days or weeks. If they don’t take back the old ones we can either keep them, donate them, or something else. We have old RAPPS t-shirts too. 75-100 of them. Steve recommends donating them.
  - g. Kelly O’Brien: Possibility of students getting business cards following the type of all of the RU cards. \$50 for 500 with color. Black and white logo, 250 for \$28. 3-4 business days to have cards at Downtown Printing. Kelly has the template as well. You can also print your own with the template Kelly has.
8. Bake Sale! September 18<sup>th</sup> from 11-3—Kelly O’Brien and Arielle Woronoff
- a. Who wants to volunteer to bake and/or sell (there will be shifts)
  - b. Raising money for the Red Cross
  - c. It’s at the same time as the Dean’s lunch.
9. Camping Trip to NY October 4-5—Nick Minderman
- a. Hudson Valley, 2 hours away, 10 camping sites, 6 people per site, a maximum of 2 tents per site. If you have equipment, that’s great!
  - b. Will coordinate meals before we go. You’re responsible for anything else you want to consumer.
  - c. You can bring friends, roommates, significant others
  - d. Needs everyone to pay for site (\$4-5) in advance (by September 25), everything else you can pay for afterwards.
  - e. There’s a green building open house across the northeast is going on that day. Two carpools: one from New Brunswick directly to the park and a second group that would leave early and stop in the open houses in NYC and/or NY.
  - f. We need to know how many people can drive.
10. Snowball—Katie White
- a. Saturday evening in February!

- b. Does anyone know a DJ in the area? Let Katie know.
- 11. Katie White has information on GSA funding because she spent Saturday at a GSA funding meeting.
  - a. Emily Grant: our budget is RAPPS funding and Planning and Policy Students for Social Justice together.
- 12. Sarah reached out to the Union, even if you're not a TA or a GA now, come to the Union meeting. Tuesday, in the lounge between 12:30-1:10 slot. Sarah will e-mail with more details.
- 13. Saesha's not here to talk about the Community Economic Development Conference.
- 14. Kelly O'Brien: The first workshop will be hand drawing and there will be an e-mail before the end of the week with more info. Event capped at 30 people.
- 15. Kelly again: in October we'll have "trunk or treat" decorated cars with candy in the truck! Raise literally a ton of candy or more.
- 16. Anyone going to the planning conference at NYU?
- 17. Emily Grant: if you want to send an e-mail to everyone, you can look at the "To" field from Emily's e-mails and e-mail everyone.
- 18. Vinnie: Engineers Without Borders, a non-profit that does disaster relief. Vinnie's coworker went to Bangladesh for two weeks. Now he wants to set something up at Bloustein, but the School of Engineering already has one! They're doing cool stuff globally AND locally: installing playground equipment and park benches in Newark. He's going to meet with the president so we can help. Maybe go to Bangladesh to do stuff!