Editor’s Corner

Now is the best time to get involved in Penn Student Government! This edition of the PSG Newsletter focuses on two branches: the UA and Class Boards. If you have always wanted to get more involved at Penn, participate in a real election cycle, or contribute to your student body, here is your chance. These are the last few days to declare your candidacy and run for Student Government.

To begin the process, please visit www.penn-nec.org and print your Candidate Packet today. Not sure if you want to run, but want to follow the elections and vote? Mark your calendars: polls open on Penn InTouch on March 30. Hope spring break was a blast, and enjoy these next elections-filled weeks!

~Patricia Liu, NEC, Vice Chair for Education

Senior Class Board

As Senior Class President, I have overseen the Class of 2009 Senior Class Board as well as represented the senior class on UA Steering and PSG Steering. I have also had a big hand in Seniors for The Penn Fund. With the Class Board, we have been responsible for some of the most-looked-forward-to senior year events and traditions including the Senior Class Career Panel, Seniors Lead the Vote, Homecoming, the Penn-Princeton Game, and of course Feb Club. Soon we will be planning and implementing a “Life After Penn” Speaker Series, Senior Week, Ivy Day, and other events to mobilize the Class of 2009. Class of 2009! Yehaaw!

Junior Class Board

The Junior Class Board is responsible for the class’ social programming. We’re all about traditions. We host events like Abroad in Philadelphia, an event for those not abroad to enjoy Philadelphia treats, and the Junior Class Career Panel to help juniors decide on a career path. We also bring A Night of Jazz, the annual Junior class cocktail event. It’s a classy affair as we enter into the ranks of adulthood. Lastly, we are in charge of Hey Day! Hey Day is Penn’s a famous tradition where Juniors officially become Seniors. Yeah Class Board!

Sophomore Class Board

The Sophomore Class Board’s role is to ease the transition from being a first year student to being a Sophomore. We coordinate class traditions like Skimmer and plan events throughout the year, like homecoming festivities, study breaks, off campus trips, and other events. We are the face of the class and are responsible for the cohesiveness of the Sophomore class. The job, It’s awesome.

Freshman Class Board

Not only does Class Board involve tremendous dedication in upholding Penn’s greatest traditions for a class of over 2400 students, it involves communication with the students and administration. It’s not just about hosting events such as Econ Scream, Homecoming, Cram ‘n Jam, or Freshman Formal. Being on Class Board means being actively involved with both students and numerous groups on campus. When it comes down to it, being on Class Boards means being as involved with the Penn population as one can possibly be. It’s fun. Do it.
What is the title of your role in the U.A. and the functions of this role?

I serve as Chair of the Undergraduate Assembly, Penn’s university-wide, elected branch of PSG. In my role, I can send you as many e-mails as I can. I spend a lot of time leading and preparing for meetings like UA general body (Sunday night in Ben Franklin Room at 9 PM!) and UA Steering. I serve on university-wide committees and am one of the main links between the undergrad student body and Penn faculty, administrators, and staff. I work with other PSG branch and student leaders. I rally the troops.

What inspired you to join the Penn Student Government? The UA in particular?

I was pretty involved in student government in high school, so I got involved early my freshman year. I also heard I could tie big posters with anything I wanted to write on trees by Locust Walk, so I was sold on an elected branch. I think the people I met that year on the UA inspired me to remain on the UA and in PSG.

How was your spring break in Costa Rica?

Great. I stayed in an $8/night hostel, went zip-lining, and went horseback riding - three things completely out of my comfort zone.

If you were a kitchen appliance what would you be and why?

A kettle? (is this an appliance?) I make things (ie. the UA) hot.

What are some current projects the UA is working on?

- Late-night alternative NSO programming
- Publicizing undergraduate research opportunities
- Promoting bike-sharing and other environmental sustainability initiatives
- Coordinating College Day to bring local high school students to Penn to experience college
- Ensuring dining options for students observing Ramadan
- Identifying another online music provider to replace Ruckus
- Making sure we’re on the ball with public safety issues

What is a big problem at Penn that needs to be addressed and the UA hopes to tackle in the future?

Late-night dining options on campus. With the early closing of Philly Diner, the campus lacks late-night dining options. There is an opportunity for Penn, at the urging of students, to fill this void. We can use this chance to develop a greater sense of community by creating a late-night space where students can hang out and eat. (A Student Union is another UA undertaking and we welcome your thoughts as we continue to pursue the project in preliminary stages!)

Favorite food, color, sport team, US President?

Gallo pinto with scrambled eggs (from my Costa Rica trip), Sky blue, E-A-G-L-E-S, and BARACK is the man.