



graduate planning student association
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

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Minutes Jan 21, 2010

Report from CDPA, DJ

- CDPA is allocating funds to assist students going to the National APA conference. About \$100 for each student.
- CDPA is planning to hold a welcome back party for students. They are willing to pay for appetizers. Tentative details TBD: on Thurs Feb 4th, at Sutter's.
- CDPA is planning to hold nationally recognized speaker events. They want to include students in the planning of the event - speakers and venue. Lewis noted that student groups have rent-free access to lecture rooms on campus.

Report from Upstate APA, Joe D., Nick B

- Upstate APA is looking for students to write articles for its newsletter. Topics include students' experience during the Accreditation process, the Fall '09 studio, and student involvement in Albany 2030. Articles are due March 1st. 1000-1500 words max.
- Upstate APA had a concern to be shared with professors. They believe that students should graduate with more experience in web and graphic design, and Request for Proposals and grant writing.
- The 2010 Upstate Conference will be in September, at Niagara Falls. \$25-50 student fee. A bus or van may be available from Albany to carpool.
- The group is looking for a student to redo the Upstate APA website. Web development will use with Joomla, Wordpress or Dreamweaver tools. Compensation included.

National APA Conference (Apr 10th to 13th)

- The group was reminded (by Lewis) that although the dates are during the semester, professors are encouraging of students attendance.
- Cost savers: coordinate hotel rooms, flights, carpool to airport
- March 9th deadline to volunteer and waive conference fee
- www.planning.org/conference/

UAlbany Website, etc (www.ualbanyplanners.org)

- Join the listserv to receive and share planning related notices. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sunya_gpsa/. Forward emails to students by sending to sunya_gpsa@yahoogroups.com
- Check the GPSA Google Calendar to keep up with schedule of events and meetings throughout the semester. <http://ualbanyplanners.org/calendar.aspx>
- Make your presence on the web. Upload a student profile. Student profiles/pics will also be placed in the 2nd floor display. <http://ualbanyplanners.org/people.aspx>

- Get business cards at Rapid Copy Center on campus. Great for networking. A must for conference. <http://www.albany.edu/rapidcopy/>

Outlook of GPSA Events for Spring '10

- Currently, meetings are set for the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:15PM, but the schedule is up for discussion. The EBoard is wants to hear when it is best for each student to meet. Send your choice of meeting times to planners@ualbanyplanners.org
- It was proposed holding the meetings at 7:15PM on Wednesdays. Rotating dates with P510 class times; Steve B.
- Meetings will be held in either room AS 121 or 123. EBoard can get passcodes from Lewis or Lisa B.
- Night-out events are currently scheduled after the Thursday meetings.
- An out-of-town trip is to be discussed. Ideas are to have on March Fri 12th - Sat 13th. In Boston, Utica, or a nearby New Urbanist city.
- Calendar with all details: <http://ualbanyplanners.org/calendar.aspx>

PAB Report, Lewis

- The completed accreditation report was positive
- Recommendations were made (by students) for a more robust program to welcome incoming students. Hold events such as an Albany city student tour; get Pipkin involved.
- Reorganization of course specializations; GPSA should give input.
- Prof. Lawson will make contact with students soon to set meetings and get student input on specialization and minority recruitment issues.

Other Issues

- GPSA should start making more outreach to undergrad students in the department. Assign a rep to the vacant Undergrad student rep position.
- Issue with class scheduling and room sizes: the dept can use campus rooms but loses control over the scheduling which is why current classes are held in our 3 AS rooms.
- Students were reminded that proper avenues to use when reporting an unsatisfactory prof. GPSA can be effective in professionally assisting and reporting the issue although immediate action may not be taken by the university.
- Students were reminded that the dept is still maturing and if a class in an interested topic is not being offered, courses can be taken from other departments or universities.
- Free software courses (Adobe Suite, MSOffice, SPSS, etc) are available on campus at ITS <http://web.albany.edu/its/training/>

Funds Report

- GPSA currently has \$241.12 in slush fund.
- The EBoard is open to ideas for fundraisers, such as a Car Bash Day; Steve B.

Our Albany 2030 Involvement

<http://albany2030.org/>

Multiple ways for students to get involved:

Write Editorials

- Stories that present opposing scenarios for 2030.
- To be published in local outlets (TU, Metroland) and used to catch public interest
- DJ has written one. Looking for more students to write.

K-12 Education

- Make creative presentations at schools to get younger students interested in the process

Moderators

- Facilitate public input at the City's 3 Kick-off meetings (Thr 28th Albany High, Fri 29th North Alb YMCA, Sat 30th Hackett Mid Sch
- Guide input sessions at separate tables and enter the common themes into computers (training provided)

UAlbany Charrette

- For college student input to Albany 2030 process
- Other colleges such as, St.Rose, planning to have one
- Lewis: suggested getting both Staff and Student input; and including other institutions. Patty Sultin as contact at Albany Law.
- Try networking with GSO, other student orgs, Sustainability Taskforce group
- Get input by end of Feb (deadline)
- UAlbany Charrette tentatively scheduled on the second week of February
- Students needed to plan and guide the sessions

Get involved! Contact franklychrs@gmail.com or planners@ualbanyplanners.org saying what aspects of the Albany 2030 process you're interested in.