

PMA Undergraduate Student Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

18 October 2023

In attendance

Physics: Adele Basturk, Nachiket Bhanushali, Joe Sheeran

Mathematics: Toyesh Jayaswal, Akshar Ramkumar

Astrophysics: Lilia Arrizabalaga, Diya Kumar

SPO: Nam, Belen

Absent: Jonathan Booker (Physics), Michael Manta (Mathematics), Hannah Rose (Physics), Riley Tam (Astrophysics)

Hello & Welcome

- Introductions: name, pronouns, option, year, what do you hope to gain/contribute?

SAB Shared Expectations

- Board Engagement and Responsiveness
 - o This year SPO received many applicants. We are excited to welcome members that are also engaged in other student organizations and clubs and we hope that our reach and collaboration can extend past the UG SAB.
 - o Please respond to emails, doodles, and forms.
 - o We will post our minutes on our website.
 - o We will post our Board members on our website.
 - o This is the students' board, so your active participation is important.
- Setting expectations among board members
 - o The Board would like to see more events to bring people together as they are helpful for students to connect with each other.
 - o The Board would like to be an open channel to receive students' feedback and concerns.
 - o The Board members will promote our events widely.
 - o The Board would like to foster connections between undergraduate and graduate students.
 - o The Board would like to see Division wide events that include graduate students and faculty.

Goals and Structure

- Programming and Social Engagement
 - o We would like to have two events per term: one social and one academic.
 - o SPO sometimes asks Board members to volunteer or help us identify student volunteers for SPO events.
- Understanding UG Student Priorities
 - o The Board has covered topics related to UG student experience, such as building access, list-serves, and course concerns.

Brainstorm Programming

- Fall Social Event: Pumpkin Carving and Decoration – Thursday, October 26. 3:00pm – 5:00pm
 - Pre-set and suggested by last year’s Board.
 - Please advertise and share with friends. SPO will send the flyers.
- Fall Academic Event Ideas:
 - Graduate School Application workshop with graduate students.
 - Mid-November would be the best time.
- Winter
 - Mixer Event with graduate students to help make connections and help undergraduate students find mentors for summer research.
 - Include an activity to help facilitate conversations.
 - The best time would be the first couple of weeks in January.
 - Cookie decorating or board game would be a helpful activity.
- Spring
 - Can consider rolling over the events from last year: UG PMA Mixer to welcome first years and Peer-Advising specific to option before registration.

Concerns and Questions

- Building Access: Our policy is still that PMA Undergraduate students have 24/7 access to our PMA buildings (Bridge, Cahill, Downs-Lauritsen, Linde Hall). There has been a campus wide issue with card access, and the institute is working to fix it. Students have had issues getting into buildings, but SPO has requested access for our PMA undergraduate students.
- Clarity on who to ask for support or concerns with undergraduate issues:
 - SPO can be the first point of contact, and we can answer questions directly or refer students to appropriate campus partners.

Upcoming

- UG SAB t-shirts: SPO will send email asking for t-shirt sizes.

Thanks!