MEMO

To: University Council
From: Daniel Grabell
   Chair, GAPSA
Date: October 21, 2007
Re: GAPSA Status Report for October 24, 2007 University Council Meeting

New Shuttle to Center City – The OctoBus

- GAPSA has partnered with the Undergraduate Assembly to run the OctoBus. Despite having unusually warm weather for October, the OctoBus numbers are steadily growing. The riders are a combination of Graduate and Professional Students, Undergraduates, Staff, and Faculty. After the pilot ends on 10/31/07 GAPSA will analyze the data and make recommendation to the University Community on safety and transportation needs for our population living in Center City.
  - GAPSA is sponsoring the OctoBus – a shuttle route in October to help improve safety of Penn’s students. The shuttle will run 7 days a week, 6pm to 3am. It will pick up passengers at the Moravian Food Court (3409 Walnut St) and Pottruck Health and Fitness Center (3701 Walnut St) and drop them off at any intersection along Chestnut St, Broad St, Lombard St or 22nd St, west of Broad. After midnight, the shuttle operates as a "to door" service: it can drop you off at your address within the perimeter, as well as a "from door" service: you can call 215-898-RIDE and be picked up from your address in Center City (west of Broad St), to be dropped off at the two transit stops on campus (Food Court or Pottruck). You can find a map of the shuttle route at http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=1323102; we estimate that a loop will take 35-45 minutes to complete, but the actual time will depend on traffic. The OctoBus will be a 15-passenger van with the signs "Penn Transportation" and "Center City OctoBus". This pilot which will run the month of October will help us determine the level of interest of this new route as well as increase the safety for our students. GAPSA is looking forward to working with the administration to help increase the safety of Penn’s student community.

GAPSA – VPUL Leadership Program

- We would like to thank VPUL Dr. Valarie Swain-Cade McCoullum for her support in helping us pilot a graduate leadership development program. GAPSA will be partnering with the Office of Student Life to create a leadership development retreat to help develop our future generation of student leaders at Penn.

GAPSA – Provost’s Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation

- GAPSA would like to thank Provost Ron Daniels for supporting GAPSA and allowing us to continue our Interdisciplinary Innovation Awards.
GAPSA 2007 – 2008
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