UA Status Report
For October 22, 2008 Meeting of University Council

UA Project Updates

College House Move-Out Proposal: Authored by two UA members and the Residential Advisory Board, this proposal urges the University to extend the move-out deadline for students living in college houses to forty hours after the conclusion of the final exam for the spring semester. The proposal also urges greater collaboration with Housing and Conference Services and College Housing and Academic Services to increase the efficiency and convenience of the move-out process. This proposal comes as a response to overwhelming support from the student body provided to the UA at the end of last semester in the form of a survey that revealed feelings that there was not adequate time to move out between the last final and the move-out deadline. The proposal passed on Sunday, October 5, 2008.

Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) NSO Safety Proposal: Sponsored by the IFC and a UA member, this proposal urges the University to allow registered parties during NSO. The proposal passed on Sunday, September 21, 2008. The follow-up conversations have broadened to incorporate the various possibilities of late-night NSO programming.

Undergraduate Guide to Funding Sources at Penn: During the end of last spring, and particularly during the beginning of this semester, the UA Budget Committee has been assembling an Undergraduate Funding Sources Document that lists all of the resources on campus for which undergraduate student groups can obtain funding for programming and events. The Budget Committee’s goal for this document is to connect as many groups as possible directly with funding so that they can continue to reach students and make noticeable impacts on campus.

General Updates

Penn Sends Delegation to Ivy Council Fall Policy Colloquium at Columbia University

Over Fall Break, Penn sent a delegation of UA and non-UA members to Columbia University for the Ivy Council’s (IVC) Fall Policy Colloquium. The UA members who attended will be bringing important, new initiatives back to Penn based on what they learned from student government leaders from across the Ivy League. The topics included the following ones: environmental sustainability; drinking age; intellectual property; and, administrative accountability.

8 New Freshman Representatives, Final Engineering School Representative

At the end of September, the UA completed its 2008-2009 roster with the addition of eight freshmen and one Engineering School representative to fill a vacancy left from the previous spring’s election.

The Engineering School representative is Brandon Park (E’09), and the freshmen representatives are the following individuals:

Cornelius Range
Penn Democrats & College Republicans Debates (Sponsored by the UA and PLTV)

The UA and Penn Leads the Vote are co-sponsoring a second debate between the Penn Democrats and College Republicans on October 28, 2008 at 7:30 PM. This debate follows the first debate between the two partisan political groups, which occurred on September 30, 2008 and served as a voter registration and education effort. The debates have a town-hall format.

2008-2009 UA Executive Board and Committee Chairs

Chair: Wilson Tong (C/W’09)
Vice Chair: Jay Patel (C’09)
Vice Chair of External Affairs: Zac Byer (C’10)
Treasurer: Ben Coulter (W’09)
Secretary: Claire Choi (C’10)

Student Life Committee: Adam Bloch (C’11) and Albert Pak (C/W’11)
Sustainability, Safety and Facilities Committee: Alec Webley (C’11)
Housing and Dining Committee: Benny Laitman (C’10)
Civic and Community Engagement Committee: Mark Peter Pan (C’11)
Academic Affairs Committee: Matt Amalfitano (C’11)

Submitted,

Wilson Tong
Chair, Undergraduate Assembly

Zac Byer
Vice Chair of External Affairs, Undergraduate Assembly