Undergraduate Assembly
Constituency Update

UA Takes a Stand on International Housing Issues
Before Fall Break, the UA approved a resolution calling on the University to improve a number of elements of the housing system that relate to international undergraduates.

In particular, the UA:

1. Called upon Housing Services to provide housing for students living in the low-rises who are unable to return home for Winter Break that does not rely on those students having acquaintances in the high rises or off campus.
2. Called on the University to subsidize the housing early move-in fee for students participating in International Student Orientation.
3. Encouraged the NSO organizers to work closely with ISO as well as relevant student groups to enrich and expand existing NSO programming and integrate international students with their new country and Penn family.
4. Urged the University to provide a summer mailing center/site for students without permanent mailing addresses within the United States to have mail sent to during their summer absence.

SFS Feedback Mechanisms
The UA additionally called upon Student Financial Services to provide improved feedback mechanisms for students who consult financial aid advisors; we are delighted to announce that many of these recommendations are already in the process of implementation.

New Freshmen and College Members of the UA
The UA has taken on 11 new members, who are already providing an injection of fresh, new ideas on which we have eagerly began to work. In addition, the UA’s Council delegation has its latest and final member – Jake Shuster (C ’13) – who will represent the freshmen class on the Council.

The other new UA members are:
Rico Moorer
Announcements from Undergraduate UC Seatholders

United Minorities Council
The UMC would like to invite the entire campus community to our annual Unity Week. See below for blurbs on the week. The theme this year is iNeighborhood: Intercultural Neighborhood, and the week will take place November 1-6, ending with the Greenfield Intercultural Center’s 25th anniversary symposium that weekend.

UMC is partnering with Penn Bookstore, Civic House, and Heartspeak (The Arts and Spirituality Center - a nonprofit focusing on bringing the arts and poetry to area elementary, middle, and high school students) to put on an Open Mic event and writing workshop (accompanied all by African percussionists) at the Penn Bookstore on Friday, 11/20 from 4-6pm. This is part of the Campus Arts Crawl.

This year, our great events include:

Neighborhood Block Party [Battle of the Spices]
Sunday, 11/1, 4-6pm in Harrison’s Rooftop Lounge
FREE Cultural food from UMC groups and performances by campus groups.

Good Care for our Neighbors [Healthcare Reform Student Dialogue]
Monday, 11/2, 7-8 in Harrison’s Rooftop Lounge
What challenges to quality care do minorities face in the US system? Come see our student documentary and discuss with your peers.
Co-sponsor: Minority Association of Pre-Health Students

The Girl Next Door [SOARS: Story of a Rape Survivor, a project by Penn Professor Salamisha Tillett]
Tuesday, 11/3, 7-10 in Houston's Hall of Flags
A reception will be followed by the SOARS performance. The tragedy of rape transcends social, economic, and color boundaries, negatively affecting all communities.
Co-sponsors: Multi-cultural Sororities, Penn One-in-Four, Penn Women's Center

Organizing our Neighbors [Keynote: "Race and Grassroots Organizing in the Age of Obama" by Princeton Professor Melissa Harris-Lacewell]
Wednesday 11/4, 6:30-8 in College Hall 200
Professor Harris-Lacewell figures prominently in today's political commentary and will give us an inside look at race in the Obama administration and youth grassroots organizing.
Co-sponsors: Asian Pacific Student Coalition, Latino Coalition, UMOJA

UMC's Neighborhood Culture Share [Identity Games]  
*Thursday, 11/5, 6-8pm in Du Bois MPR*  
Participate in team-building activities that provide the opportunity for cultural exchange and enlightenment.

"Innovations in Education Reform: New Solutions for Philadelphia" Panel  
*Friday, 11/6, 2-3:15pm in Cohen Hall's Terrace Room*  
Part of the Greenfield Intercultural Center's 25th Anniversary Symposium. Panelists include:

- Chris Bower, Netter Center for Community Partnerships
- Johnny Irizarry, School Reform Commission
- Marc Mannella, KIPP Philadelphia Charter School
- Sheyla Medina C’10, West Philadelphia Recess Initiative

Respectfully submitted,

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