1) All RGSO recognitions have been sent out – Congratulations to the 29 Groups who have received funding and RGSO recognition status for the semester!

   a. New RGSO/ Returning Groups
      i. Armenian GSO
      ii. ABSW – Association of Black Social Workers
      iii. QAGS – Queer Albany Graduate Students
      iv. SEA-Change – Students of Educational Administration for Change
      v. Nefer Rohu

2) All Fall funding allocations have been distributed! The information is available to you at http://www.albany.edu/gso/ on the main page under the “RGSO Budgets Released”

   a. Initial allocation of 7 k for this semester and 1 k withholding for appeals
   b. RGSO numbers determined by the 8 members of the RGSO committee. These members were from 8 different groups that were a good representative body of new/old reviewers, as well as from multiple disciplines. Each was from a different RGSO. If one member of the committee was part of several RGSOs, their numbers were not counted toward that RGSO.
   c. The Vice President did not participate in the initial funding allocations. Total amount of the allocation was the average of the number of reviews of that application (recognition was determined similarly, by majority of reviewers voting ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ in favor of the group).
d. Total amount of initial allocation - $5860. Numbers were sent to RGSO committee for majority approval prior to the allocation of funds.
   i. Average RGSO Funding $175 after initial allocation

e. Appeals were taken into consideration as per GSO guidelines. 6 appeals were evaluated by the Vice President. A total of $625 in appeals was allocated after a majority approval.
   i. Average RGSO Funding Allocation After Appeal: $199

f. All reviewer comments and numbers were made available to all RGSOs and are available to anyone who can access the link from the website. Reviewer names were made anonymous and are listed by number.

3) Some of the comments about the funding process/ improving it, as well as questions posed by RGSO leaders:
   
a. Question of Competence of RGSO Committee
   
   i. The RGSO Committee was made of 8 RGSO members. Some of these people have reviewed in the past, and some of them were new. I would like to thank them immensely for undertaking the task of looking at these funding applications, and reviewing them with as much honesty as they did. I do not think competency is a problem in this group, though a suggestion of an in person review/ training was brought up for the Spring allocation that I intend to take to address this issue.

   ii. It is important to note that this is the first time EVER that many (if not all) RGSOs are seeing their reviews from RGSO committee reviewers.

b. Why so little funding? What is going on here?
   
   i. This is another fantastic question. Though we have 20k in RGSO funding (and 3.5k of a Vice President stipend) to spend, it is
imperative that people realize that a large portion of this funding has already been spent.

1. As of August 1\textsuperscript{st} - $3492 of the RGSO budget was already spent. This is because a lot of the vouchers from last year were not reimbursed until after July 1\textsuperscript{st} 2012 (the start of our fiscal year and new budget). This is because the vouchers were held up when the announcement of the deficit was made to us on May 31\textsuperscript{st} by SI/ UAS. They did not begin processing them again until the end of June (into July since they did not process them all at once). Unfortunately, many of these also had to be fixed/repaired, and this caused several to be processed over the course of the summer and even now into Fall.

2. Two groups were granted conference funding from the previous year. With our announcement in June, these two groups also contacted us in regards to these funding issues because both were under contract with a speaker/vendor already, and requesting funding. As such, they retained the amount that was given to them from last year. Total for two groups:

3. As such, we take the total $3492+ 3500= \sim7k expenditure from last year (with two beneficial events this year as well!)

4. This reduces our RGSO total budget to $13k+3.5k (stipend) = $16.5k
ii. Serious consideration needs to be given by the assembly as to whether events can extend beyond this fiscal year in the future. I pose these questions to you:

1. Should funding go beyond July 1st?
2. Should all vouchers for the fiscal year be due by June 1st so an audit can be done (for the new administration) before new funding decisions are made?

c. How can we fund our events with such little money?

i. UAS Funding – This was due October 5th for consideration. If you are an RGSO that has received UAS funding (may not know yet) – please let me know! We would like to know which of our events are funded (and it will not affect your allocation).

ii. Grants are available for Student Groups, as well as other University funding. Please send me an email if you are interested in finding out more about funding opportunities for your groups – I am happy to try and help you find thing to apply for. I will also send along information on this stuff as it becomes available to me.

iii. Fundraising options are available to student groups.

iv. It was brought up by one group that Chartwells is an expensive service. Can we use other services to fund our events/ get food donated?

1. We will also be looking into Chartwells pricing and seeing if there is something we can do

d. Movie Rights and Movie Rentals?

i. Some groups have requested to purchase movie rights for their events.
ii. Some groups would like to purchase movies instead of renting them.
   1. Why we have allocated rental costs instead of purchase costs.

e. One way to improve this process – Get involved!
   i. Email gsovice@gmail.com as early as tomorrow to sign up for Spring!
   ii. We are always taking suggestions on how to better this process, so email any ideas that you have and we will try to use them in the future.

4) Reminder of RGSO Guidelines

a. Advertising for RGSOs (MUST for reimbursement):
   i. Events must be submitted 5 business days in advance to the listserv
      1. Listserv only goes out on Monday, and deadline for submission to the listserv is Sunday. So if you are trying to advertise your event, make sure that it is before that 5 day mark if you want to be reimbursed
      2. Same for the Calendar and Flier submission

b. RGSO Requirements
   i. Committee Requirement
      1. Each RGSO must serve on ONE Committee per semester unless told otherwise (see iii for details).
         a. RGSO Committee (completed for Fall)
         b. Grants Committee (completed for Fall)
         c. MCAA/Community Service Committee
         d. Printer Committee
e. Constitutional Committee
f. Senator/ Senate Committees (full)
2. Please don’t forget to email gsovice@gmail.com with the committee you are serving on so you get credit for it.

ii. MCAA Event Requirement now a Community Service Requirement!
1. Each RGSO must complete ONE Community Engagement event per semester unless told otherwise (see iii for details)
2. Please email your event to gsovice@gmail.com when you have completed it so that it can be recorded.

iii. Why does my budget allocation say I have to complete two events or committees?
1. This was discussed in the September Assembly meeting. Due to many RGSOs defaulting on their recognized status, we decided that it was better to ask you to do one (or both) of these then take away funding opportunities for the student groups. If this is not completed in Fall, the group will not be recognized in Spring.

iv. Assembly Meeting Attendance
1. Attendance to Assembly meetings is still mandatory.
   a. May miss one meeting per semester
5) **October is Community Service Month! UA? U DO!**
   a. Don’t forget our community service month challenge!
      i. The group that logs the most community service month hours in October will receive a $200 dollar funding bonus. There is a $100 prize for the runner up.
   b. GSO participated in the Community Service Month Kick Off Event!
      i. Organized and ran a workshop for 15 Albany High School kids with Mary Graham for the Innovation (Science) Academy.
      ii. Performed a DNA extraction and guided the students through their own
   c. Many more opportunities to get involved this month. Check the Community Engagement website and your Albany.edu email for more details on the events that we have helped organize!

6) **Announcements of Upcoming RGSO Events**
   a. EGSO

**Old Business – Constitutional Committee:**

1) Composition of the committee/ membership – Can E-board, Assembly Speaker, Judicial board, or Assembly serve on committee?

2) Mission statement of the committee –
   a) Find all obvious contradictions/ questionable statements
   b) Find all PROBLEMS in the constitution/ bylaws
   c) In-addition, recommend solutions/ problems
   d) Suggesting a completely rewritten body to better suit todays needs