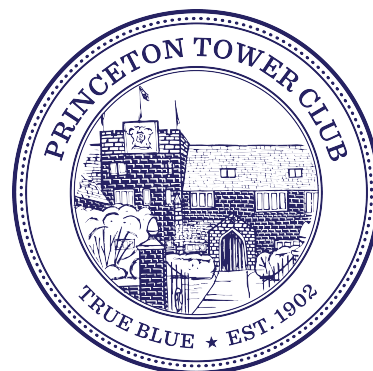


Princeton Tower Club

Report to the Princeton Prospect Foundation

February 23rd, 2017



Education

Tower actively supports intellectual life at Princeton, by both providing a clean and well-maintained space for studying and offering the clubhouse as a venue for academic gatherings. The club currently partners with the History department in order to provide space for specific precepts and various special events. This semester, there is not yet a precept scheduled to meet in the club, but the History department is attempting to move a class into our building, as well as using it for one-time meetings. The club is also deciding on funding to renovate the room in order to make it more accessible to educators, such as purchasing a new blackboard.

Our membership includes 2 SHARE peers, including Katie Awh '17 and Dahlia Kaki '18 (currently abroad). In the spirit of its emphasis on sexual harassment awareness, Tower is requiring its current officers, Bicker Committee, and all future officers to attend SHARE training. Current officers completed a special ninety-minute workshop with the SHARE peers last week, specially tailored towards educating club officers. We welcomed 137 new members to the club this spring, bringing us to 342 active members overall. In addition to our SHARE peers, Maggie Pescok '18 is a Peer Health Advisor.

Tower will continue its roundtable program, allowing members to meet important figures on campus and discuss various issues with them over dinner in our Precept Room. The club's Roundtable Coordinators, Ryan Dukeman '17 and Sukrit Puri '17, scheduled a lineup of speakers, including Professor Brian Herrera, Rochelle Calhoun, Vice President for Campus Life at the University, and the Dean of the College, Professor Jill Dolan.

Civic Engagement and Community Service

Tower furthers its civic engagement mission by making itself available as a building and space available for the use of Princeton's student groups. A variety of campus groups have already reserved rooms within the building for organizational meetings, including Princeton Faith in Action and All-Nighter with Charlie Baker. Tower members also have the opportunity to reserve the Woodbridge Precept Room for study groups when there are no precepts or meetings taking place, an opportunity of which the membership takes advantage near midterms and final exams. The new intramural chairs, Jenny El-Fakir '18 and Sri Nimmagadda '18, are organizing weekly yoga sessions to encourage members' fitness outside of the regular IM participation.

In addition, Tower's elected community service chairs, Hope Lorah '17 and Frank Nguyen '17 have furthered the club's outreach in the community. In the fall, Tower participated in a fundraiser for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, held a holiday card-packing volunteering session to help Family Campus prepare for their Thanksgiving fundraiser, and helped with the art display at Small World. During the election season, the club arranged voter registration to promote students' civic participation. For this calendar year, Hope and Frank have begun preparing for the annual TruckFest charity event, as part of the Interclub Community Service Council, to raise money for the Meals on Wheels and Send Hunger Packing organization. Hope and Frank have also worked to advertise other community service opportunities on campus such as a blood drive and Relay for Life events.

Sustainability

The Princeton Tower Club's commitment to pursuing sustainability involves an active approach. Our goal is not just to reform club infrastructure, but also to create an *ethos of sustainability* within the club and thereby encourage long-term behavioral change for our members. An ethos of sustainability is the understanding that sustainability does not exist as a separate good but should be embedded within all that we pursue, and be more than a marginal aim.

Tower's sustainability initiatives are designed to adjust norms and behavioral patterns in order to better respect our natural environment. The 2016 Sustainability Chairs, Emily Ho '18, Kat Giordano '18, and Sophia Feist '18 (no longer a member), have worked to reduce waste of disposable coffee and beverage cups, by encouraging usage of reusable travel mugs distributed to members in December in collaboration with the emeritus Activities Chair, Hayley Roth '17.

Another of Tower's 2017 sustainability initiatives is to reduce and compost food waste. Currently Tower collects food waste in a separate composting bin, but it is disposed with the regular waste stream. The sustainability chairs are working on forming a partnership with AgriArk, a Lawrence, NJ company that converts food waste into fertilizer through a biodigestion process, to compost food waste. Alternatively, Tower would work with University Dining Services to bring the club's weekly compost to a University pick-up site. Until such a partnership is established, the sustainability chairs will post signs reminding members that food is not currently composted to discourage excess.

In addition, Tower has continued to replace old fluorescent light bulbs with LEDs around the club as a measure to reduce electricity consumption. The sustainability chairs have also designed stickers to place above light switches and paper towel dispensers to encourage members to save resources. Finally, the sustainability chairs will collect data on energy use and prominently display it in the club, both as a means of encouraging members to reduce energy use and to make this a reminder, seen before and after every meal, that sustainability should be a constant consideration for all. In these ways and more, we plan to encourage an ethos of sustainability within the club and encourage large-scale and long-term change.

Technology

The emeritus Technology Chairs, Graham Turk '17 and Terence Kuo '17, repaired the club's electronic room control system, maintained the functionality of the printers in the club, and reorganized and upgraded the club's computer clusters to make them more friendly for coursework. They also upgraded the club's website with changes that make available more information about scheduling various rooms and guest meal in the club, by implementing an up-to-date, modern user interface and expanding the number of rooms that can be reserved. In addition, they ordered electronics for the club's sound system to enable quicker setup when hosting events.

Tower's new Technology Chairs, Kevin Liu '18 and Alex Vogelsang '18 will work on continually improving the club's technological state by maintaining the club's wireless and printing resources, keeping streaming services up to date, and experimenting with other services members may want. If possible, they will install a color printer to improve student access to such resources.