

Princeton Tower Club

Report to the Princeton Prospect Foundation

February 27th, 2019



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 and Slavic Departments and the Woodrow Wilson School in order to provide space for precepts and seminars in the club's Woodbridge Precept Room. This semester, the club hosts 11 hours of class time. The club has also recently updated the room by installing a white board and a new projector.

Our membership includes a SHARE peer, Sejal Aggarwal '19, and the club will soon have new SHARE peers from the sophomore and junior classes. In the spirit of its emphasis on sexual harassment awareness and prevention, Tower requires its current officers, members of the Bicker Committee, and all future officers to attend SHARE training. This past fall, members of the Bicker Committee completed a special workshop in the precept room with University SHARE advisors in order to implement strategies to ensure that all potential members feel welcome at bicker and pre-bicker events at the club. In addition to our SHARE peers, Alice Vinogradsky '20 serves as the club's Peer Health Advisor.

Tower continues its Roundtable Program, allowing members to meet important figures on campus and discuss various issues with them over dinner at the club. Last semester, the club's Roundtable Coordinator Todd S. Gilman '20 invited guests from across campus, including Professor of English and recent Head of Rockefeller College Jeff Nunokawa and Public Safety Officer Sergeant Sean Ryder. Sergeant Ryder also serves as Public Safety's Eating Club Liaison Officer for Tower.

Community Service and Civic Engagement

Tower's Community Service Chairs SuMin Park '19 and Matt Chang '19 have led club members to engage in service both on and beyond Prospect Avenue. Our community service chairs have, as part of the Community Service Interclub Council, helped to organize our annual TruckFest charity event, and last spring our community service chairs organized Tower members to visit a local animal shelter. Outside of organized activities, many club members including our new Treasurer, Paulo Frazão '20, and Secretary, Conor C. Vance '20, participate in service off campus with the Peetey Greene Tutoring program at New Jersey correctional facilities.

Tower furthers its civic engagement mission by making its building available as a space for the use of Princeton's student groups. A variety of campus groups have already reserved rooms within the building for organizational meetings, including the Mock Trial and Model United Nations Teams. 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 full advantage during reading, midterm, and final examination periods. The new Intramural Athletics Chair, Ethan Sterenfeld '20, leads club members to engage with other clubs on campus and live up to the Department of Athletics' official moto: "Education Through Athletics." Sterenfeld also captains Tower's undefeated Broomball Team.

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 2018 Sustainability Chair, Sam Dale '20, and 2018 House Manager, Amber Y. Lin '19, have worked to reduce waste from disposable coffee and beverage cups, by encouraging the usage of reusable mugs in the club. Another of Tower's 2018 sustainability initiatives was to reduce and compost food waste. Currently Tower collects food waste in a separate composting bin, and club officers have worked tirelessly to ensure that members separate food waste from other trash. Additionally, Tower has also worked to collect plastic cups separately for special recycling procedures.

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

Our new Technology Chairs, Annette Chu '20 and Aditya Cowsik '20, have been updating the club's technological infrastructure. They have worked with the precepts held in the Woodbridge Precept Room in order to ensure that those classes have access to the projector in the room. They also upgraded the club's website with changes that make available more information about scheduling various rooms and guest meals in the club, by implementing an up-to-date, modern user interface. Currently our officer corps is working on replacing some of our old computers in the club computer cluster with new machines.

Pictured Below the Woodbridge Precept Room

