

GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Public Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm.

Presidential Remarks

President Bonistall began by congratulating all in attendance for their hard and enthusiastic work this semester.

The Facebook group and email list are outdated with the old “Graduate Student Senate” name; over Winter break, there will be a transition to a new Facebook group and a new listserv.

Last year, there were a lot of conversations within the Graduate Student Senate about the new fee for international students instituted by the Office of International Students and Scholars. The same office is currently hiring a new director and, partly in response to the closed nature of the concurrent Provost search, these interviews are open to the public. President Bonistall encouraged Senators to pass along information like this to their constituents since this is an opportunity for student voices to be heard, especially in relation to a hot-button issue.

President Bonistall queried those in attendance regarding meetings for the Spring semester. Typically, meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month (with the obvious exception of the current meeting). She asked if there were any thoughts on the matter, considering the first meeting in the Spring will fall on Valentine’s Day. Seeing no significant opposition, she encouraged everyone to bring a date to the first Spring meeting on February 14.

Officer elections are coming up in March, and President Bonistall is working with Information Technologies to get the online voting system ready. She also strongly encouraged anyone who is interested in running for an office, particularly that of President, to contact her: it is imperative to have a good transition, and she wants to make sure that candidates know what the job entails.

Graduate Program Spotlights

Senator Ardini spoke on behalf of Marine Policy. Marine Policy is a broad field, where students study commercial shipping and pollution minimization; international waters and high seas management; management of fisheries and minerals beyond national jurisdiction; and offshore wind power. Students take courses in international law, environmental economics, policy analysis and decision-making, and hard sciences such as marine biology or chemistry. His own research focuses on commercial fishing and regulation.

Senator Moinolmolki spoke on behalf of Human Development and Family Studies. The department offers BS/MS 4+1, MS, and PhD programs. Research is intervention and program based and includes childhood and family literacy, violence prevention, substance abuse, and parenting. Students from various undergraduate backgrounds and courses are multidisciplinary. She works in at-risk pre-schools, and other students work at various sites in the community.

II. GUEST SPEAKER: MICHELLE BARINEAU

Michelle Barineau, undergraduate Student Government Association President, presented to the Graduate Student Government about the tobacco-free campus proposal.

Last spring, some students brought to the Student Government Association (SGA) a concern about unsolicited exposure to cigarette smoke. The SGA researched other schools and found that over eight hundred universities are smoke and/or tobacco free, including the Universities of Maryland, Florida, and Kentucky. They also polled undergrad students and found that over 70% in support. Recently, a working group was created, comprised of students, Human Resources (unions, contractors), and faculty representatives. The working group is going to poll faculty in the late winter, and it would like to poll grad students too.

In November, the SGA passed a proposal officially supporting a tobacco-free campus policy. It is currently asking for support from consistencies across campus and working out logistical issues of implementation. The administration, including the director of the English Language Institute, has been supportive and constructive so far.

Senator Razzook asked whether smokers have been asked about this policy. Yes, smokers were included in the undergraduate poll, and the working group is trying to get smokers as members.

Senator Nichols asked whether university staff are represented on the working group. Yes, staff are included in the Human Resources constituency. A big hurdle with getting staff approval is their union contract.

The proxy for Senator Audette asked how the policy would be regulated or enforced. The SGA has done a lot of research into this particular topic. The University of Michigan has a “respect-based” enforcement policy, for example. The working group is still looking at enforcement options and has not decided anything yet.

Senator Razzook asked what the current smoking policy is. The policy is that no one may smoke within ten feet of a building, though it is neither enforced nor widely known.

Senator Harris asked what the justification for the policy is. It is health-concern based, not annoyance based.

A member stated that he knows friends who cannot work well without smoking, and asked about the impact of a smoking ban on those individuals’ productivity. Part of the implementation would include a smoking cessation program. Fortunately, “off-campus” is relatively close for contractors who get ten-minute smoke breaks.

Senator Zimmerman asked how acceptable smoking locations will be marked or designated. The Office of Communications and Marketing will necessarily have a huge role in the public information piece of the policy, including designating locations on campus maps.

Senator Harris asked whether the Senate would be voting today on whether to support this policy. President Bonistall replied in the negative, though there will be additional time to discuss it on Open Floor.

President Barineau will be in communication with President Bonistall on this issue.

Parliamentarian Thomson asked whether the working group has considered sidewalk congestion from smokers who go off campus to smoke. Yes, the committee will be having a representative from the City of Newark to discuss community impacts.

Senator Nichols asked about whether the policy would also affect visitors to campus. Yes, the policy would affect them as well. If approved, the policy would be announced a year ahead of implementation to educate members of campus and the Newark community before it is implemented.

Senator Razzook said that he would be curious to see data on second-hand smoke. President Bonistall noted that it is included in the information that went out to Senators before the meeting. The University of Kentucky's smoking population has decreased since it went smoke-free several year ago.

III. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communication Committee – Senator Reid

Vice President Ralston announced that Senator Reid has stepped up to chair the Communications Committee, but she was sick and so was not present to give the report in person. The committee is continuing to work on advertising for events, and it is planning to distribute a monthly newsletter beginning in the Spring.

Events Committee – Senator Barnard

Senator Barnard began by noting that a great-looking flyer (produced by the Communications Committee) was just distributed for the “Yuletide at Winterthur” event on December 19. See the flyer for additional details.

The Events Committee is also beginning plans for Graduate Forum, which will be held on May 3, 2013. It is currently working to identify a keynote speaker. Possible speakers are Chris Christie, Renee Bowers, Beau Biden, and Tom Carper.

Senator Razzook asked whether there are any criteria for the speaker. It should be someone who is connected to Delaware. For example, Bowers got her masters degree and Christie his bachelor's degree at the University of Delaware, and Biden and Carper are well-known state politicians. Vice President Ralston noted that the survey after last year's event indicated that students wanted someone who had a relationship with Delaware. Students are encouraged to email Senator Barnard or Vice President Ralston with any other suggestions for a speaker.

Senator Razzook asked whether there would be a theme to the Graduate Forum. President Bonistall replied that in the past, the theme has been built around the speaker: Jorge Cham of PhD Comics fame spoke two years ago, and Jeopardy champion Roger Craig spoke last year. It is easier to find person and then build a theme around him or her. Vice President Ralston added that the theme must necessarily be broad since students from all departments present at the Fourm.

Senator Razzook suggested Chris Coons, since he sponsored Dream Act and made it easier for academics to get visas.

The proxy for Senator Rice suggested David Plouffe, an alumnus.

Senator Garcia suggested the former professor who invented the multi-touch technology used in Apple phones.

Social Committee – Senator Markland and Senator Nelan

Senator Markland announced that the first Eat & Greet, to be held at Kildare's, would follow the meeting at 7:30 pm. She encouraged Senators to invite their friends to the Eat & Greets, especially since there is free food. The Social Committee is planning Eat & Greets for next semester on non-meeting days a little earlier in the evening.

There is an Ice Skating Social planned for January 25, 2013. Students are encouraged to bring friends and family with them, but the committee will need an RSVP before the event. Students get free skate rental, but guests will have to pay. More information will be distributed soon. The men's ice hockey game will follow the Ice Skating Social; all are welcome to stay for the game, which is free with UD ID.

The committee is also thinking about holding a wine and cheese-type event in the spring.

IV. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEES

Diversity Committee – Senator London & Senator Moinolmolki

Senator Moinolmolki reported that the Diversity Committee has a set of survey criteria to use to assess diversity among graduate students. The committee is also planning a Diversity Roundtable Discussion series that will take place twice a month, starting in January, targeted towards various minority groups on campus. The committee's aim is to target different diverse groups and departments around campus. The series will culminate in a Diversity Panel Discussion in April, based on the Roundtable Discussions, inclusive of everyone on campus.

Student Life Committee – Senator Razzook

The Student Life Committee is working to organize information about graduate student taxes and hopes to have samples or templates available online soon. Anyone with additional information or questions can contact Scott Berg (shberg@udel.edu).

The committee is also in the process of collecting a broad range of demographic data on the graduate student population, including ratios of students who are: funded versus unfunded; married versus single; vegetarian versus gluten-free; enrolled in the school's health insurance plan versus a private plan; and the age of students by program. The data pool will help the committee make informed and efficient decisions since it will not have to survey the student body each time it needs a specific piece of information. If other committees would like any other specific data, they should contact Nick Levy (nicklevy@udel.edu).

No change has been made yet to the campus catering online food request form to include a vegetarian option.

The committee is currently investigating the graduate student stipend. The minimum stipend is set by the Provost Executive Committee, which consists of the Provost, Deputy Provost, Vice President for Research, Vice President for Graduate and Professional Education, and all the academic deans, but does not include Graduate Student Government representation. At present, the minimum stipend is \$16,650 for the nine-month academic year. In past years, there has been an increase in the minimum stipend by about \$500 annually, or about 3%. The increase this past

year was only \$150, or about .9%, due to the increased health benefits that took effect this year; accounting for inflation, this means that graduate students have no better purchasing power over past years. The committee is interested in getting representation on Provost Executive Committee.

Finally, the committee is also working with Club Sports and Registered Student Organizations to increase access to undergraduate activities for graduate students. The current policy is that graduate and undergraduate student activities remain separate but equal.

Sustainability Committee – Senator Ardini and Senator Cario

Senator Ardini reported on the status of several Sustainability Committee initiatives. The committee is waiting to hear back from Dining Services and Trabant after providing information about the Food Recovery Network. It has presented a final draft of the campus office temperature survey to the Executive Council for approval before it is sent out to graduate students. Senators are reminded to inform their constituents about taking the survey. The committee will be in contact with the university's Sustainability Task Force regarding the Climate Action Plan. Dumpster Detour planning will commence after Finals Week; the committee will be receiving a report soon on last year's initiative and will discuss how to best implement it this year.

Sustainability met with Student Life to discuss carpooling parking permits; the issue originated in the Climate Action Plan since carpooling reduced carbon emissions. There is currently a carpooling parking permit available, but with only seventy-five being sold, they are not being advertised well. Senators are encouraged to spread the word that this option exists. The committee is currently working with Parking and Transportation Services to get more information on the program before moving forward.

The committee is also working with the Green the Green initiative to obtain information about what chemicals are used on The Green. Letters were written about "Right to Know" and asking to see MSDS sheets, but no response has been received yet. The university has already agreed to place signs when spraying on The Green in the future.

Finally, Senator Ardini introduced Senator Cario, who will be taking over for him as Chair.

V. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Parliamentarian Thomson briefly described the content of the motion to amend the By-Laws that will be presented on Senate Floor. The first provision creates the office of Deputy Parliamentarian, who will chair the Senate in the Parliamentarian's absence. That individual will be nominated by the Executive Council and approved by Senate at first meeting of the year, and will be an ex-officio member of Governance Committee. The second provision clarifies officer term limits. At present, the Constitution prohibits a student from serving more than two years in any particular office, but does not limit a student from serving more than two years as an officer, whereas the By-Laws prohibit a student from serving more than two years as an officer. This is a correction to make sure that the documents are consistent; what is written is not the original intent.

VI. EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

Newark City Council – Member Graham

Member Graham was not present.

Faculty Senate – Senator Portnoi and Senator Jones

Senator Portnoi reviewed remarks from Interim Provost Nancy Brickhouse. Students at the University of Delaware come mainly from the East Coast; the university is interested in expanding its reach nationally and abroad. The abroad component of recruitment will be one of the tasks of the new Director of the Office of International Students and Scholars director.

With regard to university finances, sponsored research revenue has been increasing since 1997 to least \$140 million at present, and fundraising revenue has increased to \$61million since 2008. The university has roughly average tuition and fee rates compared to its peer institutions; university administration feels that it cannot increase tuition because that would make the university less appealing to potential students. Enrollment in the Winter and Summer sessions is dropping, and the Provost is not sure why; the university would like to better utilize its resources (i.e. fill its classrooms) during these times. The budget is stable at present, but the “fiscal cliff” might result in budget cuts, especially cuts from sources of government funding. The Provost also noted that when tuition and fees rise, the university must accordingly increase the amount of aid it gives its students.

About 76% of University of Delaware faculty are tenured or tenure-track. In upcoming years, the university will lose about a third of its tenured faculty due to retirement. Certain colleges have no non-tenure track faculty, and certain courses are taught by graduate students instead of non-tenure-track faculty.

With regard to candidate searches, the Faculty Senate has received no response yet from administration regarding its recommendation for an open process across the board. Senator Portnoi noted that interviews are ongoing for the new Director of the Office of International Students and Scholars, and that he sits on that search committee.

Senator Eskandarikhoe whether candidates for the Director of the Office of International Students and Scholars position are aware of the international student fee? The candidates know that there is one, and they know they will be tasked with improving communication as to how that money is being spent.

Diversity & Equity Commission – President Bonistall

President Harker joined the commission for its last meeting of the semester. He emphasized that diversity should and will continue to be front and center in university commitments. Beyond the moral and ethical decisions for diversity, there are business reasons for the university to pursue diversity as well. He also discussed getting more women into STEM fields.

Black Graduate Student Association

The Black Graduate Student Association recently held a very successful Thanksgiving celebration with about forty students and faculty in attendance. Concurrent with the meeting was a scheduled game night in Perkins.

VII. OPEN FLOOR: PUBLIC COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Discussion: Eat & Greet versus Wine & Cheese

President Bonistall noted that there was a lot of positive feedback about the Wine & Cheese event in November; in particular, there was a much larger range of people who attended the Wine and Cheese event than attend the social hours after the monthly meetings. Dr. Martin suggested reallocating money from the Eat & Greet events and instead having one or two Wine & Cheese events each semester. Furthermore, a Wine & Cheese networking hour sends a much different message than simply going to the bar after a meeting; Dr. Martin's priority is reaching out to more students. Students would at least have to register for the Wine & Cheese event, even if they do not have to pay. President Bonistall solicited comments from those in attendance about the ideas.

Parliamentarian Thomson asked whether it was the concert program half of November's Wine & Cheese event that was the draw. President Bonistall did not think so. Senator Harris stated that he enjoyed the "cultural event" that complemented the wine, cheese, and networking.

Senator Nichols noted that having less events makes each one more distinctive.

The proxy for Senator Audette noted that many people are jaded of a networking theme, and that a happy hour might be a better way to unwind and end the day.

Senator Eskandarikhoe noted that the restaurant tour was successful, and it might be worthwhile to model more events on that. It was generally agreed that the Graduate Student Government should plan events that students want to go to.

Senator Ardini asked whether the performance at the November event was planned specifically for graduate student? Yes, the concert was put together specifically for the Wine & Cheese event.

Senator Harris recommended anything in the fine arts to augment the wine, cheese, and networking portion of future Wine & Cheese events.

Senator Markland suggested a South Campus-themed "Wine & Ice Cream" event which would feature the UD Creamery and bring students from Main Campus down to South Campus. This might be an option for a venue for the future.

President Bonistall noted that Wine & Cheese events are a great opportunity to highlight what graduate students are doing.

A member asked if drinks would be free, since food is free at the social hours. There will be no free drinks at social hours; at Wine & Cheese events, two drink tickets are provided. Last year's Wine & Cheese event was the first time Dr. Martin ever spent money on alcohol for students, and it was fulfilling for her to see that students were responsible and that the event was very well received. The member suggested providing drink tickets at the social hours as well.

Another member asked whether faculty could attend Wine & Cheese events also, since she met several at the event this past November. President Bonistall agreed that it might be nice to invite faculty for students to have the opportunity to network with them.

Parliamentarian Thomson suggested that students be able to pay a little more for additional drink tickets.

Senator Nichols noted that she used her drink tickets for soda, and that paying for the soda and the hors d'oeuvres was still worth the money.

The issue was referred to the Social Committee.

Tobacco-Free Campus

President Bonistall stated that she sits on the Tobacco-Free Campus working group, and that nothing has been decided yet. The working group have support on campus in the sense that there is broad participation in the conversation. Smoke-free is prestigious nowadays among peer institutions. The initiative has been bottom-up (student-initiated), but now has the general support of the administration. The committee is currently working administratively through the process; there is still a ways to go before anything happens.

Senator Zimmerman stated that she would be much more comfortable with designated smoking areas rather than a campus-wide ban. For instance, there should be a smoking area by each residence hall but away from the entrances.

Membership Officer Dahl noted that the main concern with designated smoking areas is enforcement, especially considering weather may deter individuals from going farther away from buildings to a gazebo. In that respect, it is easier administratively to make the campus smoke-free.

Senator Zimmerman inquired as to how people who are trying to quit smoking feel about this initiative. President Bonistall replied that a small percentage of people on campus (less than 8% of the population) would be affected by the ban. Many more people smoke socially, in particular when they go to the bar.

The proxy for Senator Rice asked whether the hookah bar at Ali Baba's would be affected if Main Street becomes smoke free. President Bonistall replied that Main Street is not a part of campus, but the feasibility of a smoke-free campus depends on buy-in from the City of Newark and businesses on Main Street.

Senator Harris asked whether a smoking ban is telling people how to live their lives rather than showing legitimate concern for health issues. He stated that he does not feel affected personally by secondhand smoke. President Bonistall replied that there are also health issues connected with drinking soda, and that eliminating soda on campus could be next; would this be next; this could be a slippery slope.

Senator Nelan asked how is it possible to enforce the policy with regard to smokeless tobacco. In particular, prohibiting smokeless tobacco (which does not produce secondhand smoke) sounds like telling people how to live their lives. President Bonistall replied that the university can regulate smokeless tobacco because it defaces university property: athletes use spit tobacco and spitting it out on a playing field erodes the Astroturf.

President Bonistall stated that the Graduate Student Government would not pass a resolution supporting a tobacco-free proposal until it sees survey data from graduate students. The organization should be reflective of all graduate students, and it should not support a policy like this until it knows how its constituents feel. If there is graduate student support, then the Senate should pass the resolution.

Senator Harris stated his belief that taking a census would not give an accurate sense of the graduate student population. President Bonistall responded that it is the Graduate Student Government's job to represent the needs of its constituents, and that a survey will overwhelmingly show the will of the student body. Senator Harris noted that phrasing of questions in such a survey would be important.

Parliamentarian Thomson remarked that it is up to Senators to vote for their constituents; each Senator will vote as an individual will vote on behalf of his or her constituents.

Senator Razzook believes that a survey would be used as a tool to harass students and that people would lie on a survey to achieve their goal.

Anyone with further comments or input for survey is encouraged to contact President Bonistall (ejb@udel.edu).

Amendment Regarding Deputy Parliamentarian

No comments.

Open Floor

Senator Eskandarikhoe asked whether Dr. Martin is alright since she has not been present at the past two meetings. Yes, Dr. Martin is just fine; she is presently at a conference.

President Bonistall remarked that the Graduate Student Government historically has not met in January, but she would be interested in holding a meeting over the Winter session. A few Senators indicated that they would not be in Delaware during January, but there was not significant opposition to having a January meeting. Senator Garcia suggested that the meeting be informative but with no decision-making component out of consideration for those who cannot attend.

VII. SENATE FLOOR

Parliamentarian Thomson opened the Senate Floor.

Old Business

Senator Portnoi moved to approve the Minutes from the November 8, 2012 Graduate Student Government meeting. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved.

New Business

It was moved by Senator Berg and seconded to amend the By-Laws as stated in the handout distributed with the agenda.

Senator Portnoi asked for clarification of officer eligibility. Parliamentarian Thomson responded that the Constitution restricts one person from holding the same office for more than two years, but not from serving as an officer for more than two years. The By-Laws do not allow officers who have served for two years to serve again, in any position.

Senator Berg asked whether a Senator who serves as Deputy Parliamentarian should bring a proxy if he or she were to chair the Senate Floor. Parliamentarian Thomson replied that a proxy would be needed for that department to vote since the Parliamentarian (as chair) does not vote.

Senator Garcia asked what would happen if no one were interested in being Deputy Parliamentarian. Parliamentarian Thomson replied that by the Constitution, someone has to run.

Senator Berg moved and it was seconded to amend the motion to include that the Deputy Parliamentarian may not vote while running the Senate Floor, but that his or her proxy may vote. The amendment passed. Senator Harris moved to correct the stated wording of the previous amendment. The correction was passed.

Senator Garcia noted a typo, and it was corrected. Vice President Caro noted a semantic issue with the amended wording; Senator Nichols moved to amend the wording as such. The amendment passed.

The motion passed as SB-1213-01, which reads as follows:

Whereas the University of Delaware's Graduate Student Government is continually striving to update its governing documents in order to best serve its constituents, and,

Recognizing that the Parliamentarian might be unable to fulfill his or her duties during a particular meeting, and,

Whereas it was the original intent of the Constitution to limit students from serving more than two years in a particular officer position, but not to limit service as an officer to a maximum of two years,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The following sections of the University of Delaware Graduate Student Senate By-Laws be changed as follows:

Article 2, Section 3, subsection b, which previously read as follows:

(b) Per Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution, the chairperson of the Senate shall be the Parliamentarian.

1. The duties of the Parliamentarian are to ensure the adherence to parliamentary procedure.
2. The Parliamentarian shall be the chair of the Governance Committee.
3. The Parliamentarian shall review all amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws as well as any legislation brought before the Senate.
4. The Parliamentarian shall be elected in the Spring with the rest of the Executive Council.
5. To ensure the unbiased nature of the position, the Parliamentarian will not be a member of the Executive Council, nor can they serve as a senator.
6. The Parliamentarian shall meet monthly with the Executive Council to aid in the planning of the public meeting's agenda.

Shall now read:

(b) Per Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution, the chairperson of the Senate shall be the Parliamentarian.

1. The duties of the Parliamentarian are to ensure the adherence to parliamentary procedure.
2. The Parliamentarian shall be the chair of the Governance Committee.
3. The Parliamentarian shall chair the Senate floor. In the event the Parliamentarian is unable to chair a meeting the Deputy Parliamentarian shall chair the Senate.
 - a. The Executive Council shall nominate a Senator to be the Deputy Parliamentarian prior to the first meeting.
 - b. The Senate shall vote to approve the nominee at the first meeting. In the event the nominee is not approved, nominations will be taken from the floor and an election held immediately.
 - c. The sole duty of the Deputy Parliamentarian will be to chair the Senate in the Parliamentarian's absence. If this is necessary he or she will not have voting powers for that meeting but may designate a proxy to vote. He or she shall be an ex-officio member of the Governance Committee.
4. The Parliamentarian shall review all amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws as well as any legislation brought before the Senate.
5. The Parliamentarian shall be elected in the Spring with the rest of the Executive Council.
6. To ensure the unbiased nature of the position, the Parliamentarian will not be a member of the Executive Council, nor can they serve as a senator.
7. The Parliamentarian shall meet monthly with the Executive Council to aid in the planning of the public meeting's agenda.

And Article IV, Section 2, Subsection (a), which previously read as follows:

Eligibility: All graduate students are eligible to run for an officer position, unless the individual has already served two terms in an officer position.

Shall now read:

Eligibility: Any graduate student is eligible to run for any officer position in which he/she has not already served two terms.

There was no further discussion. Senator Ardini moved to adjourn the Senate Floor. The motion passed and the Senate Floor closed.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Bonistall reminded Senators to carbon copies of emails to their constituents to the Graduate Student Government email address, and commended Senators Migdal and Zimmernan for having done an exemplary excellent job this past semester passing minutes along to their constituents and highlighting important items.

Senator Markland announced that the university has bought the Girl Scout building, and Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has asked what the university can do with it. Senator Markland recommended to the dean that the space be used for a cafeteria to serve South Campus students; if anyone has other suggestions, please pass them along to Senator Markland (sarmark@udel.edu). Vice President Caro suggested study space and offices for the Graduate Student Government.

President Bonistall announced that Vice President for Student Life Michael Gilbert wants to discuss what to do with old bookstore in Perkins, and that the Graduate Student Government may have space for offices and a conference room there. She stated that it is a great accomplishment that the Graduate Student Government is in his agenda.

Senator Nichols asked to which space President Bonistall was referring. President Bonistall replied that Student Life has all of it, and it plans to use the ground floor for student offices. This would be great for collaboration between the Graduate Student Government, Student Life, and Registered Student Organizations.

A member stated that commuting grad students would appreciate lounge space. President Bonistall agreed, and said that lockers would also be helpful for commuting students.

Senator Harris announced that he would be graduating and asked about the process for providing a replacement Senator. President Bonistall replied that he should identify someone in his program and place that person in contact with Membership Officer Dahl. Online elections for next year's Senate will take place in March; elections will be discussed at the January or February meeting.

Senator Garcia announced that on December 7, the Office of International Students and Scholars would be hosting a dinner in Trabant for international students.

President Bonistall noted that Longwood Gardens are beautiful this time of year, and reminded everyone in attendance not to forget the Yuletide at Winterthur event on December 19.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Castillo
Graduate Student Government Secretary