

UD Graduate Student Government
November Public Meeting
November 14, 2013 | 127 Memorial Hall | 5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order & Welcome President Razzook**

- II. Guest Speakers President Razzook**
 - A. Anna Bloch (Director, Payroll/Records/HRIS)
 - B. Diana Brinkley (Associate Director, Payroll)

- III. Membership Officer AnnouncementsSharelle Law**

- IV. Internal Affairs Committee Reports Vice President Ames**
 - A. Social Committee..... Gabrielle Vicari
 - The Graduate Student Gala sold out twice with 186 tickets in total being sold
 - The Gala will be used as a marketing opportunity to promote upcoming events such as the Yuletide at Winterthur and the Graduate Student Forum
 - Yuletide at Winterthur
 - Collaboration with the communication committee is in progress regarding publicizing the event
 - Pre-Yuletide collections event (orientation on research at Winterthur)
 - Facilitated by an art history PhD candidate ad Winterthur Museum curatorial intern, Emily Casey: eccasey@udel.edu
 - Emily and Curatorial Department will undertake own marketing to publicize our event
 - GSG Promotions/Partnerships
 - Goals
 - a. To engage the entire graduate student community
 - b. Form sustainable and strategic relationships with the community and other UD groups around campus both now and for the future
 - Gathered and formulated a list of 18+ ideas for future collaborations/programs/activities
 - Will have a proposed list of institutional collaborations and programs/activities for next semester and academic year to share at the next general meeting
 - Share your ideas: gvicari@udel.edu
 - Timing
 - a. One or two additional big events per semester, with numerous smaller ones scattered throughout the semester
 - b. Make sure the events answer the question that students ask themselves, “Why would I go to that?”
 - **Next Meeting: Friday, November 22, 9:30am CHAD Conference Room 320 Alison Hall**
 - B. Events Committee.....Joseph Brodie
 - Graduate Student Forum call for papers
 - Aiming for a release date on Monday, December 2nd
 - Abstracts would be due in February or March
 - One page document
 - A promotional flyer is also in the process of being prepared
 - Dubbed the “Call for Paper, Poster, and Creative Project Proposals” to foster ideas and submissions from all graduate programs at UD
 - Graduate Directors
 - Informed of date/theme of the Forum at the October meeting
 - One of the 12 panels at this year’s Forum is designated for recipients of UD international travel grants
 - Save the Dates
 - Business card-sized, enough printed so (theoretically) every graduate student at UD can receive one
 - Will be distributed so that the Senators can begin promoting the Forum to their colleagues and faculty

- General Forum Publicity
 - Will collaborate closely with Communications Committee
 - Interested in scheduling a meeting with the UD Office of Communications and Marketing—will coordinate with Communications Committee
- Other Forum Business
 - Began discussions regarding logistics of selecting student panel chairs, faculty panel moderators, etc.
 - Longwood Gardens and its associated UD graduate program in public horticulture interested in coordinating with GSG if providing floral arrangements for Forum
- **Next Meeting: Wednesday, 20 November 2013, 11AM Robinson 207 (Subject to change if a meeting with Conference Services at Clayton can be arranged)**

C. Communications Committee Stephanie Luff

- Website modifications
 - Approved minutes and legislation now available on website
 - Lost 3 months of Spring '13 minutes from transition to Edublogs
 - Gala & Forum advertisements have been added to site
 - Can start attaching website link in emails, publications, etc.
- GSG Logo
 - 2 color schemes chosen (see at end of minutes)
 - Color schemes derived from complementary colors in UD's style guide
 - Senators will choose a "look", rather than a specific logo (committee will present draft logos, but committee may need to make further modifications)
- Graduate Student Gala
 - Members split building(s) to hang up flyers
 - Encouraged personal emails and conversations as advertisements
 - Shared on social media (personal Facebook & Twitter)
 - UDaily contacted by Dr. Martin for article
 - Appeared on October 23
 - <http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2014/oct/graduate-gala-rep-102313.html>
- UD Night @ Yuletide at Winterthur
 - Committee has developed initial promotional material, in time to distribute at Gala
 - Senators, please start promoting Yuletide event via e-mail and print publicity immediately after Gala
- Graduate Student Forum advertisements
 - Save the date developed in collaboration with Events Committee
 - Content developed by Events Committee, Style developed by Communications Committee
 - Awaiting edits of the Call for papers/abstracts
 - Will meet with OCM at Events Committee meetings to develop draft of CFP
- **Next Meeting: Tuesday, 19 November, 7:00pm, Brew HaHa (Main Street)**

V. Student Affairs Committee Reports Vice President Caro

A. Diversity Committee Holly Johnson and Katie Minker

- Committee mentioned that there are current efforts to form a GSO for Latino and Hispanic students, as well as for LGBT students. It was mentioned that in past years there have been efforts to form a multicultural GSO, and it was discussed whether this is something the Diversity Committee should encourage. The concern was that it may be difficult to have a strong shared mission since there may be conflicting interests.
- Report on the G.O.O.D. Panel on Diversity is prepared, and will be distributed after review from Drs. Martin, Richards, and Powell. The question was what to do with this information now that we have a report. It was pointed out that we do not yet fully understand graduate student concerns since we have incomplete access to that information. Going forward, it was suggested that questions being asked in the future be developed so more information can be gathered without being repetitive.
- It was suggested that we create a common calendar for all GSO events, for communication as well as collaboration with the different groups on campus.
- **Next meeting: Wednesday 20 Nov 2013 2:00pm 44 Kent Way, room 101A**

- B. Student Life Committee**..... Akisha Jones & Nick Levy
- Payroll: received about 20 responses who had payroll issues affecting their 9/13/13 paychecks. Senator Verity Watson volunteered to be the representative on the Parking Appeals board.
 - Parking Advisory Council: New grey lots considered a success. Pay by phone is expanding across campus. There will be a red lot down at the STAR campus. A concern is that only metered and central lots are near Student Health Services, so there is some thought about opening up a few spots. Bustracker is working on fixing the bugs.
 - New gym: Following the model of the Parking Advisory board, we would like to see an advisory board for Recreation Services with grad student input. Before we approach them with suggestions we need good ideas of what grad students want. Important: need someone to take charge of this. Below are a few ideas, but please come up with more.
 - Grad student only classes
 - Spring Break schedules
 - Intermural league for grad students
 - Stipends: trying to establish how and when stipends are established, including a history of stipend amounts compared with inflation and cost of living
 - Housing: Students want better access to information and opinion about landlords and housing complexes. Collaborate with other groups and GSO's that have compiled this info, maybe link to their info and compile resources.
 - Health services: fee over the summer? In need of a representative. Need to have grad student input, especially since new insurance plan gives us more options, try to discuss new role of SHS.
 - **Next meeting: Thursday 21 Nov 2013 5:30pm in Trabant 219**

- C. Sustainability Committee**..... George Honchar & Anthony Cario
- Dumpster Detour: Nick Kaufman and Heather Thomson, co-chairs. Heather, as the experienced veteran, will set the tasks and coordinate with Nick who will facilitate implementation. Major points to be addressed are funding, volunteers, and scheduling / locations.
 - Ben Wallace and Anne Goodman will serve as liaisons to the other sustainability groups on campus. Anthony will invite a representative from the group working on fossil fuel divestment to the next meeting.
 - STAR campus: want to reach out to alumni to inform and gauge their opinion. Rather than just opposing proposals, we should be looking to increase efficiency and decrease pollutant output: Green coverage, carbon tax, contributing to local solutions
 - Proposal for an Office of Sustainability on campus: undergrad Grace Relf spent last summer doing institutional research and coming up with a report that includes suggestion of a director position, staff positions, and student positions. Most schools in our tier have something similar, including the University of Maryland, a peer institution. UD lacks a sustainability office and a sustainability committee in the Faculty Senate. Report has been sent to the committee to review, and is developing ideas and coming up with suggestions for a resolution that can be brought before the GSG in collaboration with the SGA.
 - **Next meeting: Friday 15 Nov 2013 2:30pm in the Williamson room of Perkins**

VI. Governance Committee..... **Parliamentarian Harris**

- A. Officer Voting**
- Should current officers be allowed to vote during officer elections?
 - They currently do not as a result of the separation of power provided for by the Constitution (since they cannot vote on business on Senate Floor)
 - However, officers have an invested interest in the organization and a lot of internal knowledge as to who would best serve in which positions.
 - Additionally, if officers had been able to vote last year, elections may have gone a lot smoother (to break ties that occurred)
 - We have believe that the Executive council should vote but the Parliamentarian should not
 - *Refer to the Elections Committee*: Should officers be allowed to endorse candidates?
 - Elections rules should be prepared in advance and approved by the Senate before elections begin.
 - It was suggested that the elections committee be put together earlier this year due to the amount of work it entails

B. Appointments of external committees

- This issue was referred back to committee through outside disagreement!
- The standing faculty senate positions need to be filled by the end of the spring semester
- We decided that the president should take nominations for these committee assignments in writing
- Also that the incoming and outgoing exec should work together to “vet” the nominees
- We believe that vacancies should be filled by the president until a candidate can be successfully placed on the committee by the senate

C. Opening of Senate Floor

- It was suggested that Senate floor be “open” for the whole meeting
- This is how the faculty senate does it but we don’t think that is the best course of action for the GSG
- One issue was the logistics about “passing” a Consent Agenda
- We concluded that the Consent Agenda is not legislation that needs approval by the senate, and therefore does not need to be voted on!
- Any issue that needs to be discussed can be taken off the Consent agenda at the start of the meeting without a formal vote!
- Also the fact that only Senators can talk on Senate floor seems to be a hindrance to some
- We discussed reminding people to use the open floor portion of the meeting so that their voices could be heard even if they are not a Senator

D. Email Policy

- Explained why this was an issue and that last year a similar issue had arisen
- After discussing the issue the committee noted that the self-censorship has been working
- The position of the committee is to not bring formal legislation on this but to ask all parties to be respectful of others
- Also we would still like the email to the entire senate to be filtered through either the president or secretary

VII. External Committee Reports

- A. Government Affairs Committee** Jessica Graham
- B. Faculty Senate**..... Senators Jones & Awad
 - Student life (Cesar Caro)
 - Graduate Studies (Akisha Jones, Matija Radovic)
 - Library (Rachel Zimmerman)
 - Diversity (Ben Wallace)
 - International (Sandra Diaz)
 - Student and Faculty Honors (Jane Wessel)
 - Instructional Computing (Amanda Hughey)
- C. Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate** Stephanie Luff
- D. Diversity and Equity Commission**..... President Razzook
- E. Parking Committee** Nick Levy
- F. Organizational Delegates**.....

VIII. Open Floor: Public Comments & Concerns..... **President Razzook**

- A. Open**

IX. Senate Floor.....**Parliamentarian Harris**

- A. Old Business**
 - Approval of the Minutes from October, 2013
- B. New Business**
 - Bylaws amendment
 - Elect election committee
 - External committees
 - Officer voting
 - Bylaws amendment

X. Announcements..... President Razzook

- A. Graduate Student Gala Friday!
- B. Fourth meeting Thursday, December 5th in 127 Memorial Hall. Social at 5:00pm, Meeting begins promptly at 5:30pm.
- C. Yuletide at Winterthur, Wednesday December 11th, 5:30 – 9:00pm

XI. Adjournment