

UD Graduate Student Government
Public Meeting Minutes
Sept.11, 2014 | 123 Memorial Hall | 5:30 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

II. OVERVIEW OF GSG MEETING FLOW

III.A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee – Joe Brodie (jbrodie@udel.edu)

- a. Meet and Greet at Speakeasy (44 Kent Way) from 5:00 to 9:00.

Events Committee – Joe Brodie (jbrodie@udel.edu)

- a. No report.

Communications Committee – Stephanie Luff (sluff@udel.edu)

- a. Senator Luff mentioned a few upcoming projects of the communications committee, including t-shirts.

III.B. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Diversity Committee – Holly Walker (hollylyn@udel.edu)

- a. Senator Walker will send an email about the diversity committee meetings. She also mentioned the Rep Your Culture event, which will occur in the spring.

Student Life – Chris Castillo (Castillo@udel.edu)

- a. No report.

Sustainability – Chris Castillo (Castillo@udel.edu)

- a. Dumpster Detour last spring was successful. We still have some items available for graduate students to buy.

III.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elections Committee – Amanda Hughey (hughey@udel.edu)

- a. The committee is looking for three members to facilitate elections for Vice President of Student Affairs as well as spring elections. Members can self-nominate or nominate others.

Governance Committee – Isaac Harris (iharris@udel.edu)

- a. Parliamentarian Harris provided an overview of what the governance committee does.

III.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no questions on external committee reports.

Faculty Senate – Chris Castillo (Castillo@udel.edu) and Cesar Caro (ccaro@udel.edu)

- a. No business was conducted this month.

Diversity and Equity Commission – Chris Castillo (Castillo@udel.edu)

- a. The committee will not meet until they receive the results of the strategic plan.

Graduate Studies Committee – Chris Castillo (Castillo@udel.edu) and Jane Wessel (jwessel@udel.edu)

- a. The committee met this morning. We discussed program changes regarding concentrations in accounting. We also had a conversation with Debra Hess Norris about how graduate studies will fit into the new strategic plan.

III.E. ORGANIZATIONAL DELEGATE REPORTS

InterGrad – Heather Thomson (hthomson@udel.edu)

- a. InterGrad is a Christian organization for graduate students. They hold two bible studies during the week and social and service events throughout the semester. If you're interested, email ud.intergrad@gmail.com.

Black Graduate Student Association – Priscilla Ahiakonu (pkahiako@udel.edu)

- a. The BGSA held a welcome back mixer last week. They also hold a weekly wing night at Kildare's. They will be having an HIV/AIDS walk in Wilmington on September 27. Their general body meeting is October 2 from 6-7 at the Center for Black Culture.

IV. OPEN FLOOR

- a. Amanda Hughey introduced Tyler Sossong, the candidate for Vice President of Student Affairs. Tyler told the floor a bit about himself and then fielded questions. Cesar Caro asked Tyler about why he wanted to assume the position and what previous leadership experience he had. Tyler talked about the unique position of graduate students in the university and explained that he was president of his rowing club at Lafayette College. He was also asked what he would like to accomplish in the role. He replied that the bus schedule is an important issue to him. Dr. Richards asked how he would engage students from south campus in the larger graduate student body. Tyler said he thinks this is an important concern, but he does not have a solid answer to that question yet. Vice President Hughey also called for any nominations from the floor. No nominations were made. Senators in good standing will receive an email for voting tomorrow.
- b. Vice President Hughey then introduced the three candidates for the elections committee, Mengjiao (Sherry) Yao, Xunji (Yi) Xie, and Hetty Nie. Each candidate introduced him or herself and then took questions. VP Hughey read Hetty Nie's introduction, as she was unable to be present today. Senators in good standing will receive an email ballot for voting.

- c. Parliamentarian Harris described the role of the Deputy Parliamentarian. The nominee, Nick Kaufman, introduced himself. Cesar Caro asked Nick whether he is comfortable with Robert's Rules; Nick answered in the affirmative.
- d. Parliamentarian Harris said that as of now there is no legislative agenda.
- e. VP Brodie introduced the idea of GSG T-Shirts in order to gauge interest. By show of hands, there was a rough majority interest. President Castillo estimated that T-Shirts would cost between \$5-10. Senator Luff displayed drafts of the potential design and described its meaning. Discussion will continue at the communications committee meeting.
- f. VP Brodie introduced the Graduate Research Forum theme. We discussed possible ways to phrase the theme title. Discussion will be continued at the events committee meeting.
- g. President Castillo introduced Dr. Mary Martin, the Associate Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education, and Dr. Jim Richards, the Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education.
- h. President Castillo discussed the possibility of moving the meeting to different locations on campus occasionally (including, potentially, to South Campus).
- i. Vice President Brodie asked for an update on the payroll situation. Many graduate students erroneously had FICA taxes removed. Dr. Richards is working on this issue.
- j. Senator Smith asked how students should deal with conflicts with their advisors, particularly when the departments are not helping. Students should contact Mary Martin.

V. SENATE FLOOR

Parliamentarian Harris opened the Senate Floor at 6:40 pm and announced that quorum was met with 31 Senators present.

- a. Old Business
 - It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from May 8. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved.
- b. New Business
 - The motion to approve Nick Kaufman as Deputy Parliamentarian was made and seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion was passed.

There was no legislation from the floor, and Senate Floor closed at 6:44 pm.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. GSG Meetings: second Thursdays at 5:30 pm in 123 Memorial Hall
- b. Meet & Greet: Friday, September 12 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at 44 Kent Way
- c. Fourth Annual Graduate Student Gala: Friday, October 10
- d. External committee representatives are needed for
 - a. Newark City Council
 - b. Instructional, Computing, and Research Support Committee
 - c. Student and Faculty honors Committee
- e. The GSG is hosting, and the Office of Equity and Inclusion is presenting, LGBT Ally Training on Thursday September 18 and Thursday September 25, from 5:00 to 8:00 (located TBA). Completing the training will indicate that you are a resource for the LGBT community here at UD, and will hopefully give you knowledge and skills to help you better serve the grad students you work with. You can register for the training here, and more information about the LGBT Allies program is available at the OEI website. If you have a

- colleague who is interested in LGBT issues or who wants to be an Ally, please share this invitation with him/her.
- f. The Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning is hosting two upcoming events exclusively for graduate students. These include a Tuesday Teaching Talk – September 23, 1:15-2:15, Wright House and a Workshop: Making the Most of Office Hours — September 25, Noon-1:30, Old College 122. You can visit the CTAL website www.ctal.udel.edu for more details. All grad students with an interest in teaching are welcome. Please feel free to share these two events with your constituents.
 - g. Coast Day, at the Lewes Campus, will be Sunday, October 5. The University provides free transportation. More information is available at: <http://www.decoastday.org/>

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Wessel
Graduate Student Government Secretary