

UD Graduate Student Government

April 2020 Public Meeting

April 8th, 2020 | Meeting Remotely Through Zoom | 7:00pm

- I. Call to Order & Welcome President Sunder
 - A. Join the new graduate student Slack!
 - 1. All graduate students are welcome
 - 2. https://join.slack.com/t/udgsg/shared_invite/zt-d3uyx5u9-jlAnqH32T3bXPDn1ofHGIw
- II. Committee Reports
 - A. Internal Affairs Committees Committee Chairs
 - 1. Communications
 - a) Transitioning to online and getting communications in line with the grad college as a whole
 - 2. Events
 - a) Forum and Gala cancelled
 - b) Forum may happen late in the fall semester, waiting on Dr. Martin to weigh in
 - 3. Operations
 - a) Stopped dispersing funds
 - b) Cleared their current queue
 - c) Working on new guidelines that events cleared for funding for this year can be transferred to next year
 - d) Working on convincing admin to use this money as a student relief fund
 - 4. Social
 - a) Events cancelled, no planning at the moment
 - B. Student Affairs Committees Committee Chairs
 - 1. Diversity
 - a) Met on Monday
 - b) Submitted interfaith space proposal and waiting to hear back
 - c) Working on help me pdfs
 - d) Tabled a workshop idea for the fall
 - 2. Student Life
 - a) Aetna town hall cancelled
 - 3. Mental Health
 - a) Cancelled neurodiversity event

- b) Working on expanding EmPOWER
- c) Pilot programs established in several departments
- d) Will be sending out interest forms soon to solicit mentors/mentees

4. Sustainability

- a) Working on legislation related to energy efficient appliances and recycling on campus, will continue to work on these

C. Senate Committees

Committee Chairs

1. Governance

- a) Working on resolutions on amendments to the constitution and bylaws

2. Elections

- a) Held officer and senator elections
- b) Grad college council representative elections will be held this month, more information to come

D. External Committees

President Sunder

1. Updates

III. Organization Delegates Reports

Committee Chairs

- a) Disaster Research Center is launching a new research initiative to study the Covid-19 crisis

(1) If interested in participating you can find more info here:

(2) <https://sites.udel.edu/drc/covid19study/>

- b) Asha for education

(1) Holding a poster design competition

(2) Some suggested themes are:

- (a) Remote Learning and E-learning
- (b) Mobile Schools
- (c) Educating the Girl Child

- c) National Association for Graduate-Professional Students

(1) Put out a press release addressing the concerns of international graduate students

(2) Abishek has reached out to the office of graduate students and it was suggested that this document be brought to the attention of the GSG

(3) Link to this document:

(a) <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MnpOOZ9IYOCV26YfuN2dtNbYu0YFILBP/view?fbclid=IwAR2X9qMGc>

IV. Open Floor

President Sunder

- A. Approval of February Minutes
- B. SR-1920-05 "...Amending the Graduate Student Government Constitution"
 - 1. Questions about the language "academic plans" in Article 1 Section 1 "Membership"
 - a) This is the equivalent of a major
 - b) This purposefully excludes regular postdocs and continuing education
 - c) We will continue to represent postdoctoral fellows
 - d) This is not a change in policy, just a clarification
 - 2. Article 3
 - a) Section 1
 - (1) Added a graduate college council committee made up of the student reps on the graduate college
 - b) Section 2
 - (1) Added that Committees can include Senators-at-Large and they will count towards the membership requirement
 - (a) Governance committee has the required membership of the Parliamentarian and the Deputy Parliamentarian in the bylaws.
 - (b) Discussion to amend this article to include a specific exception for governance
 - 3. Discussion
 - a) Should we pass this before approving the new graduate college committee? Isn't there already a procedure for creating new committees?
 - (1) There is a process in place, but consider it important enough to bypass those procedures and can make a change to this language if anyone is interested in proposing that
- C. SR-1920-06 "...Amending the Graduate Student Government Bylaws"
 - 1. Article 1
 - a) Section 7
 - (1) Adding the graduate college committee and the grad college council reps

- (a) Question about the language “at least one Representative per College”
 - (i) This language was left open-ended for the possibility of future representative beyond the current one rep per college
 - (ii) Proposal that we add language referring to the governing documents of the grad college committee
 - b) Article 2
 - (1) Section 2
 - (a) Makes clear the duties required to maintain active standing
 - (2) Regarding Deputy Parliamentarian
 - (a) Currently the deputy parliamentarian is required to be a Senator, should we consider making this position open to all students?
 - (b) It was brought up that it is possibly beneficial that this role was filled by a senator
 - c) Article 4
 - (1) Section 2
 - (a) Timeline changed from February to March to give potential senators more time
 - (2) Section 3
 - (a) Changed the options for filling a vacant senator position
 - (i) VP of Membership has 3 meetings to run a special election and a interim senator can serve in this time
 - (3) Article 4 and 5
 - (a) Elections and removal process for grad college council representatives added
 - (b) Partnership between GCCC and GSG codified here
- 2. Some small grammatical changes made
- 3. Pronouns changed from he/she to they/them/theirs
- 4. Standard Operating Procedures are being drafted
 - a) Will be introduced at a later date, probably next academic year
 - b) These are written into the constitution so they can be finished at a later date

- D. SR-1920-07 "Approving the Establishment of a Standing Graduate College Council Committee"
 - 1. Discussion tabled for May meeting
 - V. Senate Floor Parliamentarian Bingaman
 - A. Old Business
 - 1. Approval of February Minutes
 - a) Motioned
 - B. New Business Parliamentarian Bingaman
 - 1. SR-1920-05 "...Amending the... Constitution"
 - a) Proposed amendment:
 - (1) I move to amend Article III, section II to read "Committees shall be governed by a chair and must consist of at least additional senators or members at large with the exception of the governance committee.
 - (2) Amendment Passes 14-0-0
 - b) Passes 16-0-0
 - 2. SR-1920-06 "...Amending the... Bylaws"
 - a) Move to amend Article 1 Section 7b to add the following language: "There shall be at least one Representative per College of the University in accordance with the bylaws of the Graduate College."
 - (1) Amendment Passes 13-0-0
 - b) Amendment Passes 14-0-0
 - 3. SR-1920-07 "...Establishment of... Graduate College Council Committee"
 - a) Discussion tabled for May meeting
- VI. Announcements President Sunder
 - A. Next Month's Meeting will be held May 13th, 2020 at 7:00pm
 - B. The 20/21 senators and officers have been elected!
 - C. Forum and Gala cancelled
- VII. Adjournment