

November Public Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2015 | 127 Memorial Hall | 6:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

II. GUEST SPEAKER

Guest speaker was Dr. Sue Groff, from Director of the Office of Equity and Inclusion to discuss sexual misconduct information and updates. The location of the policy is now under 4-115 under Personal Policies and on sexual misconduct website at <http://sites.udel.edu/sexualmisconduct/>. It applies to all faculty, students, and staff. The Faculty Senate Commission Update report is still pending, which collaborated with IR on campus climate survey and hope to work on faculty education. Dr. Groff outlined the Title IX Governance Structure, which includes OEI, an oversight committee, a case advisory board, education/prevention/training for students, policy and communications, and athletics.

Under the new policy, when a report is filed, the Title IX coordinator will log it and reach out to the complainant, providing information regarding resources (class schedules, living arrangements, etc.). This does not initiate an investigation. The Title IX coordinator then works to resolve the case, taking it to the Case Advisory Board if necessary, confidentially if possible. Finally, a decision to proceed may include: no further action, action if the complainant chooses to do so, action whether or not the complainant chooses to participate (i.e. in the case of a safety issue). If action is taken, the Coordinator will meet with the respondent, investigators will conduct the investigation, and will be reviewed within 30 days (with a notification if time will be longer). Afterward, the Office of Student Conduct Sanctioning Panel, which will include a peer, will review the report. Respondent and complainant will be allowed to appear before the panel before a sanction is decided and both parties are notified in writing.

As an aside, graduate students interested in training to serve on the OSC Sanctioning Panel should contact President Brodie or Dr. Martin.

Appeals of the outcome may be made within five days of the outcome, in writing. Appellate board will consist of one faculty member, one grad student (for grad student complainants), and one staff member who will make a final decision.

A member asked at which point is the incident reported to the authorities. Dr. Groff replied that at no point is she required to report to the authorities. OEI is responsible for due process on the University's end, it is up to the complainant to decide which route they choose, the university or law enforcement.

You should receive this information through the online training, new graduate student orientation, UDaily articles, today's presentation, etc.

OEI can be contacted (<http://www.udel.edu/oei/>):

305 Hullahen Hall - (302) 831-8063

Dr. Susan Groff Costa, Ed.D., Director - x8063, groff@udel.edu

Fatimah Stone, J.D., Sr. Assitant Director - x8065, fstone@udel.edu

Michael Kelly, Associate Director, Special Investigations - x4584, mjksr@udel.edu

Jennifer Daniels, M.S.W., Associate Director - x8736, jendan@udel.edu

Michelle Pergeorelis, Administrative Assistant – x8063, mperge@udel.edu

Concerns were raised regarding education of faculty, given their high rate of interaction with students. Dr. Groff provided that this aspect has been a struggle. Staff has been very good about completing it. The online training cannot be mandated.

If anyone violates the policy, even a tenured professor can be dismissed.

As far as retaliation and social repercussions, retaliation is against the policy and any form of this should be reported. The investigator model means that the complainant does not have to interact with the respondent.

III.A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee – Erin Corcoran

- Three flyers are available, two for Winterthur, one for the Coat & Blanket Drive. Website is being updated regularly, FB and Twitter are also being updated.

Events Committee – Yiben Wang

- Progress made of forum, theme selected, and working timeline.
- Trivia night was a success. Next trivia night will be December 9th at the Speakeasy.

Social Committee – Ty Nie

- Karaoke was successful.
- Paint and Sip is almost sold out! If it goes well, we will host another!
- Yuletide is Wednesday Decmber 2nd, see flyer. You must call for tickets.
 - Please distribute flyers with your department!

III.B. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Diversity Committee – Vinnie Liu

- Brown bag event will begin next Monday in Pearson Hall.
- Rep your culture event

Student Life Committee – Sophie Guderian & Eddie Marks

- Last semester focused on Run Club. Now looking to stay in contact with Public Safety. Currently running a Boot Camp outside of the Speakeasy. In the spring we will train together for a 5K in May.
- Also looking to host Nutrition and Exercise seminars and Group Fitness Classes.
- You can also bring coats to Run Club.
- Two dates for Intramural Mixers: December 8th & January 26th
- This week only, please meet at 5pm on Wednesday for run club, instead of the usual Thursday night, so we can go up to meet the new president afterward.

Sustainability Committee – Richard Bowers & Stijn Koshari

- Working on battery and electronics recycling.
- Discussions of composting and bicycling issues.
- Committee is meeting this Friday, instead of next Friday, this month.

III.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee – Matthew Rinkevich (mrink@udel.edu)

- None at this time; see committee reports.

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

- None at this time; see committee reports.

III.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Senate – Joseph Brodie (jbrodie@udel.edu) & Jane Wessel (jwessel@udel.edu)

- See the new budget structure in first bullet point of committee report. One of the concerns with RBB is the way interdisciplinary programs work. As a graduate student, if you take a course outside your college, your college has to pay the other college. It has been brought up that this is still an issue. Please tell President Brodie if this has happened to you.

Newark City Council

- Newark City Council will be holding another budgetary and capital improvement meeting on November 30th at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers (located on the first floor of the Municipal Building, 220 S. Main St.). Budgetary meetings will also discuss changes to costs for electric services. Recommended that graduate students report their concerns to Secretary Hudson, or come to this meeting on 11/30.

III.E. ORGANIZATIONAL DELEGATE REPORTS

- Black Graduate Student Association – Thanksgiving Potluck on Saturday from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. RSVP is available on their website (<http://sites.udel.edu/bgsa/events/>).
- Biology Graduate Student Association – Thank you for your support on the Chipotle Fundraiser. Over \$900 was raised.

IV. OPEN FLOOR

A. Review of senator duties

- Event information can be found: on the Facebook page, in the committee reports, and at the link found in the announcements located in the minutes and the agenda.
- Please keep sending out the monthly information email to your constituents and copy grad-gov@udel.edu on those emails.
- For an excused absence, please email VPoM Stephanie Luff by noon the day of the meeting.
- For events information please contact Tianhang Gao; for student life issues, contact Kyra Kim; membership and attendance, Stephanie Luff; minutes, Janice Hudson.

B. Open Discussion: Public Comments & Concerns

- Explanation of the proposed *ad hoc* committee bylaw amendment to Article III, Section 3, Subsection (a), Sub-subsection (5).
 - This is essentially a new need that the committee is responding to.
 - Some feedback that this amendment may be arbitrary.
 - It is possible that an *ad hoc* committee could become a standing committee. We must remember that we are voting regarding some *ad hoc* committees that don't even exist yet.
 - Concerns that it might miss the actual issue of whether or not the committee is still doing what it set out to do. Is this actually a problem the GSG is having? We recognize that it might take more than a year to get a GSO off the ground.
 - Additionally, it has been recognized by some members that due to turnover of senators, it is important that *ad hoc* committees be able to maintain status, even when no new senator knows what is going on.

V. SENATE FLOOR

Parliamentarian Rinkevich opened the Senate Floor at 7:15 p.m.

- A. Old Business
 - It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from October 22nd. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved.
 - Proposed bylaw amendment 1: Article III, Section 3, Subsection (a), Sub-subsection (5): *Ad hoc* committees are limited to two one-year terms. The Senate will not consider a second request for renewal. This amendment requires at 2/3 majority. There was a motion to approve the motion was seconded. Motion fails 22 for, 17 against.
- B. New Business
 - No legislation from the floor
 - There was a motion and second to close senate floor

Senate Floor closed at 7:18 pm.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Grad Student Meet and Greet with the new University President at 6PM on November 18th at 44 Kent Way. The new president will be announced at 1PM that same day in Trabant MPR. It is very important we have a strong showing of graduate students. We need to show that we, and graduate education, are important! See FB event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1054807677893057/>
- B. Paint and Sip – November 16th at 8pm in the Speakeasy. Space is limited!! See FB event : <https://www.facebook.com/events/184925848514346/> and get tickets at ticket leap: https://ud-gsg.ticketleap.com/paint-sip/dates/Nov-16-2015_at_0800PM
- C. A collection bin for the Syrian coat drive will be located in the Speakeasy until December 5th. Donate your clean coats and blankets, and get more info at <http://helpsyrianrefugees.us/>
- D. UD Night at Yuletide is Wednesday, December 2, 4:30 to 8:30 PM. \$10 includes house tour, galleries, and lecture on Tiffany glass. Reservations are REQUIRED and LIMITED (150 tickets are available). Call Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library – 800-448-3883 and reference “UD Night”.
- E. Food Drive hosted by Lerner MBA Students and the Caesar Rodney Rotary Club. Drop-off locations are in Lerner Hall, Purnell Hall, and One South Main. Your donations help feed local families for Thanksgiving.
- F. For additional upcoming events and committee meeting times and locations, please see <http://sites.udel.edu/gsg/>
- G. Announcements from the floor.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Hudson
Graduate Student Government Secretary