

UD Graduate Student Government
October Public Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2016 | 103 Gore Hall | 6:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.

II. GUEST SPEAKER – TOBIAS LEMKE (CIRTL & CTAL)

- **CIRTL: Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning** (cirtl-info@udel.edu)
 - International network of research universities for pedagogy improvement. Graduate students oftentimes have little to no instruction on teaching methods.
 - CIRTL's core values: teaching-as-research, learning community, learning-through-diversity.
 - Open to graduate students and postdocs. CIRTL will provide pedagogical training via online courses and workshops free of charge. This will help students be better teachers, improve CVs, and build a learning community within UD.
 - November 11th, 2016 Interest Meeting, Faculty Commons, 116 Pearson Hall, 4:30pm.
- **CTAL: Center for Teaching and the Assessment of Learning** (CTAL-info@udel.edu)
 - Services for graduate teaching assistants: consultations, observations, workshops and conversations (Context and feedback, Nov. 4th; Grading fairly and effectively, Dec 2nd; Hot topics in the classroom, Nov 1st).
 - Zero-credit courses: UNIV 601 (Fall) Pedagogy; UNIV 600 (Spring) Learning. During the course, you will finish a deliverable on your teaching philosophy.
 - Various sessions are available that are coming up in winter/summer break.
- **Questions from the floor:**
 - Any way to keep track of progress officially?
 - Data compilation is being worked on.
 - Is this only focused on teaching undergrads?
 - The course will cover various types of teaching levels (undergraduate, graduate, postdoc) and media (live, online, etc.). The techniques that you learn will be applicable to diverse teaching settings.
 - How often do classes meet?
 - Twice a month for classes, workshops are once in attendance. The advising team is currently being put together.
 - Some advisors are averse to students doing other activities outside of research. The job market seems more favorable for research-stellar candidates even with no emphasis or experience in teaching.

- The job-market is changing to favor well-rounded candidates. Also, it is fairly easy to elevate your level of teaching compared to elevating your research. Why not invest?

III. FOCUSED DISCUSSION: OUR CAMPUS/OUR CAREERS: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT UD

- Cancelled due to time constraints. See discussion above.

IV. A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee – Cara Tortorice (carat@udel.edu)

- Consistency and outreach will be the focus of this committee for SNS use. Discussing methods to create an anonymous forum to channel ideas and issues from current graduate students.
 - Facebook page will be used to further expose the contents of the GSG meeting to get more students involved.
 - Twitter/Instagram will be a supplement to the other pages, with less official content.

Events Committee – Caitlin Hutchinson (chutch@udel.edu)

- Forum updates: we are looking for volunteers. New format of the forum is being discussed, where a common topic/theme is introduced for the whole forum. This will ensure more engaging discussions to occur at the forum.

Social Committee – Ty Nie (htnie@udel.edu)

- Closure of Speakeasy is being addressed by the Social Committee in search of new places to have smaller events.
- Looking for someone to run a Halloween event on Friday, the 28th.
- Ph.D. movie screening will commence in the near future in Townsend Hall.

IV. B. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Diversity Committee – Justin Coger (icoger@udel.edu) & Nathan Thayer (nthayer@udel.edu)

- Adding of Diversity Session in the Grad Forum is being discussed, to highlight relevant research topics. This would include the formation of a diversity panel.
- The White Elephant Gift Exchange will be held with modified rules this December.

Student Life Committee – Eddie Marks (edmarks@udel.edu)

- Creation of anonymous forum being discussed with Communications Committee.
- Resolution for Speakeasy closure was discussed.

Sustainability Committee

- Bicycle Seminar will be held again this academic year.
- Advocating the value of sustainability will be the focus of the committee this year.
- Volunteer work is being planned, around UD / Newark area.
- Battery recycling program proposal will be presented during open floor.

IV.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- Please talk to your committee chairs, especially the Governance Committee chair. A lot of potential resolutions are coming up; the committee needs more help drafting those.

Elections Committee

- No updates at this time.

IV.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Senate – Stijn Kosharis (kosharis@udel.edu)

- Ann Ardis is spearheading a set-up of Graduate School of all collective graduate programs, rather than having programs fall under its respective department.

IV.E. ORGANIZATIONAL DELEGATE REPORTS

- No updates at this time.

V. OPEN FLOOR

- A. Introduction of candidate for Vice President of Membership
 - a. Carrie Glenn: Interested in being VPoM, 2nd year History Senator.
 - b. Question: Strategies from increased participation?
 - i. Reach out individually to separate departments that are missing Senators, individual follow-up for Senators that are not currently participating in committees.
- B. Proposal for resolution: Battery recycling program
 - a. Single-stream recycling led to closure of various recycling centers. Things such as batteries, electronics, or Styrofoam are not always easily recyclable. EHS has the

ability to recycle them, but the system does not exist, nor do many people know about it. We are trying to install boxes with EHS number stickers to recycle more things on campus.

- b. Comment: The biohazards container is not available for use for battery collection.

A: This is a pilot program, so if this moves forward with EHS we can get designated containers.

C. Proposal for resolution: Speakeasy closure

- a. Resolution to bring back the Speakeasy at the same location. Soliciting ideas and opinions.

b. The graduate office is notified of this issue, but the solution is not clear. Hence the resolution can be focused on emphasizing the importance of a social space for graduate students to gather.

c. Some faculty members were also disappointed of Speakeasy closure. If a petition is created, we would also be able to gain faculty support.

d. Question: will there be an alternative to Speakeasy? A: not found one yet.

e. Please contact Julie Steinberg (julies@udel.edu) if interested in participating.

D. Upcoming issues: Introduction of graduate student contract mandatory vacation time

- a. Student life committee is discussing this issue at committee meetings. Soliciting anecdotes and ideas. Faculty Senate meeting has been also working on this, there will be an eventual invitation for student representatives.

VI. SENATE FLOOR

Parliamentarian Rinkevich opened the Senate Floor at 7:27 p.m.

A. Old Business

- It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from September 15th, 2016. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved.

B. New Business

- Election for Vice President of Membership. Carrie Glenn was successfully nominated and elected as VPoM.
- No legislation from the floor.

Senate Floor closed at 7:28pm.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- For all upcoming committee meeting times and locations and GSG events, please see <http://sites.udel.edu/gsg/>
- Food volunteers for GSG meeting needed, please email Cesar Caro (ccaro@udel.edu).
- Oct. 20: Sustainability Town Hall with Sustainability Manager -- state of the university, questions, suggestions. Trabant Theater 2pm
- Oct. 27: Jackson Katz, "More than a Few Good Men" -- sexual and domestic violence as a human issue, not just a women's issue. Trabant MPR, 7:30pm

- Nov 11: Deadline to apply for 2017 Legislative Fellows program, Dover
www.ipa.udel.edu/legfellows
- Rise and Science: Tuesdays 8:30-9am WVUD 91.3 (www.udriseandscience.com)
- Announcements from the floor

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyra H. Kim
Graduate Student Government Secretary