

UD Graduate Student Government  
**November Public Meeting Minutes**

November 10, 2016 | 103 Gore Hall | 6:00 pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm.

**II. GUEST SPEAKER – LYNN SYNDOR-EPPS, JOYCE HENDERSON (CAREER SERVICES)**

- Career Services builds relationships with employers to solicit internship opportunities and provide resources for students.
- Traditionally, Career Services was only serving the undergraduate population, but now have expanded to serving all bodies of students.
- Around 13 Career Fairs, Workshops, and Meet-Ups are organized per year, as well as in-house counseling. Department-specific events are a possibility.
- Technological resources are available (Glassdoor, Handshake, LinkedIn, Career Shift, Vault, etc.).
- Recent shifts in Career Services:
  - Development of Career Communities. This provides students with a more diverse set of options that matches individual interests better.
  - Technological support is being made more available through Handshake.
    - Resumes can be uploaded and approved.
    - Appointments and registration for events can be set.
    - Jobs and internships can be searched with detailed interests, even for academic positions.
    - Grad/Undergrad distinctions for opportunities are being made.
    - Quick review of qualifications can be done by position; applications can be sent in even if not all requirements are met.
- UD CAN is a tool to connect with alumni for career advice and mentorship.
- Question from the audience: can graduated students benefit from your services, including the Career Fairs?
  - All resources are available for alumni.
- Surveys after Career Fairs indicate that companies have repeatedly redirected students to the website, due to many compliance policies. Career Fairs are to connect people together and create a touchpoint, rather than replace the traditional recruiting process.

### III. A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee – Cara Tortorice ([carat@udel.edu](mailto:carat@udel.edu))

- A discussion page for graduate students is being developed.
- A more coherent voice from GSG SNS pages are being discussed, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
- The development of graduate student app is being discussed.

Events Committee – Caitlin Hutchinson ([chutch@udel.edu](mailto:chutch@udel.edu))

- Yuletide at Winterthur will be held November 30<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-8:30pm, with highlighted exhibitions. Flyers are available. Ticket will be available for discounted prices of \$10.
- The forum format, keynote speakers, and panels are being developed. We will continue to work on the forum. Dr. Assanis is a possible candidate for the forum keynote speaker.

Social Committee – Ty Nie ([htnie@udel.edu](mailto:htnie@udel.edu))

- Time conflict has led to the Ph.D. movie screening to be postponed.

### III.B. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- White Elephant Gift Exchange is continuously being planned.
- Local school districts will be contacted to see if graduate student-high school student relations could be built to encourage high school students to consider higher education.
- Diversity section is being pushed to be added to the Graduate Research Forum.
- Wordpress website for GSG Diversity is being discussed.

Student Life Committee – Eddie Marks ([edmarks@udel.edu](mailto:edmarks@udel.edu))

- Speakeasy resolution will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Contracted vacation time (especially for international students) are being discussed. Cultural issues and misunderstandings exist, so the committee is considering protecting an accumulated vacation time.
- UD student family members do not have access to some facilities, the committee is looking into what the exact standards are.
  - Senators mention that for certain facilities, a “spouse” card can be obtained.

Sustainability Committee – Curt Davis ([cjdavis@udel.edu](mailto:cjdavis@udel.edu))

- Battery recycling resolution will be presented at the meeting today.
- A park clean-up volunteering activity will be organized through the “Adopt-A-Park” program.

### III.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee – Matthew Rinkevich ([mrink@udel.edu](mailto:mrink@udel.edu))

- No updates at this time, please see committee reports.

Elections Committee – Carrie Glenn ([carriele@udel.edu](mailto:carriele@udel.edu))

- Three more members are needed to serve in the Spring semester, please consider serving on this committee.

### III.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Senate – Stijn Kosharis ([kosharis@udel.edu](mailto:kosharis@udel.edu)) & Richard Bowers ([rpbowers@udel.edu](mailto:rpbowers@udel.edu))

- St. Patrick’s Day committee has advised not to move Spring Break.
- Faculty Senate is setting up a sub-committee for the Graduate School, without graduate student representation, but Dr. Ardis will be in constant communication.
- There will be graduate student representation for committees working on graduate student vacation time.
- Please see Committee Reports for other announcements.

### III.E. ORGANIZATIONAL DELEGATE REPORTS

- No updates at this time.

## IV. OPEN FLOOR

- A. Presentation of Battery Recycling Resolution, SR-1617-01
  - a. The resolution delineates the battery recycling program, and emphasizes that the University should take more visible responsibility of recycling batteries that are still under the responsibility of EHS. The proposal was distributed with meeting materials.
- B. Presentation of Speakeasy Resolution and Discussion, SR-1617-02
  - a. The resolution presents the importance of an inclusive social space for graduate students and faculty, and supports the creation of a campus location that provide social space explicitly for graduate students and professors.
    - i. Wouldn’t it be better to include post-docs and staff? We can word it better so we do not seem exclusive. Suggested change: “graduate students, faculty and staff” in all locations of the resolution.
    - ii. Is there a concern that the University would recognize that the Faculty Commons already serves this purpose? The Whereas clause line 25 addresses this concern by distinguishing the Speakeasy’s previous unique social functions clearly.

- C. Senator Koshari: Mental Health for graduate students were discussed at the Advisory Committee. It was suggested that UD implement a program that exists at MIT, in which a few students get trained to become refs that understand how to be peer counselors that can refer students to the right people on campus. Chemical Engineering Department is implementing this, a suggestion for this to be pushed to Office of Graduate & Professional Education.

## V. SENATE FLOOR

Parliamentarian Rinkevich opened the Senate Floor at 7:21 p.m.

- A. Old Business
- It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved.
- B. New Business
- Battery recycling resolution, SR-1617-01. The resolution passed unanimously with no discussion.
  - Speakeasy resolution, SR-1617-02.
    - Motion passes for wording amendments.
    - Wording amendments were accepted and the new resolution passed unanimously.
  - No legislation from the floor.

Senate Floor closed at 7:24pm.

## VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Yuletide at Winterthur flyer is available, please take them and distribute to your department.
- Please cc [carriele@udel.edu](mailto:carriele@udel.edu), our new VPoM, when sending out departmental announcements.
- Library carrels are available for reservation for graduate students. If you'd like to utilize this service, please talk to a librarian at Morris Library.
- The Library is currently conducting a survey to solicit student feedback on a possible renovation. To complete the survey, please do so here at this link: <http://tinyurl.com/MorrisReno>. Please forward this link to your constituents.
- CIRTl is holding an info session tomorrow, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 4:30pm in the Faculty Commons (116 Pearson Hall).
- For all upcoming committee meeting times and locations and GSG events, please see <http://sites.udel.edu/gsg/>
- There seem to have been some budget cuts in Student Health that have led to students having to go through insurance for certain procedures that were covered by UD before (pap smears, flu shots, etc.) The extent of this is unknown. This can result in co-pays for students. No formal announcement from UD was made to our knowledge, there is some

preliminary interviewing of nurses are going on. Please email [kyrakim@udel.edu](mailto:kyrakim@udel.edu) if you are interested in taking part in learning more about the budget cuts.

- Announcements from the floor

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyra H. Kim  
Graduate Student Government Secretary