

UD Graduate Student Government
December Committee Reports
December 08, 2016 | 103 Gore Hall | 6:00 pm

II.A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- No updates at this time.

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

- Committee members discussed Yuletide at Winterthur Event, that would be held the following evening. 76 graduate students had signed up as of the time of the meeting.
- Regarding the Graduate Student Forum, the committee members worked to solidify a main theme, which in essence is the benefits of interdisciplinary and liberal learning for the “Common Good” and “Whole Person”- an idea derived from NEH Chairman William Adams visit and speech to UD in September.
 - Working Title/Theme: “The Whole Person?(Graduate Student)”: Education for Engaged Citizenship
 - Abbreviated Timeline for Planning the Forum
 - Call for Papers sent out: February 1
 - Reminder: February 14, 21
 - Abstracts Due: February 28
 - Emails of Acceptance/General Announcement of Forum: March 7
 - Emails of Panel Assignments and Registration: March 14
 - Food: Estimate March 13; Final April 1
 - Forum: April 13
 - Fee: \$10. If a student attends the whole day the fee will be refunded
 - Discussed having a UDaily and general announcement to entire campus.
 - Committee Members will use the winter break to reach out to faculty and students that they wish to be involved in the event, as well as to write the call for papers.

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

- PhD Movie
 - Townsend Hall, New Date Jan 11th
 - Price of Admission adjusted to 5\$ for one movie 7\$ for the featured
 - Outside Catering: plan is to have soda/water for beverages and some hot finger food
- Monthly Events
 - Ideas/locations

- Ice skating at the Fred Rust Arena
- Paint & Sip at the Painting with a Twist
- Investigate potential for a BYOB event on campus
- Yarn crafts in a room on campus.

II.B. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- Discussion about drafting a resolution to reaffirm GSG’s support for creating an inclusive environment here at UD. The committee agreed to help look over the resolution once it was produced.
- Decided to draft a statement to graduate students to be sent out via email over Thanksgiving break supporting our mission statement (promotion of diversity in demographics and ideas), as well as a call for students to try to keep dialogue open with those they may find themselves disagreeing with. The statement has been sent to Dr. Martin for approval (see statement below)
 - “As we prepare for Thanksgiving break, we the members of the Diversity Committee of the Graduate Student Government would like to reaffirm our commitment to our mission: to advocate for and promote diversity in demography and ideas. In the spirit of the holiday, we remain grateful for, and continue to celebrate our diverse community. Whether you are travelling or staying local, we urge you to engage in open dialogue with others in the active pursuit of inclusivity. Towards these ends, the events and activities of the Graduate Student Government are open to all graduate students, and we welcome suggestions for how we can better serve your needs as we move forward.”
- Diversity White Elephant exchange has been pushed back to after the winter break. In the meantime, we will continue planning the event.
- No new word on the coordination of a diversity themed research session at the GSG forum.

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

- ChemE REFs program discussion (with Stijn)
 - ChemE will develop a resolution and bring it to Student Life (and probably eventually Governance)
 - They are willing to present at a GSG meeting
 - Goal is to have ChemE REFs up and running by next Fall as a pilot project with support from GSG and administration
- Spouse ID:
 - Need to contact administration/recreation services about why this is the case
- Office of Communications and Marketing
 - Talked with Tracey Bryant and Beth Miller about profiling graduate student work
 - There seems to be a disconnect- we don’t know they exist, and they are waiting for us to reach out to them
 - They are more than happy to present at a GSG meeting to show graduate students what the University is willing and able to do to profile research and publications

Sustainability Committee – Curt Davis (cjdavis@udel.edu)

- Adopt-a-Park program
 - The SC would like to adopt a Newark park to clean that is close to campus with ample parking available to accommodate large groups
 - Selection of park will take place in December
- Battery Recycling Resolution and Proposal
 - We are planning our next actions with regards to the battery recycling proposal
- General discussion on garbage and recycling at UD and around Newark
 - The SC will explore options for increasing recycling education on campus
- Vegan food at GSG Meetings
 - The December meeting will be catered with vegan food

II.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- The Governance Committee worked with members from the Diversity Committee to draft a resolution responding to a recent incident of hate speech on campus. More generally, this resolution affirms the GSG's commitment to diversity and inclusivity.

II.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- The St. Patrick's Day Task Force has delivered its report, concluding that it would not be beneficial to move Spring Break to coincide with St. Patrick's Day. Hence, the university will not pursue this further. The full report can be found here: https://sites.udel.edu/provost/files/2014/12/St.Pats_.Committee.Report.Provost-luvongl.pdf.
- The Faculty Commons are open to all who teach at the University of Delaware (including grad students), and provide a place to meet, prepare your lectures, and attend special programs. More information can be found here: <http://commons.udel.edu/>.

Graduate Studies Committee – Carrie Glenn (carriele@udel.edu) & Stijn Koshari (kosharis@udel.edu)

- The AdHoc Committee on Vacation Time for Graduate Studies will convene in January.
- The Graduate School Work Force will probably present its preliminary findings to the GSG in February.

Faculty Senate Library Committee – Janice Hudson (jehudson@udel.edu)

- No updates at this time

Library Student Advocacy Committee – Rachel Zimmerman (rachelz@udel.edu)

- No updates at this time