

UD Graduate Student Government  
**October Public Meeting Minutes**  
October 14, 2017, | 103 Gore Hall | 6:00 pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

**II. GUEST SPEAKERS**

- Dr. Kevin Guidry presented “teaching support for graduate students” via Centre for teaching and Assessment of Learning (CTAL) and center for integration of Research, teaching, and learning (CIRTL).
- CIRTL provides pedagogical training via online courses and workshops aimed at increasing teaching effectiveness.
- Dr. Guidry said that graduate students can undertake courses and workshop and if done correct order graduate students can be certified through CIRTL. Various levels of certifications are Associate, Practitioner and scholar level.
- CTAL provides consultations, observations, and workshops. The first Friday roundtable is on November 3, 2017, where the topic of discussion will be “Why Don’t they Do the Reading?”
- CTAL usually conducts events at Faculty Commons in Pearson Hall 116 or in Gore Hall 212. For more details about the CTAL events, please visit <https://ctal.udel.edu/category/ctal-events/>
- CTAL also offers zero-credit courses – UNIV 601 and UNIV 600 which are offered in Fall and spring semester respectively.
- Contact details of CTAL: [CTAAL-info@udel.edu](mailto:CTAAL-info@udel.edu) Website: <http://ctal.udel.edu>
- Contact details of CIRTL: [CIRTL-info@udel.edu](mailto:CIRTL-info@udel.edu) Website: <http://cirtl.net>

**III. A. Internal Affairs Committee Reports**

Communications Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on October 12, 2017 at 4:30 PM in Room 115S in Morris Library.
- For more question information Ashar at [azkhan@udel.edu](mailto:azkhan@udel.edu)

Events Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on October 12, 2017, at 4:30 PM in Room 115S in Morris Library.
- For more information email Ashar at [azkhan@udel.edu](mailto:azkhan@udel.edu)
- The agenda of the meeting is to discuss Yuletide at Winterthur, which is the Annual Winter Cultural Event to be held on December 06, 2017 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. It is hosted yearly at Winterthur where graduate students can enjoy live Jazz music while exploring the galleries at the festively decorated DuPont family estate.

### Social Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on October 12, 2017, at 4:30 PM in Room 115S in Morris Library.
- For more information email Ashar at [azkhan@udel.edu](mailto:azkhan@udel.edu)
- We have an immediate task to arrange and manage the following event.

### III.B STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Diversity Committee – Zachary Bailey ([zbailey@udel.edu](mailto:zbailey@udel.edu))

- Brainstorm session on topics to discuss this year:
  - Events:
    - Social events such as bar nights or happy hours with an emphasis on diversity
    - Gift exchange event (like last years)
    - Auction for charity with art/photos from students
  - Workshops:
    - Present diversity-related research (by both faculty and/or students)
    - Can be single seminar or series
    - LGBTQ+ training
  - Act as a facilitator between different RSOs, get more students involved
  - DACA (Sanctuary school, involve faculty and students, contacts representatives, fundraising)
- Discuss DACA:
  - We should focus on convincing and helping students to contact their state representatives (currently the Dream Act needs a few more representatives in the House and a lot more in the Senate):
    - Organize phone banking
    - How to target students from relevant states?
    - Create a booth on the Green with information and have postcards that people can sign
  - One of the major issues is a lack of knowledge/information about DACA, the Dream Act, and immigration in general. We should find ways to involve people (even after the bill has passed):
    - Discuss data, facts
    - Workshops and other events to educate people (see below)
  - Include as many groups as we can
    - Groups that aren't as obvious: e.g., Campus Republicans
  - Fundraising to help affected people: bake sale
    - Where? Table on the Green or at Trabant (get permission)
    - Before it gets cold outside
    - Ask for donations of baked things
    - Zach will contact all RSOs/organizations to probe participation
  - Can we make UD a Sanctuary?

Student Life Committee – Montessa Brooks ([brooksm@udel.edu](mailto:brooksm@udel.edu))

- Offerings to Grad Students
  - Part of Building Bridges theme. We want to create a place where grad students can obtain information about a variety of resources and opportunities on campus:
    - 1) Grad Research PR subcommittee/website
    - 2) Opportunities subcommittee/website
  - Is it necessary? For example, is there a demand for writing articles for The Review, Delawareonline, UDaily, ... ? There might be people who are interested (outreach, academia).
  - We should create something a bit more lasting
    - Make a page on the GSG website
    - Expose/advertise different opportunities on the page at different times, so people stay aware of it. We can e.g., use Grad Student Connect on Facebook.
  - Make a Google Doc where the committee can gather relevant information (Stijn), then transfer to a website

Sustainability Committee – Chair TBD

- Brainstorm session on topics to discuss this year:
  - Reusable water bottles
  - Recycling (advertising, stickers on bins, OISS coffee hour)
  - Reuse name badges at events
  - Solar energy (Faculty Senate resolution) and recharge stations for electrical vehicles
  - More bike racks and fix bike stations around campus
  - Sustainable food at GSG meetings and other events (GSOs)
- Deven is getting food for GSG meeting any one interested in helping GSG will be appreciated.
- It will host next coffee hour next Friday i.e. October 19, 2017 from 4 to 6pm. They will talk about recycling. The coffee hour will be at Old College Hall.

Mental Health Committee – Chair TBD

- Introduction of the EmPOWER pilot program within the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Department. General agreement that a similar program can be implemented university-wide, with a few changes.

Community Engagement Committee – Bridget Killian ([ckillian@udel.edu](mailto:ckillian@udel.edu))

- Brainstorm session on topics to work out this year:
  - The major should have two primary components:
    1. Training people to engage any entity in the community
    2. Actually sending people into the community for hands-on experience
  - Through:

- Classes
- Curricular research
- Extra-curricular activities
- Plan and goals for the committee: To make a draft for the community

### III.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee – Sam Nystrom ([snystrom@udel.edu](mailto:snystrom@udel.edu))

- Nystrom raised concern over Article V in the By-laws, specifically wondering if more information was necessary for the event that the Parliamentarian was removed from office. Doss and Sturgeon discussed and decided it wasn't necessary.
- Nystrom raised an issue, brought to her by President Maisson, about the official standing of GSOs in the GSG. After much discussion, Governance decided that there was nothing that the Constitution or By-laws could do to make GSOs more official entities within the GSG. Instead, we recommend that the GSG creates an official intake form where GSOs can submit updates, concerns, and the like that could be distributed to Senators.

Elections Committee – Bo Tew ([botew@udel.edu](mailto:botew@udel.edu))

- New senators were elected.

### III.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Senate – Stijn Koshari ([kosharis@udel.edu](mailto:kosharis@udel.edu)) & David Maisson ([dmaisson@udel.edu](mailto:dmaisson@udel.edu))

The meeting was conducted on October 2, 2017, and Stijn and David attended the meeting.

- Council of Graduate Schools visited and issued a report regarding the Graduate College, which is available on the OGPE website. Listening sessions will be scheduled in the fall.
- The Faculty Senate affirmed the statements made by the University President and Provost regarding our commitment to all of our University Students including those impacted by the changing policies of DACA.
- -The Faculty Senate approved a resolution that urges the University Administration to consider the option of using 100% renewable energy by 2020.

Newark City Council –

Has urged one the senators to attend the Newark City Council meeting which is usually held second Monday every month.

### III.E. Organizational Delegate Reports

- The Interdisciplinary Graduate Forum (IGF) rep Yuliya Brel ([ulenska@udel.edu](mailto:ulenska@udel.edu)) talk about the idea is to create a journal to publish research.
- The graduate office has supported the idea and has urged if each constituent to see if they are interested in being the part of it. She said the journal would need professors to be

on editorial board and students to be the part of the team. They want to evaluate the interest of the students so they can ensure if they should continue the journal.

- The idea is to give graduate students an opportunity to undergo the process of writing papers and peer-review.
- IGF will be conducting the forum where the graduate will get an opportunity to present their research for people whose paper got accepted for publication.

#### IV OPEN FLOOR

- A. Fundraising to provide aid to Puerto Rico in the form of generators. Pablo, a Ph.D. student in Urban Affairs, and Public Policy is working on fundraising to provide aid to Puerto Rico in the form of generators. He had been in touch with the Supply Chain and Inventory Control managers at Costco after speaking with the CEO of the company, and at the time they said that they would provide portable generators at a 25% discount and take care of delivery through their own supply chains; once delivered there would be people onsite to take care of the distribution. The reason power is so important is that the entire power grid was knocked out by the hurricane and consequently people have to go out every day and wait in long lines to purchase the food they will consume just in that day, then repeat the next day. Consequently, a grassroots rebuilding effort can never really take place. Other members in UD, i.e., the Hispanic community, etc. have already taken an interest. If you are interested in being part or contribute to fundraising, please contact Pablo: [pmcconni@udel.edu](mailto:pmcconni@udel.edu) Natalia, the HLGSA member, said OGPE is interested in fundraising, and Provost wants to contribute in the same. Various ideas have been proposed, and they are waiting for final details.
- B. Mayank, senator of Center for Energy & Environmental Policy, have urged graduate students to submit abstracts for the Briefing Smart City Symposium. It also includes "Interdisciplinary student panel" on November 29. Students will have the opportunity to speak for 10 minutes on a topic of their choice as a member of a 5 member panel in front of guests, faculty, and other audience members. The session will end with a 20 min Q&A for the panel. Interested students can contact Fan Yang at [fyang@udel.edu](mailto:fyang@udel.edu). For more details refer flyer.
- C. Virginia shared the message for recruiting the study participants. In Diversity Study. For more information, please refer flyer.
- D. Sustainability event October 17, 2017, at 4:00 PM at Trabant Multi-purpose room A
- E. The Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware invites you to submit an abstract for our 11th Annual Graduate Student Conference. This year we have introduced a roundtable section as a part of our larger student conference where students can present completed papers, workshop in-process papers or presentations, and brainstorm potential research projects. For more details contact: Jamie Manzer ([jmanzer@udel.edu](mailto:jmanzer@udel.edu)) and Kate Kafonek ([kkafonek@udel.edu](mailto:kkafonek@udel.edu)). Please refer the flyer for more details.
- F. OGPE and graduate are organizing "Relaxation Day" on October 20, 2017, at Trabant MPR-A. Please RSVP using the following link - [https://grad-admissions.udel.edu/register/OGPE\\_Relaxation\\_10.20.17](https://grad-admissions.udel.edu/register/OGPE_Relaxation_10.20.17)  
The event includes yoga, Games, P.R.O.U.D Puppies, arts & crafts, and much more!  
Refreshments will be Provided! The event will also have a QUIET relaxation area set up for students to read a book, take a nap, collect your thoughts, etc.
- G. The Grad College Town Hall meetings are Monday @ 5 in Gore 205 and Tuesday @ 12 in 116 Willard

- H. Eric Steinman, proxy chemical engineering, brought up two points. First, the Gym hours during the summer and other breaks are too limiting for a lot of grad students, who continue their regular work schedule. Second, The buses run not frequently enough on the West and East loops, and they are not consistent with the posted schedules and the live app. Further discussion with the student's affairs committees and governance committee was encouraged in order to form resolution.

## V. Senate Floor

Parliamentarian Sam opened the Senate Floor at 6:54 p.m.

- A. Old Business
- There was no old business.
- B. New Business
- No new business was raised
  - The Senate unanimously approved to close Senate floor.
  - No legislation from the floor.

Senate Floor closed at 6:55pm.

## VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- For all upcoming committee meeting times and locations and GSG events, please see <http://sites.udel.edu/gsg/>.
- Grant-challenges was submitted by David for funding community engagement. If funded would go toward efforts of the community engagement committee, under the management of Bridget Killian, committee chairperson. More details about the grant can be found at <http://grad.udel.edu/grand-challenges-grants/>
- Mary Martin said that course on sustainability would be offered during Spring semester. Provost has provided financial support for University seminars on topics of board interest and contemporary importance as a competition. The course is UNIV667.
- Mary Martin has 25 free music tickets for the concert: "The Calidore String Quartet's" at 7:30 pm. The link to the concert: <http://www.music.udel.edu/news-events/events/pages/calidore-october.aspx>
- There is an open discussion about the building of a Multicultural Center regarding the chance of offering the can provide to new GSG HQ/grad lounge/grad space for events/etc. So grad students should attend to weigh in. Meeting is Monday 10/16 at 4:00 pm in Perkins Rodney Room

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hiral Master  
Graduate Student Government Secretary