

UD Graduate Student Government
September Public Meeting Minutes
September 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

- Dan Rich and Lynette Overby presented on community engagement and its relation to graduate student education. The University of Delaware is promoting research and scholarships through community engagement. Carnegie Foundation was established for elective community engagement classification.
- The Vice Provost approached Dan and Lynette to establish the Community Engagement Initiative. Some of its offerings are strengthening scholarships, sustaining collaboration that addresses critical community challenges, and establishing community engagement as a defining part of a UD education.
- Also, the initiative envisions to mobilize UD's capacity to meet community needs in Delaware and beyond. Last year, they established a new knowledge-based partnership which Lynette is heading.
- Dan and Lynette have urged graduate students to consider participating in this initiative. It is important for graduate students to engage in this initiative as graduate students are the future. There are various ways to involve in community engagement, like workshops and seminars.
- Ultimately, Dan and Lynette want to see the formation of a Community Engagement program for graduate students at UD. Wilmington University, University of Georgia, and Michigan State University are some universities that have a certificate program for community engagement. The goal of the initiative is to integrate the community engagement knowledge and skills in graduate education.

III. A. Internal Affairs Committee Reports

Communications Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 22, 2017 at 4:00 PM in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more question information Ashar at azkhan@udel.edu

Events Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 22, 2017 at 3:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Ashar at azkhan@udel.edu

Social Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 22, 2017 at 5:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Ashar at azkhan@udel.edu

III.B STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Diversity Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 21, 2017 at 1:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Stijn at kosharis@udel.edu

Student Life Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 21, 2017 at 3:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Stijn at kosharis@udel.edu

Sustainability Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 21, 2017 at 2:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Stijn at kosharis@udel.edu

Mental Health Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 21, 2017 at 4:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Stijn at kosharis@udel.edu

Community Engagement Committee – Chair TBD

- The committee will be meeting on September 21, 2017, at 5:00 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Stijn at kosharis@udel.edu

III.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee – Sam Nystrom (snystrom@udel.edu)

- The committee will meet on September 28, 2017 at 5:30 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.
- For more information email Sam

Elections Committee – Bo Tew (botew@udel.edu)

- The committee will be meeting on September 19, 2017 at 5:30 pm in Room 049 in Morris Library.

- For more information email Bo

III.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- The first meeting was on last Monday where the FS approved a resolution to request the University administration to consider the possibility of making the University use 100% renewable energy by 2020.
- The FS also approved a resolution that affirms the statements of the University President and Vice Provost related to DACA.

There is a new external committee position to send a grad student representative to the University Research Council. This year, David Maisson is taking the responsibility to be the representative for the University Research Council.

III.E. Organizational Delegate Reports

- We want to ensure that GSG is building bridges within the university in the fall semester and then building bridges outside the community in the Spring semester. In light of that, the GSG is hosting the first GSO Forum, to discuss ideas and find avenues for GSOs to collaborate, among other exercises to strengthen the UD grad community.
- Natalia, Senator for Medical Sciences and part of the Hispanic Latino association: On Monday September 18, 2017, HOLA will be holding a DACA rally, from 3 to 5 pm on the South Green. On September 23, 2017, there will be the Fiesta Latina event in Trabant from 8:30 pm to 1:30 am. Anyone who is interested to be the part of HLGSA contact Natalia (nrivera@udel.edu).
- The Interdisciplinary Graduate Forum (IGF) will have coffee hour next Wednesday, i.e., Sept 20, 2017 from 3 to 5 pm at Faculty Commons. On October 10, 2017, IGF will faculty spotlight event with Dr. Gupta from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm, venue TBD. On November 8 IGF will have A Fall Potluck event. For more details contact Yuliya Brel (ulenska@udel.edu)

IV OPEN FLOOR

- A. The Non-discrimination Committee and the Ad Hoc Mandatory Time-Off Committee are two new University committees that need graduate representatives. The Non-discrimination Committee reviews reports submitted by university individuals who believe they have been the targets of discrimination. After reviewing the evidence in the report, the committee refers the case to either be managed by a different group, or sends the case to the hearing panel to make a ruling. The Mandatory Time-Off Committee is dedicated to creating university policy on required time-off for RAs. If any graduate students are interested in being a part of one of these committees, contact Dr. Mary Martin at marym@udel.edu.
- B. The Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee aims to create a committee where graduate students can talk about their mental issues. Currently, EmPOWER (Empathetic Peers Offering Wisdom Encouragement and Resources) is a pilot program within the Chemical Engineering department.

- a. The goal of the program is to provide support to grad students through listening, informal mentoring and coaching. The mentors are trained by the Counseling Center so they can provide one-on-one gatekeeping and re-direct to the right person for specific issues. They also facilitate student-advisor conflicts and schedule regular de-stress events,
- b. There were concerns regarding the training by the counseling center. Currently, the training is 12 hours for becoming a mentor. They were also concerns regarding the oversight control on the committee. Currently, the program works with department staff and faculty, the Counseling Center, the OGPE, and more to oversee the program.
- c. The addition of a final report date for the ad hoc committee was one of the revision suggested to the resolution by one of the senators.
- C. Community Engagement Ad Hoc Committee – Following revisions were proposed:
 - a. Line 5: A typo was corrected.
 - b. Line 15: Instead of “David Maisson believes”, it will be “GSG Senate believes” as the resolution reflects the opinions of the GSG and not an individual person.
- D. One of the senators proposed the concerns for undocumented people in the US in relation to the recent DACA events and talked about the possibilities to protect undocumented students. Parliamentarian Sam suggested to approach governance committee to formulate the resolution and also Stijn will be talking about this issue in the diversity committee. Feel free to email to Sam and Stijn.
- E. There will opening graduate assistantship for Athletics and Student Life Assessment. Please find the attached flyer in the email for more information.

V. Senate Floor

Parliamentarian Sam opened the Senate Floor at 7:31 p.m.

- A. Old Business
 - There was no old business.
- B. New Business
 - SR-1718-01
 - The Senate unanimously approved to accept the revision to change the language.
 - The Senate unanimously approved to accept the revised resolution.
 - SR-1718-02
 - The Senate unanimously approved to accept the revision to change the language.
 - The Senate unanimously approved to accept the revised resolution.
 - Michael Doss was appointed as Deputy Parliamentarian.
 - No legislation from the floor.

Senate Floor closed at 7:35pm.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- For all upcoming committee meeting times and locations and GSG events, please see <http://sites.udel.edu/gsg/>.
- The Graduate Student Night at the Theatre will be on October 06, 2017 at 7.30 PM with a performance of “The Mountaintop” by UD’s Resident Ensemble Players (REP). Discount ticket price for graduate students will be \$12. There will be a

talkback with the actors following the performance and a reception. Further details for the event will be announced soon.

- HOLA's We Stand with DACA Rally! will be Monday, September 18th from 3-5 pm on the South Green. The purpose of the rally is to condemn the Trump Administration for ending the DACA program, and to express support and solidarity for DACAmented and Undocumented students at the University of Delaware.
- The Fiesta Latina will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at the Trabant Student Center inside the Multipurpose Rooms from 8:30 pm to 1:30 am.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiral Master
Graduate Student Government Secretary