

# UD Graduate Student Government

## October Public Meeting Minutes

October 1st, 2019 | Memorial Hall Room 127 | 7:00-9:00pm

- I. Call to Order & Welcome President Sunder
- II. Invited Speaker
  - A. Library Representative
    - 1. All departments at the University have subject-specific library liaisons
      - a) You can find this information on the University Library website
      - b) Please get in touch if you need a contact in the library or have any materials that you'd like the university to obtain
    - 2. The library offers about 30 workshops every semester!
      - a) These cover all kinds of topics: publishing, software, etc.
      - b) Workshops are listed on the homepage under the "Events & Workshops" tab
    - 3. New grad student space on the third floor
      - a) Eight study rooms exclusively for graduate students
    - 4. Library newsletter! Sign up on the library website
    - 5. If you need any help at all, contact the reference desk
  - B. Middle States Reaccreditation Self-Study
    - 1. Next year, we will be reaccredited by the Middle States Reaccreditation Committee
    - 2. In advance of that, the Middle States Self-Study is asking for feedback about graduate student life
    - 3. Discussion:
      - a) Availability of assistantships
      - b) 12 month funding for all students
      - c) Economic anxiety was expressed
- III. Committee Reports
  - A. Internal Affairs Committees Vice President Hein
    - 1. Communications
      - a) Working on updating GSG website, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram
      - b) Chair – Erin Hein
    - 2. Events
      - a) Forum and Gala set for Star Campus
      - b) Chair – Priyanka Mondal

- 3. Social
  - a) For the fall – Night at the Theater, Bonfire at Milburn Orchards
- 4. Operations
  - a) Have begun going through submissions for funding from May 2019 onwards
- B. Student Affairs Committees President Sunder
  - 1. Diversity
    - a) Considering a series of townhalls to hear from graduate students
    - b) Movie night
    - c) Chairs – Ariana Cerreta and Nefetaria Yates
  - 2. Student Life
    - a) Taking up childcare and Perkins and Trabant summer hours
  - 3. Sustainability
    - a) There will be a poster at Coast Day
    - b) Committee has a Lewes Liaison
    - c) Chairs – Liz Davis and Will Vincett
  - 4. Mental Health
    - a) Continuing to work on EmPOWER program rollout with COE
    - b) Chair – Christina Warden
- C. Senate Committees President Sunder
  - 1. Governance
    - a) Nothing to report
  - 2. Elections
    - a) Nothing to report
- D. External Committees President Sunder
  - 1. Updates
    - a) Grad College Update by Nicole Rucker
      - (1) New Dean of Professional Development started today and is available for questions about professional development
      - (2) Selection process for Dean of Student Life will begin next year (January)
      - (3) Further topics discussed at the first grad council meeting: mental health, transportation, funding, housing, etc.
- IV. Organization Delegates Reports President Sunder
- V. Open Floor President Sunder
  - A. Approval of September Minutes
    - 1. No comments
  - B. Samantha Bingaman for Parliamentarian

1. First year Masters student in Marine Policy
  2. Four years of undergrad experience on the equivalent body at the University of Maryland
  3. Plans to educate the body on Robert's Rules of Order
  4. Plans to write and share our rules of order
- C. SR-1819-05 "...in Favor of Additional Water Bottle Refill Stations on Campus"
1. Resolution presented last May, but not voted on
  2. Asks the University to increase the number of water bottle filling stations on campus
  3. Not calling for a specific number, just an increase in the number of stations
  4. Facilities was unable to provide a list of existing water fountains on campus or a schedule for how often the fountains were updated
- D. SR-1819-06 "...in Favor of a UD Office of Sustainability"
1. Resolution presented last May, but not voted on
  2. Asks the university to follow through on existing plans to establish an office of sustainability
  3. This office would take over and improve on the responsibilities of, for example, the GSG Sustainability Committee
- E. SR-1920-01 "...Approving the Creation of an *Ad Hoc* Operations Committee"
1. This committee would, for now, oversee the disbursement of funds to GSOs
- F. SR-1920-02 "...Approving the Creation of a Standing Mental Health Committee"
1. This legislation details the history of the Mental Health committee and recommends the creation of a permanent committee
  2. The question of how resolutions were implemented was raised
    - a) Resolutions are brought to the administration from the graduate student government
    - b) Some concern was expressed over whether or not resolutions have any real meaning

VI. Senate Floor

Deputy Parliamentarian Doherty

A. Old Business

1. Approval of September Minutes
  - a) Resolution passed
2. SR-1819-05
  - a) Motion to amend the resolution made and seconded
    - (1) Adding the clause: "WHEREAS water bottle refill stations would include a filter and improve student health; and"

- b) Motion to amend the resolution made and seconded
  - (1) Adding the language: “or existing refill stations may not be accessible to the general student body”

- c) Resolution, as amended, passed

- 3. SR-1819-06

- a) Resolution passed

B. New Business

- 1. Sam Bingaman for Parliamentarian

- a) Sam Bingaman elected unanimously

- 2. SR-1920-01

- a) Resolution passed

- 3. SR-1920-02

- a) Resolution passed

VII. Announcements

President Sunder

- A. Next month’s meeting will be held on Nov. 5th at 7pm
- B. Still seeking senators to serve on the Operations Committee
- C. Still seeking senators interested in running for Vice President of Student Affairs
- D. Seeking announcements from the committees for the website
- E. Counselling Center wants to make us aware of available mental health resources, flyer will be available on the google drive and shared

VIII. Adjournment