

UD Graduate Student Government
September Committee Reports
October 12, 2017 | 103 Gore Hall | 6:00 pm

III.A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee – TBD

- No updates at this time.

Events Committee – TBD

- No updates at this time

Social Committee – TBD

- No updates at this time.

III.B. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Diversity Committee Zachary Bailey (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 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?
- Diversity workshops series
 - Invite faculty and/or students to work around issues of diversity
 - Invite immigrants to a workshop to tell their story (e.g. Delaware Hispanic Community)
 - Working around bias, LGBTQ+ Ally training
 - Specifically to educate people on immigration/DACA: Academic lectures by different professors in different departments where their expertise is applied to immigration. Stijn will make a Google Sheet and ask committee members to add suggestions of professors, e.g.:
 - History
 - Political Science
 - Economy
 - Philosophy
 - English (language)
 - Anthropology
 - Science
 - Sociology
 - Criminology
 - Can we obtain GSG funding for basic refreshments?
 - We can contact professors of certain classes and ask them to give students extra credit if they attend the lectures
- Diversity Committee Events:
 - The Diversity Committee has organized a yearly event in the past few year
 - Maybe this year we can organize a sort of auction for a charitable cause
 - Collect art and photo projects around diversity made by students
 - Informal diversity-related events:
 - Bar night
 - Happy Hour
- Create a list of Diversity-related contacts that we can contact for future events and work together with. Stijn will make a Google Sheet and share with the committee.

- Zachary Bailey was elected chair.

Student Life Committee – Montessa Brooks (brooksm@udel.edu)

- Brainstorm session on topics to discuss this year:
 - Speakeasy
 - “Building Bridges”
 - Public relations for grad students (portfolio/CV, community engagement, publicize research)
 - Opportunities for grad students (funding, research, career connections)
 - Work together with IGF
 - Fee (parking fees, deadlines)
- 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/advertize 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
- Speakeasy
 - After last year’s resolution, there is still no new Speakeasy.
 - Stijn will send email to Dr. Martin to ask about any developments.
 - If serving alcohol is a problem, we prefer a place without alcohol to no place at all.
- Fees for Graduate Students
 - Deadline is too early
 - Parking fees are too high
 - Will ask Anna Nuzzolese for additional feedback
- Montessa Brooks was elected chair

Sustainability Committee – 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)
- Fairfield Park cleanups and sign that recognizes GSG
- Reusable water bottles in Gym
 - The idea is to create a program at the Gym where students can borrow a reusable water bottle in exchange for their ID card (similar to borrowing towels).
 - Impromptu meeting of Michelle Bennett with Kevin Rose (Facilities Contact of the Gym, kmrose@udel.edu): Where are we going to put the water bottle cleaning machine?
 - Curt will email Michelle Bennett
- OISS Coffee Hour sponsoring
 - The GSG SC will host one of the OISS Coffee Hours on Friday afternoons to promote and educate on recycling
 - Date: Friday October 20th
 - Michelle Bennett (Sustainability Manager) will bring collateral (magnets, posters), but we need confirmation from her. She can also provide some of her interns who are trained on recycling.
 - We'll have to think about some games to host during the event.
 - Curt will email Michelle to ask for necessary information.
 - We need to sign a contract with OISS once we have all information.
- Recycling tags on bins of grad students
 - We would like to distribute stickers to grad students with information on recycling in Delaware, so they can put it on the bins in their office and classrooms
 - Stijn will email Michelle Bennett to ask if she can provide these stickers.
- Sustainable food during GSG meetings
 - Make an online guide that can be used in the future to select sustainable food options. Stijn will make Google Doc that will be shared with the Sustainability Committee.
 - Sustainable Food Coordinator to be in charge of ordering and picking up food for future general meetings. Devan has volunteered. Would be nice to have an additional person to help her out.
 - We should consider providing sustainable food for every meeting (instead of just half).
- Organize another cleanup this fall at Fairfield Park
 - Sometime in November
 - Make it another potluck
 - Ask Social/Communications Committee to help with this
- Some constituents in Biomedical Engineering (brought forward by Danielle Valcourt) have expressed interest in getting another bike rack in front of [5 Innovation Way](#) (the BME location at the DE tech park). How can we make that happen?
 - We should first contact Facilities: Stijn will ask Michelle Bennett about it.
- We will elect a Chair next meeting.

Mental Health Committee – 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.
- How can we implement this on a university-wide level?
 - Generally like longer time commitments for mentors, but infeasible for Master students (two year program)
 - Hierarchical structure with subsections in charge of specific programs (e.g. different Colleges or Masters/PhD)
 - Department-specific vs university-wide depending on the service (1-on-1 versus mentoring first years). Consider what resources departments already have.
 - Multiple different levels of EmPOWER mentors (some mentors are trained for 1-on-1 meetings while others can just organize events or be advocates)
- How to engage departments with no mentors:
 - Allow them to have 1-on-1 peer meetings
 - Have grad students of a specific college be responsible for all departments within
 - Staff or Faculty liaisons
- Need database with information and resources that other departments can use
 - Events
 - Documents
- Timeline:

October 2017	Background
November 2017	Hierarchical Structure
December 2017	Code of Ethics
January 2018	Code of Conduct
February 2018	Draft Report
March 2018	
April 2018	Report Ready
May 2018	Report to GSG

- Background research:
 - Resources within UD (create a Google Sheet): Mike, Hillary
 - Research on mental health issues in grad school: Tessa

- Information and documents from ChemE program: Stijn
- Similar mental health programs in other schools: Dani, Eric
- We will elect a Chair next meeting.

Community Engagement Committee: Bridget Killian (bkillian@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 engagement graduate program by the end of academic year
 - Menu style: optional parts of the major that people can choose from
 - Make some classes (some existing and some new) that can be "community engagement classes," similar to the writing intensive classes
 - Set goals for the program for the next year, 5 years, 10 years, etc.
 - Community organizations:
 - Make a central database: so that organizations can find graduate students and resources within the University and visa versa.
 - CTAL, CEI, CIRTL
 - Make the database user friendly, via search bars, and tags that information is labeled with
 - Funding:
 - We could get funding from the University
 - Dr. Ardis can help us to find money
 - Apply for grant money
 - Ways to market the program (to the students and to the community):
 - The feel good component of volunteering (for the community members)
 - The appeal of being able to network (for both)
 - The appeal of working with an organization and people within it that you admire and want to work with (for both)
- Timeline:

Month	Administrative Infrastructure	Program Design	Other
October 2017	Outreach strategy/team	Background	
November 2017			Townhall / interest meeting

December 2017	Contact networks	Outline structure	
January 2018	Code of Conduct		
February 2018	List of networks, architecture database	Draft report	Prison Arts Exhibit
March 2018			Townhall
April 2018	Feasibility study database	Report ready	Earth time!
May 2018		Report to GSG	Research panel

- Bridget Killian was elected chair.

III.C. SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- Meeting called to order at 5:30
- Samantha Nystrom, Michael Doss, and Victoria Sturgeon were in attendance.
- Nystrom raised a concern over Article V in the By-laws, specifically wondering if more information was necessary in 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.

III.D. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Senate – Stijn Kosharis (kosharis@udel.edu) and David Maisson (dmaisson@udel.edu)

- Council of Graduate Schools visited and issued 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.

Graduate Studies Committee – Hiral Master (hiral@udel.edu) & Stijn Koshari (kosharis@udel.edu)

- No updates at this time.

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

- No updates at this time.

Faculty Senate Coordinating Committee on Education – Marcia Shirilla (marcia@udel.edu)

- No updates at this time.