November Meeting Agenda

I. Call to order & welcome
II. Invited speakers
   A. Civic Engagement Initiative and City of Newark Partnership - Leann Moore
III. Committee reports
   A. Internal Affairs
      1. Communications
      2. Events
      3. Social
   B. Student Affairs
      1. Sustainability
      2. Mental Health
      3. Student Life
      4. Diversity
      5. Community Engagement
   C. Senate committees
      1. Governance
      2. Membership
   D. External Committees
      1. Grad College
      2. Faculty Senate
IV. Organizational Delegates
V. Open Floor
   A. Election of New GSG Secretary
      1. Candidate Speeches & Questions
      2. Distribution of Ballots
      3. Collection and Counting of Ballots
VI. Senate Floor
   A. Old business
      1. Approval of October Minutes
   B. New business
VII. Announcements
   A. Announcement of New GSG Secretary
   B. Announcements from the floor
VIII. Adjournment
Jenna Harris

After moving to Delaware from Massachusetts, I am now in my third year of the Materials Science and Engineering program, where I work in a biomedical engineering group creating cell membrane-wrapped nanoparticles that deliver RNA to stem cells. In my free time, I enjoy painting and baking, and baked over 250 cupcakes and a cake for a wedding this summer!

Currently, I am serving as President of the Materials Research Society (MRS) University chapter. If elected Secretary, I feel confident that I will be able to balance the responsibilities of both positions and would plan to continue serving in GSG next year, whether it be as a senator or an officer. After attending the last GSG public meeting to observe the proceedings, I am confident that I would be able to keep up with the pace of the meetings for notetaking. If elected, I will ensure communication with the rest of the Senate by attending meetings and responding promptly to correspondence. I believe I have the skills to write emails that are engaging to students and will encourage them to care about and attend the events focused upon. While GSG serves many essential functions within the University, I most appreciate the opportunities they provide for graduate students to connect and spend time outside of lab and hope that I have the chance to be part of this.

If you have any questions and are not able to attend the meeting to ask them, please reach out to me at harrisj@udel.edu!

Christine Hoh

My name is Christine Hoh and I am a second year Master’s student in the Public Administration program. I am running for Secretary because GSG has been an organization that has enhanced my experience as a graduate student at UD. Because of GSG, I have been able to meet people outside of my department and feel more connected to a community other than my own program, which I have enjoyed. I currently serve in a leadership role as the representative for the MPA program under the Student Association of Policy and Administration. This upcoming spring, I will also be working in Legislative Hall and one of my duties there will be taking minutes for different committee meetings, so my experience there will lend itself well to this position. It is my hope, if elected to this position, that I can contribute to and serve an organization that I feel is a big part of the graduate community here at the university.
Ana Kelbakiani

I am Ana Kelbakiani, a first year MBA student at UD. I come from Georgia, the country. I have a vast experience of managing network members, planning and executing events, thus I think my candidacy could be interesting for The Graduate Student Government. I have been an Executive Manager of Digital Communication Network (DigiComNet) that represents a non-profit organization. It offers different programs or events for its current and prosper members. Most of these events, camps or hackathons, which enables DCN members to develop their professional skills and network with peers, are for free. DigiComNet is mostly focused on Central and Easter Europe, also Central Asia. As an EM, my responsibility was not only to enhance network of members, but also to draft and control budget, plan, organize, promote, communicate internally and externally, and execute international and local projects. I was helping board members to complete applications for fundraising too. During almost 2 years that I have spent at DigiComNet, I have met many international representatives of world leading organizations (CNN, Facebook, Google, etc.) and I have always enjoyed networking with these people, learning more about their cultures and experiences. I think that my event planning and networking skills along with my working experience would benefit GSG to continue operating successfully in order to support campus-wide activities that facilitate the graduate student networking, professionalism and collegiality. Looking forward to further discussing opportunity of my involvement in GSG.

Gunner Taylor

My name is Gunner Taylor. I am a second-year graduate student in the English Department. Academically, I am interested in Contemporary American Literature, more specifically, representations of history in fiction. I received a bachelor’s degree in English Literature and History at Southwestern University in 2016. After graduating from Southwestern, I took a year off from my studies and worked full time as a front desk clerk at a motel and as a bartender, putting my English degree to good use.

Last semester was a struggle for me. I was overwhelmed by juggling my personal life, my coursework, and my work as a teaching assistant and a tutor. I joined a support group for graduate students sponsored by Counselling Services. What I learned there was that I was not alone. As graduate students, we are in a unique position, we are students first, but we also work as teaching assistants, lab technicians, and instructors. Our unique position within the university means that we need representatives that will advocate passionately for our needs. In the Spring of 2018, I had the honor of being elected to serve as the representative for the English Department and in September I was honored again to be chosen as the Deputy Parliamentarian and the Chair of the Student Life Committee. Serving in these positions, I am learning how to best advocate for the graduate student body at the University of Delaware. I hope that you will vote for me to continue that work as Secretary.