UD Graduate Student Senate
April Public Meeting
May 10, 2012 | 5:30 pm, 116 Gore Hall

I. Call to Order & Welcome .......................................................................................... President Bonistall

II. Guest Speaker.......................................................................................................... Gary Stokes, Director of Risk Management

III. Internal Affairs Committee Reports ...................................................................... Vice President Ralston

A. Communications Committee ................................................................................. Alicia Dahl

- Continuing to update content on the GSS website
- Looking into developing a newer & more functional website for the GSG to be implemented over the summer which will provide easier navigation, accessibility to photos of GSG events, and improved visuals and a cleaner overall look.
- Contact Denise Mayes at dmayes@udel.edu if you would like photographs taken at your end of the year meetings/events/etc.
- If you would like your committee to have a page on the website to highlight upcoming and/or past events or initiatives, or would like any flyers made to promote events, please send all details to Alicia Dahl at dahl@udel.edu.

B. Events Committee.................................................................................................. Brittany Scott & Jeralynn Miller

- The Graduate Forum took place last Friday, May 4 and was a success! The presentations were very impressive, and everyone really enjoyed the keynote speaker (Roger Craig) and our raffle prizes.
- The committee would like to thank:
  - Everyone who volunteered (as moderators and staff): your support is greatly appreciated!
  - Everyone who presented.
  - Emily Bonistall, Kevin Ralston, and the Office of Graduate and Professional Education.
  - Very special thanks to Dr. Mary Martin and Dr. Charles Riordan for all their help and continued support.

C. Organization Committee ...................................................................................... President Bonistall

- President Bonistall has begun to go through the new constitution and bylaws to create a master list of what needs to be accomplished over the summer in order to ensure our practices follow in line (ie. Name changing, elections, organizational delegates, etc).
- President Bonistall and Parliamentarian-elect Thomson will be training over the summer to ensure a smooth transition to the new structure.

D. Social Committee .................................................................................................. Neda Moinolmolki

- We will not be having a pub crawl this year. Stay tuned for information about summer and fall socials (see Laura’s update in “new business”!)
- Tonight: Happy Hour at Kildare’s from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

IV. Student Affairs Committee Reports ..................................................................... Vice President Chris Richard

A. Diversity Committee .............................................................................................. Kristen Hefner & Andre Ifill

- Several university/graduate student group representatives attended the Diversity Committee meeting for purposes of collaboration and creating/sustaining partnerships across the university. Attendees included representatives from the Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning, the Assistant Director of the Office of Graduate & Professional Education, the Socratic Club, and the Black Graduate Student Association.
- The committee members and university/graduate student group representatives brainstormed on how we can collaborate to enhance diversity initiatives at UD. Various ideas were discussed and will be pursued:
  - Collaboration with the Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning’s TA Conference. The Grad Office will meet with the CTAL to see what topics associated with teaching and learning could be enhanced by incorporating diverse perspectives.
  - The Office of Graduate & Professional Education has made a serious commitment to diversity across campus. A graduate assistant for the Grad Office for 2012-2013 will be assigned to be a part of the Diversity Committee, as well as other diversity initiatives across campus. So, the Diversity Committee will have a consistent representative on the committee from the Grad Office.
  - CTAL assistance with Diversity Luncheon series in the fall.
  - Ensuring that graduate students are aware of the various resources available to them across campus.
The Grad Office is willing to co-sponsor a Graduate Student Welcome Reception before classes start in the fall. Last September, the Grad Office sponsored a meet-and-greet at Grotto’s Pizza to provide a place for graduate students to meet one another. The proposed co-sponsored event will be similar to this.

The Diversity Committee also seeks to have a greater presence at the Graduate Student Convocation that is held prior to Fall semester.

The Socratic Club is interested in having consistent representation on the Diversity Committee.

Diversity committee is working towards making better use of communication outlets (Facebook, GSG/committee webpage, etc).

• All attendees (committee members and representatives) expressed a commitment to diversity issues across campus.

B. Student Life Committee

Recreation Services Update:

• In a meeting with Dr. Riordan, we’ve been updated on the status of the Rec Fee proposal. As a result of meetings with Pres. Harker and Provost Apple on the issue, the proposal has been modified and will be presented to the Board of Trustees this semester. They took into account our counter proposal of an opt out fee for all students, and have made these decisions/modifications:
  ▪ No opt in/out for full-time students - universal $50 per semester, summer and winter included, (original proposal)
  ▪ Opt in for part-time students - $25 per semester, (current policy, lower cost)
  ▪ Implementation - Fall 2013, (1 year delay to coincide with opening of renovation)

• Of course this is not all that we wanted, but given their concerns on budget revenues, they were able to make some amendments before taking it to the Board of Trustees. More importantly though is that this issue began with a direct dialog between administrators and graduate students, and was taken all the way to the President of the university. It is also a successful model for how to address issues of this nature in the future when opening a dialog between students and administration. This is a great accomplishment on the part of the GSS, and I’d like to thank everyone for their input and support on the issue.

• Bus services

C. Sustainability Committee

Dumpster Detour

• Ads are in for The Review
• T-shirts are ordered
• All volunteer slots filled, but if you would like to double up and keep a friend company feel free (you just won’t get lunch or a T-shirt).
• The next meeting of the subcommittee will be May 14 at 3:00 pm in Trabant 205.

Shoe Collection: 23 pairs of athletic shoes were collected and sent off to PPPFA.
• Brainstorming session for projects for next year
  ▪ Visiting buses idling for long periods of time
  ▪ More spaces are needed for bicycles

V. External Committee Reports

A. Newark City Council

Guy Kramer

B. Faculty Senate

Kevin Pons & Marcos Portnoi

C. Diversity and Equity Commission

President Bonistall

• James Jones, Center for Study of Diversity & Margaret Andersen, PDI spoke on their respective diversity initiatives → Led to a memo from the Diversity and Equity Committee regarding the location for the Center for the Study of Diversity.

• OEI update on diversity initiatives: udel.edu/stophate

VI. Old Business

A. Approval of the Minutes from April 12, 2012

VII. New Business

A. Summer social committee

Laura Vanderhoef

B. 2011-2012 Recognition & Awards

Executive Officers

C. Swearing-in of new officers

President Bonistall

VIII. Public Comments & Concerns/Open Floor

IX. Adjournment