UD Graduate Student Government
January Public Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2016 | 103 Gore Hall | 6:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 6:10pm.

II. GUEST SPEAKER – DAVID MAISSON (ATLAS)

- ATLAS: Association of Tomorrow’s Leaders in and Advocates for Science
- ATLAS responds to the disconnect between the academy and academic work and public understanding of them.
- Mr. Maisson identified three “pillars” or goals for ATLAS: 1) community engagement (ATLAS intends to open lines of communication between academics and the surrounding community); 2) communicating and sharing information about the sciences more generally; increased advocacy (creating actionable policies that influence the local, national, and international political communities)
- Mr. Maisson welcomes feedback from the Graduate Student community.
- Discussion followed Mr. Maisson’s presentation.

III. A. INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee – Cara Tortorice (carat@udel.edu)
  - Did not meet, no updates at this time.

Events Committee – Caitlin Hutchinson (chutch@udel.edu)
  - Did not meet, no updates at this time.

Social Committee – Ty Nie (htnie@udel.edu)
  - The recent end-of-semester graduate student ice-skating event was a great success; there were 80 participants. A second one is planned for the future.
  - Unfortunately, the viewing of The Ph.D. Movie was postponed due to low interest.
  - Vice President Gao encouraged those interested in the Vice-President for Internal Affairs position to contact him.
II.B. **STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Diversity Committee – Justin Coger ([coger@udel.edu](mailto:coger@udel.edu)) & Nathan Thayer ([nthayer@udel.edu](mailto:nthayer@udel.edu))
- The Diversity committee is in need of graduate students to host/volunteer at the upcoming White Elephant event.

Student Life Committee – Eddie Marks ([edmarks@udel.edu](mailto:edmarks@udel.edu))
- The Student Life committee discussed graduate student vacation time; the Faculty Senate has formed a special committee to address this issue, Senator Edward Marks (Medical Sciences) is serving on the committee.
- Graduate students will again be able to purchase dental insurance on semester-by-semester basis this year.

Sustainability Committee – Curt Davis ([cjdavis@udel.edu](mailto:cjdavis@udel.edu))
- The Sustainability committee plans on providing vegan food during the February general GSG meeting.
- Recently, it presented the GSG battery recycling program resolution (SR-1617-01) to the department of Environmental Health and Safety.
- Sustainability (and the GSG) is also participating in the Newark Adopt-A-Park program, sponsoring Fairfield Park.

II.C. **SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Governance Committee – Matthew Rinkevich ([mrink@udel.edu](mailto:mrink@udel.edu))
- No updates at this time.

Elections Committee – Carrie Glenn ([carriele@udel.edu](mailto:carriele@udel.edu))
- Officer Election Rules will be discussed during Open Floor

II.D. **EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Faculty Senate – Stijn Koscharis ([koscharis@udel.edu](mailto:koscharis@udel.edu)) & Richard Bowers ([rpowers@udel.edu](mailto:rpowers@udel.edu))
- No updates at this time.

II.E. **ORGANIZATIONAL DELEGATE REPORTS**

- Member-at-Large Adam Bell (MBA) announced that MBASA is hosting a Toastmasters International event focused on professional development and communication and leadership. The demo meeting will be on 10 February 2017 from 5:30-7:00 p.m, Lerner Hall 125,
registration is necessary. Please contact Mr. Bell at adambell@udel.edu or Alex Brooks at ambrooks@udel.edu to RSVP or with questions. Please see attached flyer.

- Additionally, MBASA is hosting a business conference entitled “Launching Tomorrow’s Business Leaders” on 17 February 2017 from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Contact Mr. Bell via email before 10 February 2017. Please see attached flyer.

III. OPEN FLOOR
A. The GSG briefly discussed the Officer Elections Rules to be voted on during Senate Floor.
B. Senator Samantha Nyström (English) made the GSG aware of the graduate-student Environmental Humanities reading group and inquired about ways it might increase its visibility, particularly at the Graduate Student Forum. A Forum panel was proposed, and discussion will continue. Those interested in the reading group should contact Senator Nyström (snystrom@udel.edu).
C. Senator Mike Donovan (Linguistics & Cognitive Science) raised the issue of graduate student unionization, which he has been discussing with his constituents. A discussion ensued, and there is a plan for further investigation, spearheaded by Senator Donovan.

IV. SENATE FLOOR
Parliamentarian Rinkevich opened the Senate Floor at 7:01 p.m.
A. Old Business
   • It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from December 8th, 2016. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved.
B. New Business
   • Officer Election Rules
     ○ The Senate unanimously approved the Officer Election Rules.
   • No legislation from the floor.

Senate Floor closed at 7:02pm.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS
• For all upcoming committee meeting times and locations and GSG events, please see http://sites.udel.edu/gsg/
• Announcements from the floor

VI. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Kyra H. Kim
Graduate Student Government Secretary