UD Graduate Student Government
February 2020 Public Meeting
February 9, 2020 | Remotely via Zoom | 7:00-9:00pm
https://udel.zoom.us/j/96175889502

1. Call to Order and Welcome (7:00pm)
    a. Explanation of speaking order
    b. Explanation of shared screen

2. Committee Reports
    a. Internal Affairs Committees
        i. Communications
            1. Competition for Logo Design
                a. Cash prize
                b. Unsure distribution process
                c. Sam Bingaman: explanation of logo, further explanation of process
            2. Restructuring website/uploading info about forum
            3. Resources Tab
            4. Social media tab for posting
            5. Event submission form
            6. GSG LinkedIn
        ii. Events
            1. Professional Development Week
            2. CFPs (this Friday via mass email)
            3. Forum: Keynote Speaker and Panelists (e.g., Dr. Rossi)
            4. UD GSG Forum page contains all important dates for this
            5. Meeting today at 4pm with other interested organizations on campus
            6. Still requires finalization
        iii. Operations
            1. All budget requests covered through Friday
            2. Want to adopt Google Forms for any graduate organization, finalizing with Eric how this will look.
            3. Working to innovate how graduate organizations get base budget.
            4. (Look out for this new interface – the transition is happening, and Organizations wants it to be smooth.)
            5. Accepting supplemental requests in the future meeting w/ Hutchinson
        iv. Social
            1. Virtual “Among Us” went well
            2. Looking for monthly schedule for Among Us
            3. Virtual Escape Room

        4. Hackathon
        5. Looking for new members to reach members in different colleges
b. Student Affairs Committees
    i. Diversity
        1. Second Town Hall (from July 2020) – the floor was taken by the graduate college.
        2. Next Town Hall scheduled for the first week of March.
    ii. Mental Health
        1. Grad students in minority communities and interaction with various offices
        2. Tried to track feelings of grad students at mid and late semester
        3. Counseling center – waiting for further data
        4. Grad Student Life – Advisor and Student relationships, looking out for negative encounters with any of the offices on campus with the idea of helping those interactions turn out better
        5. 2040 Event – March 11, 6pm via Zoom.
    iii. Sustainability
        1. Two meetings in January to work on the sustainability report
        2. Hoping to publish around April – July
        3. Pieces of legislation are being drafted, e.g., bike sharing, sustainability board, single-use plastic, etc.
            a. At least three pieces of
        4. Funding sought for restoration of Native Delaware Plants (for campus), more water bottle refill stations, and possibly restoration of the Solar House.
            a. Four additional pieces of legislation
        5. Update website
        6. Attending the 2040 Screening
    iv. Student Life
        1. Transportation – able to convince them to change the routes of the busses.
        2. Looking for feedback from anyone who used the shuttles during the winter
        3. Transportation will visit the March monthly meeting
        4. Identifying the needs and concerns of graduate student (parents?)
c. Senate Committees
    i. Elections
        1. Executive Board Position Announcements
            a. Feb 23 meeting
            b. Incumbents
                i. Akshay: Out
                ii. Lauren: Out
                iii. Samantha: Out
                iv. Blake: Out

v. Bill: President
vi. Kimmie: Out (Questionable for own position)
2. Get Involved tab on website
ii. Governance
1. SOPs
2. Voting Proceedures
d. External Committees
i. Graduate College Council
ii. DENIN Annual Research Symposium
iii. Hutchinson: Involvement Fair
iv. Daniels: Needs survey assistance for details about graduate experience
v. Faculty Senate:
1. One-third of classes will be in-person.
2. 3800 students in dorms
3. Experiencing an uptick in applications
4. “Normal” grading returns
5. Free to use textbooks in the five-year plan?
6. Concerns addressed about possible food insecurity

3. Organizational Delegates Reports Organizational Delegates

4. Open Floor President Bingaman
a. Old Business
i. Discussion of December Minutes
b. New Business
i. Expectations of Senators
1. Committee attendance; notification of absence
2. Stressed importance of information dissemination
ii. Call for Deputy Parliamentarian
1. No response
iii. SR-2021-02: “...Instating Election Rules for 2021”
iv. Introduction of Standard Operating Procedures
1. William Vincett: “Parliamentarian during Senate Floor” Section 6.1, Senate members Senators, President allowed to remove members questions about constitutionality. Clarification on “conflict of interest.”
v. Discussion regarding Graduate Student Fee Boycott
1. Akshay: Breakdown on basic information of fees.
2. Will Vincett: we can and do use these facilities, so pushes back
3. Akshay: Some international and home students are not living near campus at all

4. Jared Sharpe: Historic data on previous fee increases and when those were.
5. Akshay: (Fees consistent at $396, increased 15% for this academic year)
6. Jake Skigen: Fees are too high; it would be acceptable to pay for these fees if they are optional. Can fees be made optional for those who plan to use it. It would make more sense for undergrads more likely to use it to pay.
7. Thomas Benson: The library and gym were closed in Spring and are now operating at reduced capacity and hours. Comparable institutions and eye/dental care?
8. Ioannis V. Chremos: the fee is way too high. Many of his constituents do not use the services but particularly now during the pandemic. We should exercise option to stay home.
9. Bryant Cordova: are comparable institutions paying hikes in fees? Or will they disperse over time?
10. Caroline Williams: Can we tie this conversation to the national conversation on $15/hour.
11. Roxanne Evande: Fees rising and stipends remaining the same. Are we pacing cost of living and the challenges of the pandemic?
12. Kris Cnossen: Wintertur University of Delaware campus. They don't have access to UD Campus.
13. Will Thomspson: None of his constituents agree that the fees are fair. Establishing and increasing financial aid, decreases in fees by percentage and confusing wording of the boycott. What retaliatory action of the university are we looking at?
14. Sam Bingaman: We would have to consider this.
15. Deborah Drain: Petition might be confidential, but won't be anonymous because they can tell who didn't pay. A premature petition. We require collective bargaining.
16. Kimmie: approaching this might not be just not paying the fees. An important discussion: pay is low, we are taxed, we're barred from other jobs.
17. Sam: Grad student taskforce forming to address fees and pay.
18. Vodhika Shashikant Damani: Most grad students live off campus. Most international students do not have transportation. There is hardly time for those students to use these services.
19. Ioannis: Inconsistency between being paid for 20 hours a week vs the expectation that more work will be required. Two conclusions: (1) if the university recognizes that we work more than 20 hours, then we are entitled to many more benefits.
20. Jake Skigen: employees or students? Break down of tax filings.
21. Annette Pic: Disagrees with Jake's findings. Boycotting disables transcripts, causes holds, and prevents graduation.

22. Sam: We must figure out what we want to do
    a. Do we want to take some of the points from the boycott movement and present them on our own terms?
        i. Ask for a discount on the fees.
        ii. Rise in fees for reduced hours and reduced access
23. Macarena Ramos: The boycott expresses discontent. The fees have gone up year over year, whether its healthcare or not.
24. Roxanne Evande: Bigger picture than the fees – the parking is not there currently.
25. Jake Skigen: what should GSG do apropos the proposition? Maybe not endorse the boycott because we can't prevent retaliation, but we can come out and support its sentiment.
26. Sam Bingaman: We do not support a boycott, but we support a reduction of fees 10%-15%. Refund waiver for non-use. Re-evaluating the minimum stipend freeze.
27. Ioannis: transparency.
28. Thomas Benson: questions of veto power. Yes/no answers.
29. Jake: itemized transparency.
30. Sam: movement to statement.
31. Felicia Henry: Can we have time to re-consider
32. Priyanka: itemize the vote.
33. Katarina: Add language about the importance of graduate students to the university.

5. Senate Floor — Parliamentarian Wodzanowskin motions
    a. Old Business
        i. Approval of December Minutes (W. Vincett first & Bryant Cordova seconded)
    b. New Business
        i. Vote on how to proceed with Graduate Student Fee Boycott
            1. Line 1: 17-0-0 (Veto)
            2. Line 2: 20-0-1 (Discount)
            3. Line 3: Passes (Nonuse option)
            4. Line 4: 94-6% (Minimum stipend)
            5. Line 5: 93%-3%-3% (Hold a town hall)
            6. Line 6a: Extenuating circumstances 83-3-13%
            7. Line 6b: entire line on freezes – Passes
        ~~ii. Vote on Deputy Parliamentarian~~
        iii. SR-2021: "...Amending Senator and Executive Election Timelines"
            1. Unanimous consent
    c. Motion to close William Vincett & Thomas Benson
6. Announcements — President Bingaman
    a. Upcoming events

        i. Third Diversity Town Hall, March 29, 3:30-5p
        ii. Interest Session with GSG Execs - Feb 23 @ 7p
        iii. Senator Elections: March 9-16; Executive Board Elections: March 16-23
            1. Special Elections Meeting: March 16
        iv. New Student Involvement Fair, Feb 24, 12p-2p
            1. NEED VOLUNTEERS
    b. BIPOC Student Therapy Group Therapy from CCSD
    c. bit.ly/UDslack
        i. Join Slack page to stay up to date!

7. Adjournment President Bingaman
    a. Next meeting: March 9, 2021 @ 7pm

Meeting closed in good order at 9:24pm