Graduate Student Council
General Body Meeting Minutes

06 September 2018
Alumni Hall #201
6-7 PM

New Business:

Good News

Introductions
- Graduate Student Life Coach – Stacy Satchell
  - Built for graduate students
  - Conflict resolution, mediation, etc.
  - Cards with contact information – can make appointments
  - Weekly coffee house on Thursdays in Alumni Hall 1st floor
  - Peak performance workshop series – collaboration with UCC
- University Committees
  - Traffic and Parking
  - CORE
  - SHIP
    - Need international student
  - Dockless Education Outreach Group (bike/scooter management)
  - Appellate Review Board
- Alumni Hall Updates
  - 1st floor – graduate student hub
  - Upcoming: renovations to the 1st floor lounge space
  - Graduate student event? Host in Alumni Hall!
- Social Committee
  - Goal: doing fun things for graduate students
  - New board games available for social events
  - Welcome Back Social
    - Record attendance!
  - Open call for ideas!
  - Upcoming events:
    - Football tailgates
      - In VandyVille (Natchez Trace to Stadium area)
    - Board Game Night
      - End of September
    - Halloween Party
      - October 26th?
• Academic Affairs Committee
  o 3 minute thesis (3MT)
    ▪ March 29th, 2019?
  o Travel Awards
  o Collaboration with Wond’ry
  o Interdisciplinary Research Sharing Platform (in progress: see Jack Ding)
• Community Affairs Committee
  o Interface graduate students with community
  o Events:
    ▪ Pen Pals with a Purpose
      • Foster relationships with middle schoolers to promote higher education
    ▪ Fall Voter Registration Event
      • End of September
  o Call for ideas
• Treasury
  o Co-sponsorships
    ▪ Ideas – Provide up to $500
    ▪ I.e. symposiums, speakers, service, charity
  o AcFee Committee
    ▪ Call for volunteers in future
    ▪ Includes professional students
    ▪ Got 2x more funding for AY2016-2017 to AY 2018-2019
  o Vanderbilt Programming Board
    ▪ Need graduate student representation
    ▪ Call for volunteers in future
• Meet new people
• Ruth Schemmer (Assistant Dean for Career Development & GSC Co-advisor)
  o Will transition out when Irene returns from maternity leave
• Irene Wallrich (Program Coordinator & GSC Co-advisor)
  o Will become full time advisor in Spring 2019
• Student Life Liaison – Peer Advocate
  o Advocacy Process
    ▪ Identify case and concern
    ▪ Research case background
    ▪ Suggest solutions
    ▪ Facilitate resolution and see concern to conclusion
  o Mental Health and Wellness
    ▪ Mental Health Bill of Rights and Responsibilities (MHBoR&R)
      • Draft currently on website
      • Previous meeting – Friday, August 31st
      • Next meeting - TBD
      • Will vote on support for draft at October General Body Meeting
Healthy mentor relationships; Resources and survey
Student Care Network
- Graduate Student Concerns
  - Travel funding for childcare and dependent care
    - Not currently covered by VU funding
  - Improving grievance process
- Graduate Diversity and Inclusion Committee
  - Holistic admissions by eliminating GRE
  - Recruitment and inclusion strategies for small departments

**Announcements**

→ Please send announcements to email listed in Newsletter

- Change to faculty handbook on faculty/student relationships
  - Meetings and Email available via katerina.traut@vanderbilt.edu
  - Interdepartmental relationships are alright
  - Intradepartmental are not
  - Is this something we support as a graduate student body?