Graduate Student Senate

General Assembly Meeting
October 23, 2019
Packard 416

ingss@lehigh.edu
Agenda

- Committee Positions
- Visibility Campaign
- Parking Update
- Dr. Ric Hall, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Announcements
- Open Floor
Internal Committee Positions

External Affairs Committee (2 needed)
LUGS 5k Committee
Graduate Wellness Committee

- EAC: 2 more people needed; meet once a month and discuss updates and develop a list of what policies GSS supports to have a quick response to larger issues impacting graduate education
  - Email Zach Arms (zna216@lehigh.edu)
- LUGS 5K: Overseeing and organizing the LUGS 5K Race; work starts in October; head is Michael Mfarej
- GWC: Focusing on advocating improvement to resources surrounding graduate wellness at LU
Hey! What's going on?

The #HWGOLehigh Summer Visibility campaign was a blast!
Told you it'd be back.
Grads do amazing work year-round.

GSS is continuing this energy in showing off our graduates & helping them achieve their goals.
So, we're taking it up one more notch.

All submissions received will be considered for the $100 Fall Visibility Award, and winners will have the opportunity to be showcased at a university senior leadership reception.

Fall Visibility Campaign
Show off your research!

Chance to win $100 to support academic/career goals!

Opportunity to showcase your work to senior leadership

- [https://forms.gle/TiLNTZd2pnngQWdt6](https://forms.gle/TiLNTZd2pnngQWdt6)
- If interested, send a submission with what you’re doing, how it impacts Lehigh, and why it interests you. We’ll post on SM channels and winner will get $$$ to academic/career goals!
Parking/Transit Update

Student parking lot on mountaintop

Goal to improve reliability and commute times. Focus groups are being planned, be on the lookout

Feedback to Parking and Transit:
https://tinyurl.com/LehighConnections

Questions or concerns?

- With new mountaintop parking, can we still park in faculty/staff spots after 4PM?
  - Yes, but need to park in student lots if during work day.

- If someone from Building 15 wants to park in Building 1 and then go back to 15, how would that work?
  - Larger issues and lack of awareness on accessibility.

- Meeting was held at 12PM noon for SV residents on MT, but this was not accessible for schedules. Kathleen working with them to provide other times to chat with SV residents.
Dr. Ric Hall

- Vice President for Student Affairs

- Attended Ohio University (Masters in Higher Ed Admin)
- PhD Educational Leadership (Clemson Univ)
- Decided on education b/c of his love for undergrad experience

- Now in his third year at Lehigh U
- 11 years- University of Miami (Assoc VP and DoS)
- 6 years at Wake Forest (DoS Office)
- 3 years at Clemson
- Worked for IUP in Housing/Res Life
- First job was U Wisc in Whitewater

- In his role as VP for Student Affairs, Dr. Hall is:
  - Primarily an advocate for students and student interests
  - Trying to figure out what motivates student
  - Getting information from UG and Grad students
  - Talking to student leaders on campus

- Dr. Hall sees student leaders as liaison between admin and student community

- Ric has lunch group with individual classes and tries to have a discussion and gain information
  - Then follows up with SLs in second discussion group
“Institution is listening and acting on information being gathered”

- Board of Trustees (BoT) coming to town end of this week - Family Weekend, Founders Week
  - Three times a year, BoT meets to discuss major updates and initiatives
  - Various committees present
  - Grad students have been invited in past to introduce GS issues to the board
  - We look at student experience through primarily UG student experience; need to make them aware that graduate student life is just as important

- One of the issues with the Board will be a discussion of institutional challenges, goals, and opportunities with the Path to Prominence (PtP)
- PtP is a “sustained period of institutional growth”; 2-4 years, 5-7 years to go
- What challenges are being faced by this promise?
  - More difficult to communicate the “brand” of Lehigh to the masses
- What’s the institutional motto of Lehigh? No answers.
  - “Homo minister et interprus nature” - “Man, the servant and interpreter of nature”
    - Came from the nineteenth century
  - We don’t have a succinct and thoughtful response to the university motto.
    - Differences in the “elevator pitch” of the Lehigh student experience
    - We have a rich but varied history
    - Lot of alum and many of our trustees consider Lehigh something different from what students today see it
    - Their perception of Lehigh is “caught in time”; see it as an engineering college that some believe it should only be men. It is 60-70 percent Greek
    - And is a party school
      - Greek life now is only 30 percent or so. Not only an engineering school. Students here do not fit “party school” mode.

- Second challenge: resources
  - If you grow student pop. by 1K (UG) and 500 (Grad), you need more resources
    - Not enough faculty, space for Health and Wellness Center, etc.
    - Need more and more effective space for H&W Center
  - We can’t wait to add resources with the incoming of students

- Requests for Provost: additional therapists and doctors; how can DSS be supported to make Lehigh campus accessible
  - We are over resourcing Greek Life for a campus our size
- Greek life staffing is tied to priorities of the Board
  - Writing & Math Center, Academic Success, Office of Gender Violence Education and Support (GVES)
    - GVES only receives a standing budget once a year
    - Lehigh was the building point for Clery Act; we don’t have a budget to support this!

- Aware of parking issues
  - Remind parking staff of the rollout of a plan and how it impacts campus culture
  - “Every $5 ticket you give is a lost $500 on goodwill”
  - Ric hears the “horror stories” of parking

- Questions?
  - It feels like decisions are being made that grad students are impacted by without being aware of who was in the conversation
    - We don’t know who was talked to
    - Alcohol Policy; feelings of visibility
    - Grad student experience is quite different and we don’t get to discuss our experiences
    - Beth, Kathleen, Eugene, Jess, and Ric will take into account policies on grad students

  - Space constraints? What are the plans to deal with this?
    - What will happen with spaces to host events and fit with the increasing number of students
    - Expansion of Rauch is in the works with this campaign
    - We’ve outgrown the large space for First Year Orientation (Grace Hall)
      - Entire class can only be fit on Stabler on Goodman Campus
      - Expansion of the University Center
    - Rethinking the way we eat ourselves up from the inside (i.e. Zoellner)

  - However, Lehigh is famous for being a small-sized research institution. Is all of this research being gathered from other spaces or from grad spaces as well?
    - Institution has taken grad students for granted
    - Beginning to see the focus on grad students with Deputy Provost position
    - Can’t take grad students for granted.
    - Development and alumni relations want to connect with grad students
      - When you graduate, this institution wants you to feel
• connected. They want energy directed to Lehigh.

○ Is there talks of a graduate college being formed again?
  ■ No conversation about it as of yet.
  ■ Question was asked, not sure if it will make it to the BoT meeting.
  ● Could lead to Graduate Student Affairs section
Halloween Party

October 25th, 7-9pm
Revel Social Lounge
217 Broadway, Bethlehem

Sign-up

- [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSfXNf3kWBhGqjlNAUaUZzOgi-sU3vabXlyfOKABnE9bmjzxXw/closedform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSfXNf3kWBhGqjlNAUaUZzOgi-sU3vabXlyfOKABnE9bmjzxXw/closedform)

- Please make sure to notify Sine if you can no longer attend
- Event is capped right now at 118 people
- Come early so that folks who signed up get priority
- Thanks to GSS, PRISM, WiSE, and ChEGA for their help for it
Escape Room
Friday, Oct 25th @ 5pm
LV Escape Rooms

Sign-Up on Lehigh Marketplace
$15 per person

https://secure.touchnet.net/C20958_ustores/web/classic/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=332
Brown & White BBQ

Friday, October 25th at 4pm
UC Front Lawn

Free food, music and giveaways

- Check emails for registration
Interstride Launch

Tomorrow (October 24th)
3:30-5:30pm

Career resources for international students

Resources for international jobs

- Online platform that helps support international students and student going abroad
- Nacho bar!
Dissertation Boot Camp
November 16 and 17th, 2019

Distraction free writing!

Includes 4 meals, refocusing exercise, and chair massages

https://secure.touchnet.net/C20958_ustores/web/classic/product_detail.jsp?PRODUC TID=315
College of Health Candidates

College of Health Candidates want to meet with grad students!

Meet over lunch to discuss your experiences at Lehigh

Next Lunch: Monday, October 28 at 12:15pm in STEPS 386

Email: jek207@lehigh.edu

- Chance to interview college and health faculty and have a role in founding CoH
- RSVP by Thursday, October 24
Sign up is in Weekly Buzz and below:
Suggestion/Concern Form

Send the E-Board feedback
What issues are you facing as a grad?
Submissions can be anonymous

https://bitly.com/GSSsuggest
https://forms.gle/H45JrxGbXb45qdh7
Open Floor
Next Meeting:
November 13, 2019
Alan Snyder, Vice-President and Associate Vice-Provost for Research and Graduate Studies

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