Graduate Student Senate

General Assembly Meeting
September 04, 2019
Packard 416

ingss@lehigh.edu
Agenda

- Club Spotlight: WiSE
- Open Committee Positions
- #HWGOLehigh Winners
- Ali Erk, The Center for Career & Professional Development
- External Affairs Update
- Parking Update
- Announcements
- Open Floor

Ali - Associate Director of Graduate Career Development
Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE)

Executive Board from left: Alia, Samira, Tanya and Annaliese

Mission Statement: "to promote academic development, serve as a platform for perspectives on womens’ excellence and leadership in science and engineering careers, empower women to set and achieve academic and career goals, and provide a safe, social arena for women in STEM."

- Annaliese - President of WISE
- Alia, Samir, Tanya (other execs)
- Not only open to women but to all genders
- First event is this Saturday!
Events include:
- Welcome Back Picnic (9/1)
- Relax and Paint (9/18)
- Women in STEM Dinner (10/17)
- Professional Development Series
- Developing Authentic leadership workshop (12/5)

- Food, games, and a way to meet new people
- Other events listed above
- Strengthen the community through social events and professional development skills
- Contact Annaliese if you want to chat
Open Committee Positions

University Committee on Discipline (2-3 needed)
University Appeals Committee (1 needed)
Graduate Research Committee (1 needed)
Education Policy for Undergraduates (1 needed)
Lehigh Environmental Advisory Group (LEAG) (1 needed)
Faculty Committee on Student Life (1 needed)
Parking Appeals Committee (1 needed)

- UCD: Mainly working with disciplinary affairs in academics; deals with disciplinary issues; schedule is flexible and open to your schedule. Plagiarism and responses to incidents in Greek Life. Also faculty involved; need a student voice to represent what student body might feel
- UAC: appeals to disciplinary hearings
- GRC: Faculty committee discussing faculty and graduate research concerns. Important for grad students to speak for ourselves; behind the scenes look for graduate education and reviews of depts., policy, plans for research funding; Tuesdays 3:00-4:15
- EPU: Graduate student needed to help input on undergrad curriculum; meetings are some Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:15pm and zoom accessible
- LEAG: Request that we have a student on committee. Looks at sustainability on campus.
- FCSL: Administer bLUeprint Grants.
- PAC: Appeals to parking citations; catered!
**Open Committee Positions, Internal**

External Affairs Committee (3 needed)
LUGS 5k Committee
Diversity and Inclusion Committee
Graduate Mental Health Committee

- **EAC:** 3 people (1 focused nat'l, 1 focused state, 1 focused local); 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
- **LUGS:** Overseeing and organizing the LUGS 5K Race; work starts in October; head is Michael Mfarej
- **DIC:** Rebranding our image; focusing on improving equity for graduate students on campus
- **GMHC:** Focusing on advocating improvement to resources surrounding graduate wellness at LU
“Hey, What’s Going On?” Campaign - aimed at addressing visibility for graduate student research. Announcing finalists and winner! :}

#HWGOLehigh Honorable Mention

Winnie Gu

- Winnie recently finished undergrad here at lehigh and is starting grad school in the college of education. She spent her summer documenting her experience here at lehigh in a comic series
Jessica Liu is a Ph.D. student studying Counseling Psychology in the College of Education! She spent her summer at an internship at Harvard Medical School working as an integrated health therapist connecting patients with mental and behavioral health services.
#HWGOLehigh Winner

Matthew Nikitczuk

- Ph.D student studying Earth and Environmental Science in the College of Arts and Sciences. He spent his summer conducting lab research aimed at benefiting project Mars
Ali Erk

- Associate Director of Graduate Career Development
- The Center for Career & Professional Development

- Ali Erk arrived this Summer to join the Career Development Center; our new career coach!
- CCPD has a wide range of possibilities in ways they can advocate for and support your current and future career goals

- Fluid cycle of career development that has you go through stages and revisit stages:
  - (1) **Explore** - answer key questions for yourself about future goals
  - (2) **Develop Skills** - help you solidify your brand and to demonstrate your skillsets to careers and opportunities important to you
  - (3) **Gain Experience** - take advantage of all opportunities (GAships, research, creative inquiry office, etc.)
  - (4) **Build Connections and Network** - this is where you meet new people and share what you’ve learned and learned from others; also possible gateways to other opportunities

- Handshake is a “one-stop-shop” online platform that includes:
  - career resource library (available 24/7)
  - career skills sessions and professional events (view and register for events)
  - individual coaching appointments (exploring, advanced job prep, and mock interview)
  - job/internship opportunities (over 20K opportunities!)
● New online platform called Interstride coming soon; will help international students specifically with the job process

● Further resources includes:
  ○ Career Lab (M-F 10-3); assistance with cover letters, resumes, networking, any aspect of career searching and questions in that
  ○ Lehigh Connects: online platform of over 2K Lehigh alum!; explore careers, build networks, and gain advice/feedback

● Upcoming Events
  ○ Carer Expo Prep - Fri, Sept. 6 in Lamberton Hall (9AM to 5PM)
  ○ Career Expo - Thursday, Sept. 12 at Stabler Arena
    ■ Graduate Student Showcase: 1:30PM-3PM (exclusive for grad students! Please spread the word!)
    ■ All students: 3PM-7PM

● Q&A
  ○ What would you like to see with regard to career development programming?
    ■ Students nowadays want to work abroad; focus on marketing resumes to go abroad
    ■ Internship opportunities spread across the board (folks interested in non-academic identities)
    ■ For conferences, getting a professional photo and branding  
      ● photos will happen at the Career Expo!
    ■ Multiculturalism: what does it mean being an intersection of diverse identities in the work space?
    ■ Hierarchical structures of different spaces and advocating for oneself through HR
    ■ Intentional reflection within the class space; how can classes prepare folks for the process ahead?
    ■ For academic materials, does CCPD provide that, or for only private businesses?
      ● On handshake, there are resources. Can make an appointment. Also can connect with faculty advisor. CCPD will help you navigate.

● What times/days of the week work best?
  ○ 12-1PM
  ○ Breakfast times (with food)
  ○ 30 min/45 min instead of a full hour
  ○ Walk In sessions
External Affairs Update

- HEA Reauthorization
- College Student Hunger Act of 2019
  - Would expand SNAP benefits for students
  - Supported by many higher-ed advocacy groups
  - Not law yet
- Continued fights over student loan debt

- HEA Reauthorization
  - Higher Education Act is still in process of reauthorization. Ongoing debate for years. Change ways Pell Grants are put out, or how fed stud loan opportunities are presented to grad students. Still ambiguous here.

- College Student Hunger Act of 2019
  - Introduced by Elizabeth Warren and Al Lawson
  - If you’re a SNAP-qualifying student, those benefits would include you
  - Supported by many higher ed advocacy groups
  - Addressing food insecurity on college campuses - Susan Wilde is also interested in this (PA Representative)

- Continued fights over student loan debt
  - Specifically how to manage student debt collection groups and student debt management
  - Person currently overseeing it is not the ideal for this cause
  - Secretary of Education is tied to these student loan debt corporations
  - Administration is friendly with debt collection agency

- Several lawsuits regarding academic harassment and bullying
  - One from Univ Wisconsin Madison - student bullied to suicide at her school
  - Lawsuits wage rollbacks to immigration issues impacting international
- students

- Zach will bring back concise summary of legislation to next meeting
Parking Changes

RGTs in SV can purchase Mountaintop pass ($500 price cap)
Reduced commuter lot pricing ($85 for academic break &
evening/weekend, $43 for just evening/weekend)
Bus shelter construction is underway (2 per year)

Under consideration:
Mountaintop passes for RGT’s who live in walkable distance
Academic break parking on lower camps for RGTs in SV

- Mountaintop pass now counts for nights, weekends breaks
- Side costs have been reduced
- Bus shelters are rolling out. Parking doesn’t have funding yet, and they are working on rolling out 2 per year over next few years
Announcements

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/H45JrxGbJXb45qdh7
Announcements

Club Officers Meeting
Monday, Sept. 9, 2019
Packer House
4-5pm

At least 1 club officer is required to attend
Pizza and chance to win $100 in additional club funding
The more officers attend, the greater your club’s chance of winning
Announcements

Transition to Grad School
Fridays from 3-4 pm

Time Management (Sept 6)

Eat, Sleep, Move (Sept 13)
Announcements

Tuesdays @ 10

Free breakfast every Tuesday

Packer House Basement
Announcements

Welcome Back Picnic

Hosted by WiSE

September 7th
12 - 3pm
Saucon Village
Announcements

Are you ready for crisp, cool weather, outdoor fun and Fall? Enjoy the great outdoors with great food, great students, and games for the whole family. All grad students and families welcome!

Saucon Village
Behind Building 8

Saturday, September 14
11:30 - 1:30pm

Brought to you by the Graduate Life Office and Housing Services

Signup here: https://forms.gle/wol6mBVMNl4eLDqF
Announcements - Turkish Student Council

Philadelphia Trip
September 7, 2019
Pickup: 8:15am from Taylor Gym
Pick-up: 6:15pm at Philadelphia Museum of Art

$15 for bus trip
Many free attractions
Announcements

Wine* and Cheese Tasting
Friday, October 4
7:00-8:30PM
Packer House

Sign up sheet will be circulating starting next week. Look for an email and on our social media channels. **Max 30 people.**

*For folks who do not consume alcohol, we will also provide non-alcoholic “mocktails.”
Career Center Engagement Contest
Sponsored by GLO

- Catered lunch will be provided for your department IF:
  - you have the largest percentage of folks going to the Career Lab by pacing break
  - This is factored by the highest percentage of attendees per department (to account for size differences in depts.)
  - Fall-themed lunch! :)

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Open Floor
Next Meeting:

September 18, 2019
Beth Dolan, DPGE

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