



# **Graduate Student Senate**

**General Assembly Meeting**  
May 2, 2018

[ingss@lehigh.edu](mailto:ingss@lehigh.edu)

Thank you to our Outgoing EBoard, our outgoing president Nick, Kathleen and Amy, you are awesome, thank you!

And lastly, thank you to all the graduate students that come to our GSS meetings, you rock, please keep coming next year!

## **Agenda**

Thank you everyone for a phenomenal year!

- Election Results
- Lynn D'Angelo-Bello
  - Grad Professional Development Task Force
- GSS Statement on Trump Honorary Degree
- GSS Budget Committee
- Announcements
- Open Floor

## **Election Results**

- **President:** Iiona Scully
- **Vice President:** Greg Massara
- **Secretary:** Katherine Melo
- **Treasurer:** James Carrigan
- **Communications:** Princess Neely
- **Travel Grants Officer:** Eugene Rohrer
- **Historian:** Caitlin Lindley

# Lynn D'Angelo-Bello

Grad Professional Development Task Force

- Wants to create an advisory group to help determine what graduate students need for professional development and career growth
- Feedback from grad students is integral
- Looking for assistance with two things:
  - Getting feedback from what would be helpful for us as graduate students in terms of decision making
    - Technology is changing the career market and want to create something unique that takes into account our time
  - Communication of these resources
    - Looking to have assistance through GSS to help get word out about resources
    - Potentially come up with a marketing system to get grad students to learn what resources are available
- Will be touching base with Eboard and Kathleen to determine what is the best option
  - Want to make this formal
  - Look out for an electronic communication to let us know what avenue grads can get involved with

## GSS Statement on Trump's Honorary Degree

**Relevant excerpt:**

As campus conversations surrounding this issue proceeded, the Graduate Student Senate polled the entire graduate student body (1,979 students; ~ 1,100 full time and 800 part time) during the spring semesters of 2016 and 2017 to better understand the attitudes of Lehigh graduate students. Of the graduate students who responded (582 in 2016; 231 in 2017) to these surveys, about 60% were in favor of rescinding the degree; conversely, about 30% of students were in favor of maintaining the degree.

In light of these results, as well as [insert results of today's vote]: **We, the Graduate Student Senate, hereby voice concerns with Donald Trump holding an honorary degree from Lehigh. We believe that his statements are neither consistent with Lehigh's Principles of Our Equitable Community, nor do they adhere to the standards expected of honorary degree recipients.**

**More importantly, we also echo the requests of the Lehigh Faculty and Student Senate XXX and strongly urge the Board of Trustees to provide a rationale to the Lehigh Community for their decision to take no action.** We believe that providing such an explanation will give the Lehigh Community a clearer picture of how the Board of Trustees views the relevance, impact, and reach of Lehigh's Principles of our Equitable Community. **As we continue down the Path to Prominence and strive to grow and evolve into a stronger, more dynamic Lehigh, we believe that adhering to these principles has never been more important.**

Link to PROPOSED GSS STATEMENT:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1npvOJgiP3bjyCjtW\\_LN\\_xLw-rWONfG3JGMXYooWCspo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1npvOJgiP3bjyCjtW_LN_xLw-rWONfG3JGMXYooWCspo/edit?usp=sharing)

Link to GSS Survey results 2016-2017:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=16hSIEPsn3esA1in9FCXv3MEfINy2o69y>

## Voting

We, the Graduate Student Senate, hereby voice concerns with Donald Trump holding an honorary degree from Lehigh. We believe that his statements are neither consistent with Lehigh's Principles of Our Equitable Community, nor do they adhere to the standards expected of honorary degree recipients.

More importantly, we also echo the requests of the Lehigh Faculty and Student Senate XXX and strongly urge the Board of Trustees to provide a rationale to the Lehigh Community for their decision to take no action

- There is quorum to take a vote on whether or not to release this statement.
- Final comments from GSS students:
  - Of these three wings of the university that have a voice, we haven't put out a statement yet and are treated like the red headed step child of the university, but I think it's worth it for them to know what we as graduate students have to say. Also having the ratios and the amount of students that voted for a statement is important
  - We as students are going to be working in a professional environment, and if this happens in our workplaces, or ignore it is to condone it, so we should act on this.
- Called for a vote for **active unit members**.
  - 14 Yes
  - 2 No
- This has officially passed.

## 2018-2019 GSS Budget Committee

- Volunteer to join the Budget Committee!
- One delegate needed from each college
  - College of Education
  - College of Arts and Sciences
  - PC Rossin College of Engineering
  - College of Business and Economics
- E-mail GSS E-Board ([ingss@lehigh.edu](mailto:ingss@lehigh.edu)) or GSS Treasurer James Carrigan ([jhc312@lehigh.edu](mailto:jhc312@lehigh.edu))

- Questions?
  - What are the duties?
    - We are going to take the budget requests from the clubs, look at the money we have available and distribute it in a way that makes sense.
    - Also consider if clubs get money from other sources and support the clubs that are doing a good job
  - Do delegates have to be a unit rep?
    - No you do not. But probably shouldn't be the President or VP of a club as they should not vote for budgets on their own clubs, but need to double check that.
- Please email if you have any further questions

# Announcements

Please join our emailing list with no commitment to volunteering!

Email Mike (mim315) with any questions

**L**ehigh  
**U**niversity  
**G**raduate  
**S**tudent

**5K**  
Race/Fun run/Walk



#### Notes for volunteers:

- Expected to need ~50 volunteers
- Breakfast and refreshments will be provided
- Time commitment: 2-3 hours on a Sat/Sun morning
- Roles: team leaders, managing water stops, executing registration for runners, marking turns on the course, handing out t-shirts, clean-up, directing parking, etc.

**Why:** To raise money for GSS travel grant funds

**When:** Late summer-early Fall

**Where:** Tentatively, Goodman Campus (has pre-measured 5K course)

**How:** will require volunteers from GSS to host the event

- Please email Mike at [mim315@lehigh.edu](mailto:mim315@lehigh.edu) in order to get on the email list to get information about volunteering
- Emailing is not a commitment to volunteer, but showing interest, and then discuss more specific roles after that
- Questions:
  - How much will it cost to register for the race?
    - ~20-30 dollars for community members
    - Ideally graduate and undergraduate students registration will be half price
  - What if you want to run the race, but also volunteer?
    - You can do that, we will just have people volunteer before or after the race.
  - We should look for someone to donate the cost of the tshirts, water and lunch. Have to utilize our connections to offset some costs



## **Announcements**

**Lehigh students, faculty, and staff can now ride the LANTA bus for free!**

- All you need is your Lehigh ID

### **ChEGA Bowling!**

- Thursday, May 3, 5:30-7:30
- Revolutions Bowling
- Free to All Graduate Students!

### **Bethlehem Farmers Market**

- May 3-October 25
- Every Thursday 11am-3pm with live music 12-2!
- Farrington Square

## Open Floor

- Pride Center- Tuesday, May 8th starting @ 9 Am the Pride center lounge is open for donuts and coffee, anyone can come in hang out in lounge and study, or grab things and run
  - The room is: UC 212

[ingss@lehigh.edu](mailto:ingss@lehigh.edu)

# **HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!**

Stay tuned for Summer Meeting Dates!



## GSS Statement on Trump's Honorary Degree

### Background:

- February 2018
  - [Lehigh faculty urged BoT to rescind](#); if not, provide explanation
  - [Lehigh \(UG\) Student Senate XXX released statement](#) to support faculty motion
- March 2018: [BoT voted to take no action](#)
  - "...the Board reaffirmed the prior decision to take no action... The members of the Board are committed to doing what is in the best interests of the University as a whole, including most especially demonstrating openness to and respect for the broad views and perspectives of our many University constituencies. We reaffirm our core mission of educating students from around the globe to be future leaders of society.

### GSS Statement

- This meeting: Voting of Unit Senators on whether to approve

Link to faculty motion:

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ApAXw1lhCRPJFG\\_QmEPXO15icqsA8ZJ-](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ApAXw1lhCRPJFG_QmEPXO15icqsA8ZJ-)

Link to Student Senate XXX referendum:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1wj7s0Ctu8cbHA5k5TO2NJIg8QEY7rvHU>

Link to Trustees' statement:

<https://www1.lehigh.edu/news/trustees-statement-on-faculty-motion-regarding-president-trumps-honorary-degree>