

Agenda

- Kathleen Hutnik
- External Affairs Update
- Announcements
- Open Floor

Kathleen Hutnik

https://gradlife.web.lehigh.edu/node/333

- GRC committee- what can we do to improve the mentor mentee relationship for graduate students?
 - Your relationship with your advisors is all across the board
 - Usually related to communication challenges
 - The mentoring relationship makes or breaks your career in a grad program
 - It can help you get through your careers faster or slower
 - It can help your mental health
 - So it is critically important that these relationships be positive
- We have created a page for resources for graduate student mentorship (Link above)
 - Look at compact between mentor and student
 - Also best practices for doctoral advisor and doctoral students
- Hoping for some comments and thoughts about these guidelines (please send to Kathleen Hutnick- kaha@lehigh.edu)
 - Trying to get across that the graduate advisor advisee relationship should be more about the student, as well about the research, but we shouldn't forget the students part of the relationship as well.
 - Really trying to push Interpersonal Expectations
 - Also, remember, communication works both ways, so graduate students should feel comfortable or willing to communicate when they are having difficulties.
- Questions/Suggestions:
 - Are you thinking about putting some examples of specific information?

- I love that idea, but there have been specific faculty that think that if we are too specific then we are going to get sued.
- The document is to help prevent student blame? Is there a way in those documents that would help students on what to do when those things on the document won't get met and need to change advisers.
 - Maybe we can include some sort of statement that says that the department should help the student find a different adviser.
- There are some things in professional development tasks that senior students have professional development value, like running the lab, training new TAs, etc, but those things are also the professors job, so where is the line?
 - Another GSS member- I think this is a good thing, and not a bad thing though. When professors and students trust you to mentor them, that's a positive thing.
- Have there been any conversations between gender dynamics in the mentor mentee relationship?
 - Yes there have been conversations about that.
 - There are resources on the link that provide some information and resources about this.
- I was wondering if there are unique things for humanities?
 - Yes, there is one for students and professors in humanities
 - The main issue that we find is benign neglect.
- Language of switching advisers and culture of the department, it, the documents language, focuses on switching advisors as a failure, rather than it being a right. Puts a lot of onus on the parties.
 - We need to be careful about how we frame when things need to change yes
- If you talk about things in this document with your adviser, it might be seen as a defiance, how can we go about changing that to make this kind of conversation ok?
 - We have to start small.

External Affairs Update

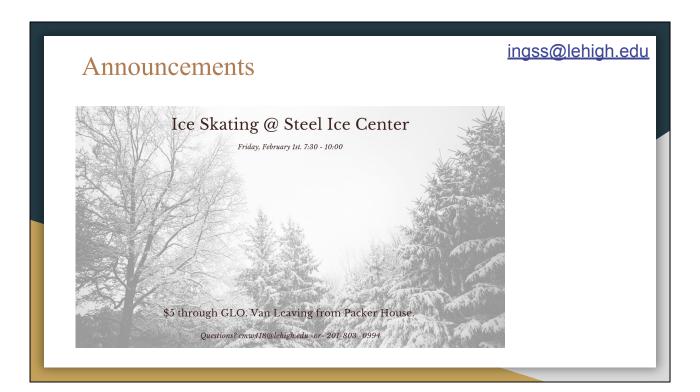
- Title IX--Comments open until the 30th
- Shutdown done--for now.

- Two major pieces of legislation over the winter break
 - The department of education has made changes to TItle IXespecially the sexually assault
 - Make changes that put undue stress on those who are sexually assaulted
 - Made with the idea that it would make the process more fair, but seem to cause more harm than good.
 - Have changed the comment link until tonight at midnight, in a previous email.
 - Also, the government shut down during the break
 - Contact your elected representative if you have comments to say if you would like to.
 - Something about a dumpster fire in the government.



https://tinyurl.com/ycuxuloc

- You can buy a GLO mug if you would like for \$2.
- Come for hot chocolate and/or spiced wine



https://tinyurl.com/ycuxuloc

Give \$5 to the GLO office if you would like



- Last day to submit is tomorrow! Please send these in.
- Make sure that you got a response from Caitlin, if not, resend.



https://tinyurl.com/ycuxuloc

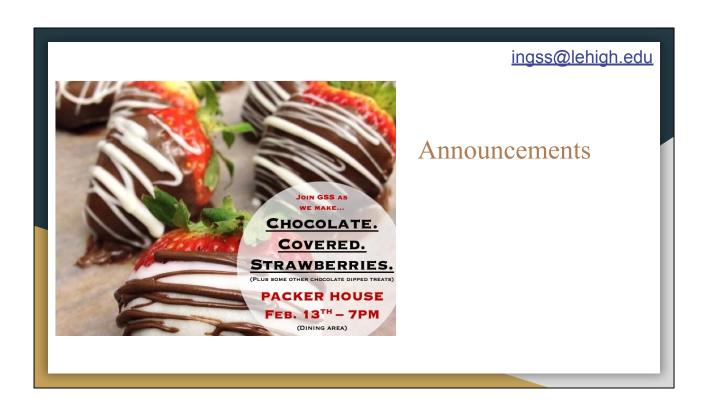
• Hope to see you there



Announcements

Spring 2019 enrollment ends February 1st!

- Only people who are new this spring can enroll in Health insurance right now or CHANGE OF LIFE, then you can
- If you didn't come in as a new student then you cannot.



Caitlin will be running this event, please come out to this.



https://gradlife.web.lehigh.edu/node/388

- Highly value and recommend that you submit abstracts to this conference
- Last day is February 15th.



https://gradlife.web.lehigh.edu/node/388

• Actually, the First workshop was cancelled.

The Office of Residence Life at Lehigh University is taking applications for one Graduate Assistant position for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Compensation for the Graduate Assistant of Residence Life includes a fully furnished, 1 bedroom apartment leased through Housing Services, a bi-weekly stipend disbursed over the course of the academic year, and 9 credits of paid tuition per semester (18 total credits for the academic year)

Complete the online application by Monday, February 4th at 5 PM.

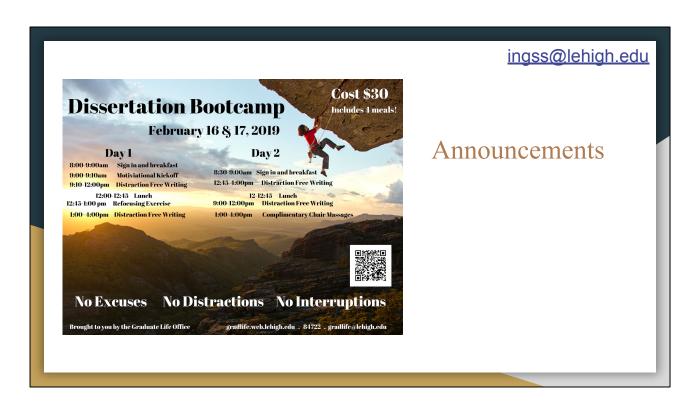
Announcements



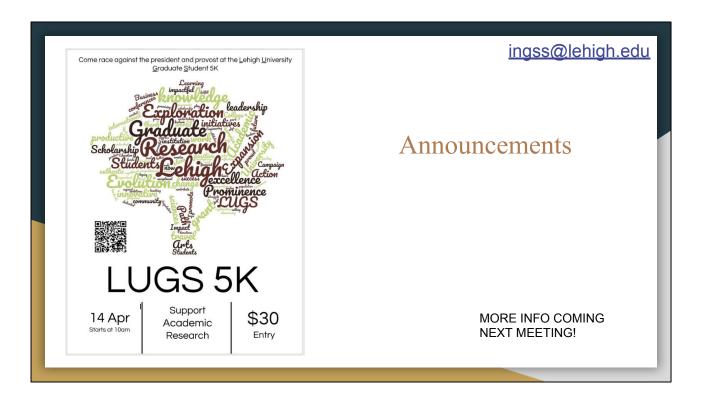
For more information about our office, please visit our Office of Residence Life website here.

For priority consideration, please complete the online application found here by Monday, February 4th at 5 PM.

 Couple of graduate assistantship positions open, including the one above, please apply if oyu would like. Putting priority on applications accepted before Feb 4th.



- Sign up and come to this if you would like.
- If you stay the two full days, your college will reimburse you the funds for this dissertation
- Also, the menu looks awesome.
- It will be in Wood Dining room- Mountaintop campus.



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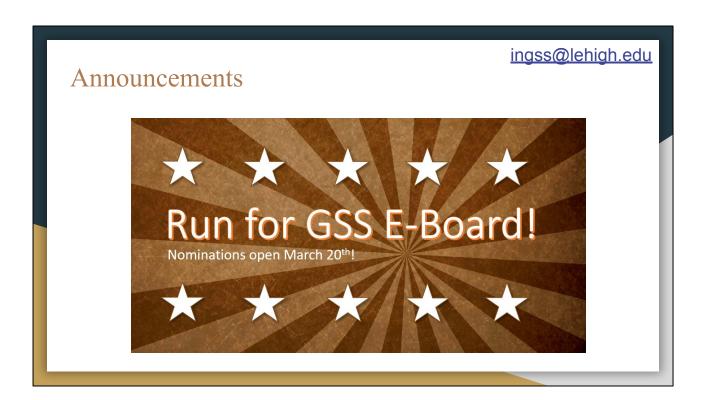
• If you want to sign up, click the link above



Announcements

- Hillman Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising
- Perry A. Zirkel Award for Distinguished
 Teaching in Education

• Nominations are available for students to nominate their mentors.



 Please do it! We would love to talk to you about it. Please reach out if you want more information.

Open Floor

- Unionization for graduate students?
 - We are wondering if anyone in the university or administration cares about graduate student concerns, and because of this, we are thinking about creating a graduate student union.
 - Would be a good way to get some traction over our concerns, to increase some motivation
 - In other universities- this is an independent institution to ask for things at Lehigh because it is known that without graduate students the university would not be able to function
 - The graduate student senate is good, but it might be good to have an independent institution outside of the GSS to both advocate together.
 - The american federation for teachers just unionized at Brown
 - Lehigh is different because we are a private institution but, there are resources to get this happen.
 - Even steps are penn state being taken to unionize, it helps to open channels of communication and get some power
 - If we do not do this, then we will be under the administration, and we need to be able to get some more of our needs met.
 - Creating a union was discussed two years ago, and there were more cons than pros at that moment, so just want to throw it out there.
 - EMAIL <u>EKB215@LEHIGH.EDU</u> OR <u>JRE315@LEHIGH.EDU</u> IF WANT TO TALK ABOUT THIS OR GET MORE INFORMATION OR COMMENTS.

