



# Graduate Student Senate

General Assembly Meeting

July 19, 2019

STEPS 101

@LehighGSS

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

# Agenda

- Unit Senators and Club Representatives
- Open Committee Positions
- External Affairs Update
- Parking Update
- Announcements
- Open Floor

## Unit Senators and Club Representatives

Are you the unit senator for your department or club representative?

- Primary and Secondary Representatives
- Unit Senators: Have your graduate coordinator confirm!

Please let us know!

## Open Committee Positions

University Committee on Discipline (2-3 needed)

External Affairs Committee (3 needed)

Graduate Research Committee (1 needed)

LUGS 5k Committee

Education Policy for Undergraduates (1 needed)

Lehigh Environmental Advisory Group (LEAG) (1 needed)

Faculty Committee on Global Affairs (1 member)

Diversity and Inclusion Committee (4 needed)

Council for Equitable Community Committee (1 needed)

UCD: Mainly working with disciplinary affairs in academics

EAC: 3 people (1 focused nat'l, 1 focused state, 1 focused local)

GRC: Faculty committee discussing faculty and graduate research concerns.

Important for grad students to speak for ourselves

LUGS: Overseeing and organizing the LUGS 5K Race; work starts in October; head is Michael Mfarej

EPU: Graduate student needed to help input on undergrad curriculum

LEAG: Request that we have a student on committee

FCGA: Elected faculty who deal with anything related to Global Lehigh (study abroad, partnerships, collaborative research); for anyone interested in global affairs

DIC: Rebranding our image; focusing on improving equity for graduate students on campus

CEC: ability to network with folks across campus at multiple levels; second tuesday once a month; working groups that allow folks to specialize

# External Affairs Update

- Congressional Spending Bills
- Bethlehem zoning issues

## National News:

- Spending bills working their ways in the Senate
- Not sure what will be available
- Working on two-year fiscal deal that would take the prospect of government shutdowns or defaults on the debt off the table until after the 2020 elections.
- Higher Ed Reform Act: don't know what's happening there

## Local News: City Council Zoning Board meeting nearly happened

- Proposed new housing for students near Mountain Drive?
- Developer who owns major chunk of student housing
  - Wanted to take zoning regulations and make them looser to build houses that weren't safe (and charge \$\$\$ for it)
  - Withdrew petition at the last minute due to community outrage
  - Continued tension of developers and local community being ousted by student housing policies
  - Article about UGs being "a menace" to neighbors

# Parking Update

E-Board met with Mark Ironside on June 26th

Advocating for additional parking options for residential students

Finalized changes should be coming the first week of August

- Advocated for additional parking options for residential students on campus
- Changes have yet to take place; still in active negotiation/communication with parking
  - Finalized changes in august
- We want folks in SV to have more options for parking on campus

Any questions or concerns?

- Were they receptive to parking in multiple zones?
  - Yes, but price is always a concern. Figure out if we can negotiate for reduced GS price or will it be higher price?
- For SV evenings and weekends, are their options for folks in the smaller gated lots?
  - Any place where Faculty/Staff is able to park you should be able to as well
  - Will check on the time frame for after 4PM → need swipe access
- How is it being communicated that RGTs are considered Faculty/Staff?
  - Dean's Office should be notifying Parking with a list of our names
- Commuter from Bangor, PA now has extra 35-40 mins. on top of his long commute
  - They're looking into more options because they realize that buses may not be sustainable
  - Buses are not showing up consistently and are often passing folks;

- grad student had to call 3 times and they had to wait an extra 40 minutes
  - Will conduct a transit study in the Fall to check on busing
- When surveys come out, emphasize (esp. folks in labs) that grad students do *not* work a typical 9-5 job
  - When documenting, talk about the impact on *research and teaching*
- Please suggest a direct bus from SV to campus
  - Response was the issues of buses colliding and crowding on the same streets
- parking is hesitant to make changes until they see how it actually plays out
  - Not fair to grad community
- One grad student talked with a bus driver
  - Bus driver claims parking is working on SV direct bus
  - Faculty claims that they don't want to go to SV from Goodman to get a "direct" bus
  - How can we implement a huge plan and not have bus shelters or stops?
    - Massive safety issues
    - Mimic one in Packard that has a TV with bus tracker going
- Need to focus on the accessibility issue and how this is not accommodating to that process
  - ADA compliance issue waiting to happen

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## HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON?

Working on a project you're pretty jazzed about?  
Is your lab on the brink of something amazing?

### GSS WANTS TO SHOW YOU OFF.

Our graduate students are doing great things.  
The rest of the Lehigh community needs to know about it.

We'll send around an online form to fill out.  
Tell us about yourself (or your team!), your project or  
research, and send along some photos if you have them.  
You can also tag @lehighgss and use the hashtag.

You may be featured on our  
Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.  
We'll periodically select students or teams for a complete  
graduate student profile (and take your photo!).

## #HWGOLEHIGH

## Announcements

<https://forms.gle/sHnTmB5iWtoLVW1i7>

Please share your research and work with us!



## 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>



<https://forms.gle/H45JrxGbjXb45qdh7>

# Announcements

## Graduate Student Ambassadors

- Interested in helping newly arriving graduate students?
- Be a Graduate Student Ambassador
- Orientation: Aug 19 - 24
- Sign-up here:

<https://forms.gle/ZCeHhYTW8smV1zMs8>



- <https://forms.gle/ZCeHhYTW8smV1zMs8>
- Sign up for as much or as little as you'd like. Whatever schedule allows.
  - Remember how you felt when you started; it's helpful to be a resource and guide for newer students coming in!

# Announcements: Community Events





**Blueberry Festival**  
Saturday, July 20th from 11 - 3 pm

Blueberry Treats, Music, and Activities



Van Leaves from Packer House

Questions? [cmw418@lehigh.edu](mailto:cmw418@lehigh.edu)

**2**  
AUG MusikFest 2019



**31**  
AUG STEAM Punk Fest 2019



# Open Floor



- Bus shelter issue
  - Architecture students raised their concerns and the architecture dept. designed potential studios for use, but the project dropped
  - Need better connection between undergraduates and graduate students to recognize issues on campus
- Accessibility
  - Lack of sidewalks and how that impacts folks' navigating the area
- Video Game Graduate Life Group
  - VG culture is coming to many areas
    - Help employees fix problems and navigate communication styles
    - Junior continuing to work on VG GL club
      - Need to have people and esp. gamers and talk with Junior
      - Potentially take on the work of the VG GL club



# Last Summer Meeting:

August 5, 2019

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## College of Health Faculty Search

Faculty hire with expertise in healthcare communication and research in health services/communications using both qual and quant methods

Lunch on July 31st, 2019 from 1:15 to 2:15pm

Counseling Psychology, Health Care Economics, Sociologists, Medical Humanities, etc.

- College of Health is getting up and running
  - New dean is bringing in candidates quickly
  - Candidate for July 31 is focused on HC comm. for cancer patients
  - If anyone is interested in meeting with this person or other candidates on other health-related issues, please meet up with Kathleen Hutnik or email her at [kaha@lehigh.edu](mailto:kaha@lehigh.edu)
    - Beneficial to see what they may be like as advisors
    - Also beneficial to place ideas in their head early on
  -