Agenda

- Unit Representative Discussion
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan
- Resource Chat
- Announcements
- Open Floor
What is a Unit?

- A **unit** is a group of students in the general assembly
- Units are *generally* made up of individual departments
- Smaller departments are **combined** into a single unit
- Students from units that are **active*** in GSS are eligible
- to receive travel grant funding
- Each unit has a Unit representative
What is a Unit Representative?

- A Unit Representative is the voting member of each Unit
- Unit representatives vote on changes (e.g., modifying the constitution, whether to sign external affairs bills)
- Unit representatives also elect the Executive Board
- These votes can only occur if we have enough Unit Reps in attendance
What are the responsibilities of a Unit Representative?

- Unit Representatives must attend GA meetings in order to remain active*
  - HOWEVER - This is only the first step of your role
- It is critical to remember that you are representing all graduate students in your unit
- Plan to disseminate information and solicit feedback from students in your department about GSS issues

*Guidelines on active status can be found in the GSS constitution on the website
University Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity Strategic Plan

- Released by Senior Leadership to Lehigh Community on September 8, 2021

- 5-year plan outlining accomplishments and progress still needed across 4 DI&E priorities to advance Lehigh toward a more inclusive community and learning environment:
  - Enhance Our Culture, Improve Institutional Infrastructure, Diversify Faculty and Staff, & Expand Student Access and Support

- Board of Trustees DI&E Committee meeting October 7, 2021 to discuss community reactions

- We want to hear from you! This is an opportunity to speak directly to Board of Trustees about Lehigh’s graduate student experience and shape next steps (e.g. working groups, key performance indicators)

- The plan is to be circulated again for more visibility.
University Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity Strategic Plan

- Any concerns, suggestions, comments, or praises about what the Strategic Plan includes or does not include? This could be anything from grammar and language to specific content and initiatives named across all sections.

- How do you see your individual needs as a graduate student fitting into the Strategic Plan? Do you feel represented?

- Are there any goals of the Expanding Student Access and Support section that should be considered a priority to address for graduate students? Are there any additional goals you would add?

- Email Princess Neely (pon216) or Natania Lipp (nsl319) with remarks or submit about this or other DI&E concerns with our Anonymous Google Form!

Few Thoughts from Grad Students:

- Not only recruitment but retention of diverse student body should be part of the DE&I strategic plan. Do our graduate programs do enough to recruit and retain a diverse graduate student body? Will there be efforts to recruit (and further support and retain!) students from HBCU’s as well as international students?
- Graduate students need a place to address minor grievances, a place to report toxic environments that build over time in departments or workplace.
- Including dependents in the "student" healthcare plans should be part of the strategic plan. We as a university do not include students that have dependents in their care as a consideration.
- “Exit Interviews" in departments, or on university level with the HR department, will help figure out some of the retention issues and must be on the plan.
- Does the plan allow for direct student involvement? Graduate students would like to see a strategy outlining how the goals and aims of the strategic plan will be 'advertised' or made available to the general student population.
Resources Chat:
What has the E-Board used?

- 14-days Writing Challenge from GWS for overcoming writer’s block and getting in the habit of writing.
- Center for Writing and Math.
- Counseling Services.
- Center for Career Development.
- Teacher Development Program helps with syllabi, and how to become a better teacher over-all.
- Kathleen reinforced the fact that all graduate students are welcome to visit her office if anyone experiences an unwanted microaggression.
- There are also two Omburds, two full-time faculty that serve as a confidential resource, at Lehigh if you are not sure about the nature of micro-aggressions, or where to report it. They are there to help with bias incidents and controversial happenings. They are in the graduate student handbook, but in general, are not publicly advertised.
- Lehigh students get Grubhub+ for free which means free delivery on all orders. Check it here: https://www.grubhub.com/help/contact-us/grubhub-student-membership/71RLrRK8xKUi4g7mfgxleJ
COVID Information
The University has decided that a COVID vaccine will be required this fall for all Lehigh undergraduate and graduate students participating in on-campus programs and activities. More information can be found here.

More information can be found here:

https://coronavirus.lehigh.edu/
COVID-19 Policies for Graduate Students

Please access all COVID-19 Guidelines here.
Writing Resources
Keep your writing momentum going!

Join GWS virtually each Monday from 4pm-6pm and Friday from 2pm-4pm and on one Saturday each month from 9am-5pm. 📅

Links to Zoom rooms and registrations can be found on the events web page at go.lehigh.edu/gradwritingevents
The Graduate Writer's Studio is looking for master's or doctoral students from any discipline to work as Graduate Writing Consultants for the upcoming semester!

GWCs will receive $20.00/hour; working min. of 5 hours/week.

Last Chance to apply this week!
Overcoming Writer’s Block featuring:

Yvonne Lee, Ph.D.
Director of Graduate Writing
Graduate Education & Life

career ready = life ready
Center for Career & Professional Development

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3NfjrGAZ6Y
Career Development Resources
Attendees can miss one session and still qualify for the certificate. So if you are planning to attend, you still have a chance to avail this opportunity.
Professional Communication Graduate Workshops
Communicate and collaborate effectively to advance your career

Maximize Your Email Communication
September 10th
12-1 pm

Navigate Communication Pitfalls
September 24th
12-1 pm

Present Like A Pro
October 8th
12-1 pm

Held in Packer House
Registration required via Handshake
lehigh.joinhandshake.com
Lehigh Connects
A networking community for students and alumni
go/lehigh.edu/lehighconnects

Grad Student Sign Up Event

*Information
*Refreshments
*Swag

Join Us!
Wednesday
October 13th
3:30 - 5:00 pm
Packer House Lawn

Register:
lehigh.joinhandshake.com

Sponsored by the Center for Career & Professional Development and the Graduate Education & Life Office
Graduate Workshop
Wednesday, Oct. 20th
12:15 - 1 pm
Register on Handshake
lehig.joinhandshake.com
Access Via Zoom

- Gain insights into the career exploration process
- Explore ImaginePhD, myIDP, & ONet
- Maximize Handshake and job search boards to find positions
- Ask questions of your graduate student career coach

Presented by the Center for Career and Professional Development
HANDSHAKE

A centralized online platform for students to connect with employers, register for career and employer events, search the career resource tiles, create appointments with a career coach, and explore over 20K job and internship opportunities.

Complete your profile & explore today:

lehigh.joinhandshake.com
BRING THE CAREER CENTER TO YOU!

Career support for your graduate club or department

Customized workshops
Request a workshop on career exploration, personal branding & job search strategies, networking, interviewing and more

Working sessions
Plan a session to work on a resume, CV, cover letter, or LinkedIn profile as a group with your Graduate Career Coach

Event collaboration
Partner with the Career Center to access resources and promote your professional development event

Contact Ali Erk - alison.erk@lehigh.edu

career ready = life ready
Center for Career & Professional Development
Grads, do you need help with your writing, time management, productivity?

- Grad Student Center
- Grad Student Membership is free for Lehigh students
- Programs include Dissertation Success, a 12 week program to get you writing, impostor syndrome, publishing, (end) writers block, and mentoring among many others.

https://goo.gl/6pGfzi

Graduate Life Office - gradlife@lehigh.edu
Do you know that Lehigh has a membership to the National Center for Faculty: Development and Diversity (NCFDD)?

The National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) is an independent professional development, training and mentoring community for over 90,000 faculty, post-docs and graduate students, dedicated to supporting academics in making successful transitions throughout their careers.
Educational Talks/Conferences
10/20
Dr. Rebecca Jacobson
President, Astrata
“DIGITAL HEALTHCARE”

12 Noon EST – Free Registration is required @ GO.LEHIGH.EDU/POPHEALTHCOLLOQUIUM

12/1
Dr. Stephen Tang
President & CEO, Grassure Technologies, Inc.
“DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE HEALTH DIAGNOSTICS TO IMPROVE POPULATION HEALTH”

12 Noon EST – Free Registration is required @ GO.LEHIGH.EDU/POPHEALTHCOLLOQUIUM
Second Annual Multilingual Education Conference

The Condition of Education: Re-establishing Connections with Multilingual Learners

October 23, 2021
Iacocca Hall, Lehigh University

Submit a Proposal:
https://forms.gle/Px4TF80Zx9fEd0yAj

Register:
https://secure.touchnet.net/Cmprend_subnav/web/product_print/
https://prodUCTID-264
Pride Center & Center for Gender Equity
The pride center is committed to making each event and every one of our programs and initiatives accessible and inclusive. If you are planning to attend a program and have any accessibility needs or desires, please contact Mel Kitchen at mbk411@lehigh.edu in advance of the program for coordination.
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If you are interested in participating, fill out this form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZg7nUFYNutQxHw7LHbdshjAM1trT8XcgVbLYIBqnbjZhg/closedform

Or contact sab617@lehigh.edu for more information!
Center for Gender Equity

- Click here for the latest virtual events and news!
Graduate Life Office
*Tuesdays @10 will be back next week (10/5) if the weather permits, however, it will not be held on the week of Pacing Break (10/12).

Reminder: Check for updates on our social media every Monday on whether it will be cancelled for that week due to inclement weather or other reasons.
Come Explore
Sept 9 & 23, Oct 7 & 21, Nov 4 & 18

Women’s Exchange provides a space for graduate women from all walks of life to develop meaningful relationships and promote personal growth. Occurs every other Thursday throughout the semesters both Spring and Fall over lunch, guest presentations, and activities are presented around participant interests.

Location: Packer House Lounge
217 West Packer Ave
12-1pm

Registration is Required: Limited to 15 participants and we encourage you to attend at least 5 of the 6 sessions.

Brought to you by the Graduate Life Office
gradlife@lehigh.edu
Grads! Do you need a reimbursement from the Graduate Student Senate travel grants, your graduate club OR your department?

Find the details in the link below:

https://grad.lehigh.edu/financial-support/reimbursement
Funding Opportunities
Greetings from the Graduate Student Senate!

In an effort to increase efficiency and reduce paper waste, the GSS Travel Grant application process is now electronic. Revised applications are available as a **PDF form (here)** to be completed electronically and submitted via email to GSSTravelGrants@lehigh.edu.

Please see our website to access the application and instructions for the new submission process: [https://gradlife.web.lehigh.edu/node/170](https://gradlife.web.lehigh.edu/node/170).

Any questions should be directed to the GSS Travel Grant Officer at GSSTravelGrants@lehigh.edu. Thank you for your help in making this transition!
Funding Opportunity:
The Sustainable Initiative Grant

Grants of up to $2,000 are available to Lehigh students, faculty, and staff!

The Sustainable Initiative Grant is available to members of the Lehigh community for projects that contribute to sustainability on Lehigh’s campus and the surrounding area.

You can find more information about how to submit an application at:

https://sustainability.lehigh.edu/sig
An 80,000 word thesis would take 9 hours to present. Your time limit...

3 minutes

Lehigh University
3MT 2021

Friday, October 15th
1:00pm-4:00pm
STEPS 101
LEAD Fund Authors Program
Tell your students and friends about this outstanding opportunity

https://www.aaaed.org/aaaed/The_LEAD_Fund_Authors_Program.asp
Other Graduate Resources & Information
LEHIGH SCHOOL PSYCH CLUB PRESENTS

A TRIP TO THE CUP

Get ice cream on us after a long week of class

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
8PM
RIGHT ON CAMPUS!

Join us around 8pm to get your ice cream, and feel free to hang out with us in Fannington Square afterwards!

RSVP at: https://forms.gle/wKFR2LDAUG4FG8

Contact Sam Smera or Adairie Sturgeon with questions
Say Yes to Fresh

Bethlehem Farmers’ Market

April 29 – November 18, 2021

Every Thursday 10am–2pm
Live music 11:30am–1:30pm

New & Morton Streets | Farrington Square
Southside Bethlehem

Office of Sustainability
Current, full time faculty & staff must fill out the Taylor Gym Registration for Privileges form prior to being approved for any participation within Taylor Gym. Please allow 2 business days for access to be granted.
Healthy. Happy. 
Here we come.

Start your free membership on February 1, 2021

go.lehigh.edu/headspace

Need help?
team.support@headspace.com

headscape
Your Lehigh ID gets you free rides on the LANTA (Lehigh Valley Public Transit) bus!

Lehigh U students can ride LANTA buses for free
Lehigh University students will be able to ride LANTA buses for free.

MCALL.COM
OPEN FLOOR

- **Update on Wellness Fee:** The wellness fee is the $100 fee on everyone’s account that started this year. Although the rollout of the fee was not handled well, and the frustration at that is understandable, it will be sticking with us, at least for this year.

- David Rubenstein has offered to address the GA at the next meeting to explain the details of the fee. Oliver Yao is also working with the university to push for a more organized rollout of the fee.

- GSS is advocating for the fee to be added to the doctoral students package. Both GLO and GSS are trying to get the “right” people into the rooms when these fees are being discussed. Regarding the wellness fee, we have the faculty senate’s backing.

- Bench-marking studies on stipends are currently conducted by GLO to see how our stipends compare to other graduate schools. Oliver Yao will also be taking steps towards reviewing graduate stipends as they realize that the stipends may be too low if it is becoming increasingly difficult for the students to pay the wellness fee.
GSS Meetings
Graduate Student Senate Meetings

**Fall 2021 General Assembly Meeting dates**
Every other Wednesday
12:10-1:00pm

- September 1st
- September 15th
- September 29th
- October 13th
- October 27th
- November 10th
- December 1st

When we can meet in person, a pizza lunch is included at every meeting.