



# Merrimack College

## Graduate Student Senate

### Meeting Minutes

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Thursday, December 3, 2015

- **CALL TO ORDER:** President Tim LeBel called this meeting to order at 12 pm.
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- **READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
    - N/A
  - **OPEN FLOOR FOR NON SENATORS:**
    - **ADVISOR - Lauren Bent:**
      - Not in attendance
  - **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
    - Last meeting of the semester
    - Have a solid 20 members and growing
    - Thanksgiving fundraiser was a success
    - Kaitlyn Kenny - Focus group for grad students on mental health
      - December 10th @ 12pm Grad Student Lounge 30min 5-12 members
  - **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
    - Not in attendance
    - Send along information of committee meetings
  - **TREASURER'S REPORT:**
    - Holiday Raffle
    - Holiday Goodie Bags
    - Grad Swag
      - Padfolios
      - Tupperware
      - Cups
    - Pub Crawl
    - Paint Night
    - Auggie's Night for Grad Students - Friday or Saturday (Grad Nights)
    - Wants to do something with our money that benefit our class
  - **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**
    - Printer for GS Lounge

- **PARLIAMENTARIAN'S REPORT:**
  - Working on Constitution
- **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
  - **Student Engagement:**
    - Auggie's Pub
    - Service Project
      - Volunteers for service day
      - MLK Day?
      - Documentary Discussion w/ service trip
      - Have a backup plan!
    - Decorate grad lounge with cheerful words of encouragement to get through finals week
    - Social Justice Forum with undergrads talk to Farrah
  - **Academic Affairs & Career Services:**
    - Professional Development Etiquette dinner
      - January 28th 4-6pm Cascia Hall
      - Etiquette Academy of New England
      - Networking and Professional Etiquette
      - Lauren will make sure this does not affect Fellowship
    - Talked with Paul (Career Coach)
      - Bring alums of grad programs back to campus
      - Do a resume workshop
        - Beginning of January
    - Career Center wants to co-sponsor events that help all graduate majors
      - People feel like it would be more beneficial to be major specific
      - Will talk with different program directors
    - Writing Support Group for grad students
      - beginning of February
  - **Student Services & Facilities:**
    - Working on Shuttle for Royal Crest grad students
      - Have more stops in the morning and afternoon
    - Safe Zone Trainings
      - Turnip working with Megan O'Hara
    - Summer Grad Services
      - Working on survey to send out for grad students
    - Mental Health

- Focus Group
- Wellness Education open to new ideas for the department to work on for grad students specifically

- **Public Relations:**

- Working on Swag
- Thank you for filling out survey
- Working on informational flyer

- **OTHER UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE/ COUNCIL REPORTS:**

- N/A

- **OLD BUSINESS:**

- N/A

- **NEW BUSINESS & OPEN DEBATE:**

- Grad Student Housing at Royal Crest
  - Would it be included with grad package of fellowship?
  - Are there any perks?
  - Any discounts?
  - More expensive to go through Merrimack Housing then through Royal Crest
  - Is a building reserved for just Grad Students?
  - Positive - be able to meet people in other programs
  - Looking into off campus - graduate person
  - Living in whatever is open at Royal Crest - only going off of their availability
  - Out of State issues with signing documents in person - paper work problems with out of state graduates
  - Students who come right out of college have to have co-signer
  - Need housing set aside for when different programs start
  - Those in favor to trying to offer grad housing at Royal Crest - 4
  - Not in favor - 7
  - Need to have a point person for off campus housing liaison - majority agreed (Off Campus Coordinator)
  - There is a need for a person - Royal Crest does not seem feasible right now

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- N/A

- **MEETING ADJOURNED:** Meeting was adjourned at 1 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Lussier

*Graduate Student Senate Secretary*

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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