Meeting Minutes
1/16/25

- Approval of meeting minutes from November, 2024 Council meeting
    - Motion to approve was made by Hezekiah Williams (*Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering, GSG Diversity & Inclusion Chair*)
    - Motion was seconded by Bruce McCuskey (*Medieval Studies*)
- Guest Speaker, Doug Thompson, PhD, Executive Director for Diversity and Engagement
    - Inaugural role
    - New division within Student Affairs
        - Opened Fall, 2024
        - Second floor of LaFortune
- Feedback Needed
    - Doug encouraged all to take the Inclusive Campus survey
        - Launches January 29-Feb 19
            - Each student will be sent an individual link
            - Private
            - Results shared in the Fall
            - Random drawing for 1 of 200 prizes
        - Survey coincides with 10th annual Walk the Walk Week
        - Your feedback is critical
            - Include what IS working, as well as what isn't
        - Center for DEI came about due to this survey
            - Expanded diversity training for faculty & staff
        - We are focusing on progress
- Jacquelin Zak (*Chemistry & Biochemistry, GSG Communications Chair*)
    - How is grad students' feedback separated from undergrads?
    - Doug encourages all graduate students to express their thoughts
    - There is a gap we need to close
        - There is opportunity to do more
        - Doug wants to listen to needs
        - It's Doug's priority to take part in this
    - Office hours
        - Begin Jan 29
        - 4:00 - 5:00, 15 minute increments every other week
            - Will alternate between LaFortune & Main Bldg
    - Fr. Gerry will offer Fireside chats
    - Doug wants to have a presence and wants students to feel seen
    - Reminder email to complete survey will come out Jan 29
    - Students may email Doug with questions (dthomp25@nd.edu)
- Committee Reports (refer to agenda packet)
- Jingle Bell Ball was successful & under budget

    - Wilson Raney (*Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, GSG Social Chair*) made some templates for use going forward for this event, such as how to fill out a contract, etc.
- Thomas Poitevin (*Economics, GSG President*) discussed the Mental Health Conditions Survey & showed some results. (See Executive Board report in agenda packet)
    - Two grad clubs with most votes
        - Catholic Graduate Community
        - AWIS (Association for Women in Science)
- Thomas discussed changes with GSG Constitution
    - Article 1D has some outdated information
    - Position of Treasurer is very important
        - It's currently a chair position
        - We could think about it as an elected position, an officer position
        - Whatever is decided, will be added to the constitution
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.