



President's Report to the Senate
November 1, 2017 Regular Business Meeting
Jack Wilson, GSO President

Non-Immigrant Visa Stoppage for Turkish Grads

Syracuse University has a plan in place for students who are stranded abroad by changes in immigration policy to complete their degrees. It may be found here:

<http://registrar.syr.edu/students/students-affected-by-u-s-immigration-policies/pathways-to-degree-completion/>

These protocols were drafted by the University Senate's Academic Affairs Committee in the 2016-2017 academic year and adopted formally by SU in August 2017. I invite everyone to look over these policies and give me feedback if there is room to improve. Information on how many grads are matriculating in Spring 2018 from Turkey is unavailable. After consulting with the Graduate School, our options for helping would-be students who are affected are severely limited.

Expanding Career Services for Grads

Daniel Olsen-Bang has moved to the Graduate School, and now resides in 304H Lyman Hall. The University is still in the works on how to fund an expansion of graduate career services. The Chancellor is aware of our desire to get some concrete answers on details such as "who" and "when" and "where is the money coming from" for Career Services expansion.

Schine Feasibility Study

The administration is working with two architecture firms on how to redesign Schine. The aim is to make the building useful for all students. This includes grad students, and so they want our input. The designers in charge of the Schine Feasibility Study will stop by the Inn Complete around 8PM Thursday November 2nd, before Ultimate Trivia to receive input. I encourage as many people as possible show up and let our voice be heard.

Employee Health Insurance

Talks are continuing on whether or not it's appropriate to move graduate employees off of the employee health insurance plan. The Graduate School has hired consultants to work the problem. They are currently pulling usage data for grads who were on the employee plan from POMCO to see how they would have fared under the student plan that same year. The aims are to see the net effect of cost to the university and how grads on the employee plan would have fared under the student plan.