Graduate Student Senate Resolution in Response to Violent Acts in Kentucky and Pennsylvania

Following the shootings in Jeffersontown, Kentucky on October 24th, 2018 and the violent hate crimes committed against members of the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on October 27th, 2018, the University of Vermont Graduate Student Senate approved a resolution condemning the abhorrent violence and reinstating the GSS commitment to diversity, inclusivity, and respect. The following resolution was approved by the UVM GSS on Wednesday November 14th, 2018.

The purpose of the Graduate Student Senate is to cultivate both the academic and nonacademic activities of the graduate student body and enhance all aspects of graduate school life at the University of Vermont.

1. We are a voice for graduate students and act as a liaison between the University of Vermont’s administration, faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students. Specifically, we promote graduate student's interests as representatives on the Board of Trustees, Graduate College Executive Committee, Faculty Senate, the Graduate Faculty, and to any other Board, Committee, or Organization where graduate student representation is necessary, useful, or requested.

2. We facilitate and encourage educational, professional, and research activities of graduate students. As part of this goal, GSS hosts a Professional Development Series; the theme for the 2018-2019 academic year is “building your CV and expanding your network”.

3. We encourage students’ involvement in Graduate Student Senate activities and University functions. Senate meetings are an important venue for expressing and discussing graduate students’ concerns. All are welcome! Additionally, Grads Give Back is a volunteer program that provides opportunities for graduate students to interact with and give back to the community.

4. We disseminate information regarding graduate activities to graduate students, administration, faculty, staff, and the campus community as a whole. Our weekly newsletters provide graduate students with pertinent information and events across campus.