

### Report of the President

- Introduction for new Senators.
- Graduate Council meetings included discussion of differential formatting of theses/dissertations depending on major/program and permanent inclusion of hybrid format for preliminary and final oral examinations.
- Interviews currently being conducted for Director of Student Counseling Services at Iowa State University.
- September breakfast with the Board of Regents included emphasis on power disparities between students and faculty, internal reporting of harassment, and formal recognition of Juneteenth as a University holiday.
- College Chair positions are open within GPSS. If you are interested in running for this position, nominations can be submitted to the SIO, Kate Alucard.

### Report of the Vice President

- Website will be updated with the location of the meetings
- Information about meetings is always sent out a week in advance. Link to the gpss meeting should be listed in canvas and included in the email
- New legislation needs to be submitted as soon as possible for the rule committee
- Please join the rules committee

### Report of the Treasurer

- Fall regular allocation application closed last Friday. The Finance Committee will review the applications in due course.
- New Finance Committee members: Senator Amruta Bapat and Senator Harish Radhakrishnan
- Still open to more Senators to join the Finance Committee.

### Report of the Senate Information Officer

- Working on editing the website → if you aren't receiving things in time, please email me
- Still receiving nominations from departments for their senators
  - Senators can fill out the forms themselves or DOGEs can

### Report of the Senate Engagement Officer

#### **Updates from Faculty Senate**

#### About COVID

- We are bound to the Regent's rules and so the administration can't change anything about mask mandates or vaccines. We also cannot sue the Regents for changes because according to state law we and the Regents are the same entity.
- There was increased cleaning staff hires in 2020-2021, but it isn't as important for this year so the cleaning staff has been taken back to 2019 hiring levels.
- There will be no more contact tracing. Students are advised to be absent if they have Covid, but teachers will not be informed unless the student self-identifies.

- The university believes we can never get to 0 cases, so Covid is no longer classified as pandemic, but endemic.
- We are encouraged to check the Iowa Department of Public Health for the numbers in our area.
- As of 9/14 ISU has the most lenient rules about Covid of any Regents universities.
- We can't contact trace because people wouldn't cooperate so it wasn't working on campus.

#### About DEIA and First Amendment

- The law we follow was based on Trump's law about divisive topics
- It applies to a narrow scope of mandatory trainings
- To avoid risk don't copy a specific training on DEI and put it into your course.
- Provost Wickert gave the following instructions for when instructors get accused or things go viral on social media: There is a framework for trolling and doxing. But over a matter of hours it can go to something harsh. ISUPD for safety planning. Take email and phone number off of the website. Make sure your chair and your dean know first. Never respond. We also get complaints about faculty's social media and we have their back if they have posted in good faith and have followed our rules. We try to get the full story. We have used university resources to help faculty when this has happened.
- Dr. Benken gave a dedication by speaking the name Jonah Glenn to memorialize in the notes of the faculty senate. He was recently killed by a drunk driver. I thought it would be good to add this memorial to our minutes as well.

**Please let me know if you have any questions during the Senate Forum. Also, if there are announcements or questions you want me to bring up at Faculty Senate, please send me an email ([carrieaj@iastate.edu](mailto:carrieaj@iastate.edu))**

#### Report of the Graduate Health and Wellness Chair

- Call to join the wellness committee
- Priorities to compile orientation information to aid in the transition to graduate and professional programs at ISU; also involved in planning events for grad and professional student
- Suggestions for breakout sessions in the 1st annual Health and Wellness Symposium to be held in Feb 2022?

#### Report of Student Government Senators