



# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Graduate & Professional Student Senate

Meeting Notes  
Monday, April 21, 2014  
7:00 PM  
1652, Gilman Hall

- I. Call to order 7:10 P.M.
  - a. Roll Call – 70.27 % MET
  - b. Statement of Quorum by Speaker
  - c. Approval of the Minutes
    - i. APPROVED
  - d. Approval of Agenda:
    - i. APPROVED
- II. Introduction of new bills and resolutions
  - a. Senate Bill S14-09 : Amending the GPSS Standing Rules Amendment
  - b. Senate Bill S14-10 : Amending the GPSS By-laws
  - c. Senate Bill S14-11: GPSS Leadership Award, Eligibility and Review Criteria
  - d. Senate Bill S14-12 : Modifying the PAF Policies and Procedures
  - e. Senate Bill S14-13 : New PAF Policies Effective January 1, 2015
- III. Open Forum
  - a. Provost Dr. Jonathan Wickert
    - i. “Thank you”.
    - ii. Good progress in getting GPSS representation
    - iii. Pleased with research conference
    - iv. Responsible
      1. All academic programs at university
      2. Education, research, and extension / outreach
      3. IT services on campus
      4. Library
    - v. Also a faculty member in Mechanical Engineering
    - vi. 114 faculty searches on going, very exciting growth!
    - vii. Expecting 4% increase in funding from the state, will keep tuition increases low
    - viii. New buildings in Research Park, and serve
    - ix. Plan on a new enrollment record again this fall, people are voting with their feet
    - x. Deloitte efficiency study
      1. Iowa State only has three senior vice-presidents, so we are very efficient



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2. We aren't perfect but we keep costs down
  - xi. Looks forward to working with GPSS
  - xii. VEISHEA, no feels good about VEISHEA and its disappointment. I was there when the decision was made. Much thought went into it. Think of it through a historical context and the numerous riots. In the past, it was always about the out-of-town influence, this time it was students, it was us. Social media can be blamed. Selfies. Video. People ran to the crowd rather than away. Safety is the highest value. Nobody feel good about the decision. This has gone on for years, particularly when it is us doing it. No matter what the decision, people would have been disappointed. We chose safety instead and cancelled to try to avoid an potential injury on any following day. How do we change this focus from a week long party and back to where it started up? Focus on leadership and service. The solution is not to close the bars and put tanks on the street with police.
  - xiii. Funding from the state legislature does benefit graduate students too, not just faculty. There are a few presidential fellowships. Matching funds also available. For about a total of 75 centrally funded GAs. New funding awards to the university are up about 25% from where they were last year.
  - xiv. Funding RAs and GAs will attract new graduate students. As enrollment grows, funds for TAs will increase too. New facilities. New programs also being introduced. Developing the Iowa State Brand. VEISHEA will push the brand down a bit.
  - xv. Rent has gone up by 33%. Assistantships may not be keeping up. Assistantship data = 2007 -> \$1250/3000, 2013 \$1600/3600, 2014 \$1700/4000, 2015 \$1800/4400. Currently reviewing our competitiveness to our peers and compare it to cost of living. Additional housing is being added to the community to address some of the price increases.
  - xvi. Has ISU considered using an external benchmark to measure graduate experience? Dialogue that needs to take place on the communication channels that already exist to address your experience. Writing center, career services, good additions, but still need your feedback.
  - xvii. Family housing options? Please seek out Pete England from Department of Residence to discuss concerns.
- b. Erin Zimmerman – interdisciplinary collaboration network session participant survey results
  - i. It was useful (83.8%) – “nice to talk to others”



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- ii. Need free food and grant money to encourage collaboration
  - iii. Proposing two more sessions next year
    - 1. Will need funding for food!
  - iv. [ebzimmer@iastate.edu](mailto:ebzimmer@iastate.edu)
- IV. Senate Form
  - a. Senator Rakitan
    - i. Regular allocation guideline proposed changes
      - 1. Considering the number of students benefitted
      - 2. Barring of cash prizes
      - 3. Increase Hotel fee
      - 4. Open to clubs whose primary purpose is graduate students, but not solely formed from graduate students. Enable them to double dip from both GPSS and GSB
      - 5. Funding more food items
      - 6. Unspent money returned to GPSS, system of accountability on each club, we would like to give to a club that will spend it
    - ii. Will an online system help? Will an annual spending report help with accountability?
      - 1. Modify current application procedure first to include the reporting will help
      - 2. Even if it went online, some FC members will simply print all of the data any ways
      - 3. Database of past records is more a fact finding adventure each cycle
    - iii. If this interests you, please join FC next year!
- V. Remarks and Reports
  - a. Report of the President – President Prisacari
    - i. The City Council will hear a report from the Campustown Bike-Ped Force tomorrow, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
      - 1. Background: back in December 2012, the City Council assembled a task force to investigate ways to reduce bicycle-car and bicycle-pedestrian collisions in Campustown.
      - 2. Proposal: there are 11 potential projects
    - ii. Memorial Union
      - 1. MU Student Advisory Committee will commence its work this summer
      - 3. The parking ramp renovation project will begin late April-early May and be completed by mid-October, 2014



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4. An architectural firm has been selected to conduct the architectural study update
5. The Bibles were removed from the MU Hotel rooms and relocated to the Browsing Library where they are still available to guests.
- iii. 2014/2015 Graduate Learning Communities – Graduate College is accepting proposals to fund 4 new GLCs. \$1000 is available for each GLC. Deadline: 5pm, Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please send the proposals to Craig Ogilvie, Assistant Dean of the Graduate College, [cogilvie@iastate.edu](mailto:cogilvie@iastate.edu).
- iv. Graduate College encourages graduate students to complete Individual Development Plan (IDP)
  1. 9% of graduate students report they have completed an IDP
  2. [http://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/current/professional\\_development/writing\\_seminars/IDP.php](http://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/current/professional_development/writing_seminars/IDP.php)
- v. GSB 2014 elections, student participation by numbers:
  1. 2012 – 12 grad/prof. students
  2. 2013 – 22 grad/prof. students
  3. 2014 – 34 grad/prof. students
  4. 2014: 9 write-ins. At this time, we have 1 GSB Senator at Large.
  5. 2014: 3076 total student participation
- vi. GPSS Conference
  1. Participation by numbers
    - a. 110 posters
    - b. 48 oral presentations
    - c. 10 3 Minute Thesis presentations
    - d. 38 judges (17 post-docs, 14 faculty, 7 staff)
    - e. 5 graduate students for undergraduate panel
    - f. 2 staff members for graduate workshops
    - g. 4 faculty/staff members for graduate panel
    - h. 12 graduate student moderators
  2. Attendance
    - a. Cover Letter Workshop ~40
    - b. Identifying and Connecting with Funding Workshop ~ 15
    - c. Poster Session ~100
    - d. Graduate Panel: Academia vs. Industry ~45
    - e. Undergraduate Panel: What Is Graduate School Like? ~10
    - f. Lunch with Networking ~ 50
    - g. Oral Presentations 7 – 15 per session
    - h. 3 Minute Thesis ~ 60
    - i. Keynote Speaker ~ 100



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- j. GPSS Evening Social ~ 120
- vii. 2013-2014 in summary
  - 1. Graduate/Professional students served this year:
    - a. Summer Social: ~30
    - b. Graduate Orientation: ~150
    - c. GPSS Fall Social: ~600
    - d. Public Speaking Seminar: ~ 120
    - e. Graduate Update Seminar: ~60
    - f. Preparing for an Academic Interview Panel: ~ 90
    - g. 1<sup>st</sup> GPSS Conference: 168 presenters
    - h. GPSS Spring Social: ~100
    - i. Street Savvy Science Seminar: ~50
    - j. Financial Clinic: ~ 70
    - k. PAG/PAF: 492
    - l. Peer Teaching/Research Awards: 13
    - m. Regular/Special Allocations: 50 student orgs, ~2716 club members
    - n. Wakonse: 5
    - o. Total: ~ 4,664 students out 5,295**
  - 2. Arrival of New Child: 25 students funded so far
  - 3. Accomplished this year
    - a. \$0 international student matriculation fee
    - b. GSB/GPSS split ratio
    - c. New annual events: Graduate Orientation, GPSS Conference
    - d. New PAG/PAF policies
    - e. Implementation of clickers
    - f. Early senator elections
    - g. SCAVMA can now hold its meetings in MU
    - h. Graduate Writing Center project has been approved and funded
    - i. Graduate College is now collecting stipend data
    - j. Old GPSS files are now being stored at the Special Collections
    - k. New GPSS website
    - l. More collaborations with ISU administration, the Graduate College, and ISU Post-Doc Association, and Faculty Senate
  - 4. To Be Continued
    - a. international student orientation fee
    - b. Gym at Vet Med campus
    - c. Bridge funding



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- d. GPSS awards
- e. Graduate Career Fair
- viii. Thanks for a great and productive year everyone!
- b. Report of the Vice President and Rules Committee – Vice President Tlach
  - i. Spring Social was a huge success with lots of positive feedback. May consider doing again in the future. Event came under-budget to fund snacks at last meeting.
  - ii. All bills were found favorable for April meeting by the Rules committee.
  - iii. It is the responsibility of the sponsors of the bills to be sure that legislation passed in the Senate is actually carried out (GPSS Standing Rules).
  - iv. I thank the Exec Council for all their work and give my full endorsement and vote of confidence to VP-elect Zenko. He will be great and do as good or better than me in this position.
- c. Report of the CIO and Election Committee - CIO Mukherjee
  - i. GPSS Exec elections held
  - ii. Encourage students to nominate themselves as senators for 2014-2015.
  - iii. Graduate college forming a task force to formalize the roles / responsibilities of a Graduate Career Services Director. The task force will work closely with Dr Ogilvie. The Director will be seated at the Career Services Council: <http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=57>  
Please email me if you are interested in joining this task force
  - iv. Interested in having discussion with ISSO. Please let me know if interested.
- d. Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee - Treasurer Helms
  - i. Allocations: Allocations funding has been dispersed. \$2,500 of the surplus Allocations funds are committed to fund FY2015 Wakonse at \$3,500 total, with the rest of the allocations surplus committed to PAGs (at the PAG chairs discretion).
  - ii. Allocation Revisions: Revisions to the GPSS Regular Allocations guidelines will be presented for review and critique during Senate Forum. The intent of these revisions is to improve the ease of interpretation by organizations seeking funds as well as to facilitate administration on behalf of the GPSS Treasurer and Finance Committee. PLEASE read the proposed changes and provide input during the forum. Finance Committee is sincerely looking for any additional input that may help the allocations process and the rules that guide them.
  - iii. Finances/Budget – Only two payments for the remainder of the fiscal year have yet to be accounted for. We began the year with a surplus of \$18,940,



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and our projected, end-of-year surplus of \$16,153. Please email me if you would like to see a breakdown of the numbers.

- iv. Please email me if you have any questions/concerns  
(GPSSTreasurer@iastate.edu)
- e. Report of the URLA Chair - URLA Chair Kleinheksel
  - i. The final professional development seminar took place Wednesday, April 16th and many finance topics were discussed with the Financial Counseling Clinic. 80+ participants in the room and 10+ post-docs.
  - ii. Transition of University committees is in progress and many people are leaving committees and many are staying. End of year summaries were collected and are attached.
  - iii. Many open committees, please ask constituents to consider serving.
  - iv. GPSS needs three graduate GSB senators for next year. This is important to bridge between GPSS and GSB.
  - v. End of year summary attached
  - vi. Current open committee positions:
    1. CELT Advisory Board  
<http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=94>
    2. Graduate Council: Arts & Humanities
    3. Graduate Council: Social Sciences & Education
    4. GSB Graduate Senator
    5. GSB Graduate Senator
    6. GSB Graduate Senator
    7. Keep Iowa State Beautiful Committee  
<http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=129>
    8. Students and Scholars Health Insurance Review Committee  
<http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=87>
    9. University Affairs Committee  
[http://www.gsb.iastate.edu/wordpress/?page\\_id=357](http://www.gsb.iastate.edu/wordpress/?page_id=357)
    10. University Committee on Disabilities  
<http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=31>
    11. Work/Life Advisory Committee  
<http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=139>
- f. Report of the PAG Chair - PAG Chair Diddi
  - i. 300 PAG's awarded for Spring
  - ii. Peer Teaching and Research awards to be announced
  - iii. Teaching:
    1. Jenifer Saldhana
    2. Jing Yang
    3. Rahul Roy
    4. Zachary Zenko



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5. Tim Cullinan
  6. Amy Worthington
  - iv. Research:
    1. Katie Smith
    2. Chamila De Silva
    3. Tianqi Li
    4. Katrin Hollinger
    5. Long Chen
    6. Jill Ashley Madden
    7. Youngwon Kim
  - v. Wakonse fellows announced:
    1. Erin Zimmerman, English
    2. Alissa Stoehr – SOE
    3. Maria Gonzalez Ramirez - Economics
    4. Eve Iversen - Natural Resource Ecology and Management
    5. Sara Jablon – AESHM
  - vi. GC-ELA
  - vii. Rental Housing Committee – Student Experience Enhancement Council
  - g. Report of the GSB Senator-at Large
    - i. None
- VI. Old Business
- a. Senate Bill S14-06 : Amending the GPSS Constitution
    - i. Motion to consider as read
    - ii. Call to Question – Unanimous Consent
    - iii. VOTE on Amendment:
      1. YES : 96%
      2. NO : 0%
      3. ABSTAIN : 4%
      4. PASSED
- VII. New Business
- a. Senate Bill S14-09 – Amending the GPSS Standing Rules
    - i. Meetings will now start at 7pm
    - ii. Two-thirds to call to question
    - iii. Voting results will be a part of the meeting minutes
      1. Roll call votes take forever, if clickers aren't used.
      2. This may be a good addition to the senator handbook
    - iv. To end debate, two-thirds is required
      1. Redefinition of majority is confusing, amendment to not make this change
        - a. Called to question – Unanimous Consent





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### b. VOTE: PASSED

- v. Amendments should be projected for senate to see
- vi. Open forum limited to 45min, senate forum limited to 30min, Chair has the power to enforce or not enforce this rule
- vii. Called to question – Unanimous Consent
- viii. VOTE:
  - 1. YES : 98%
  - 2. NO : 2%
  - 3. ABSTAIN : 0%
  - 4. PASSED

### b. Senate Bill S14-10 – Amending the GPSS By-laws

- i. Resolving conflict of interest in the Executive Council elections
- ii. Motivation was to prevent what happened at last meeting from happening again
- iii. Amendment to prevent Vice-President from chairing the election - PASSED
- iv. Called to Question
- v. VOTE:
  - 1. YES : 90%
  - 2. NO : 5%
  - 3. ABSTAIN : 5%

### c. Senate Bill S14-11 – GPSS Leadership Award, Eligibility and Review Criteria

- i. Bill Read
- ii. Commencement committee has backed out of their support of this bill, so this impacts the commencement part of the bill because it does not have an undergraduate equivalent
- iii. Maybe we can reproach for approval later.
- iv. Amendment to strike commencement info - PASSED
- v. Amendment to prevent student nominations - PASSED
- vi. Should GPSS set a procedure required for every student organization to use in order to nominate?
- vii. Call to Question – Unanimous Consent
- viii. VOTE:
  - 1. YES : 92%
  - 2. NO : 8%
  - 3. ABSTAIN : 0%
  - 4. PASSED



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- d. Senate Bill S14-12 – Modifying the PAF Policies and Procedures
  - i. Increase PAF amount to \$200
  - ii. Call to Question – Unanimous Consent
  - iii. VOTE:
    1. YES : 77%
    2. NO : 18%
    3. ABSTAIN : 5%
    4. PASSED
- e. Senate Bill S14-12 – New PAF Policies Effective January 1, 2015
  - i. Changing the effective date to January 1, 2015
  - ii. Call to Question – Unanimous Consent
  - iii. VOTE:
    1. YES : 97%
    2. NO : 3%
    3. ABSTAIN : 0%
    4. PASSED
- f. Executive Elections (2014 – 2015)
  - i. Treasurer
    1. Candidate : Senator Rakitan
    2. Supporting statements by fellow senators and Treasurer
    3. VOTE:
      - a. YES : 100%
      - b. NO : 0%
      - c. ABSTAIN : 0%
    4. Senator Rakitan is Treasurer Elect
  - ii. URLA Chair
    1. Candidate : Senator Goswami
    2. Supporting statements by Senators and current URLA Chair
    3. VOTE:
      - a. YES : 97%
      - b. NO : 0%
      - c. ABSTAIN : 3%
    4. Senator Goswami is URLA Chair elect.
  - iii. PAF Chair
    1. Candidate : URLA Chair Kleinheksel
    2. Will address PAF concerns
    3. Treasurer Elect endorses candidate.



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4. Important to have full GPSS Leadership
5. Important to get PAF online
6. VOTE:
  - a. YES : 95%
  - b. NO : 5%
  - c. ABSTAIN : 0%
7. URLA Chair is PAF Chair Elect.

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjournment @ 11:00 pm

X. Voting Record

- a. <http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/13-14/April/Vote/Question.html>
- b. <http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/13-14/April/Vote/Participant.html>