



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

Meeting Notes
Monday, October 28, 2013
7:00 PM
SUN Room, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 7:10 P.M.
 - a. Roll Call – 72.60 % MET
 - b. Statement of Quorum by Speaker
 - c. Approval of the Minutes – MET
 - i. PASSED with Unanimous Consent
 - d. Amendments to the Agenda:
 - i. Motion to suspend the rules (2 mins) – Passed with Unanimous Consent
 - ii. Add all agenda together
 - iii. Add Senate Bill F13-03
 - iv. Add Senate Order F13-04
 - v. Add Senate Forum – Senator Goswami regarding Socials
 - vi. Add Senate Forum – Senator Pritchard regarding Enhancing Institutional Excellence
 - vii. Amendments PASSED with Unanimous Consent
- II. Open Forum
 - a. Dr. Martino Harmon - Associate Vice-President for Student Affairs
 - i. Was very impressed to see such a robust student organization for graduate students. Role / Goal is to be supportive of students. Privileged to work with Dr. Hill. Had opportunity to meet with the Leadership at ISU.
 - b. Dr. Olivia Madison - Dean of the Library
 - i. Students can voice concerns through the Library Advisory Committee. Senator Anderson is a part of that committee. The committee goes back to 1940s. All colleges and academic units are represented in the committee. Thanks to student input, the Library now have extended hours. The third floor is now renovated. Lots of seating space and units to collaborate. Make use of E-Library. All PhD dissertations till 1916 digitized. Many e-books added to collection. Students were surveyed. Came to know what issues are important to students and what are the satisfactions rates. Further discussion by Librarian Harrison Inefuku.
 - ii. Discussion
 - Q: Cap on number of concurrent users of e-books prohibits all students in a course to use it.



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A: Thanks for letting us know.

Q: Rooms need faster Internet.

A: Didn't know about it. Thanks for letting know.

Senator Anderson: You are not renting the room. No money involved.

Q: Hard to find power outlets.

A: We are doing everything we can to increase power outlets. Will make plug for Tiers as there is electricity along the walls.

c. Harrison Inefuku – Librarian :

- i. Goal is to think how we can use digital repository; a new service launched last April.
- ii. Can link to documents
- iii. Fine-tuned for Google and Google scholar, so publications can be easily found in search.
- iv. Work in repository gets into library catalog.
- v. You can measure impact through download count.
- vi. Author dashboard - get good sense of how work is being used.
- vii. Thesis and dissertations are being put into the repository.
- viii. Students retain the copyright over their work.
- ix. If there are problems with publications / patents, publication / thesis can be embargo for a certain period of time.
- x. Questions coming from all over the world - international audience
- xi. Portable (If another institute uses Selective Works, work can be migrated)
- xii. Can publish proceeding

III. Senate Forum

a. Senator Pritchard -

- i. Enhancing Institutional Excellence
- ii. President Leath is making changes to promote grad enrollment and wants to know how to enhance the graduate experience.
- iii. Senator Pritchard is part of a sub-committee that access the needs of graduate students.
- iv. Graduate student population to increase from 4500 (current) to 6500 (40% increase by 2017).
- v. Fiscal year 2014 - put money to bridge funding (if grant is cut off and near to graduation).
- vi. Increase enrollment by adding Presidential scholarships.
- vii. Discussion



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Senator Mantilla and Diddi expressed concern for housing, specially for International students.

Q: Will some departments be preferred in this 40% increase.

A: Not sure

Q: Quality vs Quantity?

A: Discussion happened over it. We are playing a balancing act.

Q: Writing center. Can you give further information?

A: There is a 4/5-time person hired to start the center. Not sure when it is beginning. May be Fall 2014.

Q: More details about Bridge Funding

A: General idea is if a faculty is without funding for a narrow period of time, so there can be bridge funding.

- b. Senator Goswami
 - i. Mechanical Graduate Students organization organizes social gathering.
 - ii. Would like other organizations to come join hand for a collaborative social gathering.
 - iii. Look forward to combine social events with other organizations.
 - iv. Activities: Canoeing trip in summer. Go for Friday dinners. Trips to science center in Des Moines.
- IV. Introduction of new bills and resolutions
 - a. Senate Bill F13-03 Fall 2013 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Allocations
 - b. Senate Order F13-04 Nominating Graduate Students to the GSB Senate
- V. Remarks and Reports
 - a. Report of the President – President Prisacari
 - i. Increase in Tuition & Fee
 - 1. The rationale for the tuition increase in the graduate programs for both resident and non-residentis to address the general inflation in the cost of education.
 - 2. 1.81% is the lower end and the 3.20% is the higher end of the forecasted Higher Education Price Index inflation rate for FY15
 - 3. Architecture: +400 – the final year of a 3-yr phase; both resident and non-resident; student/faculty ratio and reduce the size of classrooms



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4. College of Vet. Med: improve the program, increase opportunities for students to attend national meetings; the proposed tuition increase will place Vet. Med. at 21st out of 28 accredited colleges of vet. Med. in cost
- ii. GPSS Branding
 1. The role of the Senator
 - a. Introduce yourself to your students
 - b. Inquire – ask your constituents what they think/need
 - c. Speak & Share constituents (international fee, etc.)
 - d. Update your constituents (invite at least 1 student to our event and ask at least 2 students to present his/her research at our conference)
 - e. Participate – come to the events, be part of a committee
 2. Making GPSS more visible
 - a. Display Case in Memorial Union
 - b. Graduate Lounge
 - c. MU Website – GPSS link is on the MU website under MU Services
 - d. GPSS Website
 - e. Graduate College Newsletter – should this be continued? Staff could be doing other stuff. In addition, Grad. College needs to decide whether they need to purchase some software to support the newsletter. What is your sense of its value to students? Would it better off investing in other initiatives instead of the newsletter or it should be continued?
 - f. Events – Conference
 3. What else can GPSS do to increase its awareness?
 4. What GPSS needs to improve to better serve and represent graduate & professional students?
 - iii. State appropriations
 1. Since 1946, 3 universities have received general instructional funding in roughly 40-40-20 split
 2. In 1960s and 1970s some states began basing their appropriations on student enrollment



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3. University of Iowa has some additional revenue (hospital)
4. A task force committee was created to investigate and re-evaluate the split (merit based?)
- iv. Graduate Orientation
 1. Monday, January 27th 6-7pm (before January Senate meeting)
 2. Whom would you like us to invite?
 3. Please help us to spread the word by inviting your constituents.
- v. Pedestrian/Bicycle/Vehicle Safety Committee
 1. How many of you are biking to the campus?
 2. Approx. 10 accidents have occurred this year that involve bicyclists
 3. More buses in near future, more students
 4. This committee composed of members of ISU Police, Ames Police, Cyride, City of Ames, GPSS, and GSB are working on the safety awareness campaign – how can we inform students, faculty, staff of laws and promote safety on campus? If you have any ideas/suggestions, please email GPSS President.
- vi. Regent Walsh visited our campus on Friday, October 11. Her contact information is:
 1. 248 Iowa Memorial Union
125 North Madison Street
Iowa City, IA 52242
Phone: (319) 384-1521
E-mail: regenthw@iastate.edu
- vii. “Public Speaking Tips – how to deliver the best presentation”?
 1. Guest Speaker:
 - a. Senior Vice-President of Student Affairs Dr. Thomas Hill
 - b. Luke Lefebvre – Director of Public Speaking, Department of English
 - c. Kennerth Holscher, Entomology professor, Teaching Award 2013
 2. Tuesday, November 19th, 6-7pm, Gallery Room, Memorial Union
- viii. For the first time, GPSS and Graduate College will present at the President’ Council
 1. Friday, December 13, 8-9am
 2. Please invite your constituents



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- ix. Who Needs Feminism (WNF) photo campaign
 1. Who Needs Feminism is a photo campaign where participants write an "I need feminism..." statement on a white board and have their photo taken with it.
 2. If interested to participate, stop by Margaret Sloss Women's Center on Mondays from 3-4pm, Thursdays 10am-12pm, and Friday from 3:30pm to 5:00pm.
 3. If you have questions, contact Ouma: ozamadou@iastate.edu
- x. 2014 MLK Jr. Advancing One Community Awards – please consider nominating a student/faculty/student group
- b. Report of the Vice President and Rules Committee – Vice President Tlach
 - i. F13-03 and F13-04 were found favorable.
 - ii. New ideas for a possible graduate lounge should be sent to gpssvicepresident@iastate.edu
 - iii. Social Information:
 1. GPSS will join SCAVMA for tailgating festivities during Homecoming on Saturday November 9th. GPSS will provide S'mores, chips, and lemonade.
 2. Any new social ideas should be sent to gpssvicepresident@iastate.edu
 - iv. Students can check out water coolers from GPSS.
- c. Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee - Treasurer Helms
 - i. No new business to discuss
 - ii. Allocations: Finance Committee has made their recommendations, heard appeals, and made their Final Recommendations for Fall Allocations. We are proposing that \$6608.55 of GPSS funding be administered to the 10 clubs that completed allocation applications this semester. This amount is well within our proposed budget of \$16,000. The remainder will be rolled over to Spring Allocations. Note: this amount requested for Fall Allocations is significantly less than the past 3 years. This may be, in part, due to the awkward scheduling of GPSS meetings this year leading to delayed senator sign-up and decreased constituent awareness.
 - iii. GPSS/GSB Student Fees ratio discussion: we will be sitting down with GSB before the November meeting, when Spencer (GSB President) will be presenting to us. We hope to present a unified and logical front as to why the Student Activity Fee distribution ratio is what it is.
 - iv. Finances - nothing new to report. So far, so good. Will update Senate with a budget report likely in December, once we receive our Student Activity Fees distribution.



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- v. Please email me for questions / answers.
- d. Report of the CIO and Election Committee - CIO Mukherjee
 - i. New Website. Can work with both traditional computers as well as smart phones / tablets etc. Please test the website and provide feedback.
 - ii. Email lists:
 - gpssexec@iastate.edu : To reach out to all Execs.
 - gpsssen@iastate.edu : To reach out to entire Senate
 - gpssatlargegsb@iastate.edu : To reach out to Senators at large - GSB
 - iii. Clickers have arrived.
 - iv. Please like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. Also, please encourage your constituents to like and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. This would help the graduate and professional students to connect with GPSS and get to know our activities better.
<https://www.facebook.com/GPSS.ISU> https://twitter.com/ISU_GPSS
- e. Report of the URLA Chair - URLA Chair Huffman
 - i. Student and Scholar Health Insurance Plan committee
 1. The process to solicit for new a new health care provider for the SSHIP plan has been delayed for various reasons and won't begin until next year. This means the student insurance plan for FY14-15 will still be provided by Aetna.
 2. A summary of how the Affordable Health Care act affects grad students can be found here:
http://www.hrs.iastate.edu/hrs/system/files/sship/general/640/affordable_care_act_-_questions_and_answers_2013-10-15_0831.pdf
 - ii. Computational advisory committee
 1. In CAC's last meeting, we looked at the state of financial report / student technology fees. We approved the PaperCut related expenditure be covered through the central pool budget instead of ITS having to charge the departments. This is mostly an administrative change. We also discussed ways to collect ISU community's feedback and suggestion for possible projects that could be funded through CAC funds. Finally, College of Engineering wanted approval for studio / lab equipment related expenditure through the college's CAC funds, which was approved. The meeting minutes for October meeting can be found at: <http://www.cio.iastate.edu/committees/cac/>
 - iii. Conference Update:



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1. The website is being updated. Committee members should expect to see a submission form very soon (possibly this week).
- f. Report of the PAG Chair - PAG Chair Diddi
- i. 189 PAG awards approved. . PAG funding remaining for approximately 8 applications.
 - ii. Proposed online transition of PAG from Spring 2014
 - iii. PAG committee plans:
 1. To develop rules for PAG, general and special circumstances
 2. To decide GPSS awards and their criteria – Allocated amount \$4000 annually. GPSS awards may be available for student applications by Spring 2014. Please remind your constituents to check GPSS website for any updates that will be posted
 - iv. Senators are encouraged to join PAG committee. Currently the committee meets on Tuesdays at 9AM - 10AM as and when required
 - v. Margaret Ellen White Faculty Awards – Nominations being accepted
GPSS is currently accepting nominations for the Margaret Ellen White Graduate Faculty Award. Nominations are due to the GPSS PAG Chair by Friday November 29, 5PM. Procedure for nomination can be found at the following link:
http://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/academics/awards/white_award/
For any questions please mail GPSS PAG Chair at gpsspag@iastate.edu
- VI. Old Business [NONE]
- VII. New Business
- a. Senate Bill F13-03 Fall 2013 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Allocations
 - i. Bill read by Sentor Rakitan.
 - ii. Discussion:
 1. Vice President Tlach: General Allocation funds are not depleted yet. So it is not as if others didn't get paid and Veterinary Medicine took the money.
 2. Treasurer Helms: 13 applications were submitted. 3 were rejected. The guidelines are a mess and need to be edited. We allocated \$16K. Typically Fall allocations come to about 9-10K. Spring is significantly higher. So we roll over the budget to Spring semester.
 3. Senator Zenko: For this cycle, students use guidelines as written. So shouldn't penalize. We are already paying through student fees.



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4. Senator Ramezani: Finance committee is trying to modify guidelines. But it is not fair to keep the bill just because we will change.
 5. Senator Lois: Vote against it. Bill is discriminatory as most organizations are from Veterinary Medicine. Also the allocations are made on basis of messy guidelines.
 6. Senator Severs: I take exception to Senator Lois' statement.
 7. Senator Hollis: Vet Med club events are not exclusive to Vet Med students.
 8. Senator Lois: With this money we could find 33 PAGs. Why wait to stop wasting money?
 9. Senator Rakitan: Clubs must have promised to their speakers. So it's unfair to deny them funding now.
 10. Senator Anderson: Was it broken down in to line items in the past?
 11. Vice President Tlach: No, that is for special allocations.
 12. Anderson – GPSS should not change current funding based on future changes.
- iii. VOTE:
1. YES : 47
 2. NO : 2
 3. ABSTAIN : 3
 4. PASSED
- b. Senate Order F13-04 Nominating Graduate Students to the GSB Senate
- i. Bharat Agrawal introduced himself.
 - ii. Senator Zenko – Motion to consider as read.
 - iii. Motion passed by Unanimous Consent.
 - iv. No discussion.
 - v. VOTE:
 1. YES : 51
 2. NO :
 3. ABSTAIN : 1
 4. PASSED

VIII. Announcements

- a. GPSS Research Conference (Senator Lawana)
 - i. The GPSRC has been rescheduled and finalized on 4th April 2014. Venue has been decided to be College of Design atrium. Provost office is helping us with inviting guest speaker from out side ISU and also Provost Wickert. The event will be one-day event comprised of oral and poster



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presentations, undergraduate-graduate panel, grant writing workshop, award ceremony and social. The judging and submission just met 2 weeks back and we will be sending more information about it pretty soon. We need more participation from GPSS and graduate students. Website will be updated soon.

- b. Senator Ramezani : International fee committee - open forum for fee committee.
 - c. Senator at Large Bharat : Please participate in Campus town food crawl.
 - d. Senator Anderson : Halloween party in Great Hall
- IX. Adjournment @ 9:55 pm