



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

Meeting Notes

Monday, February 24, 2013

7:00 PM

South Ballroom, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 7:10 P.M.
 - a. Roll Call – 64.9 % MET
 - b. Statement of Quorum by Speaker
 - c. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. APPROVED – Unanimous Consent
 - d. Amendments to the Agenda:
 - i. Reminder of 45 minute time limit for Open Forum
 - ii. Add Senator Lawan to Senate Forum
 - iii. S14-05 (Budget bill) becomes S14-04 and
 - iv. S14-04 (PAG Bill) is changed and becomes the new S14-05
 - v. APPROVED – Unanimous Consent
- II. Introduction of new bills and resolutions
 - a. Senate Bill S14-04 – Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Budget for Fiscal Year 2015
 - i. Discussing the FY 2015 Budget
 - b. Senate Bill S14-05 – Consolidation and Reform of PAG Policies
 - i. Changes to PAGs based on discussion that occurred this past Fall Semester.
- III. Open Forum
 - a. Hillary Kletscher - GSB Presidential Candidate
 - i. Student Government impacts every student: CyRide, Student Legal Services, Financial guidance, etc. Please vote in upcoming GSB elections.
 - ii. Big Picture Platforms:
 1. Recycling available to all students.
 2. Iowa State Student only exchange site – textbooks, sublets, etc.
 3. Parking
 - b. Khayree Fitten - GSB Presidential Candidate
 - i. Would like to implement cabinet member to represent non-traditional students.
 - ii. GSB Capital projects account investment into Student Groups to ease stress on student groups wanting to hold events.
 - iii. Free E-Books for students. Would like to empower graduate students, please contact for feedback/suggestions.



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c. Discussion:

- i. Senator Hershberger: E-Books for 100-200 level courses – how would they impact TAs in that course?
- ii. Senator Rakitan – what specific parking issues would be addressed?
- iii. Hillary – Looking to reduce 24 hour restricted spots in large lots, open parking spaces starting at 5:30 PM, not 5:00.
- iv. URLA Chair Kleinhexel – GSB proposed an increase in student fees for next year, what will they use it for?
- v. Hillary – increased enrollment means higher demand on services provided. Increases in expenses – GSB now covers insurance for student vehicles, increases in costs of services for the big items.
- vi. Kahyree – GSB ended FY2014 with deficit. Student fee will help address some of the causes behind it.
- vii. President Prisacari – What’s your stance on International Student fee increase?
- viii. Kahyree – we’d rather see those services that the fee would provide there and available to students rather than not.
- ix. Hillary – the students said “we want these services without the fee.” We should identify the services that are wanted and build from there. I want to help provide better services, but I don’t want to do that if they’re not willing to pay it.
- x. Senator Lois – (directed toward Kahyree) For clarification, you intend to take Graduate Student fees and pay for text books in undergraduate classes?
- xi. Kahyree – Remember that ~90% of GSB funding is collected from undergraduate students. When we make decisions regarding benefits for the student population we have to take this into account and appeal to the majority of the student population.
- xii. President Prisacari – GSB Senators at Large – we have discussed possibly redefining the role
- xiii. Hillary – Senators at Large have done an exemplary job this year. Excused absences are allowed at the discretion of theVP.
- xiv. Kahyree – service is important, GSB Senators at Large are there to represent Graduate Students on the government of the entire student body.

IV. Senate Forum

a. Senator Lawana

- i. Conference Update – 4th April 2015. Schedule almost finalized. After the conference there will be a social event sponsored by GPSS. We need volunteers to help run the various events through the day.
- ii. Senator Rakitan – how many abstracts? President Prisacari – 82 for everything – aiming for 100, need 20 more.



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- iii. Senator Rakitan – how many abstracts? Prisacari – 82 for everything – aiming for 100, need 20 more.
- iv. Senator Mantilla Perez – How many people do you expect to come to the poster presentations when it is the first item on the agenda?
- v. Senator Lawana – there is a special judging system set up, should make things interesting.
- vi. Senator Mantilla – students will be presenting to other students, there should be an event prior to help draw the interest of students to attend.
- vii. Senator Hershberger – 0 of my constituents would be interested in attending poster session first thing in the morning.
- viii. President Prisacari – should we swap seminars (cover letters and cvit)?
 - ix. There was interest.
 - x. Senator Mantilla – point stands, maybe provide breakfast.
 - xi. Senator Rakitan – are volunteers open to non GPSS personnel?
 - xii. Senator Lawani – yes
 - xiii. Senator Lawana – we will consider it. Unsure about funding for breakfast.
 - xiv. Senator Anderson – because the event's at ISU it's problematic to have vendors at all. Can we find a department to fund donuts and coffee?

V. Remarks and Reports

a. Report of the President – President Prisacari

- i. Leadership and Service awards – Pres. Leath and Dr. Hill want to help facilitate – similar to teaching and research awards administered by graduate college. Recipients will have awards mentioned on transcripts and mentioned during graduation ceremonies.
- ii. Graduate College E-newsletter
 1. Survey results
 - a. How often do you open and read the Graduate E-newsletter? (always – 20%; most of the time – 17%; sometimes – 47%; rarely – 7%; never – 10%)
 - b. Top three means of communication (receive monthly e-newsletter – 66%; get email from my graduate secretary – 59%; get email from GPSS – 48%)
 - c. How would you recommend GPSS to update all graduate/professional students? (via GPSS Senators – 28%; via graduate/professional secretaries – 83%; via officers of the grad/prof. student orgs – 21%; via GPSS Facebook – 25%; other – 14%)
 - d. Plan of action – continue with the Graduate e-newsletter. Please recommend your constituents to read e-newsletter



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every month as it will contain important announcements from the Graduate College and GPSS.

- iii. GSB
 1. I've asked GSB to consider minimizing requirements for GSB Senator-at-large.
 2. GSB elections are March 4th and 5th
- iv. MU Awards and Recognitions
 1. MU offers 3 awards to recognize a student/student organization/faculty/staff
 2. Consider nominating someone whose contributions have had an impact upon a specific area, department, unit or goal of the MU
 3. http://www.mu.iastate.edu/en/about_the_mu/awards_recognitions/
 4. Deadline for award nominations is March 15th, 2014.
- v. MU Ramp Renovations – as the ramp has exceeded the estimated lifespan, it will undergo a 2-phase renovation over 2014 and 2015 at a cost of \$680,000. The first phase will begin this April following VEISHEA.
- vi. Scheman proposal updates - <http://amesgatheringplace.com/>
- vii. Recently, one faculty member was found to have engaged in research misconduct. I encourage you to familiarize with ISU's policies for reporting, investigating, and resolving allegations of research misconduct. The policy is available at: <http://www.policy.iastate.edu/policy/research/misconduct>.
- viii. All graduate assistants will soon receive an email to complete Annual Conflicts of Interest and Commitment disclosure in AccessPlus. This disclosure will consist of two questions you'll need to answer with a yes/no.
- ix. State appropriations – the task committee has met 3 times already and plans to provide its recommendations to the Board of Regents later this spring.
- x. I will be visiting University of Oregon (March 6 – 12) for my research. During my stay, I will meet with Oregon's graduate student leaders and the Graduate College; visit their Graduate Career Center and Graduate Student Lounge, and attend their annual Graduate Research Forum.
- xi. Please consider to volunteer 1h for the research conference
- b. Report of the Vice President and Rules Committee – Vice President Tlach
 - i. 3 bills – all approved by rules committee
 - ii. Budget procedure – 3 options
 1. Accept as is
 2. Provide recommendations and send it back to committee to address
 3. Reject – Finance



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- iii. Rules Committee will meet in March to modify constitution. Please consider joining Rules committee.
- iv. Spring Social – right after graduate conference – please provide suggestions. Would like to do something other than picnic.
- v. Dr. Hill agreed to provide funding for Fall Social.
- c. Report of the CIO and Election Committee - CIO Mukherjee
 - i. Had meeting with graduate college. Some breakthrough in online verification. Graduate College updated that the online verification issue should be resolved in March.
 - ii. Website with committee information as well as the peer teaching / research award links under Awards.
 - iii. Please nominate yourself / others for the various GPSS Exec positions. Elections to be held in March.
 - iv. Senators can now see the voting history for bills as well as senators through the Website as long as clickers are used. The links for the January meeting can be found in the meeting notes. Some clickers are not assigned names, which were typographical mistakes and are clarified in the meeting notes.
 - v. The Elections committee is now accepting nominations for GPSS Executive positions for 2014 – 2015. Please consider nominating yourself / others. Anyone who is / was a GPSS Senator / Exec can be nominated.
- d. Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee - Treasurer Helms
 - i. PAG bill was not reviewed by the PAG committee, questions can be addressed during the bill discussion
 - ii. Allocations are due this week. Please offer your help to your constituents
 - iii. I will update you with GSB/GPSS ratio split committee
 - iv. New budget reflects a lot of cuts and revisions. Please address your questions during the bill discussion
 - v. **Allocations:** Senate should have received an email from me advertising Spring 2014 Allocations. We have \$25,391 (including remainder from Fall 2013) of eligible funds to disperse to qualifying organizations. Please let your constituents know about this important source of club funding! Due Date is Friday, February 28th.
 - vi. A reminder email was sent out 2/17/2014 both to senate and the department contacts. Please, as senators, make yourselves available to your constituents to facilitate this process. I am also available to assist when needed.
 - vii. Allocation Revisions: During budget discussions members of the Finance Committee briefly discussed changes they would like to see to the



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Allocations Guidelines. The following changes have been proposed and seemed to have favor from the committee:

1. Reduce the guidelines from 4 pages to a more reasonable number. The current bullet-point format lacks clarity and is frequently more confusing than helpful.
 2. Untie food from the maximum 50% of the event cost requirement. Student groups are put in the position of creating costs for an event just to provide the one element that serves as a good method to attract interest to the event. For example, a group that gets a speaker for free is technically unable to provide food for their event due to food being >50% of the total cost of the event.
- viii. **GPSS/GSB Student Fees ratio discussion:** This committee has met two times. The discussion has so far involved data collection for the committee to begin to establish metrics for determining the ratio.
- ix. **Finances/Budget** – No updates for current FY2014 other than funding for Awards being transferred to PAGs (transfer occurred 2/14/2014).
- x. **FY2015 Budget** – Please see the attached budget prepared as bill S14-05. While there was no Senate discussion of the proposed FY2015 budget, there were two relevant discussions that occurred after its presentation. Finance Committee met, reevaluated the proposed budget, and made significant changes to certain line-items. Please read the new budget proposal and bring your questions and comments to the meeting next Monday.
- xi. Please email me if you have any questions/concerns (GPSSTreasurer@iastate.edu)
- e. Report of the URLA Chair - URLA Chair Kleinheksel
- i. Information is up on the VEISHEA website. VEISHEA would like feedback how they can best reach out to students and student orgs.
 - ii. BFAC
 1. Wants to hire on more dispatchers and take a hard look at how nighttime safety escort services are administered
 2. The breakdown of ISU contributions to CyRide was discussed (Off-campus students' property taxes contribute to City of Ames' share in addition to the bus fees they pay as ISU students)
 - iii. PBAC
 1. Increased revenues from non-resident, graduate, and professional student tuition increases, also projecting increased enrollments by at least 1000 more students
 2. 4MM going to students, scholarships, orientations, advisor training



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3. 4-5MM More money going into GAs, more money for compliance and multidisciplinary research – attract new research then invest in infrastructure to keep it here
 4. Proposed new costs 29MM before any new compensation plan
 5. Compensation plan is the HIGHEST priority -> 2.5% (6.5MM)
 6. Second priority is year two, round two of presidential hires, 29 searches last year (4.1MM last year [recurring] + 3MM one time startup money), looking for at least another 1.5MM this year [recurring].
 7. Money has been set aside to demolish Davison Hall
 8. Hired Deloitte as an efficiency expert 2.5MM/annually promise to cut 12MM
- f. Report of the PAG Chair - PAG Chair Diddi
- i. 165 PAG applications approved.
 - ii. PAG's still available from GPSS Peer Teaching and Research Awards (\$4000).
 - iii. Nominations for Peer Teaching and Research Awards and Wakonse Fellowship – Please encourage your constituents to apply.
 - iv. Leadership award should be similar to GPSS peer teaching/research awards
- g. Report of the GSB Senator-at Large – Senator Burch
- i. I encourage you to participate in GSB election
 - ii. Graduate Student Career Fair – we are discussing to pass a similar resolution in GSB
- VI. Old Business [NONE]
- VII. New Business
- a. Senate Bill S14-04 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Budget for Fiscal Year 2015
- i. Bill read by Senator Hollis
 - ii. Senator Der Herder suggested to add the budget of last year to the bill
 - iii. CIO Mukherjee: last meeting GPSS passed a resolution to continue its support for Wakonse. This bill goes against the spirit of that resolution.
 - iv. President Prisacari: I would like Treasurer Helms to walk us through the changes. How is this bill differ from the budget bill that was proposed last month?
 - v. Treasurer Helms:
 1. after speaking to the accounting office, I adjusted our revenue from 138,000 to 142,000 next year
 2. PAG, office communications, and allocations increased



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3. Wakonse and exec. Scholarships were reduced
 4. Speaker/programming was added
 - vi. Sub for Senator Zenko: why the Wakonse funding was reduced? I propose to amend this budget so it reflects the former amount.
 - vii. Senator Rakitan: this budget is not against the resolution. The resolution only suggested to continue funding. It did not specify the amount.
 - viii. Senator Mantilla: motion to send back to the committee (withdrew the motion)
 - ix. PAG Chair Diddi: GPSS is not just about PAGs.
 - x. Motion to extend Debate failed.
 - xi. Motion to send back with Wakonse funding for 5 full students (failed)
 - xii. Motion to vote on the bill as is
 - xiii. VOTE:
 1. YES : 32
 2. NO : 15
 3. ABSTAIN : 1
 4. PASSED
- b. Senate Resolution S14-05 Consolidation and Reform of PAG Policies
- i. Bill read by Senator Lois
 - ii. Lottery every month
 - iii. priority to those that have not received in past two years
 - iv. leftovers roll over
 - v. procedure complications may lead to much more confusion and more PAG work
 - vi. Waiting until right before conference to decide funding impacts
 - vii. Costly flights
 - viii. Sold out hotels
 - ix. missed opportunities for early registration
 - x. \$200 is not a lot of money, it should not be a decision maker
 - xi. this was completely designed to help those that happen at the end of the semester that allows them a chance when it would typically run out.
 - xii. Maybe the funding about should be cut?
 - xiii. Maybe should just eliminate previous recipients from eligibility
 - xiv. Motion to send back bill to PAG Committee revisit in March meeting
 - xv. VOTE
 1. YES : 42
 2. NO : 3



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3. ABSTAIN : 2

4. PASSED

VIII. Announcements

a. CIO Mukherjee:

- i. Senators can now check voting records through GPSS website. Links will be provided in the meeting notes of every Senate meeting as long as clickers are used.

b. President Prisacari:

- i. The Graduate College, President Leath, and Dr. Hill support GPSS initiative to install new leadership awards. I encouraged senators to help PAG Chair Diddi work on award guidelines and expect a bill next month.

IX. Adjournment @ 10:05 pm

X. Voting Record

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