IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE
Meeting Notes

Monday, October 27th, 2014;
7:00 PM
South Ballroom, Memorial Union

I.   Call to Order 7:03 PM

   i.   Roll Call - 44/72
   ii.   Statement of a Quorum by the Vice-President
   iii. Approval of Meeting Notes – approved by unanimous consent
   iv.   Amendments to the agenda

II.   Introduction of New Bills and Resolutions

   i.   SB-F14-09 – Fall 2014 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Regular Allocations

III. Open Forum

   i.   Michael Crum, Vice President for Economic Development and Industry Relations
       1. Thank you for the invitation
       2. The office of VP for Economic Development and Industry Relations has very broad scope
       3. Today's focus: Culture of entrepreneurship
       4. Economic development with focus on state of Iowa
       5. Can we make it easier for our partners to work with us?
       6. Our economic development efforts are decentralized, therefore we need to consolidation for efficiency
       7. Our mission is to be the Portal to connect with the university
       8. Research enterprise in the campus
       9. Lot of equipment for research which now is rented out to others.
       10. Workforce development for external stakeholders.
       11. Brought together all groups working on outreach (CITRL, Pappajohn Center etc.)
       12. Report directly to President
       13. Support Research Park expansion currently about 60 organizations and 1500 employees.
       14. 200 more acres for research park
       15. Cultivate spirit of entrepreneurs and innovation
       16. Think about your impact on the society, and financial impact.
       17. Creating self-sustaining entrepreneurship ecosystem.

18. Recommendations from a previous committee/Task Force:
    a. Resources available through internet-as a first step
    b. Courses which encourage business plans
    c. Need more mentors and coaches for startups
    d. Pulling in alumni as mentors
    e. Get serial entrepreneurs for invited lectures for inspiration
    f. Early stage funding: mostly from off campus, alumni etc.

ii. Joined by Lisa Lorenzen
    1. Her office: Tech transfer office
    2. Protect innovation, help corporates, license technology.
    3. Help in starting up the start up using a commercialization plan.

ii. Elaine Newell, Ombudsperson
    i. Here since 2008
    ii. It's a resource for not only faculty, and staff but for graduate students as well.
    iii. It's a helpdesk, for situations wherein you don't know what to do.
    iv. It helps you in figuring out all your options after looking through all the policies which might be applicable.
    v. People sometime just come for feedback.
    vi. It's confidential.
    vii. It's an independent office, part of the president's office.
    viii. Identifies trends and those trends are reported. Trend: 3 or more people complaining about the same issue.
    ix. Mostly graduate students come for conflict with the major professor.
    x. Please check the website for resources.

IV. Senate Forum
    i. PAG Committee –
        1. GPSS PAG Chair, Cory Kleinheksel made a presentation to outline the changes between the current PAG system and the new PAG that got passed in Spring. A summary is attached herein:

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Item	Old System	New System

Financials	• Unequal Semester Divisions
	• $120 for Non-presenters
	  o Inequality across programs with different needs
	  o Estimated 47 (9%) more students supported each year
		• Equal Monthly Divisions
		• $200 for Non-presenters
		  o Equality across programs with different needs
		
		  o Estimated 47 (9%) fewer students supported each year

How additional PAG funds are allocated? **1 **2	• Eligible travel is funded until funds depleted	• Process has not been defined and it is unclear what process should be used.
Student Eligibility	(new additions)	• summer travel is permitted if registered for summer OR prior spring semester(s) • Restricted to active student status (i.e. not graduated)
Travel Eligibility	No Change	
Travel Reimbursement **3	No Change	
Travel Cancellation	No Change	
Application Procedure **2	• (Not something a student would be motivated to do) • Applications must be received at least 14 days prior to travel • For fairness in the system, depending on which semester the travel occurred, the date applications began to be accepted varies	• Cannot apply more than once for the same conference • Applications must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the month that travel occurs • No restriction on when applications will begin to be accepted

When should students apply? **2	• Apply at least 14 days prior to travel
	• Apply as soon as possible
		• Apply By 5pm on the 15th of the month prior to their travel month
		• Use the following strategy to determine when to apply
		  o If applicant has never received a PAG before (High priority)
		    ▪ If the applicant's travel is the next month
		      • Apply as soon as possible, by 5pm on the 15th
		    ▪ Else, the applicant's travel is further in the future, wait until the 15th of month
		      • If the number of High priority applicants is fewer than the number of PAG awards available (e.g. 40ish)
		        o Apply before 5pm on the 15th
		      • Else, follow the guidance above and repeat next month
		  o Else, applicant has received a PAG before (Low priority)
		    ▪ If the applicant's travel is the next month
		      • Apply as soon as possible, by 5pm on the 15th
		    ▪ Else, the applicant's travel is further in the future, wait until the 15th of month
		      • If the number of High priority applicants is fewer than the number of PAG awards available (e.g. 40ish)
		        o If the number of total applicants (High priority + Low priority applicants) is fewer than the number of PAG awards available (e.g. 40ish)
		          ▪ Apply before 5pm on the 15th
		        o Else, the number of total applicants is

		greater than the number of PAG awards available (e.g. 40ish) - It is a lottery…Chances of being approved are less than 100%...Consider the odds carefully, before choosing to apply or choosing to wait. - Applications that are denied cannot reapply in future months. - There is a possibility that future months will have higher or lower odds. • Else, the number of High priority applicants is greater than the number of PAG awards available (e.g. 40ish)
		   o DO NOT APPLY, all low priority applications will be denied and cannot reapply in future months
		   o Follow the guidance above and repeat next month
		o Else If the applicant needs their result (Approved/Denied) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
		   ▪ Apply as soon as possible, by 5pm on the 15th
		   ▪ Disclaimer: May reduce chances of being approved. It is a lottery…Chances of being approved are dependent on the number of applicants and other factors in a given month.

Application pattern effects **2	• Unaffected by seasonal application patterns • Unaffected by advertisements (or lack of)	• Affected by seasonal application patterns • Affected by advertisements (or lack of)
Awarding of PAGs	• Applications processed by semester of travel • No priorities • First-Come-First-Served system • $120 Non-presenter / $200 Presenter	• Applications processed by month of application • Applications divided based on priority • Random lottery system • $200 Non-presenter / $200 Presenter
When are students notified?	• Response guaranteed within 14 days	• Response guaranteed by the 22nd of each month (i.e. less than 7-37 days depending on date of application)
Fairness improved	• Semesters of travel • First-Come-First-Served • No priorities • Over subscription meant 0% chance of receiving	• Months of applications • Random Lottery • Higher Priority to those who have not received before • Over subscription means a chance still exists
Fairness reduced **2	• No "games" • (no comparison) • Funds awarded based on Travel cycle hence under/over funding is not a problem in the system	• Game Strategies now need to be used in order to apply and receive a PAG award • Lower Priorities may still be awarded a PAG while a Higher Priority application is denied • Awarding based on application month and possible under/over funding of travel months

**1 - Current (and best) suggestion so far has been to never add additional funds to PAGs that were not previously budgeted

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**2 - These changes are NOT due to the change from the old First-Come-First-Served system to the new Random Lottery system. This difference IS a consequence of 1) A change from using "travel" dates to using "application" dates during the PAG awarding process, and 2) A decision to not allow reapplications (or simply rollover eligible applications) when denied due lack of funding in a given month (e.g. not selected in a lottery)

**3 - When they are awarded a PAG, Students do NOT receive funds upfront. Students are reimbursed through a process within their departments after travel has occurred.

- ii. Following the presentation, Senate feedback was requested:
- iii. Senate feedback for
    1. Keeping the PAG amount at $200: 38%
    2. Decreasing the amount to serve more students: 64%
- iv. Senate feedback for allocating PAG through
    1. Travel Date: 76
    2. Application Date: 13
    3. Abstain: 11
- v. Senate feedback for: First-come-first-served for high-priorities, lottery only for low-priority
    1. Yes : 56%
    2. No: 27%
    3. Abstain: 18%

V. Remarks and Reports

  i. Report of the President – President Arko Mukherjee

1. Graduate Career Services: Interviews are on. Currently down to 4 candidates. The process should be done by November and the selected candidate should be on board by January 2015.
2. POS Online application is now live. Students can now submit online POS forms.
3. Research conference:
    a. Any contacts for a keynote speaker?
4. Met UNI graduate students on October 14th representing GPSS.
5. GPSS represented at Meet your Government Day.
6. The exec committee meets the Provost Friday October 17th.
7. Iowa State University joins University Innovation Alliance as a founding member. More information: http://www.theuia.org/

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8. Graduate College currently debating the number of undergraduate credits allowed in graduate POS form.

Attached are slides from the Annual Report from the Ombuds Office.

    ii.   Report of the Vice President and Rules Committee – Vice President Zachary Zenko

1. Suggestions for supplementary materials to be sent with legislation

    a. After an inspiring chat with Provost Wickert, I would like to suggest that legislation – especially complicated legislation – includes an attachment that explains the implications. A recent example is the legislation brought before the Senate with tracked changes. This supplement material, though not required, could make the argument prior in favor of the bill prior to the Senate meeting. This will give the Senate more time to read it, think about it, and come up with reasoned discussion points.

    b. This would also give the Senate ample time for fact checking, outside of the Senate floor.

    c. Importantly, it should be noted that any legislation coming before the Senate floor is not necessarily endorsed by the executive council, university, or any Senate committee. The points of view argued in the supplementary material should always be based on fact and evidence and are not necessarily the points of view of the executive council, university, or any Senate committee.

    iii.   Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee – Treasurer Timothy Rakitan

- Regular Allocations:
  - $9,036.83 awarded in Regular Allocations; $4,963.17 unused from Fall cycle
  - In total, 14 requests considered; more expected next semester
  - Send us your ideas for how to use the leftovers
- Special Allocations:
  - We spent $1,500 to support the Lectures program; this depleted our Specials Allocations. Anyone interested can write legislation to move surplus funds into Specials.
- Socials surplus:
  - We've still got $763.72 leftover from the Fall Social. Somebody tell me how to spend it!

    iv.   Report of the CIO and Elections Committee – CIO Sneha Singh

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1) Updates from Operations Committee Meeting
    a) GPSRC Web Page Update
    b) Automation of voting results generation
    c) Online Senator Nomination

2) Online Regular Allocation Updates
3) Yung-Yu Chung agreed to be a part of University CIO search committee

     v.   Report of the URLA Chair and URLA Committee – URLA Chair Ruchir Goswami

    1) Need graduate student representation for following:

ommittee	Description
ll University Judiciary: 4	http://www.committees.iastate.edu/comm-info.php?id=77
SB Senator at-large:1	Serve on both GPSS and GSB senates in a liason capacity
tudent Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate	https://www-facsen.sws.iastate.edu/councils/academicaffairs/student-affairs-committee

    2) The second Professional Development Seminar scheduled for Nov 10th has been postponed, since it is conflicting with the Senate meeting for November itself. It should be noted that the Senate meeting was shifted from Nov 17th to Nov 10th due to Richard Dawkin's lecture which is partially being sponsored by GPSS. The new dates for the professional development seminar would be communicated soon.

    3) **SHAC (Student Health Advisory Committee) Outreach Forum on Wednesday, October 29th, at 3:30** in UDCC room 136. Leadership at Thielen Student Health Center greatly values the input of students and faculty, and SHAC Outreach serves as an important venue to get your feedback and share information.

    4) GPSS Research Conference: (Introduce Misty)
        a. Need Faculty participation for judging
        b. Call for abstracts would start around mid-November
        c. Please provide feedback regarding who you would like to see as a Keynote speaker or what workshops you would like to see at GPSRC 2015. Drop an email to gpssurla@iastate.edu

vi. Report of the PAF Chair and the PAF Committee – PAF Chair Cory Kleinheksel

1. Senators please remind your constituents to submit their Margaret Ellen White Graduate Faculty Award to you. Then Senators please submit to me before the next Senate meeting. Each department or program is allowed 1 nomination per senate representative.

2. An Audit of the PAG account revealed no surprises. The account is adequately funded.

3. PAG Committee met and corresponded to begin preparing educational materials for the transition to the new policies and procedures. Those draft materials will be ready and presented at the October GPSS meeting. Senator feedback is requested.

4. New PAG Policies and Procedures were posted prominently to the PAG website. Department contacts were notified of the new PAG procedures beginning January 1st, 2015.

5. To complete the New System transition smoothly

a. Senator feedback at the October Senate meeting is critical in our final draft of educational materials for Students and Department Staff.

b. Educational materials will finalized and posted to the website.

c. PAG applications will begin to be accepted on November 16th. No changes to the application form is anticipated at this point.

d. Prior to December 16th, the PAG committee will conduct a mock lottery using past applications to simulate the lottery procedure.

e. Between December 16th and 22nd, the PAG committee will conduct the first lottery of the new system.

vii. Report of the GSB-Senator at Large

Bike Share Program

On Wednesday, October 15, 2014, the Government of the Student Body (GSB) passed Senate Bill 2014-2-048 (Senate and Executive Collaboration on Bike Share and Campus Transportation) to fund the Bike Share Program.

City Council Meeting

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GSB met with the City Council on Wednesday October 8, 2014 and discussed issues regarding Ames housing and Cyride transit. The Ames housing website, Cityofames.org, will be useful to all ISU students and the Ames Community at large. There is assurance of crime free housing with this arrangement, unlike Craigslist. Modifications will always be done in case there is demand from the students and the tenants.

Upcoming Business

1. Upcoming meeting with Cyride Board of Trustees

    When: Thursday, December 4th at 7:45 am

    Where: CyRide Headquarters in CyRide Conference Room

    Topic: Final Budget Discussions, action, if any, would be taken

Information: http://www.cyride.com/index.aspx?page=1394&recordid=2893

VI.   Unfinished Business
   i.   None

VII.   New Business
   i.   SB-F14-09 – Fall 2014 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Regular Allocations
      i.   Amendment to move $4,963.17 to PAG
         1.   Amendment not seconded, hence defeated.
      ii.   Voting:
         1.   Yes: 89%
         2.   No: 2%
         3.   Abstain: 9%

VIII.   Announcements
   i.   The Chair of the Senate, Vice President Zack got a cat and named it Tesla.

IX.   Adjournment 9:30 PM

X.   Voting Records:
   i.   http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/14-15/October/Vote/Participant.html
   ii.   http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/14-15/October/Vote/Question.html