



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE

Meeting Agenda

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Monday, February 29, 2015; 6:30 PM
South Ballroom, MU

- I. Call to order 6:30 P.M.
 - i. Roll Call: 57/76
 - ii. Statement of Quorum by Vice-President
 - iii. Approval of the Meeting Notes
 - iv. Amendments to the Agenda
- II. Open Forum (40 Min)
 - i. Dr. Reginald (Reg) Stewart – Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion –
<http://www.diversity.iastate.edu/>

Distinction between Vice President for Diversity (VP) and Chief Diversity Officer (CDO): VP constructs new pathway, new initiatives. CDO is more of compliance: affirmative action etc. I am both here. I am the first person hired by ISU to do this. Common question: what is the plan? Diversity and inclusion is not a problem that needs a plan or solution. So don't need a quick plan but a sustainable plan. We have a lot of diversity inclusiveness programs that don't necessarily work well together. One of my aims is to construct a diversity & inclusion ecosystem. I am a part of diversity committees in the Board of Regents, University and Program/Department levels.

Microaggression: how many microaggressions equal a macro? Micro doesn't mean small or insignificant. Definition of diversity: if I started listing I'd definitely miss some. Diversity is talking about composition. It is fluid.

Equity represents equal execution of promises subject to agreed conditions. If you don't engage in conversations about inclusion and believe that you are "colourblind" then you're unemployable in the future market.

Senator Dufresne: One of the data points would be the AAU sexual assault survey, how is it affecting you? – I will take into account that while designing the portfolio for positions that will deal with Title IX.

Senator Campbell: You have two different roles, any issues with that? – I wont be the only person doing it, there will be programs and projects doing the job.

We have programs for diversity currently, students unaware, how to publicize? – ISU is a huge organization. I'll talk directly with the deans and ask them how they plan to advertise, assist them in that process.

Will you encourage deans to be transparent in their doing? – Yes, students should be involved in the process of how the solution was achieved.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

1 ii. Student Government President and Vice-President Candidates

2 a. Cole Staudt cmstaudt@iastate.edu and Cody

3 Junior. Running mate sophomore. Change in deadweek policy. Alcohol, drug amnesty policy. Excellence
4 fund: diversity & inclusivity task force.

5 b. Raghul Ethiraj raghul@iastate.edu

6 Senior. Disconnect / diversity. Stugov and gpss disconnect. Stugov background and diversity not good.
7 Heated cyride bus stops. Multilingual mystate app. Majority of grad students are off-campus: safety escorts
8 to off-campus locations. Professional portfolio website under iastate domain.

9 c. Zack Reece zdreece@iastate.edu and Cole Button

10 Junior, sophomore. Students have the amenities. Student counselling services underfunded. Student safety.
11 More lighting around. Student legal services. Student comfort. More seating in library, gillman

12
13 Senator Davis: deadweek policy, how will you do? – started working back in august. Bringing in hard
14 evidence. Raghul: challenging to get it done. Zack: grad students don't like it.

15
16 Campbell: worked with both stugov and gpss. What are your specific plans to bridge the gap? – how the
17 tuition fee gets split. Zack: Cole: exec cabinet should have representative from GPSS.

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19 Extend by 10 mins: voice vote agrees.

20
21 Senator Prisacari: deadweek challenging. Stugov president: fee committee, MU renovate fee raise, what is
22 your position on it? Lot of requirements for the at-large officers. – Zack: vet med and design people don't
23 come anyways. Fee: MU is crucial and I'll approve. Cody: reading days. Requirementns quite strict. They
24 don't need to be on PR committee. 200\$/ semester MU fee. Open discussion. Raghul: want to involve. One-
25 on-one conversations.

26
27 GPSS President Zack Zenko: demands on the senators-at-large. Scholarship for at-large officers—Cole:
28 Stugov and GPSS should split the scholarship. Raghul: I'm in favor of it. Split should be decided later.
29 Zack: stugov senate would have to vote on deciding whether they'd be compensating gpss reps.

30

31 III. Senate Forum (30 Min)

32 i. PAG Committee – Margaret Ellen White Graduate Faculty Award

33 Described the criteria for evaluating answers and procedure to rank them. To avoid conflict of interest, we
34 didn't give people candidates from their own department or from their prof contacts. Described a meeting of



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

1 PAG chair with Weston and Campbell. Talked about suggestions given in this meeting. Suggestion of
2 changes to the form.

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4 Are we going to share the final results? – We can bring the scores in the next senate meeting.

5 ii. PAG Committee – Professional Advancement Grant Distributions

6 IV. Introduction of New Bills

7 i. Senate Bill S16-03 – Revising the GPSS By-Laws

8 ii. Senate Bill S16-04 – Revising the GPSS Constitution

9 iii. Senate Resolution S16-05 – Extending the Deadline for Graduate/Professional Students
10 to Make Changes to Their Schedule without any Financial Penalty

11 iv. Senate Resolution S16-06 – Recommendation to Support Chapter 9 Changes to Graduate
12 Student Handbook- “GRADUATE STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES”

13 v. Senate Bill S16-07 – Special Allocation for the 2016 GPSS Research, Teaching, and
14 Leadership Awards.

15 vi. Senate Bill S16-08 – Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Budget for Fiscal
16 Year 2017

17 V. Remarks and Reports (*40 Min*)

18 i. Report of the President

19 Senator Davis: Thank you for the report, discussion about the MU renovation? -- Suggestion to bring
20 interim MU director Mr. Williamson to the next open forum.

21 Senator Dufresne: 100\$/semester is the upper limit for how much we will be charged.

22 GPSS Research Conference Chair Lawana: right now, it is 36\$/semester.

23 Activity building service fee.

24
25 Senator Prisacari: Reconsider split of student activity fee with the Student Government.

26 GPSS Treasurer Rakitan: informal discussion with counterpart in StuGov says its on the table.

27

28 Senator Weston: In the articles of cooperation, amend name changes.

29

30 Senator Prisacari: new addition to the conference in which undergrads might receive awards, so discuss that
31 with stugov.

32 ii. Reports of the Vice President

33 Poll for open forum: Memorial Union.

34 iii. Report of the Treasurer



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

1 Senator Davis: 14,000 \$ surplus? – One time grant to PAG. And funding to research/training
2 awards.

- 3 iv. Report of the Chief Information Officer
- 4 a. Call for 2016-2017 GPSS Exec Nominations
- 5 1. President: George Weston, Vivek Lawana
- 6 2. Vice-President: Fabian Campbell
- 7 3. Treasurer:
- 8 4. Chief Information Officer:
- 9 5. University Relations Legislative Affairs Chair:
- 10 6. Professional Advancement Grants Chair:
- 11 7. Research Conference Chair: Akshit Peer

12 Senator Prisacari: Comment about forwarding emails, not clear whether it's the responsibility of the senator
13 or department secretary.

14 GPSS President Zenko: quite a few senators don't forward. Some programs don't have any senators.

15 Senator Prisacari: establish more clear communication.

16 Senator Walugembe: same problem faced.

17 GPSS PAG Chair Perez: If all senators commit to forward, then problem wouldn't have risen.

18 GPSS CIO Agrawal: We could use the list of DOGE on grad college website in getting the message out to
19 all departments. Senators must need signal CIO if they are forwarding.

20 Senator Lee: Mailchamp is a system that does that.

21 Senator Rank: isn't this a more departmental issue than senator issue. Senator and dept secretary should
22 meet and decide on who should be forwarding which email.

23 Senator Zhao: should we send out to secretary? – GPSS PAG Chair Perez: in agronomy it is just one email
24 address that is maintained and moderated by the departmental contact.

- 25 v. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
- 26 vi. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
- 27 vii. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair

28 Motion to extend by 5 mins. Passed by UC.

29 viii. Report of the Graduate SG Senator

30 Guaranteed seat for international students on StuGov: introduced bill, did not pass.

31 VI. Unfinished Business

32 i. None

33 VII. New Business

34 i. Senate Bill S16-03 – Revising the GPSS By-Laws (30 Min)



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

1 Senator Duchimaza: does introduction of bills serve no purpose?

2

3 Senator Prisacari: proposed amendment for committee reps

4 GPSS President Zenko: URLA chair deals with graduate student representation on permanent committees.

5 Senator Weston: amendment to the amendment. Passed by UC.

6 Senator Davis: call to question. Amendment passes by UC.

7 Bill passes by 98%.

8 ii. Senate Bill S16-04 – Revising the GPSS Constitution *(30 Min)*

9 Non public database decides composition of Senate now if the bill passes.

10

11 Senator Duchimaza: friendly amendment.

12 Senator Campbell: grammar changes.

13 GPSS President Zenko: Grad council representation.

14

15 Amendment passes with UC. Bill passes by 96%.

16 iii. Senate Resolution S16-05 – Extending the Deadline for Graduate/Professional Students
17 to Make Changes to Their Schedule without any Financial Penalty *(30 Min)*

18 Senator Weston: add as co-sponsor. Mmany of my classes are once a week.

19 Senator Duchimaza: add as sponsor.

20 Senator Campbell: have you been in contact with financial aid office? – Senator Prisacari: friendly
21 amendment to add financial aid office.

22 Passes by 96%.

23 iv. Senate Resolution S16-06 – Recommendation to Support Chapter 9 Changes to Graduate
24 Student Handbook- “GRADUATE STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES”
25 *(30 Min)*

26 Senator Davis: add as co-sponsor. Passes by 96%.

27 v. Senate Bill S16-07 – Special Allocation for the 2016 GPSS Research, Teaching, and
28 Leadership Awards. *(30 Min)*

29 This year it’s from the special allocation. But it’ll be part of the budget for the next year.

30 GPSS PAG chair Perez: these will be awarded at the research conference.

31 Senator Prisacari: why is the prize money 200\$? – last year we ended up giving to 85% of the applicants.

32 Want to make it competitive this year.

33 Passes with 91%



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

1 vi. Senate Bill S16-08 – Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Budget for Fiscal
2 Year 2017 (30 Min)

3 Passes by 98%

4 VIII. Announcements

5 Senator Walugembe: date change amendment.

6 Senator Duchimaza: ISU conf on diversity this Friday in MU.

7 GPSS CIO Agrawal: Nominations are invited for exec positions.

8 GPSS President Zenko: Walugembe: interested in PAG chair? Yes.

9 GPSS PAG chair Perez: Thursday Plant breeding symposium – GPSS funded it, whole day in alumni center.

10 Senator Weston: remember to vote. Article of cooperation needs to be amended.

11

12 IX. Adjournment

13 X. Voting Results

14 i. <http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/15-16/February/Vote/Results%20by%20Participant.html>

15 ii. <http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/15-16/February/Vote/Results%20by%20Question.html>