



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE Remarks and Reports

I. Report of the President

- i. Dr. Vernon Hurte has been selected to be the new Associate Vice President and Dean of Students effective July 3. He is currently the Assistant to the Vice President, Senior Associate Dean of Students, and Director of the Center for Student Diversity at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA.
- ii. I will be attending the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) annual conference.
 - a. Student Advocates for Graduate Education (SAGE) has requested a meeting of many graduate organization presidents to possibly meet during the NAGPS conference.
- iii. The College of Vet Med responded to my request to have a rec facility at Vet Med.
 - a. “currently the college has not been able to identify all the needed space for faculty, staff and grad student offices. In fact, we will be requesting that some stacks are removed from the library to provide students additional study space. There have been some yoga, fusion, and other aerobic style classes held in the Alumni Room after 5:00 pm. That is the best solution at this time. Students can participate in those planned activities, walk around the Vet Med campus, or when the weather is better, participate in outdoor activities with balls and Frisbees.”
 - b. “Luckily, Cy-Ride is stopping at the Vet Med campus and can provide transportation to University Rec Services but dedicated space to accommodate a rec center area at Vet Med has not been identified.”
- iv. I am working with the Graduate College and other groups on ways to improve support for graduate students with families.
 - a. Please bring me your issues related to this topic.

II. Report of the Vice President

- i. Big thank you to all the Exec members who were able to attend and assist with the Spring Graduate Student Orientation on January 12.
- ii. As you have noticed, we have changed the venue for our regular GPSS meetings. There have been some issues with reserving the same room consistently each month, and getting the rooms on the correct days. We felt it was important to not have to change rooms each month. Therefore, we will be meeting in Pearson 1115 for the remainder of the Spring semester. I will work to get a better room reserved for GPSS for the fall semester.
- iii. I am currently working on planning the Fall Graduate Student Orientation which will be in August.
- iv. Working on the plans for the Spring GPSS social which will be at Perfect Games in April.
- v. The Graduate College has a calendar on their website which shows the names, dates, and location of Preliminary and Final Oral Exams. <https://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/calendar/>



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- vi. Update on Graduate Student Handbook: Chapter 9 Rights and Responsibilities Revisions: The revision is with the University Counsel, and awaiting the Provost’s approval. Part of the delay is because there has not been a clear flowchart of where changes like this proceed to after exiting the Graduate Council. There is now work to create a clear flowchart for things like this to determine who needs to approve it and where it should go.
- vii. Update on Graduate Student Handbook: Chapter 10 Postdoctoral Appointments: Provost would like additional constraints on appeal process added.

III. Report of the Treasurer

- i. *GPSS December Social*: Please see table below for the proposed budget and actual expense for the December Social. We had excellent turnout and ended up pay for 80 additional tacos (40 people). The total budgeted amount for the event was \$900, which means we were over budget by \$274. However, with savings from prior social events, we still have \$374.32 surplus in the Social Committee budget, which means we will have up to \$1,774.32 for the Spring Social. Please encourage your constituent to attend the Spring Social!

Description	Est. Cost Per Unit	Est. # of Units	Est. Total	Actual # of Units	Actual Total
Tacos	\$2.00	400	\$800.00	480	\$960.00
Soda (Pitcher)	\$6.00	15	\$90.00	4	\$24.00
Tip					\$190.00
			\$890.00		\$1,174.00

- ii. *FY2018 GPSS Budget*: The FC has met over winter break, discussed all the inputs from the various committees, and came up with the FY2018 budget. Please review the attached draft budget and be prepared to vote on the FY2018 budget bill in the February GPSS meeting. If you have any additional input about the FY2018 budget, please e-mail me (gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu)! The last thing I want is a full blown discussion during the February meeting if we can work stuff out ahead of time.
- iii. *FC Documents Update*: During the FC meeting over winter break to discuss the budget, the FC also performed updates to some of the FC documents. Since last year’s FC already went through a major revision last year, the edits this year were very minor:
- iv. Include the clarification that Regular Allocations will not fund drugs.
- v. Changed the hotel and mileage reimbursement rates.
- vi. Update the example allocation application to reflect the changes above.
- vii. *Spring Regular Allocation*: The Spring regular allocation applications will be due on the fourth Friday of February (2/24/2017) at 5PM. We have around \$22,000 to allocate! Please encourage any graduate student organizations to apply for the \$1,000 allocation.



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- viii. *Looking for a Replacement:* Do you like numbers? Are you able to use Excel? Do you have a couple hours each week? If you answered “Yes” to all 3 questions above, then you are qualified to be the next Treasurer. If you are interesting in replacing me as the Treasurer, please e-mail me. Did I mention that Treasurer receives GPSS Executive Scholarship?

IV. Report of the Chief Information Officer

- i. 1. Call for Election Committee member
2. Contact CIO if you have any questions about website, clickers or placards

V. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair

- i. Seminar on Effective Technical Communication is scheduled for Wed., Feb. 15, at 4:30-6 p.m. in Hoover 1227. The panel will consist of Dr. Jonathan Wickert, Senior Vice President and Provost; Dr. Beate Schmittmann, dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences; and the Center for Communication Excellence. Please share this information with your constituents.
- ii. Am looking for an additional member of the RMM (university budget) committee. Please let me know if you're interested or can put me in touch with someone who's interested, and forward to your constituents. Any graduate/professional student is eligible.

VI. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair

- i. We have started receiving the abstract submissions for the conference. The current deadline for submissions is **January 31st**.

Categories:

Oral
Poster
3 Minute Thesis
Impactful Innovation

Case Competition

More details on each submission category can be found on the conference website:

<http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/research-conference>

Please email the <mailto:gpssconfchair@iastate.edu> in case you have any questions.

Please encourage your department constituents and friends to submit the abstracts.

- ii. Senators from College of Design, Computer Science, AESHM: Please encourage your graduate students to consider submitting to **Impactful Innovation** category. You get to present the actual product, software, or 3D model in this presentation category.
- iii. We will start the judging process early February with the help of faculty and postdocs.
- iv. Please email me if you are interested to volunteer on the day of the conference.

VII. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair

- i. Distribution of PAGs in accordance with the PAG policy



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- a. All applicants, both priorities 1 and 2 that applied for January and February conferences/meetings before the deadlines were approved.
 - b. **January applications:**
 - 1. Submission total: 82
 - 2. Approved priority 1: 42
 - 3. Approved priority 2: 40
 - 4. Denied: 0 (0 had already received a PAG grant within the fiscal year and 0 submitted late)
 - c. Leftover funds moved from January to February: \$ 6139.24
 - d. **February applications:**
 - 5. Submission total: 20
 - 6. Approved priority 1: 10
 - 7. Approved priority 2: 6
 - 8. Denied: 4 (The 4 applicants had already received a PAG grant within the fiscal year)
 - e. Leftover funds moved from February to March: \$ 13,939.24
- ii. Nominations for the Margaret Ellen White Faculty award were evaluated by the PAG committee and six top candidates were selected. The following list of candidates will be forwarded to the graduate college and the winner will be announced in August 2017.

Name	Department	Points (x/60)	Rank
Theodore Heindel	Mechanical Engineering	47.0	1
Dan Nettleton	Statistics	47.0	2
Brenda Lohman	Family Consumer Sciences	46.8	3
Tera Jordan	Human Development and Family Studies	46.0	4
Isaac Gottesman	School of Education	45.6	5
Stephen Gilbert	Industrial Manufacturing Systems and Engineering	45.4	6



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VIII. Report of Graduate Student Government Senator

- i. Election commission has been finalized for the Student Government. Details can be found on the StuGov website.
- ii. StuGov President Staudt has been in contact with Iowa government officials regarding the ISU student ID being used as a valid form of voter ID. The state of Iowa is trying to implement a voter ID law. Costs.
- iii. CySwap website is now online!
 - a. <http://cyswap.stugov.iastate.edu/>
- iv. StuGov approved the Iowa State Daily contract which is for 5 years.
- v. Student Loan Education Office (SLEO) contract was approved.
- vi. NYTimes access is available to all students. Formal announcement will be on Feb 20-22 event.