



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE

Remarks and Reports

I. Report of the President

- i. I met Senior VP for student affair Dr. Harmon, ISSO interim director Deb Vance and Assistant Vice President for Budget & Planning Dr. Darin Wohlgemuth regarding the international students tuition increase issue. So, they have budgeted about 950,000 (after taking off 15% off the top for scholarships). They will be distributing the money to difference sections.
 - a. Proposal to make International tuition fees advisory committee.
 - b. I will be working with ISSO office in this regard. If any senator is interested in being part of this then please let me know.
- ii. SSFTC meeting updates- I defer this committee update to Treasurer John Hsieh.
- iii. The new office hours are posted, from this semester onwards all execs will be attending 2 hours per week.
- iv. The senator social is a great idea to train the senators and can provide interaction among senators.
- v. I am working on my three presidential agenda
 - a. Graduate Leadership Award
 - b. Graduate Alumni Association
 - c. Time-to-degree issue for Ph.D. students
- vi. Took part in new hiring of Director of Students Wellness at SVP of Students Affair. Mark Rowe-Barth is the new director.
 - a. There will be new structure of SVPSA office.
- vii. I discussed the increase in students fee issue with Provost Wickert. He pointed out the fact that there is increase in expenses with continuous decrease in state appropriation that leads to student fees.
- viii. I met Angela Collum at Grad school
 - a. Graduate College is planning for grad students appreciation week
 1. April 2nd week possibly
 2. Akshit please get in touch with her
 - b. Graduate 'open house'
 1. Looking for volunteers. Anyone interested?
 2. Sept 30th and Jan 13th
- ix. As my part of my presidential duty, I meet university leadership every month. Please let me know if there is any issue you want me to discuss with them.

II. Report of the Vice President

- i. Welcoming all new and returning Senators to the Senate session Fall 2016.
- ii. Transition to new Senate structure is complete, special thanks to CIO.
- iii. Thanks to exec council for helping with the orientation and the social, special thanks to Treasurer.



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- 1 iv. As a reminder, any senator may join the Rules Committee and Social Committee by
 2 emailing gpssvicepresident@iastate.edu.
 3 v. Please forward any suggested speakers for Open Forum to gpssvicepresident@iastate.edu
 4 III. Report of the Treasurer
 5 i. Recruiting: Welcome (or welcome back) to all the senators. Have you thought about doing
 6 more than just waiting to click your clickers during the senate meeting? If so, why not
 7 consider volunteering some time for the Finance Committee?
 8 a. Just like the name of the committee implies, we are responsible for the evaluation of all
 9 legislation and GPSS policy with financial, fiscal, or monetary implications. The
 10 biggest time commitment will be during the processing of the Regular Allocations
 11 during October and March. Otherwise, I plan to communicate mostly through a digital
 12 medium (that we can all agree to).
 13 b. If you're interested, please e-mail me (gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu) for more information.
 14 ii. SSFTC Update: During the summer, I have attended all the Student Special Fee and Tuition
 15 Committee (SSFTC) meetings. Below is summary of this school year's fees (that was just
 16 collected) and the proposed fees for FY18 (next school year).

	2016-17	Proposed 2017-18	Increases 2017-18
Building Fee	55.10	55.10	
Technology Fee	230.00	230.00	
Health Fee	216.00	240.00	24.00
Health Facilities Fee	16.00	16.00	
Recreation Fee	321.60	321.60	
Student Activities Fee	73.50	73.50	
Student Services Fee	209.20	213.70	4.50
TOTAL	\$1,121.40	\$1,149.90	\$28.50



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- 1 a. Please note that these numbers have not yet been finalized and are subject to additional
2 increase(s). If you have any questions about any of the above fees, please e-mail me
3 (gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu) for more information.
- 4 iii. GPSS Fall Social: Please encourage your constituents to attend the event. The executive
5 team has worked hard during the summer to plan this event, and more importantly (at least
6 to me), it represents approximately \$2,000 from our budget that is being spent. If you have
7 any questions about the expenses or the GPSS budget, please e-mail me
8 (gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu) for more information.
- 9 iv. E-mail the GPSS Treasurer: If you haven't caught on yet, I prefer e-mail communications.
10 If you have any questions or concerns in regards to the GPSS finances, please don't hesitate
11 to e-mail me (gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu) for more information.
- 12 IV. Report of the Chief Information Officer
 - 13 i. Number of Senators as of August 22 is 41.
 - 14 ii. Call for Committee Members.
 - 15 iii. Social media:
 - 16 a. <https://twitter.com/ISUGPSS>
 - 17 b. https://www.facebook.com/GPSS.ISU/?ref=br_rs
 - 18 c. <https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=8355380>
 - 19 iv. The new GPSS website is now live, more new features will come up soon.
- 20 V. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
 - 21 i. A list of university committees with open seats for a GPSS representative is available in
22 senators' packets for this meeting. If you are interested in serving in one of our committee
23 seats or know someone who may be, please get in touch.
 - 24 ii. Planning is underway for a panel including the provost, Dr. Wickert, and the dean of the
25 College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Dr. Schmittmann, on the topic of effective technical
26 communication.
- 27 VI. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
 - 28 i. Distribution of PAGs in accordance with the PAG policy
 - 29 a. All applicants, both priorities 1 and 2 that applied before the deadlines for May – July
30 meetings/conferences were approved.
 - 31 b. August applications:
 - 32 1. Submission total: 80
 - 33 2. Approved priority 1: 41
 - 34 3. Approved priority 2: 23
 - 35 4. Denied: 16
 - 36 c. For September, we had few applicants and most of the funds (\$7,593.74) were moved
37 to October. This is not surprising as only 12 applicants traveled for conferences in
38 September of the previous fiscal year, September 2015. We expect to fund more
39 students in October 2016.
 - 40 d. September applications:
 - 41 1. Submission total: 24



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- 1 2. Approved priority 1: 14
- 2 3. Approved priority 2: 8
- 3 4. Denied: 2 (1 was cancelled at applicant's request and other applicant had already
- 4 received PAG grant in the fiscal year)
- 5 e. Leftover money moved to October 2016: \$ 7,593.74
- 6 f. We request more senators to join the PAG committee.
- 7 VII. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
- 8 i. 4th GPSRC scheduled to be held on April 12, 2017 in Memorial Union. Rooms have been
- 9 reserved in MU. Mark the date and share it with your constituents.
- 10 ii. Looking for suggestions for
- 11 a. Invited speaker
- 12 b. Workshops
- 13 c. Any special symposia
- 14 iii. Looking for committee members for
- 15 a. Abstract submission and judging
- 16 b. Conference planning
- 17 c. Public relations
- 18 iv. Please email me for more details if you are interested.