



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE Meeting Agenda

Monday, March 26, 2018; 6:30 PM
Great Hall, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 6:30 P.M.
 - i. Roll Call
 - ii. Statement of Quorum by the Chair
 - iii. Approval of Meeting Notes from February 2018
 - iv. Amendments to the Agenda
- II. Open Forum (40 Min)
 - i. Krista McCallum Beatty – Director of International Student & Scholars Office
 - a. Senator: Is there much Ames community involvement with ISSO?
 - b. KMB: We do work with the YWCA in Ames (have a graduate assistant) and do family support; also good relationship with the driver's license office to help with any difficulties; there are also many faith-based organizations that we use to share information. At orientation many, and others like housing, attend orientation fair. Good relationship with local police. Actually a former ISSO graduate assistant is an adviser with the police department and he is sensitive to international student issues.
 - c. KMB: Noticed early on that ISSO works well for undergrads but it's harder to work for graduate students. What do we need to be doing differently to better support international graduate students? What about orientation, when int'l students first arrive?
 - d. Senator: An orientation for int'l spouses would be helpful.
 - e. KMB: What about advocacy for international grad/professional students? Are there things you'd like us to be supporting or talking about?
 - f. Senator: How much are you allowed to take a political stance? For example, could you support the DACA 5k that was over the weekend?
 - g. KMB: We do have to be careful since we do represent a public institution. My approach is that, instead of taking a stance, we're supporting our students. We're available to provide information and talk about challenges, sometimes being a sympathetic ear is helpful. Everyone on the staff believes that having international students is a good thing, and we're going to be helpful.
 - h. Senator: International Vet-Med students are few, but apparently not part of orientation, and I'm not sure how much support they get through their time as students from the Graduate College.
 - i. KMB: ISSO is open to all students, certainly, but do you get the sense from your colleagues that they aren't aware of it and we should do some targeted messaging?



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- j. Senator: I don't know, can ask – very small population.
- k. KBM: We could have some office hours in the café at the Vet Med college. Location in the MU is central but hard to find. We've done something like this in Parks Library to increase profile and make sure students know who their college liaison is?
- l. Senator: Did ISSO have a say in the international student fee that was begun recently?
- m. KBM: I wasn't here so I can't speak to it firsthand, but I do know the decision was made outside of ISSO. Working with Hurt and Harmon to communicate need for transparency re: how the money is being spent so you can see where the money is going. For example, in my office it has funded 2 new positions that work with students directly as well as predominantly need-based financial aid, which is important because int'l students don't have access to the same resources that US citizens/permanent residents do.
- n. Treasurer: First, what is ISSO doing to recruit more international graduate students? Second, how many credits do int'l students need to take in their last semester (i.e., when they only have to defend a thesis/dissertation)? Departments/colleges say to talk to each other and can't get a clear answer.
- o. KBM: First – I am still learning what ISU does for recruitment, though I did just return from an Admissions-organized trip to China re: recruiting. We will have a follow-up meeting to talk more about costs of study, especially. Beyond that, ISSO doesn't get very involved in recruitment. We start working with students once they get admitted. What would work for ISU to recruit more international graduate students?
- p. Treasurer: I am aware of several governments that offer scholarships especially for graduate degrees. However, those do not account for changing tuition/fees; their benefits are fixed. Sometimes, \$1,500 in another country is a lot of money. Last-minute increases will harm those students.
- q. KBM: Right, sponsors especially public ones often fail to account for increases in costs.
- r. Senator: Scholarships to international students could be made more transparent.
- s. KBM: Would it help to have students in programs write narratives of their resources and costs, in addition to more general data on costs?
- t. The room: Yes
- u. KBM: Getting back to 2nd question from Treasurer – that is a challenge. When you're here as an int'l student you have to comply with university policies and immigration regulations. Most times you have to go with the more inconvenient option. Variety in programs and students leads to confusion, but will work on an answer.
- v. Senator: Could mobilize alumni that are in other countries to encourage people to come here (example of Pakistan – from ca. 200 a couple decades ago to just a handful now)
- w. President: ISCORE included a very small event (panel on race/ethnicity) for int'l



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students in a very small room, which was packed. Can you do some more campus conversation to integrate int'l students? There were many interesting questions.

- x. KBM: Could ISSO/GPSS collaborate on something like that?
- y. The room: Yes

III. Executive Reports to the Senate: (40 Min)

- i. Report of the President
 - a. Senator: Thanks for offering Green-Dot within the wellness week. Could it be required or incentivized somehow?
 - b. President: There have been talks about incentivizing it, such as for taking the 6-hour training, but mainly for the undergraduate population. Title IX training will now be mandatory – required to register for next semester.
 - c. Senator: Is Green-Dot something that could be added as a requirement like the Title IX training?
 - d. President: I don't know if the 6-hour training could be made mandatory, but could discuss the 1-hour course being compulsory.
- ii. Report of the Vice President
- iii. Report of the Treasurer
- iv. Report of the Chief Information Officer
- v. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
- vi. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
- vii. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
 - a. Senator: Can you report on the Margaret Ellen White Award:
 - b. CIO: It has been updated and is on the website.
- viii. Report of the Graduate Student Government Senator
 - a. Senator: Why are not all student activity fees split?
 - b. Treasurer: It's just the student activity fee that is shared, which on your U-Bill is lumped with many others in the Activity & Service Fee.
 - c. Senator: Ok – why are we splitting our money if they aren't splitting theirs?
 - d. SG Senator: All SG-funded activities/events/services are open to all students, while almost everything GPSS organizes is open only to graduate and professional students.
- ix. Report of Special Committees

IV. Unfinished Business (30 min)

- i. None

V. New Business (30 Min)

- i. SB-03 Revising the SG and GPSS Articles of Cooperation
 - a. Voting: 61 aye, 2 nay, 3 abstain – passes
- ii. SB-04 Spring 2018 GPSS Regular Allocations



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- a. Senator: Is the percentage the allocations were reduced in the fall the same as in the spring?
- b. Treasurer: This time we did not have to cut like we did in the fall.
- c. Voting: 95% aye, 0% nay, 5% abstain
- iii. SB-05 GPSS Budget for Fiscal Year 2019
 - a. Voting: 95% aye, 0% nay, 5% abstain
- VI. Recess (*10 Min*)
- VII. 2018-2019 GPSS Executive Board Election
- VIII. Senate Forum (*20 Min*)
- IX. Roll Call and Announcements
 - i. Treasurer: Had 100+ people at DACA 5k and raised \$6,000+, so thank you to all who helped/participated.
- X. Adjournment
 - i. 10:13 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the 2532 Vet Med

PENDING APPROVAL