



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 26, 2018; 6:30 PM
Sun Room, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 6:30 P.M.
 - i. Roll Call - 48 out of 70
 - ii. Statement of Quorum by the Chair
 - iii. Approval of Meeting Notes from October
 - iv. Amendments to the Agenda
- II. Open Forum (*40 Min*)
 - i. Sara Marcketti- CELT talking about CYTHX initiative
 - a. Will be sharing these notes with these individuals in a private email.
 - b. Sharing a special note to Department Chairs and Deans who receive this thanks.
 - c. **Senator:** Is this something that will be ongoing each semester?
 - d. **SM:** We intend to tie it in every year around Thanksgiving.
- III. Executive Reports to the Senate: (*40 Min*)
 - i. Report of the President
 - ii. Report of the Vice President
 - a. Spring Social will be taking place on April 12th, 630-9 pm at Perfect Games
 - b. Sound of Music and Rent for the theater social
 - iii. Report of the Treasurer
 - iv. Report of the Chief Information Officer
 - a. **Senator:** Are the ISU grad stories up and running currently or when should we upload our stories?
 - b. **CIO:** in the information collection period and want to put as many online. If it's ready, you can send it to GPSS CIO. It is ongoing, long term project. So once you have it ready, you can send it along.
 - v. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
 - a. **Senator:** Are there avenues for tuition remission or the space where we can bring up this issue? As a master's student, I was responsible for paying half of my tuition and it was challenging during the times where I was a graduate student working over 20 hours a week to be able to make these payments.
 - b. **URLA:** This is something I have been working on, called *Tuition remission*. There are



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many Universities around the Nation that have tuition remission in place. We are working alongside our Director of State Relations at ISU to gather more insight to ensure we aren't taking away from the University, but rather making ourselves more competitive as a University throughout Iowa, Midwest and beyond. I will be giving a more informative update in the Spring semester.

- c. **Senator 1:** Do you know more about the GMAP program and who is eligible?
- d. **Senator 2:** Yes, this is mostly for underrepresented minority students who were born in the United States. They can be supported for up to 5 years of assistantship for doctoral students and 2 years for masters students. Often times they are given notice and contacted by the Graduate College based on their eligibility.

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

vii. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair

a. **Senator 1:** Could you pass along the excel spreadsheet for the PAG grants allotted?

b. **Senator 2:** One professor was wanting to submit the MEW award but didn't get it submitted in time. Could you please allow a couple more days of an extension?

c. **PAG:** It's due today the 26th, not yesterday. If you are still wanting to submit the MEW award, please submit it in the next couple of days, however it will be up to the PAG committee whether or not the late application will be considered.

d. **Senator 3:** Should I apply in February or January for the March conference?

e. **PAG:** You'll be in the queue until the deadline. There's no first come, first serve. Every priority one applicant, and then consult the priority two applicants.

viii. Report of the Graduate Student Government Senator

ix. Report of Special Committees

IV. Unfinished Business (30 min)

i. None

V. New Business (30 Min)

i. None

VI. Senate Forum (20 Min)

i. **Senator 1:** Childcare affordability - I understand this is an ongoing project. Compiling information on childcare, my question is what kind of information has been compiled until now and you are planning to present this to Wintersteen in January? We would like to give information and discuss prior to your meeting with her.

ii. **President:** University childcare services, which is the information that comes from childcare services, but they don't have information on the type of information and the



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steady flow of information and how they fluctuate over time. Students who are eligible for FAFSA or enrolled or eligible for those grants may have their childcare subsidized. There are other investments from Office of Student Affairs, Presidents or Residence. If we can decrease it to make it more affordable. It's confidential and compiling the information and why it isn't available, is because it is confidential. Lily Pad is a University-run childcare so they are more heavily marketed. The issue we keep running into, it's not a longterm solution, it ebbs and flows. We don't have enough professionals to be hired within the University in order to support the need. Reaching out to private services, in order to give more outreach to those who aren't able to access university childcare.

- iii. **Senator 1:** This information contains funding and children who require these services. Whatever information you are collecting, is there a possibility you could prepare a report alongside a few of the senators? I am just interested, that before you present this to Wintersteen, we could see the key points, after retracting the confidential information, so that we can discuss together?
- iv. **President:** That is what the taskforce is for. The document has been shared with Julie Graden, Dr. Harmon and Peter Englin who are all involved in the research and exploration of enhancing our childcare services.
- v. **Senator 1:** I am interested in what you have submitted to all of these higher administration.
- vi. **President:** That important information is confidential.
- vii. **Senator 1:** When do you plan to have this completed?
- viii. **President:** By the end of this semester.
- ix. **Senator 1:** You mentioned you spoke with people from Dubuque Foundation - do you have any minutes to share with us?
- x. **President:** Yes, childcare is an economic disaster. Primary focus is what they have done within Dubuque. It will be largely up to the University to discuss the infrastructure that we can adopt here. How do we attract young professionals? We have the structure of investment, but those are from private sources. Dubuque Foundation examines ways that women can provide these home based services, President Wintersteen is working with Mayor to tap into entrepreneur avenues for the City of Ames. Women's Foundation through Regent Dunkel and how we can collaborate as a University. I am happy to share those minutes with everyone.
- xi. **Senator 1:** What I don't understand is that we have one committee under Dr. Harmon and one under Dr. Wintersteen - what are the differences amongst the graduate students, how they selected and if the childcare committee member is currently part of these committees?



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- xii. **President:** This is something we are doing on our own. More like a research project to reach the goals of the University.
 - xiii. **URLA:** Student Affairs Advisory committee with Dr. Harmon - students have posed their interest, but no one has been appointed yet, will be up and coming.
 - xiv. **Senator 2:** It seems there is a lack of knowledge of who needs childcare. Has there been discussion for a voluntary survey? May be something students can anonymously put forth their information – to enhance the statistics you may already be collecting?
 - xv. **President:** We have the data for domestic students, but it varies widely for international students. Julie Graden, to access healthcare data and how many graduate students are tapping into
 - xvi. **Senator 2:** It may be beneficial to get direct responses for the needs and the pros, cons and what student, staff and faculty feel a need for.
 - xvii. **President:** Yes, that is a good idea.
 - xviii. **Senator 2:** A survey of satisfaction or if they are satisfied by an outside University.
 - xix. **President:** It was communicated to Julie Graden and she will decide if that is the route she wants to go.
 - xx. **Senator 3:** Boone, IA will allow us to rent the movie theater for \$250 for 150 students roughly. Bring your DVDs!
 - xxi. **Senator 4:** March 28th - The Sound of Music and April 27th - Rent
 - xxii. **Vote:** 13 Sound of Music, 24 Rent, 19 renting the movie theater. Rent the play performance won majority – this will be taking place April 27th.
- VII. Roll Call and Announcements - 59 out of 70
- i. **Senator 5:** Insect Film Festival geared towards children, playing Friday, 6-8pm at Reiman Gardens.
- VIII. Adjournment – 7:53 PM.