

President Updates

1. Starting this fall, the GPSS will be organizing a networking event for graduate student organization leaders (there is a similar event for undergraduate leaders). The purpose is to promote connections across graduate campus leaders, provide resources, and leadership support. Details will follow as we work with the Student Organization Offices and other Offices across campus.
2. Please consider signing up to be a part of our softball team! Stu Gov already has their roster full (Dingers for Democracy), and we are lagging in volunteers. In honor of the first President of GPSS (Wolfgang Pflaum) we will be: the Pflaumbéers (a play on the cooking term flambée meaning to "drench with a liquor, such as brandy, and ignite".)

--If you have your Graduate College tee-shirt that was handed out at the start of the year, please keep it so we can all wear them for the game!

3. Areas of discussion I have been having with administration:
 - a. Graduate student feedback in the Tenure review process
 - b. How to better involve distance students
 - c. Finishing up recommendations in the University Childcare Task Force (short and long term goals, cannot be made public yet)
 - d. The censure of the College of Veterinary Medicine administration
 - e. Campus climate
 - f. Academic College involvement (trivia teams?)
 - g. Campus sustainability

Vice President Updates

1. 50th Anniversary of the GPSS: May 13th 2020. We will plan on having a substantial event for this day (Wednesday). A subcommittee will be formed within the Social Committee to plan this event; it's not too late to join the committee!
2. Additional Spring GPSS event will also be planned

Treasurer Updates

1. A reminder. The deadline of spring allocation application is Feb 28th. Please pass this information around to graduate and professional organizations in your departments. It is a great funding source for the organizations to invite more guest speaker, hold more workshops or make other educational events happen. Please email the treasurer (gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu) if you have any question. The details of allocation are in the link below.

<https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/allocations>

2. Due to multiple new requests, the budget is still under review. The final budget will be shown and explained at the meeting. If there's structural change to the executive board positions, a revision of the budget will be needed and the final version will be passed on March meeting.

CIO Updates

1. ISUGradStories
2. Two senators were removed from the senate because of attendance. Missed more than 3 meetings without prior notice.
 - a. Hossein Entezari - Landscape Architecture
 - b. Deon Hargrove - Electrical and Computer Engineering
3. Three senators resigned. One for busy schedule, one for Monday class, and one for missing 2 senate meetings.
 - a. Jessica Bruning - HDFS (College of Human Sciences)
 - b. Samuel Tjong Finance - (Ivy College of Business)
 - c. Aspen Pflanz - Community and Regional Planning (College of Design)
4. Departments were contacted to request new senators.
 - a. One new senator: Arpan Sitaula - Finance (Ivy College of Business)-replacement for Samuel Tjong
5. Follow GPSS on social media.
6. For attendance & placard questions, please contact CIO.

URLA Chair

1. University Wide Committee Appointments
 - a. Compiling materials from Fall 2019 Grad Student Representative Survey
 - i. Committee details will be documented in a sharable Google Document
 - ii. Committee reports will be shared in a mass Report Document
2. University Relations & Legislative Affairs Committee
 - a. GPSS Senator Informational Postcard
 - i. This a postcard that can be shared in a physical or digital form to potential or newly selected GPSS Senators that addresses the following questions:
 1. What is GPSS?
 2. What can GPSS do for me?
 3. How do I learn more about GPSS?
 4. How does someone become a GPSS Senator?
 5. What is expected of a GPSS Senator?
 - b. Next meeting will be held right before the February main meeting at 5:30pm on Monday, February 24th in the Memorial Union Gallery Room.
 - c. Anyone interested in joining the URLA Committee can reach out to Marcus Jansen (marcusd@iastate.edu).
3. University Policy
 - a. Chalking Policy
 - i. New restrictions as to where side walk chalking is permitted on campus
 - ii. More details here: <https://www.policy.iastate.edu/policy/chalking>
4. Student Government Affairs
 - a. Iowa State University Legislative Ambassadors
 - i. Push for more graduate and professional students to be involved
 - ii. More details here: <https://www.stugov.iastate.edu/legislative-ambassadors/>

PAG Chair

1. MEW nominations evaluated by PAG committee- big shoutout to all who provided feedback, as well as those of you who nominated professors for consideration.
2. Top four MEW candidates sent to the Graduate College for the final round of evaluation and selection of this year's Margaret Ellen White Award recipient.
3. Thanks to ongoing efforts by President Field and Joseph Webb, the first semi-automated PAG round was completed Feb. 15, 2020. Further enhancements are planned in preparation for the potential restructuring of GPSS executive roles to increase services and representation to our constituency.

GPSRC Chair

1. Conference is April 7th and 8th
2. Abstract submission has been extended to Friday, March 13th
 - a. Registration deadline for non-presenters is March 23rd
3. Social and Networking event April 7th, 6 pm in the Oak Room
 - a. Cash Bar and snacks
 - b. Mingle with Industry/research/government folks as well as other students
 - c. Cash bar
 - d. MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE CONFERENCE
4. Keynote Speaker: Aisha Moore: Self-care for Leaders in 2020 and beyond
 - a. Open to the public, encourage students, undergrads, faculty, friends and others to attend
5. Workshops
 - a. March 26th How to give a winning presentation with Dr. Mark Gleason
 - b. Effectively Communicating your Research: tips and Tricks for Reaching a Broad Audience with Dr. Grace Wilkinson
 - c. Build your CV or Resume at a lunch and Learn with the CCE
 - d. Life after Graduate School: A Panel Discussion
6. Presentations: Encourage students to attend (undergrads included)!
 - a. Oral presentations
 - b. Poster presentations
 - c. Lighting Talks
 - d. Exhibitions
7. Other reasons to attend
 - a. Receive cash awards for first place finishers in each category
 - b. Receive professional headshots
 - c. Connect with other students

Wellness Chair (Senator Losby)

1. Set the date for the Wellness Week April 6-11th.
Here are some ideas we had:
 - i. Bagel breakfast
 - ii. Ergonomics workshop (posture for sitting at a computer)

iii. Game night

What events would you like to see? When would you be able to attend an event?

2. There's a really cool program starting up called the International Student Circle. It's an opportunity to meet with peers and establish social networks. With this circle, international students will make deep connections with others while learning skills related to work-life stress, identity, and mindful eating.



**Any Thursday in
March & April, 5-6pm**

**International Nest
034 Parks Library**

Mar. 5: Connection

Mar. 12: Safe Spaces & Resources

Mar. 26: Work Related Stress

Apr. 2: Relationship Related Stress

Apr. 9: Identity & Self-Confidence

Apr. 16: Being an International Student

Apr. 23: Mindful Eating

Apr. 30: Reflection

*Visit studentwellness.iastate.edu/2020/02/06/international-student-circle/
for more info.*