

## President Updates

1. Graduate coffee hour is coming this spring! To forge connections and relax outside of our business offices, graduate and professional students are invited to a coffee hour for informal conversation. The event is scheduled for 9 to 10 a.m. on Friday January 24 in the Campanile Room of the Memorial Union. Coffee, hot tea, and snacks will be provided (by the Graduate College!). This is open for all graduate & professional students.
2. Reminder of campus resources:
  - a. 'Let's Talk' walk-in counseling service for students who may not be familiar with counseling and want more of an informal introductory discussion. There are open, walk-in hours in the Memorial Union Monday-Thursday, see more here: <https://www.counseling.iastate.edu/outreach-presentations/lets-talk/>
  - b. Ombuds office can be an integral resource for managing interpersonal professional relationships. This is a neutral consulting opportunity housed in Physics Hall. See more here: <http://www.ombuds.iastate.edu/>

## Vice President Updates

1. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the GPSS: May 13<sup>th</sup> 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. In the current budget, an item of \$1,500 called "executive initiative" was created to pay for unexpected expenses that are not included in the budget. The usage of this funding needs executive approval and reports in senator meeting. So far, a total of \$340.90 has been used by the executive board for three different items, which are listed below.

Item	Amount
Field day equipment	\$54.00
Scholarship for senator meeting clerk, Kate Alucard	\$200.00
Knoll college tree decoration (on behalf of Graduate College)	\$86.90
Total	\$340.90

2. 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](mailto:gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu)) if you have any question. The details of allocation are in the link below. <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/allocations>

## CIO Updates

- 1) #ISUGradStories on our website:
  - a) We share ISU graduate student academic stories on our website (a separate branch).
  - b) It is open to ALL ISU graduate students, so spread the words!
  - c) Please send the CIO [gpsscio@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsscio@iastate.edu) your stories by answering (not limited to, but academically) the following questions if you want to be featured on our ISUGradStories webpage!!!
  - d) Please feel free to send your personal photos along if you'd like. An example page:
    - i) Program of study and year:
    - ii) Hometown:
    - iii) What are your research interests and why did you choose them?
    - iv) What is one thing you think everyone should know about your research project or research interests?
    - v) What advice would you give students applying for research funding opportunities? (if apply)
    - vi) Give a shout-out to a professor, mentor, advisor, or someone at ISU who has helped you?
    - vii) What extracurricular programs or groups have you been a part of ISU that are foundational to your experience here?
    - viii) What is the most valuable experience you have had while studying at ISU?
    - ix) What do you plan to do after you graduate from ISU?
    - x) What motivates you?
    - xi) Please feel free to share more information and stories about your academic life at ISU!
    - xii) If you use social media, please feel free to mention your social media handles as well!

## URLA Chair

- 1) University Wide Committee Appointments
  - a) If you have any questions regarding appointments or believe that there have been any mistakes please contact URLA Chair, Marcus Jansen. ([marcusd@iastated.edu](mailto:marcusd@iastated.edu))

- 2) Anyone interested in joining the URLA Committee can reach out to Marcus Jansen ([marcusd@iastate.edu](mailto:marcusd@iastate.edu)).

## PAG Chair

We awarded 63 PAG grants for January travel, and 39 for February travel.

MEW nominations will be forwarded for official review before the next meeting.

## GPSRC Chair

1. **Abstract submission and registration is open!**
  - a. The registration form is only for those who do not wish to participate in a presentation
  - b. Deadline for abstract submission and registration: Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - c. Social and networking event and Keynote speaker are on April 7<sup>th</sup>, the conference is April 8<sup>th</sup>
2. Presentations accepted at this year's conference
  - a. Case studies
  - b. Exhibitions
  - c. Research
  - d. Proposal
  - e. Lightning talks
3. Why should students participate?
  - a. It's free
  - b. It's good practice
  - c. There are awards for first place
  - d. Enter a raffle for a Hy-Vee gift card
4. Why should non-participants register?
  - a. Gain access to the social and networking event
  - b. Access to breakfast/lunch/dinner
  - c. See what your peers are working on!
5. Meetings with CCE, Career services and more
  - a. Providing resources for students during (and prior to) the conference!