

# *GPSS OFFICER REPORT*

## *August 2019*

### **President**

Welcome new and returning senators! We are so excited for this academic year, and have a lot planned.

- 1) Childcare Taskforce
- 2) Orientation
- 3) In-Senate working groups
- 4) Senate forums (NOT mandatory)
- 5) Chapter 9, Graduate handbook

Please let us know if you have any interest or areas you would like us to address this year.

### **Vice President**

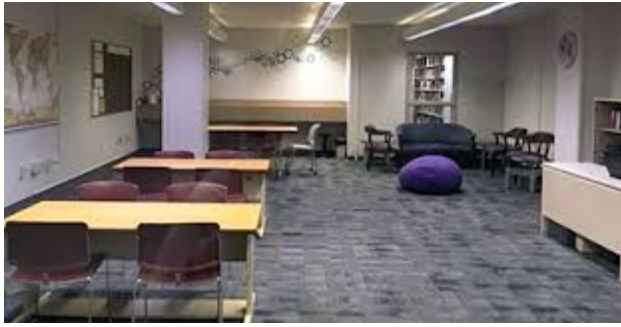
- 1) GPSS Fall Social is being planned
- 2) Fall Graduate Student Orientation
- 3) Graduate Student Wellness Survey: ISU Student Wellness conducted a needs assessment regarding Graduate Student Health (it is unclear if professional students were included in this, and my contact in Student Wellness couldn't remember). Unsurprisingly, there were alarmingly high levels of stress and anxiety reported from both domestic and international students.
  - a) Working on ideas for a Graduate/Professional Student Wellness Week.
  - b) Would like to form a committee to work with Student Wellness for both a Wellness Week and to develop a strategy for working with ISU to improve graduate/professional student mental health.
- 4) Join the Rules Committee!

### **Treasurer**

1. Welcome to join Finance Committee!
  - a) We will meet together to make decisions on allocations to graduate & professional student organizations, which could be \$1000 a year for each organization. This is a great opportunity to serve the graduate and professional students.
  - b) The deadline of fall allocation application is **Sept 27<sup>th</sup>**. 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. The details are in the link below. <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/for-students/allocations>
  - c) If you are interested in serving in this committee, please contact me without any hesitation. My email address is [gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu).
2. International Nest:
  - a) It is a dedicated space for international students and those interested in getting to know them, located in 34 Parks Library. It is a really nice place to hold events or study in. If you are interested in going there, the details can be found in the link below. <https://www.lib.iastate.edu/help-services/for-you/international-nest>

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- b) Current programs:
- i. 4-5 p.m., Mon. - Fri.  
English Together
  - ii. 5-7 p.m., Friday  
Game Night

### CIO

- 1) Welcome back returning and new senators!
- 2) Contact and facilitate department contacts were emailed and contacted to nominate their senators. But -as senators- please make sure you communicate with your department contacts and have enough number of senators. Encourage your graduate friends to be senators. (Max 4 senators)
- 3) Printed name cards before the Aug meeting
- 4) Aug meeting equipment and software preparation: Clickers!
- 5) We are active on social media. Please feel free to friend @ISUGPSS on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. We share live streams and new updates through social media.
- 6) The Biggie: Developed a new GPSS website. More user friendly. Please visit it and provide any feedback.

### URLA

If you are looking to have your voice heard on campus, consider applying to serve on one of the many university wide committees here at Iowa State University ([Link to University Wide Committees](#)). Most of the committees require one or more graduate student representatives, so we encourage you to get involved. If you are interested, please fill out an application ([Page with Application](#)) and send it to contact Marcus Jansen at [gpssurla@iastate.edu](mailto:gpssurla@iastate.edu).

### PAG

- 1) What is PAG? Professional advancement grant (PAG) is \$200 travel grant money for conferences. It can only be reimbursed after the conference and has to be done within a month of your conference end date. Any graduate students can apply, but only eligible for one PAG per fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>). Application deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before your conference month. Details please see website: <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/professional-advancement-grants>.
- 2) Number of awardees so far this fiscal year 2019-2020:

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- a) Awarded PAG for July conferences: 53
  - b) Awarded PAG for August conferences: 52
  - c) Awarded PAG for September conferences: 21 (leftover funds will go to the October conferences)
- 3) Workday transition: worktag for PAG account number during reimbursement.
- a) Here are three ways to find the correct worktag:
  - b) You can use the ISU Worktag Mappings on workday to find the correct worktag for PAG account. Do not include a dash or other punctuation in account number when searching.
  - c) You can email your department contact who handles reimbursement for correct worktag number.
- 4) You can contact the PAG chair: Qi Mu [gpsspag@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsspag@iastate.edu) .
- 5) **Margaret Ellen White Award nominations** start now, due by **November 11** to the senators at each department, and **November 18** to the PAG Chair. Please nominate your major professors!
- a) More information about Margaret Ellen White Award: <https://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/academics/awards/white/>
- 6) PAG chair office hours: Thursday 5:30pm to 8:30pm at MU.

**GPSRC**

- 1) Graduate and Professional Student Conference will be held April 8<sup>th</sup>
- 2) Currently meeting with Deans and Associate Deans of research from each College to foster support for the conference