IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE
Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 7, 2020; 6:30 PM
WebEx Meeting

I. Call to order 6:30 PM
   i. Roll Call
   ii. Statement of Quorum by the Chair *6:30P*
   iii. Approval of Meeting Notes from October 2020
      a. *So moved by Senator Goyal*; *Seconded by Senator Alam Passed*
   iv. Amendments to the Agenda - *none*

II. Speakers
   i. Dr. Christopher Hanes, Director of Student Counseling Services
      a. *(shared presentation with senators)*
      b. *Community of care is very important regardless of level of need, and really to be effective we must engage partners (students, leaders, faculty/staff, advisors, etc.) in order to support holistic wellness*
      c. *Recognizing the impact of COVID and recent/continued issues of xenophobia, bigotry, and racism*
         1. *COVID*
            1. *All of us are impacted in significant ways and our schedules have been disrupted.*
            2. *Other stressors exist (such as changing laws affecting international students, social justice and civil rights movements in response to recent acts of violence and injustice impacting students of color, and indigenous students, faculty and staff;*
            3. *Also consider financial stressors from economic instability, funding concerns, and job search concerns*
      d. *DISCONNECTED (rejoined 6:42P) will continue after executive reports*

III. Executive Reports to the Senate (5 min each) ***PLEASE REFER TO EXECUTIVE REPORTS***
   i. Report of the President
   ii. Report of the Vice President - *NONE*
   iii. Report of the Treasurer – *Treasurer Wongus not present during time of presentation (Vice President Johnson read it)*
   iv. Report of the Senate Information Officer - *NONE*
   v. Report of the Senate Engagement Officer – *NONE*
   vi. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
   vii. Report of the Graduate Health and Wellness Chair
      a. 8 Dimensions of Wellness canvas page

      viii.   Report of Student Government Senators

      ix.   Report from LAS Committee

IV. Speaker continued:

    i.   Dr. Christopher Hanes, Director of Student Counseling Services

       a. *Only 40% of students seek help that need it, and students of color are less likely to sek services as well*

       b. *64% of students that experience mental health issues drop out due to mental health issues*

       c. *80% of students reported experiencing an impact on their mental health due to COVID, and we have also seen suicidal ideation increase as well*

       d. *Increased stress levels as well*

       e. *Program is well-received, and over 95% of students would refer a friend*

       f. *Recommendations/strategies:*

          1. *You can't pour from an empty cup*

          2. *Self-care isn't selfish; it's necessary.*

          3. *Promote awareness, make a statement, set a routine, connect, set limits, be kind to yourself, and more*

       g. *Questions:*

          1. *Sen. Sorensen: Are there other ways to access SCS other than phone calls?*

             1. *Currently there is no other method, but our Let's Talk program does not require a phone call (it's over email instead)*

             2. *Sorensen: Working with D/deaf or hard-of-hearing folx, it would be more accessible to offer a chat section that would still be able to ask those questions (similar to how the library uses a chat service)*

          2. *Sen. Saxon: can you elaborate as to why you screen to see if someone is outside of the state?*

             1. *You cannot provide treatment if you are not licensed in that state (so wherever the person receiving treatment is, they must be served by someone licensed in that state)*

                (i) *Extensions given for COVID have already disappeared; crisis treatment can be offered, but due to licensure follow-up must be done with someone licensed in the associated state*

                (ii) *There are connections with neighboring Midwest states so that it can be easier to connect those students with them.*

          3. *Wellness Chair Losby: how can continuity be ensured if students may be changing from semester to semester?*

             1. *Our professionals are there 12mo/yr, so the only time you may have to change clinicans it may be due to trainees (so it really depends on the clinician/circumstance of the provider)*

2. *Groups are semester focused, we try to maximize them (7-10 people per group)*
3. *August is really the only time due to trainee schedules that there may be transitions*

V. Internal Matters

    i. SB F20-01: Fall 2020 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Regular Allocations

      a. *Only 7 groups requested funding*

      b. *Many of the variations are due to unspent allocation funding*

        1. *Requested value (up to $1000) – Unspent Allocations = Funding Approved (up to $1000)*

    ii. *Questions:*

      a. *Bolded club on the document – is that a formatting error?*

        1. *Yes, nothing particular about that club over another*

      b. *Is there a listing somewhere of unspent money that was previously awarded?*

        1. *Can you elaborate? – how do we know that is unspent?*

          1. *They are reporting to us what they have not spent after we have previously funded them (it also is listed in their 2 years of ledgers that are required to be sent in)*

      c. *Called to question 7:20P*

        1. ***<u>45-3-0 PASSED</u>***

VI. New Business

VII. Senate Forum

    i. *Sen. Durazzi: Students are concerned about student activities for next semester (specifically teaching)*

      a. *President Field: for these students, the best options are DOGE (for departments), or college deans, or they can contact Dr. Graves. The Board of Regents makes a lot of decisions about instruction and even the universities have been trying to advocate better. You can always write a letter to the BoR or even we as senate could do something along those lines.*

      b. *VP Johnson: I just want to second that as someone also involved in those conversations.*

      c. *SIO Alucard: Also know that the BoR makes a lot of funding decisions and it's very difficult for the university even to advocate for online/hybridized classroom experiences.*

VIII. Roll Call and Announcements

IX. Adjournment