The Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) is a governing body that represents all graduate and professional students at Iowa State University. GPSS represents students’ perspectives on campus issues and serves as a liaison between students and the university administration. The senate also supports graduate and professional students through fee allocations to their student organizations, providing Professional Advancement Grants (PAGs), serving on numerous university committees, and many other activities every year. Additionally, GPSS organizes at least one social event every semester.

**What are some of GPSS responsibilities?**

1. **Bills and Resolutions**
   Draft and pass bills and resolutions that affect the academic and professional lives of graduate and professional students.
   [http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/billsandresolutions/](http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/billsandresolutions/)

2. **Regular and Special Allocations**
   The GPSS allocates money to graduate and professional student organizations at Iowa State. Every graduate and professional student organization is eligible to apply for monetary support for their activities. Special allocations are considered for expenses that are ineligible for regular allocations, but benefits the majority of graduate or professional students. As a GPSS senator, your vote determines which organizations receive regular or special allocations. More information is available at [http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/allocations/](http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/allocations/)

3. **PAGs**
   The GPSS is also responsible for awarding Professional Advancement Grants (PAG). Every graduate or professional student, who is not registered under "continuous registration," is eligible to apply for a PAG to support travel to conferences or professional meetings whether they are presenting or just attending, however PAGs are limited to one grant per student per fiscal year. More information is available at [http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/pag/](http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/pag/)

4. **University Committees**
   Graduate and professional students serve on many university committees. Representatives are not restricted to GPSS senators, please see the website for a full list of committees and consider serving on one.
   [http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/committees/](http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/committees/)

5. **GPSS Awards**
   GPSS recognizes graduate and professional student teaching and research excellence through peer teaching and research awards as well as recognizing excellent graduate faculty with an award. For more information, please see [http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/pag/awards.php](http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/pag/awards.php)
Why become a GPSS senator?

- Represent fellow students and departments on campus
- Have a voice in university policies and influence over how graduate and professional student fees are used
- Serve on a committee that makes decisions directly impacting graduate and professional students
- Inform constituents of all GPSS activities and the resources available to all graduate and professional students including the Professional Advancement Grants and student organization allocations
- Strengthen your CV or resume
- Practice leadership, communication and presentation skills

How to become a GPSS senator?

Each graduate department, interdepartmental and professional program may elect one Senator for each fraction of hundred (100) graduate or professional students enrolled with a maximum of 4 Senators per department. Please visit our website and see if your department is being represented. To determine how Senators are selected for your department, please contact your DOGE or the individual in your department responsible for graduate affairs.

How often does GPSS meet?

GPSS meets the last Monday of each month during the academic year, see our website for the next meeting date and location.

How to contact GPSS?

Executive Board
President: gpsspresident@iastate.edu
Vice President: gpssvicepresident@iastate.edu
Treasurer: gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu
Chief Information Officer: gpsscio@iastate.edu
University Relations/Legislative Affairs: gpssurla@iastate.edu
Professional Advancement Grant Chair: gpsspag@iastate.edu

Website: www.gpss.iastate.edu
Facebook: www.facebook.com/GPSS.ISU
Twitter: www.twitter.com/isu_gpss