

- Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2023; 6:30 PM
- Memorial Union Sun Room
  
- Call to order 6:32 PM
  - Roll Call
  - Statement of Quorum by the Chair
    - Quorum Confirmed
  - Approval of Meeting Minutes
    - Minutes approved
  - Amendments to the Agenda
    - None presented
    - Agenda Approved
  
- Speakers
  - Shawn Norman, Senior Vice President for Operations and Finance
    - Overview of where university funds come from
      - 31% from tuition (\$508M)
      - 25% from grants and contracts (\$414M)
      - 23% from athletics, resident halls, and bookstore (\$371M)
      - 17% from state & federal (\$277M)
      - 4% from Fedloan (\$66M)
      - 1% from Investment income (\$13M)
      - Has this changed throughout the years?
        - Enrollment is dropping, but it's leveled out
        - Research is growing
    - Where does this money go?
      - 53% to salaries and benefits
      - 18% to financial aid and scholarships
      - 13% to operation and maintenance
      - 10% to supplies and equipment
      - 4% to utilities
      - 1% to debt payments
    - Three-year revenue trend
      - Bar graph showing where revenue is coming from, fairly stable over 3 year period
    - Three-year expense trend
      - Again, stable behavior
    - 2024 Budget
      - \$12M state appropriation request
      - Governor budget proposal
        - \$4.4M increase to state appropriation
      - Budget assumptions
        - \$20M for Veterinary Diagnostic Lab Phase 2
        - 1% salary increase and 7% utility cost increase
  - Sophia Magill, Senior Advisor to the President, Strategic Plan

- 9 year plan, 2022-2031
  - Vision: Advance lang grant ideals by putting human creativity to work
  - Using Iowa State's values and vision, four pillars were created to focus on for Iowa State's plans
  - Aspirational statements: Be the most student-centric leading research university, be the university that cultivates a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment, etc.
- Strategic plan jump start initiatives:
  - University-wide student success
  - Recruiting new students
  - Etc.
- Advisory committee
  - John Lawrence, Sharon Perry-Fantini, Dristi Darr, Christine Cain, other university leadership
- Seeking innovative ideas that meet aspirational goals
  - Faculty and staff must submit online through the strategic plan website
  - Deadline is April 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Truncated due to fiscal year schedule
  - Review "To Be Statements"
  - Timeline to select efforts is July 1
  - This is a process, think about how you might help accomplish these goals
- What about the budget for this plan, what would each proposal get?
  - That isn't specifically said, because depending on where you are on campus, \$10k could be a lot or a little, and it puts restrictions or distractions on these proposal
  - Total budget depends on what proposals are submitted
- Is it better to benefit campus wide, or department?
  - These are university-wide initiatives, but doesn't preclude a department effort
- Would the project proposer be responsible for the project?
  - Yes
- Are these year-long projects, or how do extensions work?
  - Committed funding will be on one year periods, and may continue based on project progress
- If a grad student wants to submit a proposal, who can be the sponsor?
  - Any faculty or staff member
- Can budget include course releases or personnel?
  - Budget includes areas for this
- You can work with exec team to develop an idea
- William Graves, Dean of the Graduate College & Heather Greenlee, Associate Dean of Student and Scholar Success

- Grad student won award from midwestern associate of graduate schools for a master's thesis
  - Kyra Streck, Major professor: Kelly Reddy-Best
- Opportunities
  - Emerging leaders academy – April 10<sup>th</sup> application deadline
  - Assistantships opening for doctoral students
    - Information on graduate newsletter
- Graduate Assistantships
  - Updates to financial support
    - 3% increase to minimum required stipend
    - 50% reduction for three fees rather than one
  - Deposit frequency changing starting May 15
    - Twice monthly rather than once
  - If you're not on appointment for the summer, and come back in the fall, the first deposit isn't until September 8
  - Only a problem if appointment begins after August 16
  - No-interest loan to students in this category is going to be available, paid back gradually later in fall
  - Will there be a similar gap for people who teach in the second half of summer?
    - Maybe, he'll look into that
  - Will students be prompted if they are eligible for this program?
    - Maybe, he'll look into that
  - If we have questions, how do we contact you?
    - Talk to president Cain, or email him directly
- Announcements
  - Graduate pages now have median time to degree data listed
- Feedback Requested
  - [mheather@iastatee.edu](mailto:mheather@iastatee.edu)
    - Bridge funding programs
    - 12-weeks funding
      - Arrival of a child
      - Temporary incapacitation
    - Annual performance evaluation
      - Helps a student grow and know what they could be doing better, and how they're doing based on advisor expectations
    - Cyclone family weekend
      - October 14
- Performance Evaluations
  - Annual Evaluations
    - Doctoral student (required)
    - Master's (recommended)
    - Section 9.3.1 of graduate college handbook

- Current State
  - Surveyed graduate programs
  - 59 responses
- 10 dimensions of performance
  - Quality of scholarship
  - Scholarly Productivity and focus
  - Knowledge of Discipline
  - Research Skills
- 10 Dimensions of Performance
  - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 scale, 1 is worst, 5 is best
- Vision is that this system would be used by people who evaluate many students
- What are potential consequences?
  - This isn't meant to be a punitive system, this is meant to enable a student to grow as a researcher by hearing feedback from their professor
- Executive Reports to the Senate (5 min each)
  - Report of the President - Christine Cain - [gpsspresident@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsspresident@iastate.edu)
    - Strategic plan initiative and "To be" statements
    - Workday structure release and student impact
    - Graduate council
      - Vote did not pass for new policy inclusion of a course only master's of science
    - VPSA
      - Watching legislature for HF 616
    - Student Union
      - Making space for graduate students
    - Awards Committee: Research, Teaching, and Leadership Awards
      - Great submission turnout
      - Will be announced at our research conference on April 12<sup>th</sup>
    - DEI Work Group
      - Working to establish...
        - Permanent committee and board member position
        - Allocations to DEI specific initiatives to student orgs
    - Feedback on campus mobility
    - Submitting graduate issues and news coverage
    - About my position
      - 5-20 hours per week, average of 10
      - Representing senators on campus
        - Meet with provost, president, dean Graves
        - Attend Board of Regents meetings
        - Sit on various councils for university development
        - Help executive team
  - Report of the Vice President - Caitlyn Campbell - [gpssvicepres@iastate.edu](mailto:gpssvicepres@iastate.edu)

- Available on canvas and bylaws
      - Preside over senate meetings
      - Sets the agenda, communicates senate meeting information to senators
        - Lots of logistical stuff, including onboarding senators at the beginning of the semester
      - Chair the rules committee
      - Attends leadership meetings with the president
        - Assumes the responsibility of the president when absent
- Report of the Treasurer – Juan Panelo - [gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsstreasurer@iastate.edu)
  - Allocations Bill
  - Working on budget for next fiscal year
  - Manage the money of GPSS
  - Spend more time during allocations and budget planning, but other than that not very time intensive position
- Report of the Senate Information Officer - Garrison Gunter - [gpsssio@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsssio@iastate.edu)
  - Created end of the year report template for transition to future leadership
  - Have all the nominees needed for CASTLE advisory group, will be meeting with vice president and CIO Kristin Constant in the next month
  - Discord seems to be going smoothly
    - Any feedback?
  - First time applicants are still getting confused about the automated PAG email, I am talking with the PAG contact in the graduate college to resolve this problem
  - If you can't attend, tell Garrison in advance that you'll send a substitute
    - Email Garrison, not Caitlyn
  - If you're interested in the position
    - He chairs election committee
    - Monitors attendance
    - Onboards senators
    - Keep record of attendance
    - Co-chair marketing and public relations committee
    - Oversee PAG system
- Report of the Senate Engagement Officer - Efrain Rodriguez-Ocasio - [gpsseo@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsseo@iastate.edu)
  - Role responsibilities
    - Role needs to be more thoroughly defined
    - Keeping tabs on things at university and state level that might affect graduate students
    - Getting involved with board of regents
    - Establish a concrete plan for legislative engagement
    - Developing position guidelines

- List of university-wide committees maintenance, and identifying good representatives for these committees
  - Being a representative yourself when there isn't a good representative
- Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair - Ryan Everett - [gpssconfchair@iastate.edu](mailto:gpssconfchair@iastate.edu)
  - [Coming up April 12<sup>th</sup> never too late to register for food and workshops](#)
    - [Keep inviting friends, family, and colleagues](#)
    - Day-of registration
  - Presentation slots are full – Poster abstracts due Wed. 3/29
  - Keynote speakers are Dr. Rachel Smith and Dr. Michael Brown from School of Ed.
  - Photographer (Blake Lanser) confirmed for headshots (Will be in MU campanile room from 9:30am to 2pm)
  - We need 8 to 10 more faculty judges – SENATORS, please invite faculty you know will follow through (we need poster judges for one hour, either 11-12, 12-1, or 1-2; AND presentation judges available from 2:30 to 4:30)
  - Responsibilities overview:
    - Serve on social committee
    - Organize GPSS conference
    - Backend heavy
    - Slow spring semester is good for this job
    - Fall is slower for this job
    - 20 hour weeks in the spring
- Report of the Health and Wellness Officer - Kimia Noroozi - [gpsswellness@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsswellness@iastate.edu)
  - [Student health and wellness advisory board application will be up soon](#)
    - [Because its paid hourly, international students can't apply](#)
    - Showing up to leadership and board planning meetings
  - Student health and wellness symposium for next year, date has been set
    - If you want to get involved, talk to Kimia
  - Position responsibilities:
    - Regular meetings with student health and wellness leaders
    - Depends on what event is coming up, generally 3-8 hours per week
    - Chairing social committee
- Student government senators at large – Eddie Mahoney – [ermahone@iastate.edu](mailto:ermahone@iastate.edu)
  - Student government is in crunch season
  - Keeping seat as graduate senator next year
  - April 14<sup>th</sup> is inauguration
  - Last week approved new contract with Iowa State Daily
    - They get a bit more money and will be audited
    - Have to have more graduate student coverage

- Passed bills related to ASSET to fund non-profits in the area
        - \$260,000
      - Big picture bill
        - \$2.4 million
      - Concerns that Stu Gov will be \$400,000 over-budgeted
      - If you're interested in being part of student government, there will be an email with open positions in executive cabinet
  - Unfinished Business
    - None Presented
  - New Business
    - Spring allocations bill
      - Finance committee present the bill
        - 18 allocation requests
        - \$15,703 requested
        - \$12,290 approved
        - \$9,346.02 allocated
        - What happened with the Pakistan Student Organization?
          - Request wasn't done properly, budget wasn't created well, just a broad description of money use
        - What happens if a budget needs to change?
          - If this change is communicated and approved, the org can spend the money on something else
        - Floor open for debate
          - No debate
        - Bill passes
- Senate Forum
  - PAG streamlining, anyway we can streamline this would be great
    - We're working on it
  - Upping allowance for PAG grants from \$200 to \$600, also, why do you have to apply a month in advance?
    - Still putting budget together for next year, so can't answer limit increase
    - The money amount is so inconsistent month to month that it's very hard to increase a limit like this
    - The month deadline is decided by a bill from a few years ago
    - Updates to the PAG system take a long time because of working with graduate IT department
  - Are all executives positions one year terms?
    - Yes
    - No term limits
    - August 1 – August 1
  - "Non-funded" end of year social
  - More discussion of GPSS funds
  - More snacks at senate meetings
    - Costs too much

- Loan program for paycheck gap
  - Math department solution was no interest loans a few semesters ago, people were very unhappy
- Was GPSS involved with the solution to move to bimonthly payment?
  - No, not really
- Where does GPSS stand on students being employees of Iowa State? Is there any standing on this?
  - No official standing
  - Students have a lot less restrictions (we can take stances on university policies)
  - Intended to benefit us, but it doesn't
  - Students when it's convenient for the university, employees when it's convenient for the university
  - There would be lots of limitations to what we can do, if we were full employees
- Anything smaller we can get changed for grad students in the meantime?
  - Nothing we can't try
- How are grad students at university of Iowa classified?
  - They are unionized grad students
  - Even if we have a unionization rep, Iowa State isn't required to address anything beyond pay and benefits, not including insurance
  - Bring up a bill to the senate to state where GPSS lies on the issue, if you want to
- Bill templates are on GPSS website
- Rules committee doesn't give opinion, just whether something is formatted wrong on the bill
- Is there any executive position that manages the recreation fee?
  - President and treasurer
- Roll Call and Announcements
  - GPSS conference
- Adjournment
  - Adjourned at 9:07 PM