

Monday, October 31st, 2022; 6:30 PM  
Physics Hall 0003

- Call to order 6:30 PM
  - Roll Call
  - Statement of Quorum by the Chair
    - Quorum reached
  - Approval of Meeting Notes
    - Motion to approve minutes
    - Seconded
    - Approved
  - Amendments to the Agenda
    - Motion to amend agenda by finance committee - Kean Fallon
      - Include Fall Allocations bill to be reviewed and approved by Senate
    - Motion seconded
    - No objections
    - Motion approved
- Speakers
  - Jake Cummings, Associate Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity
    - What the office of equal opportunity does
    - No specifics, difficult to give in 15 minutes, very general information
    - Jake is an attorney by profession, transferred into higher education a few years ago
    - Contact:
      - [eooffice@iastate.edu](mailto:eooffice@iastate.edu)
      - [www.eoc.iastate.edu](http://www.eoc.iastate.edu)
      - 3410 Beardshear Hall
      - 515-294-7612
      - Hotline: 515-291-1222 (Anonymous message)
    - Overview of website landing page, important links
      - Report an incident link on top right of page
      - Takes you to a page with two choices, easy form to fill out
    - Office policies
      - Non-discrimination and Anti-Harassment policy
        - Applies to protected groups (age, color, creed, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, pregnancy, sex, veteran status)
      - Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Prevention policy
        - Applies anytime a student, faculty member, employee, or visitor reports alleged prohibited sexual harassment within a university education program or activity in the United States



- Met with student union board, renovations to meeting lounge
  - Sending out survey to be better advocate about which services students are using on campus, what fee increases make sense (e.g. rec services)
  - Updates from administration, search for senior VP that's about to start, as well as search for VP of extension and outreach
  - Met with board of regents advisor
  - Executive board meeting, discussed goals for the year, primarily internal, improve processes like leadership transitions, GPSS engagement with campus, more social and networking events
  - Create better resource bank about where to go, outside of graduate student handbook (e.g. mental wellness)
  - Interested in GPSS forming a DEI committee
- Report of the Vice President - Caitlyn Campbell - [gpssvicepres@iastate.edu](mailto:gpssvicepres@iastate.edu)
    - Name placards in, make sure you grab yours
    - New senators, see Caitlyn at end for name tags
    - CALS looking to host graduate student sessions, CALS senators keep an eye out for related emails, make sure you're disseminating information to constituents
    - GPSS and Stu Gov are moving forward with a joint meeting, on our own time. Will send out information about this
    - This is a relationship that existed, but has been dormant
  - Report of the Treasurer - Kevin Chiteri - [gpss treasurer@iastate.edu](mailto:gpss treasurer@iastate.edu)
    - Not present
  - Report of the Senate Information Officer - Garrison Gunter - [gpss info@iastate.edu](mailto:gpss info@iastate.edu)
    - Confirmed with DOGEs and department heads
    - Attended first meeting of ITS student advisory board, streamline PAG system
    - Takeaways include changes to printing system, 1000 credits per month
    - Advisory board is seeking representation regarding how student fees are spent
    - Met with Dean Graves and representatives from IT department, streamlining PAG system
    - Rolling PAG system into workday, potentially
    - Notified senators of missed meetings, there is a 3 absence limit
    - Remember, you're allowed to send substitutes or attend online
    - Students who responded that they aren't active have been removed from email list
  - Report of the Senate Engagement Officer - Efrain Rodriguez-Ocasio - [gpss seo@iastate.edu](mailto:gpss seo@iastate.edu)
    - Not present
  - Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair - Ryan Everett - [gpss conf chair@iastate.edu](mailto:gpss conf chair@iastate.edu)
    - Conference committee met for the first time today

- They are going to be seeking input for the conference, what themes, what speakers, what panelists, competition format, promotional material
    - Scheduled for second week of April
    - Must coordinate with new treasurer to secure funds
    - Working on social event with Health and Wellness chair
  - Report of the Health and Wellness Officer - Kimia Noroozi - [gpsswellness@iastate.edu](mailto:gpsswellness@iastate.edu)
    - Symposium planning is ongoing, consider joining the committee
    - Great opportunity to involve peers, staff, and faculty in learning what issues were dealing with
    - Invite will go out sometime in November
    - Talking about incorporating green dot in grad student orientation, make grad students more aware of resources they make available
    - Meeting with Dean Graves address student needs regarding counseling, support groups, information sessions, crisis counseling
    - New service that the university is offering, free tele-counseling, details have been sent out in emails, only requirement for this is they you are a student of the university
    - Planning social event with Ryan Everett, will be sending emails out with information
- Report of Student Government Senators-at-Large - Eddie Mahoney - [ermahone@iastate.edu](mailto:ermahone@iastate.edu)
  - They've been busy the last month
  - Met with other Stu Govs in the Big 12 conference, compare events, priorities, discussed Big 12 on the hill, open syllabi, implement standing DEI budget for student projects, discussed Student care wellness fund, support students when unforeseen expenses arise, Discussed centralized canvas page about various resources available to students, like counseling
  - Discussed 801 day, less problems, as well as student welcome day, most arrests are students from other universities
  - Discussed mental health resources from the city being used by students, how to improve relationship, mental health first-aid training for students
  - Discussed engagement with the city, and climate action plans, with student input
  - Beginning of conversation with Ames, if you want to tell Ames stuff, speak with Stu Gov representative
  - Discussed bylaws rewrite, mental health initiative is going well, funding from board of regents, state legislature must approve this
  - Working to allow students to use counseling from other states
  - Party-smart campaign, pushing outreach, with a podcast, including with President Wintersteen
  - Various councils looking for input from grad students, reach out to be on some of these councils

- Met with ISUPD, discussed how they outreach to marginalized communities
    - Lectures committee, approving lectures, Wednesday 6 o'clock, 1619 project
    - Upper admin pushing health promoting campus, committee on mental health that's student led, meeting with various health and wellness administrators to discuss this
    - Homecoming this week, \$5,000 to black homecoming, check social media for cool events
- Unfinished Business
  - None presented
- New Business
  - i. Senate Order F22-04, Special Election for the Treasurer
    - Found in compliance by rules committee
    - Election led by Garrison Gunter
    - Current Treasurer successfully defended, so a transition is going to start
    - Will assume full responsibility in the spring
    - Treasurer will hold all responsibilities, including tracking expenses, attending meetings, chairing the finance committee, and an \$800 stipend
      - Nomination for Juan Panelo
        - Accepted
      - 10 minute recess for nominations
        - Reconvened at 7:39
    - No other nominations received, unanimous oral vote will be used
      - None opposed, Juan Panelo is new treasurer
    - Bill is passed
  - Senate Resolution F22-01, Condemning the Detention and Death of Mahsa Amini and Calling On the Government of Iran to End Its Systemic Persecution of Women
    - Sponsors of bill invited to floor to present the bill
    - Iran government has been unlawfully detaining and disappearing people who are protesting the morality policies actions in the country
    - Proposing the condemnation of these actions, asking the university to ease requirements for Iranian students applying to the university, due to things like the GRE being hard to take right now for Iranian students
    - Sponsored by Efrain Rodriguez-Ocasio and Kimia Noroozi
    - Questions:
      - Will this bill be sent to particular people in the university? How will we let the university know we did this?
        - Yes, officials, include president Wintersteen, dean of student affairs, and several other people
      - How long would these relaxed requirements last?
        - Once the current situation is done (i.e. stable inside the country) the requirements will go back to normal

- How will educating department chairs and counseling services be done?
  - No financial resources, just looking to have a discussion on this topic
- How will these relaxed requirements help people?
  - During previous protests, people didn't have access to the internet for two weeks. The current situation is not this dire, but people have unreliable access to the internet. These relaxed requirements will help ease this situation
- Has a joint resolution with Stu Gov been discussed?
  - That was the previous goal, but there was not time to do this, Eddie Mahoney says that's something that could be done.
- Is there a similar bill for undergraduate students?
  - Almost all of Iowa State's Iranian students are graduate students. Undergraduates are mainly Iranian-American. The third section of the resolution is looking to make these resources available to undergrads as well.
- Debate
  - Senator 1: This resolution touches on women's rights, it should get support because of that
  - No further debate
- Voting by secret ballot
  - Motion passes unanimously
- Senate Bill F22-02 Fall 2022 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Regular Allocations
  - Added to agenda by vote at beginning of meeting
  - Sponsors invited to floor to discuss bill
  - Juan Pabelo and Kean Fallon presenting
  - Discussing allocating money for fall allocations, the bill shows these allocations. Total is \$7958. Allocations based on past spending.
  - Questions:
    - Any requests that are not being filled?
      - Every request that GPSS received is shown in the bill
    - To clarify, the difference between request and allocated, what is that?
      - Some things didn't follow guidelines, which means the requested amount was different from the allocated amount
    - What is the difference column?
      - The difference between what the group requested in the past, and the amount spent in the past year
    - How does this difference affect the decision?
      - Difference does not affect decisions, it affects the amount we can allocate in total. Some organizations had more

unspent money than requested, which means we couldn't give them anything.

- Is the unspent amount from previous GPSS allocations?
  - Yes
- Why is the maximum amount the difference? Is that actual legislation?
  - You can only have \$1000 from GPSS, that's a rule
- Is the unspent amount money gives from GPSS?
  - Yes
- GPSS doesn't take back unspent money?
  - Yes Unspent money is still considered to have been given to them. They can either request to spent the money in a different way, have it considered as money we already gave them for allocations
- Iowa STAT-ers didn't get as much they requested, why?
  - They had unspent money that was greater than the amount requested.
- So Iowa STAT-ers was only looking to spend \$150?
  - Yes
- Will the negative amount for Iowa STAT-ers come back to GPSS?
  - No, it will just be considered as money we already gave them for following years.
- Debate
  - No debate
- Voting by secret ballot
  - Passes unanimously
- New business:
  - No new business
- Senate Forum
  - Daniel Sunny, History department senator
    - Wants to speak because he may be the last senator from the History department. History department budget cuts mean that they will have a 25% budget cut. They are having budget cuts twice as large as the next department.
    - Department is no longer soliciting no new graduate students
    - Looking for questions about how this impacts students, colleagues, the university, and the discipline overall
    - Iowa State is one of the only universities that focus on Iowa history
    - Questions:
      - Why are they cutting so much?
        - I Don't know for sure. Document published in spring that gave a list of budget cuts.
      - Was anything done to argue this?

- Department head has met with Dean and DOGE, petitions have been created, American Historical Association sent a letter asking this not to be done
- Has the school acknowledged that this will shut down the department?
  - No, the official position is that there are only cuts being done, no department being shut down. They basically haven't shared anything about why they're doing what they're doing.
- Is there an undergrad program that will continue to exist?
  - The university is saying that there aren't enough undergrads in the history program. Program has declined in the past few years. The history department produces more value than it takes.
- Is there a way we could bring the dean into GPSS to discuss these cuts?
  - We could. We could request more information to be presented, or we could invite them in.
- Is this reimagining something the dean did unilaterally?
  - Not sure, but we shouldn't just insult the dean
- How big is the History grad student population? Maybe talk with Provost Wickert, or President Wintersteen
  - Not sure, around 15, hasn't met with the President
- Provost Wickert, President Wintersteen, and Board of Regents were all involved in this decision
- What is the department's reach for bringing in students? What are solutions that could be brought forward?
  - Faculty are concerned and looking for ways to increase recruitment. Adopted program to be unique and innovative, but when department faculty are cut by a third, department morale goes down the drain
- The Department of English is also going through budget cuts, nothing compared to the History department. Main focus is looking at how to convince more tech focused students to come to LAS. Professors start to leave when budgets are cut, meaning that the university loses research resources, and affects all departments.
- This reimagining LAS, is anyone getting more money?
  - This is all budget cuts, no one is getting more money
- Does anyone know the number of grad students or departments being affected?
  - No
- Could you make a course in the department to be favorable to engineering students, to fund the history department, similar to the physics department?



- The history department is already a money maker for the university. This wouldn't really change the situation
  - Grad students cost money, but we actually give them more value through TA'ing than they pay us. Could that be an angle that could be used?
    - Maybe, it's a good thought.
  - Feel free to reach out to Daniel Sunne at [ddsune@iastate.edu](mailto:ddsune@iastate.edu)
- Vishesh Bhatia [vishesh@iastate.edu](mailto:vishesh@iastate.edu) , senator for animal science
  - Conversation about catalogs, list of classes present and most of them not being offered at all. This is basically a fake promise.
  - If that's something you could take back to your departments, that would be helpful.
  - If we come to administration as a united front, it might be easier to try to get this solved
  - Questions:
    - Are you looking to update the list, are you advocating for those classes to be taught?
      - Primary goal is to update the list, because of budget cuts, not all of these classes will be able to be taught.
    - Some of the courses are interdepartmental. Maybe we can open them up to cross listings? Some people have to delay graduation because of this
      - Conversation with Dean Graves happened about this topic. Getting a class cross listed is a very long process. Consider reaching out to the professor to have something cross listed. Professors like having more students in their classes. Dean Graves and Dean Robinson also brought up the POS, and how this can help to not delay graduation. The sooner this can be brought to administration attention, the better.
- Njeshi Charity - [cnnnjeshi@iastate.edu](mailto:cnnnjeshi@iastate.edu)
- New students have nowhere to go in the department of Toxicology, because they don't have an advisor.
  - Do new students get an advisor?
    - No, you go through rotations, and pick where you want to stay. But if the advisor isn't willing to take you, you can't join that area.
    - DOGE is technically responsible for toxicology students without an advisor. Maybe discuss this with the DOGE.
    - People have gone through this in other departments, when people experience this, if they talk to admin, admin tells them it sucks, but first years get priority, so it can be really difficult to get on the list.
    - Department needs TAs, so the department might need to hire professors.

- Interdepartmental people, can you send the President information about this stuff? What are people in your department doing? Who is your default professor? Do you know people who are not being covered?
- Usually during your first year you're covered.
- Publishing professors that are trying to hire is a good thing to do.
- Try pointing to what other universities are doing to convince administration to change how they're doing things
- Roll Call and Announcements
  - Vishesh Bhatia, Department of Animal Science is doing a meat raffle, if interested in buying tickets for \$300 of meat, talk to Vishesh
  - Creative writing department is hosting reading from Nigerian post-doc in MU at 7pm in MU gold room, because he just won the Nigerian prize for literature
- Adjournment
  - Concluded at 8:51PM