

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE October 2012 Meeting Agenda

Monday, October 29, 2012; 7:00 PM
2226 Vet Med

- I. Call to order 7:00 P.M.
 - a. Roll Call MET - 66%
 - b. Statement of Quorum by Speaker
 - c. Approval of the Minutes - APPROVED
 - d. Amendments to the Agenda
 - i. President Kleinheksel proposed to move OPEN FORUM before introduction of new bills
- II. Introduction of new bills and resolutions
 - a. Senate Bill F12-05 - Fall 2012 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Allocations – introduced by Treasurer Peters
 - b. Senate Bill F12-06 - Special Allocation for Social Event in November – introduced by Senator Pritchard
 - c. Senate Bill F12-07 - Special Allocation for the Graduate Committee of Society of Women Engineers – introduced by Treasurer Peters
 - d. Senate Bill F12-08 - Special Allocation to Fund Wakonse – introduced by Treasurer Peters
- III. Open Forum
 - a. Monica Howard-Martin, Program Manager at Veterinary Medicine Administration
 - i. Invited everyone to visit the facility
 - ii. Highlighted the accreditation, clinical and diagnostic medicine leadership, combined degree and certificate programs
 - iii. There are many hands-on opportunities for students locally, nationally, and internationally
 - iv. Every year Vet Med receives about 1,100 applicants for 123 professional program positions, out of which 60-65 admitted students are Iowans
 - v. Vet Med provides supportive environment such as legal and financial services on Vet Med campus
 - vi. Senator Beyer: where are animals taken for examination?
 1. Howard: there are locations available throughout the campus. I can take you on a tour.
- IV. Senate Forum
- V. Remarks and Reports
 - a. Report of the President - President Kleinheksel

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- i. Regents' final vote will take place in either November or December: graduate fees will go up, certain one-time fee such as graduation fee might go up. No increase in annual fees.
- ii. TA/RA stipend may increase by \$100-200/month. As this change is based on the minimum pay, there is no guarantee that every TA/RA will receive a raise.
- iii. Policies on arrival of child are being currently drafted and will be discussed at the next Graduate Council meeting.
- iv. Bridge Funding Proposal: There are some students who are financially supported by grants such as NSF who are not paid during while on leave. This proposal suggests to fund students as follows: 50% will be funded by the office of provost and 50% will be funded by the individual departments. Proposal will be applied towards men and women and for up to 6 weeks?? We don't want anyone to make choice between family and continuing graduate school.
 1. Senator Dick-Perez – this could be a great tool for recruitment. It will show that university understands the importance of family values.
 2. Senator Beyer – Does this policy include sick days?
 - a. President Kleinheksel – there are two separate policies, one regarding sick days and one regarding arrival of child
 3. Senator Dick-Perez – I believe it is our duty to talk to our constituents and put some pressure on college to move these policies forward.
 - a. President Kleinheksel – if we don't see the progress next semester this might be our next step.
 4. Senator Mukherjee– international students continuously need to maintain their residency status. How this policy will help international students to not face an additional cost in maintaining their status?
 5. Senator Vendettuoli – why not purchase a short-term disability option? It should be optional.
 6. Senator Den Herder – rather than ISU provides group insurance, why not have it as optional such as dental insurance.
 7. Senator Vendettuoli – would marital status be significant?
 8. Senator Harischandra – if only one parent gets funded, the second parent may still be under pressure.
- b. Report of the Vice President and Rules Committee - Vice President De León

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- i. Scholarship nominations were forwarded for Spring funding
 - c. Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee - Treasurer Peters
 - i. Received total of 23 requests; 3 – special allocations; 4 were withdrawn
 - ii. Allocation guidelines will be revised
 - d. Report of the CIO and Election Committee - CIO Prisacari
 - i. We currently have 98 senators seated, the highest number since 2006
 - ii. “Senator” page indicates which seats are still vacant. This information is based only on documentation received.
 - iii. Social Event Survey Results (150 participants)
 - 1. Prefer 2-3 social events per semester
 - 2. Most important factors to consider whether to attend the event: time, location, and food
 - 3. 60% indicated that will not pay to attend a social event
 - 4. those who agreed to pay for the event indicated \$10 as max.
 - e. Report of the URLA Chair - URLA Chair Tlach
 - i. Still looking for students to serve on:
 - 1. Transportation committee
 - 2. GSB at large
 - ii. Evening and weekend exams can be now scheduled without being on syllabus. Yet students must be informed.
 - iii. Graduate forms are becoming electronic to speed up the submission process.
 - iv. Focus on part-time/distance students: expand programs through distance education to increase graduate population
 - v. Student and Scholars Health Insurance
 - 1. ISU is now taking bids for insurance providers.
 - 2. Prescription plan is now offered by Aetna, not ISU.
 - 3. Flu shots are available now at Thielen
 - a. Senator Sarah Hag – does a student have an option to opt completely out of insurance?
 - i. Treasurer Peters – yes you can. Student will need to sign a waiver demonstrating that s/he has a medical coverage.
 - b. Senator Woolcock – COBRA offers a short-term health insurance alternative.
 - vi. ISU Library Digital Repository. See Senator Anderson for more information.
 - vii. CELT

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1. is looking to hire two more faculties
 2. multiple teaching and learning circles available for graduate students. For more information, contact Adam Foley.
 3. Check CELT website (available through GPSS website) to find out more on its professional developmental and teaching enhancement programs.
 - viii. Performance Arts Council: seeking ways to involve more graduate students. Last year operated at 23% net loss.
 - f. Report of the PAG Chair – Treasurer Peters spoke on PAG Chair Stoehr’s behalf
 - i. still looking for 2-3 more senators to sit on the PAG committee.
 - ii. a response about the timing of conferences that fall between semesters will be sent out to the Senate next week.
 - g. Graduate and GSB Senator Report by Senator Feye
 - i. Financial clinic (fcc@iastate.edu) FREE
 - ii. WeCar: \$8/h or \$56/day www.wecar.com
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- a. Senate Bill F12-05 - Fall 2012 Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Allocations
 - i. Senator Gerken – are there two ecology organizations? Are they within the same department?
 1. Treasurer Peters – we verified their status through student organization SAC website
 - ii. Senator Gerken – can we see the report why a student organization is denied in funding?
 - iii. Senator Jones – why the organization was declined?
 1. Treasurer Peters – most denials are due to late submission
 - iv. VOTE:
 1. Yes: 65
 2. No: 0
 3. Abstain: 1
 - v. PASSED
 - b. Senate Bill F12-06 - Special Allocation for Social Event in November
 - i. Senator Beyer – why food is so expensive?
 - ii. Senator Pritchard – these are MU catering prices
 - iii. Senator Nteeba – how many people do you estimate to attend this event?
 1. CIO Prisacari – 200, based on the previous social events’ attendance
 - iv. VOTE:
 1. Yes: 53

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2. No: 5
 3. Abstain: 7
 4. PASSED
- c. Senate Bill F12-07 - Special Allocation for the Graduate Committee of Society of Women Engineers
- i. Senator Gerkin – are these events open to students outside your programs?
 - a. Yes, the events are open to all graduate students, including men
 - ii. Senator Anderson – do regular allocations sponsor food?
 - a. Treasurer Peters – regular allocations sponsor food up to 50%
 - iii. Senator Harishandra – proposed to amend lines 3-12 page 14 “graduate student panel for undergraduate”
 - a. Senator Woolcock – amount asked is relatively insignificant to \$600 we just spent on food
 - b. Senator Harishandra withdrew his amendment
 - iv. VOTED:
 1. Yes: 62
 2. No: 0
 3. Abstain: 4
 4. PASSED
- d. Senate Bill F12-08 - Special Allocation to Fund Wakonse
- i. VOTED:
 1. Yes: 64
 2. No: 1
 3. Abstain: 1
 4. PASSED

VIII. Announcements

- a. International Week, November 10-16
- b. Graduate College is now accepting electronic signature for graduate forms (POS, change of committee members, etc.). The option is available in PDF version.
- c. LGBT’s Drag Show

Adjournment @ 9:32pm