



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 30, 2015; 6:30 PM
South Ballroom, MU

- I. Call to order 6:30 P.M.
 - i. Roll Call
 - ii. Statement of Quorum by Vice-President
 - iii. Approval of the Meeting Notes
 - iv. Amendments to the Agenda
- II. Open Forum
 - i. Dr. Pete Englin – Director of Residence – www.housing.iastate.edu
 - ii. Presentation provided. 200 student staff, 61 million \$ budget. PhD in hospitality management, 6 years in dean of students' office. 12,773 was capacity this fall. Currently at 35% of student population are housed. New project includes food court in friley.
 - iii. Senator Johnson, S.: 1. Is Housing not trying to serve all students? 2. What is the process of setting prices?-- 1) It is the first time that we are not focusing on serving all students, due to increased demand. Currently in discussions with how to assign preferences to people who'd get housing going ahead. 2) 192 are unionized employees. ISU Housing is a not for profit, so prices set to recoup expenses.
 - iv. Senator Barbour, S.: I have not heard about priority for grad students. I had to live with parents as I couldn't find place in campus. -- Highrises were empty when I became director of ISU housing. As freshman class grew, we had a crunch on capacity and preference was given to freshmen. We had a proposal for housing 600 grad students in Wallace Wilson, no meal plan reqd. but grad students have been squeezed out by increased demand by undergrads. Schilleter village used to be grad/family housing. We need more housing, my predecessor took on debt of 220\$ million to renovate. We would like to lag behind demand. Though we're looking at renting the apartment near Biolife called Aspen heights which has 800 beds.



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- v. Senator: I'm about to graduate in Dec 2016, has the DOR figured out some way to help us? -- We have to talk with VP stud affairs, president to understand whether this is a priority.
- vi. Senator Walugembe, M.: Starting august, payment only allowed per semester. What was rationale for skipping monthly?-- We didn't decide that. Accounts receivable set that policy, mainly to help with undergrads that receive financial aid. The fees DOR levies is restricted to a one-time 20\$ charge, which is an admin charge and the finance charge if the minimum is not provided.
- vii. Senator Archer, A.: Several students don't have money to pay upfront, -- We will look into this issue and talk with accounts receivable.
- viii. GPSS PAG Chair Perez, M.: I moved from off-campus to University village. I applied in Nov 2014, for lease starting in Aug 2015. Had to wait till May 2015 for confirmation. What is the procedure?—We can't forecast when students cancel, so we maintain a waiting list. We allow more flexibility for current residents. For example, 204 contract cancellations were done in the last two weeks of July, 2015.

III. Senate Forum

Supplemental International Tuition

- i. Senator Davis, N.: Will grad students on fellowship from external funding source be affected. – It only affects students who aren't assistants.
GPSS PAG chair Perez, M.: Some scholarships allow for adjustments. However, for instance, my scholarship did not have that provision. We should ask this question.
- ii. Senator Jaramillo, N.: Yes my questions were answered in the open forum with the Provost.
- iii. GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel, C.: How did they arrived at their numbers?—It's not a fee, but is tuition. A fee gets set aside and can only be used for that purpose. For eg: orientation fee. That is not the case for tuition. Tuition is handled student by student. Tuition money goes to departments who then choose to use it as per their will. Provost has asked departments to use increased funds for international students. So we cannot



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have a university-wide committee to assess where the funds are used. The SSFTC doesn't handle tuition at all.

- iv. GPSS President Zenko, Z.: If you're a senator, please go to your department secretary and ask to be involved in the budgeting process.
- v. Senator Khosha, N.: When will the fees increase? -- Starting fall 2016, and the fee will be same for the two semesters in an academic year.
- vi. GPSS President Zenko Z.: Email from Des moines register, looking for comments.

Senate Representation

- i. Senator Archer, A.: What is undeclared in grad school? -- people get into a dept. but are not assigned a major professor
- ii. Senator Lewis: interdisciplinary custom majors?
- iii. GPSS President Zenko Z.: possibly referring to students taking minors. Or students who havent been accepted into the degree program yet.
- iv. Senator Hershberger, M.: why 2 seats?
- v. Senator Sanchez, D.: Are the seats currently there, do they include distance education who have declared their majors? -- yes
- vi. Senator Grover: The number of students vary based on semester? – GPSS structure is only based on previous fall statistics.
- vii. Senator Barbour: no design dept?-- this chart only shows majors with proposed changes.
- viii. GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel, C.: Distance students don't feel represented. Any ideas on how to better represent them?
- ix. Senator Davis, N.: logically, how?
- x. Senator Johnson: how is an undeclared senator chosen?-- we dont have mechanism yet.
- xi. Senator Archer, A.: webcast the meeting. It is possible to do it.



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xii. GPSS PAG chair Perez, M.: To follow up on Senator Archer, in agronomy there are lot of distance students. But you need to have the room which has this capability. Afaik, there is not a room big enough.

xiii. Senator Grover: why not have all of them represented? -- Constitution dictates how many representatives are given.

xiv. Senator Johnson: does constitution say anything? -- No. Would changing policy require any constitutional change?-- Need to establish a channel either by constitutional change or by law.

xv. Senator: maybe what we need is just better communication. Part of the problem is that their needs aren't being met.

xvi. Senator Weston: Survey showing their opinions? Report of the survey?-- Dr Ogilvie can send out to us.

xvii. GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel, C.: I will talk with Dr Ogilvie about this.

GPSS President Zenko, Z.: Resolution would include a constitutional change. A GPSS committee should be helpful.

GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel, C.: Data publicly accessible is the advantage of current method. However it may not represent the graduate students accurately.

Senator Davis, N.: Does it really matter if the data is not publicly available?-- Last time it was important to the senate.

GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel, C. adds letter sent out to ISU students by President Leath to senate forum:

On Nov 20th, a letter was sent out by President Leath listing all accomplishments etc. I think a lot more needs to be done. Continuing conversation requires willing students

vii. Senator Duchimaza, J.: Demands were sent out by LUCHA on Oct 6, but didn't hear back. So we asked for what has been done? Multicultural artwork should be more visible publicly. What role does GPSS serve as to help with multicultural needs?

viii. GPSS PAG chair Perez, M.: What are the most important recommendations? And how can we support?-- We sent out a bunch of 6 points to be enacted urgently. Have some form of diversity training similar to title 9 and alcohol and mandatory training for all



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faculty and staff. Encourage attendance to Iowa state conference on diversity. Funding students' scholarships. Building of a cultural center, latino students have been asking for long, will better supplement the black students org.

- ix. Senator Lee: Things becoming mandatory usually end up in negative connotations. Better to have multicultural events etc.
- x. Senator Duchimaza, J.-- SG had a long discussion. Some things need to be talked about. Multicultural events is a positive twist.
- xi. GPSS URLA Tripathy, A.: Any training would then be disliked. The question is whether the issue is important enough to be addressed despite few, isolated negative reactions. I think it is.
- xii. GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel, C.: ISU has 6 subcommittees, looking into the plan for the future. Please be a part of it.
- xiii. GPSS President Zenko, Z.: Good opportunity to promote the inclusion workshops rolled out by Dr Ogilvie. LUCHA can get behind those. NCBI had highly interactive sessions. If the senate is interested we can invite people from NCBI. Senator Lee mentioned multicultural week, I suggest we hold it on the week containing September 12.
- xiv. Senator Weston: why that date? -- That was the week where the assault took place. Sep 12.

IV. Introduction of New Bills

- i. Senate Order F15-04 – Assigning Priority to GPSS Senators When Selecting Graduate and/or Professional Student Representative(s) to Attend Any University Committee and/or Meeting
- ii. Senate Order F15-06 – Special Allocation for Graduate Research in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology (GREBE)

V. Remarks and Reports

- i. Report of the President
- ii. Senator Davis: thanks for detailed report. -- In hindsight, we should have brought up the international student fee in September.



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- iii. Senator Johnson: just to understand why 9. d iv.? Currently they just need one faculty member in their POS.
- iv. Senator Archer, A: in favor of this. A lot are distance students so having a final exam is much more difficult for them.
- v. Senator Camp, R.: There is some value in defending their creative component. So I am against the motion. Distance students' concerns can be alleviated by video-conferencing. Maybe they should present it to more faculty members
- vi. GPSS CIO Agarwal, B.: Assessment form still has to be sent.
- vii. Senator Grover: In favor of motion.
- viii. Senator Flex: Agree with Senator Camp. Department of horticulture has lot of creative component people who give a "exit seminar".
- ix. Senator Jaramillo: what is the amount for MU? -- Referendum will have a hard amount. Student fee allows us to make the required amount. Unsure of the importance of referendum if they are going to do it anyway.
- x. Senator Archer: There has to be a minimum voter turnout for the referendum to be valid.
- xi. Report of the Vice President
- xii. Voting for next open forum speaker: Health center updates > Diversity officer > Parking.
- xiii. Senator Jaramillo: Are there socials with the research conference or not? -- clarifications.
- xiv. Report of the Treasurer
- xv. Treasurer represents GPSS on SG finance committee. Funding GREBE was found to be favorable.
- xvi. Report of the Chief Information Officer
- xvii. Senator Lewis: conflict in representation. -- Substitute senators are allowed and is okay.
- xviii. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
- xix. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
- xx. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
- xxi. Report of the Graduate SG Senator



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- xxii. GPSS PAG chair M. Perez: Bill about international student tuition? -- Senate resolution saying that the increase is not agreed to.

VI. Unfinished Business

- i. None

VII. New Business

- i. Senate Order F15-04 – Assigning Priority to GPSS Senators When Selecting Graduate and/or Professional Student Representative(s) to Attend Any University Committee and/or Meetings
- ii. Motion to consider as read by Senator Davis and has been seconded and passes by UC. Motion to table the bill, seconded and passes by UC.
- iii. Senate Order F15-06 – Special Allocation for Graduate Research in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology (GREBE)
- iv. Senator Jaramillo: Why is this presented here and not to the FC? -- Treasurer: A special allocation is more general in nature than regular.
- v. Senator Walugembe: If FC approves then we should be good with it.
- vi. GPSS PAG chair M. Perez: Is there any other way other than special? -- General and special have different spirit. It is up to the senate to whether accept or decline the bill.
- vii. GPSS President Zenko: Whether a bill is favorable/ unfavorable does not indicate support for / against the bill. It just decides whether the bill fits in with our governing documents.
- viii. Senator Weston: Call to question. Yes by 91%.

VIII. Announcements

- IX. Senator Davis: Research profile of the university.
- X. Senator Duchimaza: open forum in oak room at 4:30 pm tomorrow.
- XI. GPSS Vice-President Kleinheksel: I find the intent of both bills to be favorable. How much left in special allocations? –Treasurer: 3000\$ if not spent, rolls into surplus and next year's budget can then be reorganized.

XII. Adjournment

XIII. Voting Results



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- i. <http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/15-16/November/Vote/Results%20by%20Participant.html>
- ii. <http://www.gpss.iastate.edu/senate/meetings/15-16/November/Vote/Results%20by%20Question.html>