

- I. Call to order 6:30 P.M.
  - a. Roll Call
  - b. Statement of Quorum by the Chair
  - c. Approval of Meeting Notes from March
  - d. Amendments to the Agenda
    - i. VP: Two proposed. First, recognize Wakonse winners at the end of open forum. Second, add a resolution on shared governance to new business. Wakonse added.
    - ii. Senator: Is the resolution (re: forming a website) that urgent? Would suggest that we let it go through Rules and come up in the fall.
    - iii. President: Apologize for the late introduction of the resolution. It comes to support the idea. The rush is explained by allowing construction of the website over the summer. This will show that GPSS also supports it, along with Faculty Senate and Student Gov't.
    - iv. Voting on adding the resolution to new business: % aye, % nay
- II. Open Forum (40 Min)
  - a. Dr. Jonathan Wickert, Senior Vice President and Provost
    - i. JW: Took a few questions in advance. On the budget – from the state, cuts of \$ to this fiscal year's budget and in the next fiscal year there is a proposal of about 6.25% from the state's appropriations to the university budget. The last time there were significant reductions was in 2009/10, followed by reinvestment. Next year will be tighter and we'll be more conservative. Colleges have slowed their hiring. Renovations will slow or not occur (e.g., Lush Auditorium in Kildee Hall). Will also reduce investment in technology upgrades. On the proposal to eliminate funding to the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture – working to keep that from happening. Believe that it is valuable to the state, students, and stakeholders. On the proposal to delay funding for construction – problematic for projects under way. My sense is that elected officials care about education in Iowa and respect the work done at ISU and other Regents universities. Unfortunately, revenue is down and there are many pressures on state budget as from health care, decaying infrastructure. They need to find balance.
    - ii. JW: On federal funding, proposals to reduce or eliminate funding to R&D – NIH, EPA, Department of Energy, etc. Some of these are targeted as w/segments of the DoE that grow/get cut. The federal environment is so fluid, so you shouldn't lose sleep over it. Last year research funding increased by 12%. Research funding has been diversifying, from companies and foundations not just state/federal gov'ts.
    - iii. JW: We have a search under way for a new dean of the Graduate College. GPSS will be represented in the interview process, probably in a session w/each of the finalists. That person should be in place circa July 1.
    - iv. JW: In addition to Bessey and new building on Stange/Pammel, a third site beginning near Marston to demolish Nuclear Engineering and the original Sweeney Hall and build an \$84 million Student Innovation Center with class and open/collaboration spaces – teamwork, project-based

learning, breakout rooms, fabrication rooms, class space to teach from center, a cafe. Learning by making things.

- v. JW: We have a process under way to select and put in place a new LMS. The contract w/Blackboard ends at the end of 2017. CELT has managed an excellent process w/2 candidates coming to campus at the end of the month. Faculty and students will be able to use them.
  - vi. Senator: It seems like a lot of the cuts have come down on sustainability/climate/similar research that are being disproportionately cut. Will the university be addressing that?
  - vii. JW: The cuts are very targeted in a political way – sustainability, renewable energy, climate science. Will those proposals survive the budgeting process? I would urge patience with the federal level. What could be more likely is, instead of a complete cut, some shift away from those into other areas. Renewable energy and agriculture are very important to ISU. Will the university pick that up? We are not in the position to do that. Research is funded by external funds. Teaching, research, and outreach are all funded in different ways. Faculty grant proposals as entrepreneurship. Sometimes internal money will be used as seed money, but initiatives aren't funded in a steady way – renovate a facility, hire a couple faculty, purchase equipment, fund travel. The good news is that it's not happening immediately, and it possibly can't be as bad as the proposal, and the faculty are very entrepreneurial/adaptive/smart. Part of the events could be renaming/rebranding instead of eliminating them.
  - viii. Senator: on the Chapter 9 revision for the Graduate Student Handbook, Rights & Responsibilities, what is the status? It is untrue that it's with the university counsel.
  - ix. President and VP: Could you check on this?
  - x. JW: Yes. After me usually it goes to the president.
  - xi. Senator: What person/meeting gives you the best understanding of what graduate and professional students are going through? What gives you that awareness?
  - xii. JW: Multiple sources, some formal/structured, others informal/random. Monthly meeting w/the GPSS president, the research conference, doing guest lectures, sitting in on a couple Vet Med surgeries – all kinds of ways.
  - xiii. Senator: First, if we get all these cuts from the state, have you thought of tuition increase? Second, can you update us on finding the new president?
  - xiv. JW: We have not thought of a specific percentage to raise tuition. Our proposal to raise it will happen in the fall. We'll look at any way to raise it, because tuition has been flat but students have increased, efficiencies have plateaued. On the presidential search – it'll be a big transition on campus. Leath's last day will be May 8, the Ben Allen will be interim president. The BoR is in the process of forming its search committee but have not announced members, chairs, search firm.
- b. Recognition of Wakonse winners.

- III. Senate Reports: (40 Min)
  - a. Report of the President
    - i. Senator: What is the status of housing in discussions w/administration?
    - ii. President: One discussion was the availability of year-round, rather than August-July leases. There is also a committee on graduate students with families, mainly working on SUV community. Our understanding is that Schilletter will give preference to students with families.
    - iii. Senator: One point is MU renovation referendum not passing. There will be no fee rise on that? What is the next action.
    - iv. President: Correct. Just had meeting with student advisers/MU director. They need to make a proposal on what they wanted to do. E.g., completely new building, do minimum maintenance, do smaller changes. SG is considering a resolution supporting minimum fee increase to support essentials.
    - v. Senator: Was it made clear that a no vote will → fee increase?
    - vi. President: No. The fee will not increase from this. Fees can be proposed each summer though.
    - vii. Senator: So will GPSS know?
    - viii. President: Yes, I will be communicating.
    - ix. Senator: You mentioned the annual assessment of graduate students is in progress.
    - x. President: Yes, we worked on it and proposed it. Dr. Ogilvie liked it, we just need a meeting to make it come together.
    - xi. Senator: Can you explain the Green Dot program?
    - xii. President: The sexual misconduct coordinator came in the fall with this, philosophical idea vs. red dots indicating something bad having happened. Under this, specifically standing up against misconduct.
    - xiii. President: Thank you to the Vet Med senators!
  - b. Report of the Vice President
  - c. Report of the Treasurer
  - d. Report of the Chief Information Officer
  - e. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
  - f. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
  - g. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
  - h. Report of the Graduate Student Government Senators
  - i. Report of Special Committees
- IV. Unfinished Business (30 min)
  - a. SB S17-09: Revising the GPSS Constitution
    - i. VP: Has to be done twice – here and at the first fall meeting.
    - ii. Voting: Passed, 98% yay, 0% nay, 2% abstain
- V. New Business (30 Min)
  - a. Senate Resolution S17-01: Supporting and advocating the idea of a Shared Governance at Iowa State University
    - i. Senator: How is this going to be different from what we're already doing?
    - ii. President: The idea was made by the P&S Council. Many committees have overlap but do not come together much. No committee exists for all

the governing bodies to discuss their issues. This won't affect existing functions as such, but will be an advisory board. We each act without the others' knowledge. This is based on the U of I's idea to have a basic place to be together. We don't know how effective it will be. This creates a definition and intention. Current passage is to get website up during summer and everyone else gets busy again.

- iii. Senator: So this resolution will form a committee?
- iv. President: Representative from each will plan to meet occasionally.
- v. Senator: Will this affect the budget in any way?
- vi. President: No.
- vii. Senator: Can you give an example of something you think this would have helped with?
- viii. President: It isn't a great example, but could talk about SG resolution making ISU a sanctuary campus. [Explanation of that.] Another idea is the international student fee increase.
- ix. Senator: You say it's not a committee, but the language in line 17 is to serve as an advisory board? So you are establishing an entity that will meet periodically, and it's going to be called Shared Governance, which is already a thing?
- x. President: Well, it's not already defined.
- xi. [Various questions about the use of a mere website, how often meetings would be, etc. President explained that it's aspirational right now, and could evolve into a committee-like function or into something more.]
- xii. Senator: Understand that this is coming up because of communication gap, but how will webpage solve problem?
- xiii. President: Would make information available to people looking for it, direct to many possible actors.
- xiv. Senator: So, we are supporting the idea of a website/philosophy of shared governance? [President: Yes.] You said advisory board, but also includes decision making, so how will GPSS come up in that?
- xv. President: For example, would advise based on having taken it to GPSS on whether a fee should happen, how to reach out to students about it.
- xvi. Senator: "Shared governance" implies decision making. Will this be in the university statements of mission/vision/community?
- xvii. President: I do not know, though I would want it included there. Right now it appears only in the Faculty Senate handbook.
- xviii. Archer: Opposed, b/c an empty document. Will give university the opportunity to claim having consulted when it adopts harmful policies. Since it is vague it does nothing for us.
- xix. Senator: Do you think it would be more likely that they'll ignore us after this?
- xx. After various debate on what this would accomplish, tabled by unanimous consent.

VI. Senate Forum (30 Min)

- a. March minutes approved

- b. Senator: Would like to ask incoming execs and senate to return to the resolution sooner rather than later at next session, to say we don't want this as it is and to improve it.
- c. Senator: Has any department/program been working to get students for the March for Science this Saturday? Some of the concerns were referenced during the budget discussion w/the provost.
- d. Senator: Have not seen anything, but will get on it tomorrow.
- e. Senator: Many vet students will be going, we just have no official group.
- f. VP: You're all welcome to coordinate via the Facebook page.
- g. President: As many of you may/not be continuing, if there's something we can improve on please meet me or incoming VP before you leave and we'll be happy to take suggestion/issue.
- h. VP: Thanks for putting up with me. Have been in student government almost entire student career.

VII. Announcements and Roll Call

VIII. Adjournment