



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 25, 2019; 6:30 PM
Sun Room, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 6:30 P.M.
 - i. Roll Call
 - ii. Statement of Quorum by the Chair
 - iii. Approval of Meeting Notes from October
 - iv. Amendments to the Agenda
- II. Open Forum (40 Min)
 - i. Student Government Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates
 - a. Cody Woodruff and Analiese Hauber
 1. Platform: I stand for U – 4 themes
 2. Unlimited opportunities:
 1. 900+ student organizations, study abroad programs classes etc, various opportunities to get engaged on campus
 2. Campus engagement adviser: Talk about their interests, passions and identify with any particular group to become engaged on campus – perfect niche
 3. Affordability and student tuition: each year state doesn't listen, increasing student wages instead, start at \$10/hour
 3. Unconditional support:
 1. Show each and every leader on campus to reflect on student safety and think about expanding SafeRide to off-campus properties, meetings to look at affordable and sustainable solutions, slowly expanding the service
 2. Expanding mental and physical health – rape and sexual assault forensic kits for students who might want to pursue criminal charges – feasibility of funding a position 24hours – educational tools to adequately be reactive with the right steps to show support when they feel vulnerable
 4. Additional Support:
 1. Town halls in the past and live views
 2. 25% voter turnout
 3. Encouraging senators to reach out to their constituents – Big block of Cheese Day - Great Hall MU/free food/transparent platform for students to come up and



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talk

5. Understanding Identities:
 1. Learning about different cultures is an integral part of going to school
 2. Expanding diversity and inclusion initiatives and projects – not for the sake of it but to learn about the different identities and hence learn about ambassadors representing each group and learn individually from each group to expand relevant efforts
6. Trademark, Medical amnesty
7. **Senator 1 and 2:** What initiatives are you specifically relevant for graduate students and how are you addressing low voting turnouts?
 1. **Candidates:** Diversity and Inclusion, Mental health awareness, and using Destination Iowa State as a platform for addressing the low voter turnout – graduate students (Liera Bender)

III. Executive Reports to the Senate: (40 Min)

- i. Report of the President
- ii. Report of the Vice President
 - a. Social event
 - b. Start thinking about executive positions for next year
- iii. Report of the Treasurer
 - a. Funding allocations - April
- iv. Report of the Chief Information Officer
 - a. ISU Graduate Student Story – responses and start interviewing (academic/research/work on campus AND personal life) – merge all of it on one platform and senators can reach out on whatever aspect interests them
 1. Created one separate page (academic oriented questions) and the other will be separate (HONY pattern)
 - b. Sign into our Instagram profile using the bar code provided!
 - c. Meeting minutes updated, where are the attendance records present?, check by next meeting's time
 - d. Photos updated on the website for meetings
 - e. Elections next month! (Election commission – interested people reach out to Sophie or James)
- v. Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair
 - a. Have been addressed in the email following senate meeting.



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1. Completing tax forms – using *Financing your PhD* for assistance
2. University committee application forms – to be filled out for the upcoming FY20
- vi. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
 - a. Abstract submission deadline: March 1st
 - b. Business, CALS, LAS, Engineering, Human Sciences, Vet Med
 - c. Reaching out to psychology for more funding for the keynote speaker
 - d. Networking meeting on April 10th – color tags to highlight people from which college
 1. Karin Lawton Dunn – questionnaire/guideline for interacting with the representatives
 2. Cash bar - \$4
 - e. Blind review of the abstracts
 - f. Reaching out to student organizations
 - g. ISU Graduate student story – 100 people interested and send an email out to the
- vii. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
 - a. Largest lottery on record – no angry emails.
 - b. Hire someone for a new setup
 - c. Awards due on Friday
 - d. Interested people come up
- viii. Report of the Graduate Student Government Senator
 - a. CAC funded Grammarly project – open access
- ix. Report of Special Committees
- IV. Unfinished Business (30 min)
 - i. None
- V. New Business (30 Min)
 - i. Medical Amnesty Bill:
 - a. Why was it shot down the first time around?
 1. Promotes underage drinking however the statistics do not prove it so
 2. Motion to vote: Second (38-1-2)
 1. Yes: 38
 2. No:1
 3. Abstain:2
- VI. Senate Forum (20 Min)



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- i. James and Abigail- Senator meeting with DOGEs and Department Chairs
 - a. Monthly Office Hours:
 1. Dr Ruth MacDonald – Lack of communication between senators and administrators
 2. Meet more with DOGEs and Department Chairs
 3. Hard for Toxicology for example because they are spread across campus, Niranjana and other senators, use the monthly office hours we have to meet with them instead
 4. Mandated office hour to meet with DOGEs and Department Chair within our constitution
 5. Information is not being communicated between faculty and the students – campus climate survey showed the similar lack of connection
 6. Questions/comments:
 1. How much is this actually our role?
 - (i) Act as a liaison for our constituents and hence we should bring those issues to the higher admin
 2. Bigger problem - Getting the constituents to talk to us?
 - (i) Conversations brought up during seminars, GLC meetings within the departments
 3. Amy: Admin assistant sends out weekly updates from the department, GPSS and university – for smaller groups, office hours might not be as useful
 1. James: So many students are already getting so many emails (Dr. MacDonald) and so part of the issue is that may be weekly updates might not be as useful
 2. Amy: Depends on the culture of the department, other avenues might create more work and not necessarily help?
 4. Katherine:
 - (i) Abigail: Talking to DOGE might be another way of getting the info out or brainstorming together
 - (ii) Katherine: many DOGEs so how can we make them more effective?
 1. Marcus: use students in faculty meetings to talk about our issues so it could be a good platform to get the word out
 5. Niranjana: Office hour/month with DOGE, department chairs
 - (i) Link all the different platforms to get info out and let them know of what students actually want, and you can choose who to meet within that office hour time.



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- b. Plant breeding symposium – 8 speakers/March 1st – speakers all across America and 1 from Mexico/ ISU Alumni Center from 8am to 5pm
- c. Big data summer school – hands on activities/3day mini class/ python/digital and agricultural presentations and covers multiple disciplines/100\$ for students and price might increase on March 21st
- d. StuGov voting

VII. Roll Call and Announcements

VIII. Adjournment