

Executive Updates: 20 April, 2020

President

1. The University has created a crisis response team to gather perspectives from around campus on how the University will proceed in the coming years.
 - a. The effects of the pandemic are wide and hard-hitting. We are figuring out ways to adapt to prolonged social distancing, a second or third wave, etc. that could persist for the next few years.
 - b. Discussion is focusing on study abroad continuation, better definitions of essential workers, international student visa freezes, and the future of campus as a whole.
2. As always, if you feel pressured by your advisor to continue coming to campus and feel unsafe or if you have immediate feedback about the University response, please let me or the Graduate College know (Bill Graves, Carolyn Cutrona).
3. Please stay informed from reputable sources. Check the University's covid-19 update page about policy, contact your DOGE, follow us and the graduate college on social media for resources, and consider following the Iowa Department of Public Health for metrics. Make yourself aware of what businesses are closed, and who is offering delivery or reduced hours.

Vice President

1. The revised Student Code of Conduct (Student Disciplinary Regulation revision) is live at this link: <https://www.policy.iastate.edu/policy/SDR> through May 1 for review and comment. Please look through this if you think you might have input; this is a major revision of the Student Code of Conduct.
2. Is there interest in holding a GPSS meeting next month? The meeting would be online via WebEx, and would allow us to improve communication of concerns from the Senate to the Administration during the COVID-19 pandemic. The GPSS Constitution permits meetings to be called outside of the regular monthly meetings (Art. II §3.2). Proposed date/time: Monday, May 25th, 2020, at 6:30 pm.
3. Reminder: Senator terms are from Aug 1 to July 31. If you plan on graduating in May, please let Ozlem (gpsscio@iastate.edu) and me (gpssvicepres@iastate.edu) know so that we can keep track of current senators. This is particularly important if we call summer meetings (for committee meetings, determining quorum, etc.)

Treasurer

1. It is found that the treaty of the distribution of the student activity fee (54% to us last year and 58% to us this year) between GPSS and Student Government was not passed to the financial department after its signing in 2018.
 - a. In the last two years, the financial department kept using the old 50% when distributing funding to us.
 - b. The difference is about \$11,776.67 for FY 2019 and \$23,000 this year. At least some parts of the difference would be redistributed to us in the future. Negotiation with student government is still under way.

- c. At the same time, according to the treaty, we will receive 61% next year. There will be more income next year than the estimate in the current budget. But the current expense items cannot fully use the amount, which is also part of the reason why we have surplus this year.
 - d. It is recommended to discuss about creating more projects or adjusting current projects to make full use of the extra funding in the fall. Then, necessary changes can be made to the budget.
- 2. The transition of treasurer position has already started, which is supposed to be finished in the beginning of May. Chuck Wongus will take over the position since then.
- 3. Thanks to all the financial committee members for their contribution and excellent work in the past year.

SEO

1) Senator Survey

- a) A survey will be sent out to all senators
- b) The survey is designed to get an idea of what your experience as a senator was like and other details specific to you such as:
 - i) How is your department senator chosen or appointed?
 - ii) How do you share information with your constituents?
 - iii) Did you serve on any committees?
 - iv) Did you feel prepared and comfortable in senate meetings?

SIO

No Updates

PAG Officer

No Updates

GPSRC Officer

No Updates