



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE Meeting Agenda

Monday, October 28, 2019; 6:30 PM
Campanile Room, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 6:30 PM
 - i. Roll Call (*59 Senators + 1 Sub in attendance*)
 - ii. Statement of Quorum
 - iii. Approval of Meeting Notes from September 30th, 2019 (*approved*)
 - iv. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. *Addition of Senate Order F19-09 Amendment of GPSS Special Committee for Constitutional Review Membership to New Business*
- II. Speakers (*5 min for each speaker*)
 - i. GPSS Senators
 - a. Emmanuel Nsamba (*Senator for the Genetics, Development and Cell Biology*)
 1. *50 graduate students and 30 faculty in about five buildings*
 2. *Several events:*
 1. *Faculty Seminars*
 2. *Annual Department Research Day (held for the first time this semester) for both faculty and students to present (~80 participants)*
 3. *Considering introducing post-doc seminars (preparing for defenses, reception of feedback, etc.)*
 4. *Student directory in consideration to help connect faculty to students with similar interests/projects)*
 - b. Matt Stuart (*Statistics Senator*)
 1. *~115 students (~42 faculty); one of the larger departments in campus*
 2. *First statistics laboratory founded in the United States*
 3. *CSAFE; research assistantships (any type you would want to do)*
 4. *Student run seminars; faculty from all over the country as well come and present*
 5. *Points of interest*
 1. *Prestigious awards were just won recently*
 - i. *COPSS was won by Hadley Wickham*
 1. <https://www.stat.iastate.edu/hadley-wickham-isu-alum-receives-copss-award>
 2. *International Data Mining Cup (held in Berlin) was won by Statistic team from Iowa State*
 - c. Margaret Parks (*Interior Design Senator*)
 1. *College offers multiple graduate degrees: Masters of Fine Arts (MFA), Master of Arts (MA), concurrent undergraduate and graduate degree; and interdisciplinary dual degrees (MA-MArch)*
 2. *Health care design, and many other programs*
 3. *A lot of transition (new curricula and website) and new DOGE*



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- d. Gitesh Patil (*Senator from Ivy College of Business*)
 - 1. *ICB provides skillsets and knowledge and expertise from internally known faculties to many diverse students*
 - 2. *Clubs that look at data mining, participation in clubs that are not academic in nature, etc.*
 - 3. *Addressing real world problems (ie. handling transfer students, maximizing efficiency, etc.)*
 - 4. *Scholarship opportunities for students*
 - 5. *Transition and expansion physically within the school (combined two departments)*
 - e. Daniel Vincent Sahayaraj (*Chemical and Biological Engineering Senator*)
 - 1. *Department has 29 faculty members that teach and work administratively*
 - 2. *~70 graduate students; Sweeney Hall and other buildings utilized for research*
 - 3. *6 main focuses of research*
 - 4. *Areas of improvement*
 - 1. *Interdisciplinary courses across departments*
 - 2. *Fees to utilize equipment are somewhat high*
 - 3. *Senior grad students may be hired to be department writing consultants*
 - 4. *Still see fellowship judged on performance prior to joining ISU (ie. GRE requirements)*
 - 5. *Number of conferences students can attend are restricted by funding*
 - 6. *Graduate internships should be supported by major professors and faculties*
 - 7. *Student insurance should allow for more customization in plans*
 - ii. Jack Polifka (*Graduate College*)
 - a. *Introducing special interest group in programming → GPSS website needs standardization of forms, and may also allow for people interested in programming regardless of skillset and experience*
- III. Executive Reports to the Senate: (40 min) **REFER TO EXEC REPORTS**
- i. Report of the President
 - a. *Childcare task force*
 - 1. *University childcare taskforce had its first meeting (20 people on the team); majority are staff, but also includes community members from Ames*
 - 2. *Child needs survey in 2014 or 2015, unpacking data*
 - 3. *Campus climate survey as well indicated this was a need*
 - 4. *Put in contact with president (CLOSED GROUP!)*
 - b. *Resource page is being worked on*
 - c. *Graduate College newsletter that circulates monthly (also discussing a semester newsletter with VP)*
 - d. *Several senators volunteered for state of the department*
 - ii. Report of the Vice President
 - a. *Saturday 1-4PM on the Towers (south of campus, close) will be renting games from Rec Services*
 - b. *Dec 8 from 430-630PM at Perfect Games (done in the Spring normally, but will do grill out in the spring); open to all graduate and professional students*
 - c. *Website updates (still in the process, or if you find dead links let them know)*
 - d. *GPSS History page in the process of being made*
 - e. *Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee (for classes with on campus and online sections)*



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1. *Allowing instructors/departments to limit online enrollment to distance education students*
2. *If there are strong opinions about it, please let him know*
- f. *Questions*
 1. *Biochemistry online (both sections): online section was preferred because of research trial in the process and being able to still have the resources*
 2. *Statistics online was better with research schedule (especially with the complexity and able to pause lecture)*
 3. *Part of the issue is dual-enrollment courses, and the chain of command*
 4. *ME department has both, but online portion is available for in-class students*
 5. *Generally, people would like to be able to be in the online section*
- iii. *Report of the Treasurer*
 - a. *25 Fall Allocation applications, finance committee met on Oct 17th, made decisions on all of them*
 - b. *Questions*
 1. *Current policy is that only organizations can apply, but there was a group of graduate students that was organizing a conference; could an exception be made, or could the rules be adjusted?*
 1. *Decision was made to not fund conference organization/regular allocation*
 2. *Could write an appeal to request special allocation, or find an affiliate department*
 2. *Previously GPSS used to fund nonacademic events for departments and then there were rules that prevented those allocations; how did that come about?*
 1. *Unsure of changes; since Treasurer has been here it has been like this (only provided funding for educational events)*
 2. *Social events do increase interactions with graduate students, but the decision has been made that it is better to fund educational events*
- iv. *Report of the Chief Information Officer*
 - a. *Questions about attendance, contact CIO*
 - b. *3 points → removal (missing meeting without a substitute is 1 point; missing with a sub is 0.5 points)*
 - c. *Need senators for html coding*
 - d. *#ISUGradStories on our website*
 1. *Open to all graduate students (send to gpsscio@iastate.edu your stories)*
 1. *Questions on the website <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/archive/isugradstories>*
- v. *Report of the University Relations and Legislative Affairs Chair*
 - a. *University Wide committee Appointments (almost all filled)*
 - b. *Questions, contact Marcus at marcusd@iastate.edu*
 - c. *Serving on any of these committees, should have received email with contact from Marcus*
 - d. *Senator T shirts (courtesy of the graduate college)*
 - e. *University Relations and Legislative Affairs Committee*
 1. *Met tonight (will likely have something produced by next meeting)*
 - f. *3MT (3 Minute Thesis) is a national competition that we hold the regional contest for here*
 1. *<https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/3mt>*
 2. *6PM October 29, 2019 will have the final competition; snacks will be present; winner of*



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tomorrow will be sent to nationals

- vi. Report of the Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference Chair
 - a. *60 applications for PAG last month (no one was turned down)*
 - b. *Margaret Ellen White Award nominations start now and are due by November 11, 2019 to senators and November 18th to PAG Chair*
 - c. <https://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/academics/awards/white/>
- vii. Report of the Professional Advancement Grant Chair
 - a. *First committee meeting on 10/24 for GPSRC*
 - b. *Attending meetings to pitch the GPSRC to students and faculty as well as to gain insight on how GPSRC can better meet the need of students across all colleges*
 1. *Why aren't certain colleges submitting?*
 - c. *Meeting with Committee on Lectures (coordination of keynote speaker, in the process of applying for funding)*
- viii. Report of the Graduate Student Government Senator
 - a. *Student Body Senate meets weekly*
 - b. *There have been several events of racist activities within apartments and clubs, etc.*
 - c. *Consider what ways can be done to address this issue*
- ix. Report of the Special Committee on Graduate and Professional Student Wellness
 - a. *Works with the department of Student Wellness*
 - b. *Defined 8 dimensions of wellness and hope to address them with graduate students specifically*
 1. *Data gathering has been done to lay down the groundwork (survey for needs assessment) for future endeavors*
 - c. *ISUSSHIP is widely accepted; mental health and counseling services is covered through student insurance even within community practitioners*
 - d. *Get Yourself Tested funded by Student Government*
 - e. *Graduate Student Wellness Week – any ideas, please contact*
 - f. *Roles in our departments and seeing what would be helpful in our more professional roles*
- x. Report of the Special Committee for Constitution Revisions
 - a. *Meeting a lot (four hours in the past month)*
 - b. *Basically we are trying to keep the same as much as possible, but trying to adhere to bylaws*
 - c. *New focuses (refer to EXEC REPORTS)*
- IV. Unfinished Business (30 min)
 - i. None
- V. New Business (40 min)
 - i. Senate Resolution F19-08 Recognition of GPSS Website Design and Implementation Efforts
 - a. *Motion to consider as read (UC – no objections, no debate)*
 - b. *Passed by unanimous consent*
 - ii. Senate Order F19-09 Amendment of GPSS Special Committee for Constitutional Review Membership
 - a. *Senator Johnson has been removed, Senator Robertson's name has been corrected*
 - b. *Passed by unanimous consent*
 - iii. Call for Nominations for Graduate Student Government Senators
 - a. *Senator Johnson currently the only seated Senator*



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- b. *\$200/semester stipend, do not have to volunteer now*
 - c. *Highly recommended by Senator Johnson*
- VI. Senate Forum (20 min)
 - i. *Graduate Student Newsletter*
 - ii. *Regarding the hate speech, racism, etc. in resident halls; President has addressed; this is a good opportunity for us to have a task force to address this situation to address campus climate for GS perspective; ISU Student Senate will also be addressing it*
 - iii. *Saturday's field day → will be the last nice day before the winter (Towers Recreation Fields)*
- VII. Roll Call and Announcements (58 Senators + 1 Sub in attendance)
- VIII. Adjournment