

GPSS OFFICER REPORT

October 2019

President

Iowa State University Childcare Taskforce: if you know graduate students with children or have children yourselves, please feel free to contact me to share feedback about the process. This is a closed University Committee.

Working on the Resource page on our website, please let me know what you think we should add! It is not finished (still very much under construction).

Keep an eye out for the Graduate College newsletter that circulates monthly; we are also discussing a semester GPSS newsletter.

Vice President

1. Social Events: Fall Socials! Check back with the GPSS Website as details are finalized.
2. Considering running for a GPSS Officer position next year? The best way to prepare yourself for that step is to join a committee!
 - a. Social Committee and Rules Committee
 - b. Big thank you to the committees I'm on
3. Interested in getting something done in GPSS?
 - a. Ask about submission of legislation (bills, orders, and resolutions) to the Rules Committee to bring it to the floor! Examples of past legislation can be found at <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/current-senate/legislation-history>; this can be used to provide guidance if you want to submit legislation.
 - b. New business can also be brought to the floor after all items of new business on the agenda are taken care of.
4. Website updates: Please let me know if you find any dead links.
5. Developing GPSS History page
6. Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee: For classes with on-campus and online sections both offered in the same semester, the FSCC has discussed allowing instructors/departments to limit online enrolment to distance education students.

Treasurer

We received 25 fall allocation applications from different graduate & professional student organizations. The finance committee met on Oct 17th and made decisions on all of them. After communication with all the organizations, the decisions will be finalized. And the funding would be transferred to the accounts of the organizations around the beginning of November. The details of the final decisions will be updated.

CIO

1. Attendance questions, please feel free to let the CIO know! Art. I §6 of the GPSS By-Laws states that:
 - 6.i.d. Three (3) points during the entire academic year results in removal of the Senator.
 - 6.i.e. Missing a regular meeting without a substitute shall constitute one (1) point for the Senator.

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- 6.i.f. Missing a regular meeting with a substitute shall constitute half (0.5) a point for the Senator
- 2. We need senators who can do html coding on GPSS Website.
- 3. #ISUGradStories on our website:
 - a) We share ISU graduate student academic stories on our website (a separate branch).
 - b) It is open to ALL ISU graduate students, so spread the words!
 - c) Please send the CIO gpsscio@iastate.edu your stories by answering (not limited to, but academically) the following questions if you want to be featured on our ISUGradStories webpage!!!
 - d) Please feel free to send your personal photos along if you'd like. An example page:
 - i) Program of study and year:
 - ii) Hometown:
 - iii) What are your research interests and why did you choose them?
 - iv) What is one thing you think everyone should know about your research project or research interests?
 - v) What advice would you give students applying for research funding opportunities? (if apply)
 - vi) Give a shout-out to a professor, mentor, advisor, or someone at ISU who has helped you?
 - vii) What extracurricular programs or groups have you been a part of ISU that are foundational to your experience here?
 - viii) What is the most valuable experience you have had while studying at ISU?
 - ix) What do you plan to do after you graduate from ISU?
 - x) What motivates you?
 - xi) Please feel free to share more information and stories about your academic life at ISU!
 - xii) If you use social media, please feel free to mention your social media handles as well!

URLA

1. University Wide Committee Appointments

- a) Nearly all university wide committee appointments have been filled. We appreciate everyone who has volunteered to serve.
- b) If you have any questions regarding appointments or believe that there has been any mistakes please contact URLA Chair, Marcus Jansen. (marcusd@iastated.edu)
- c) All representatives will be asked to provide an update on the committee at the end of the semester.

2. Senator T-Shirts

- a) Senators who signed up for a Graduate College T-shirt can pick up their shirt at the October meeting.

3. University Relations & Legislative Affairs Committee

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- a) Next meeting will be held right before the October main meeting at 5:00pm on Monday, October 28th in the Memorial Union Campanile Room.
- b) Intended Committee Focus for this year
 - i) University Relations – training senators, connecting senator within the same college, reaching the graduate student population
 - ii) Legislative Affairs – connecting with peers from other Iowa universities, reaching out to legislatures, tackling tax incentive bill at the stat level
- c) Anyone interested in joining the URLA Committee can reach out to Marcus Jansen (marcusd@iastate.edu).

PAG

1. **Please encourage all your graduate students to apply PAG!**
2. **Application deadline is the 15th of the month before your conference month.** All applicants applied after the deadline will be automatically denied. Detailed PAG application deadline can be found here: <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/pag/deadlines>
3. **Margaret Ellen White Award nominations** start now, due by **November 11** to the senators at each department, and **November 18** to the PAG Chair. Please nominate your major professors!
4. More information about Margaret Ellen White Award: https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/students/awards/MEW_award

GPSRC

1. First Committee Meeting on 10/24
 - a. Potential Keynote Speaker
 - b. Workshops
 - c. Social networking event
 - d. Budget
2. 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
 - a. Attended DOGE meeting with LAS
 - b. Attending DOGE meeting with HS
 - c. Attending DOGE meeting with COE
 - d. Attending a meeting with PhD students in the Ivy College of Business
3. Meeting with Committee on Lectures
 - a. Coordinate the keynote speaker
 - b. Apply for funding

Graduate and Professional Student Wellness Committee

1. Make all graduate students aware of the resources related to the eight dimensions of wellness <https://www.studentwellness.iastate.edu/8-dimensions-of-wellness/>

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- a. Student Wellness is an integrated approach to all aspects of well-being, including mental (Student Counseling Services), physical (State Gym and Lied rec), nutritional, financial, etc. They work on the prevention and training side as well as the treatment side.
- b. We are hoping to work with the department of Student Wellness on putting together videos of students using these resources so others know where to go and how easy it is!
2. Work with the department of Student Wellness to put on a Graduate Student Wellness week.
What would you all like to see/have for a wellness week?
3. Think about what skills we can gain in our other roles across campus, like Teaching Assistant, Lab coordinator, Instructor like training and our knowledge of resources.
 - a. This will help higher up administrators know that our needs are not met across different areas of health, so how we can be impacting the rest of the university.
4. Looking to what others have done like the University of Iowa and University of Northern Iowa or even specific departments have done about student wellness as a whole, but more specifically, about assessing the needs of graduate and professional students, and what they did to meet those needs. ***What is your department doing to specifically address and help graduate and professional student wellness?***

Constitution Revision Committee

1. Have met three times since Sept. 30th meeting
2. Several changes will likely be implemented
 - a. Making College of Veterinary Medicine and Graduate College more equal in representation and rights and duties
 - b. Moving many officer and committee duties to the By-Laws, as these require updating more frequently than the Constitution should be amended
 - c. Adjustment of Senate Officer term
 - d. Clarifying language regarding senator elections
 - e. Impeachment and Succession sections are being added for Senate Officers
3. Things not currently being considered for change:
 - a. Senate Officer election timeline
 - b. Senate Officer positions
4. By-Laws will be updated with election procedures and many other procedures essential to the Senate