



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

Meeting Notes
Monday, September 30, 2013
7:00 PM
South Ballroom, Memorial Union

- I. Call to order 7:10 P.M.
 - a. Roll Call – 90 % MET
 - b. Statement of Quorum by Speaker
 - c. Approval of the Minutes – MET (was conducted after Open Forum)
 - i. PASSED with Unanimous Consent
 - d. Amendments to the Agenda:
 - i. Add Senate Order F13-02
 - ii. PASSED with Unanimous Consent
- II. Open Forum
 - a. Michael Otis – Director – Human Resources (CEBS, SPHR)
 - i. Student Insurance and Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)
Depends on Relationship - whether u have insurance
Undergrads - Optional for Domestic and Mandatory for international students
Grad - If you have assistantship - covered by department
Cost for dependent coverage is very expensive but below average
Survey -Kaiser family foundation - for 2012 average cost (annual) \$15K
ISU plan is \$11,192 (about \$4k less than average)
Higher cost is due to fact that only a small group of grad students participate
 - ii. Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)
Biggest impact - covered under parents plan till age 26
Didn't make any difference whether married, living at home or working - still will get coverage
Regional Health Care Exchanges will open up
These regional exchanges are set up by state
Requirement - all adults have health coverage
If you don't have you will have to pay penalty \$95 for 2014, increases to \$695 in 2016. (individual Mandate)
Either parents, SSHIP plan or through exchange

Matching Federal plans: 4 different levels of plans from Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.



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Bronze plan costs less but you pay more for services. Platinum plan will cost more but will have less deductible etc. Prices are due to be released Oct 1st

- iii. Go to the healthcare.gov
- iv. International student - for F1 / J2 / J1 Visa - required to be on University Health Plan (as ISU is the sponsoring organization). F2 are not required. Exchanges will also be available for International Students
There may be savings for dependents of International students if they go to exchange
- v. Enrollment in exchange starts from 1st Oct. However, current coverage cannot be cancelled to go to exchange.
- vi. Two insurance companies in exchange having different rates for different regions in Iowa.
- vii. For people from out of state, participation will be through home exchange
- viii. A question / answer document will go up in the website (SSHIP Website)
- ix. Discussion:

Q: How will the penalty be paid?

A: Through tax filing as IRS is the gatekeeper. For people with Assistantship W2 will have a number which is the value for health insurance coverage.

Penalty is 1% if household income up to \$95

Q: No one has to worry till beginning of next school year?

A: If you already have coverage then it is fine, else u have to take coverage or pay penalty

Q: Can students in assistantship forge the insurance?

A: No

- b. James Dorsett – Director - International Students & Scholars
 - i. Provost went to conference and was talking to colleagues about significant increase in International Student Population. How can they be given more support? Hence President / Sr. Vice President decided to put forward proposal for orientation fee (one time). International students are growing



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and will soon reach 4000. The population has gone from a pretty stable state to now grown significantly. ISSO didn't have change in staffing until recently to support the increased International Student population. Plan - full time programming position - coordinate with colleges etc. What we have for orientation funding comes from a fee that undergrads pay to the department of admissions for orientation for international students - destination Iowa State (ISSO gets a small slice \$ 22 / undergrad). But the program is for both undergrad as well as graduate students. With this fee ISSO will expand the programs training for orientation leaders and variety of other things. The proposal for the fee has made its way to the Special Student Fees Committee and will go to Board of Regents Fee proposal was approved with condition: committee to look at this issue to see if this fee the right soft of support and the right amount. Right now the committee is being formed co-chaired by chair of diversity GSB and ISSO director. Also representatives from GPSS and some other graduate students are part of the committee. The committee will figure out whether this the right direction to go. How to go about it? Other funding mechanisms etc? Decision needs to be made who should be subject to this fee? Some of the funding will be provided to colleges. So one college representatives are present in the committee. There are a total of 11 people in the committee.

ii. Discussion

Q: Why \$120?

A: Similar to University of Iowa

Q: How the money will be used?

A: The committee will decide. It is based on all International students

President Prisacari - This fee would apply too graduate and professional students. This committee was formed due to the feedback. I Received many letters to oppose the fee. So if you are passionate, join the committee or forward your opinions to me.

Q: Will the committee decision come back to GSB / GPSS?

A: No. Once Board of Regents approve it, it is final.

Q: What is the orientation like University of Iowa / Norther Iowa?



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A: (PAG Chair Diddi). Cover for the food for international students, pickup from airport, workshops / seminars, online PowerPoint presentations etc.

Q: Why doesn't international students want this fee?

A: If they don't, this won't be implemented

Q: What could be the most important thing that international student would need (first priority with this money)?

A: Need more orientations and follow ups. We haven't had enough orientation / mentors for grad students. So these are some of the things that could be enhanced.

Q: Any request for money has a clear plan what the money will be used for. It would have been good if the plan was in place first.

A: Not enough time was given to come up with the plan.

Q: How will it be determined whether International students want the fee?

A: Surveys, open forums etc.

Q: What are the differences between the International and Undergrad orientations?

A: Pretty much the same.

Domestic students pay \$195 for New Student Program. Also, they come in June with parents once and then come back in August end and attend orientation. However, ISSO gets only 3 days to prepare. So this fee makes a huge difference.

- c. Nathan Vos and Zach Bauer – GSB Senators: MYGD 2013 Introduction
 - i. Proposal - Meet your government day. GSB hosted another even last spring (1500 people) and got 500 surveys. Since GPSS is a governing unit, they can be a part of it. Time is not set (probably November). Need \$ 500 to \$1000 from GPSS for food, as GPSS doesn't sponsor food. Senator Burch will come back in next meeting with a formal bill.

Q: Outside of us subsidizing the food what other elements of partnership do u have in mind?



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A: Senators can be there to greet and meet with people. In the banner it will be clearly said that the event is co-sponsored by GPSS. GPSS representatives can be on the planning committee. It will be an event where GSB and GPSS are both involved.

Q: Money will be used to fund food for undergrads?

A: (Senator Burch) - Yes, but people didn't have idea about what GPSS is. So it is important to get the GPSS name out there. People don't know the services.

A: (Senator Zenko) - Ratio of undergrads to GSB representative more than ratio to graduate students to GPSS Senators. So if they don't know who we are that is a bigger issue.

- III. Senate Forum [NONE]
- IV. Introduction of new bills and resolutions
 - a. Senate Order F13-02 Nominating Graduate Students to the GSB Senate
- V. Remarks and Reports
 - a. Report of the President – President Prisacari
 - i. Student Fees and graduate enrollment (slides)
 - ii. Kingland Project
 - 1. 2010 Kingland came forward with its proposal
 - 2. Current project is to build a 3-floor building (1st floor for vendors; 2nd floor for ISU office space; 3rd floor for Kingland office space)
 - 3. Project is scheduled to begin in early 2014 and to be complete by late 2015
 - 4. What vendors would you like to see in this space?
 - iii. Graduate enrollment
 - iv. Graduate Orientation
 - 1. January 27th, 2014
 - v. Graduate application is moving to online next semester; POS – approx. next fall
 - vi. President's Annual Address
 - 1. New record of student enrollment – 33,241
 - 2. 120 out of 200 new faculty have been hired
 - 3. graduate enrollment slightly increased while it dropped at Iowa
 - 4. comprehensive diversity report will be available soon
 - vii. On-campus food sales – GSB is working with solve this issue, we'll keep you posted



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- viii. Arrival of a New Child Policy: about 6 students have benefited from it already
- ix. TA Orientation – should this become a required event for all new TAs?
- x. Bike safety on campus (GSB “Share a bike” initiative)
- xi. September is National Campus Safety Awareness Month
 - 1. ISU Police: 294-4428
 - 2. Ames Police Department: 515-239-5133
 - 3. Safety Escort: 515-294-4444
- xii. The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students
 - 1. 27th annual National conference: November 7-10 at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI
 - 2. GPSS participation:
 - a. Regular session
 - b. Ignite session
 - c. Poster session
 - 3. Why join?
 - a. Help guide federal policies; develop federal agendas; guide advocacy in DC (tax-exemptions, ease process of getting work visa for international students, open access – research funded by federal funds must be available to the public within reasonable timeframe)
 - b. Be in sync with the other universities (Dissertation Boot Camp)
 - 4. Cost: \$160/person by Oct 1; \$170 by Oct 15; \$190 by Nov 7; or \$155 group of 4 by Oct 15
- xiii. Student Inclusive Train the Trainer - Recent surveys indicate graduate students are experiencing both racial/ethnic and gender bias within their departments. To address these climate issues, a series of diversity workshops will be piloted within several departments. For more information, please contact Alissa Stoehr or Dr. Craig Ogilvie in the Graduate College
- xiv. MU
 - 1. Received private gifts totaling \$3,400 in FY 13
 - 2. Kristin Erdman is a new Communications’ Specialist II
 - 3. MU is celebrating its 85th anniversary this year. Lots of events will be planned throughout FY 14
 - 4. MU hotel’s occupancy for FY 13 was 46.99%, 2nd best annual occupancy rate in the last 8 years
 - 5. MU parking ramp will undergo a \$680,000 renovation in summer 2014
 - 6. Employees 111 students this fall



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- xv. Cyride Sub-committee – to address the issues such as student enrollment, develop a plan for the 2014-2015 school year, and to discuss where we are at and where we might want to be for the next year
 - 1. Oct 16: 12pm-1:30pm
 - 2. Oct 17: 9:30am-11:00am
 - 3. Oct 28: 9:00am-10:30am
 - 4. Oct 29: 1:30pm-3:00pm
- b. Report of the Vice President and Rules Committee – Vice President Tlach
 - i. Social went well (500+)
 - ii. Anyone with social ideas should contact gpssvicepresident@iastate.edu
 - iii. Senate Order F13-02 was found favorable by Rules Committee
- c. Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee - Treasurer Helms
 - i. Allocations
 - 1. Deadline 9/27/2013 – Received 13 Applications
 - 2. Finance Committee is meeting Saturday the 5th to make recommendations. Please contact Tim if you would like to join.
 - ii. GSB / GPSS Split discussion
 - 1. Forming a committee, please consider joining
 - 2. Philosophical discussion on what the fee-sharing split should be. GSB funds a lot of useful projects on campus while we cater to the specific needs of graduate and professional students.
 - iii. GPSS Polos
 - 1. Price: \$47 – interest in purchasing (must have an order of at least 6). Payment must be received before we can place the order.
 - iv. Finances
 - 1. Clickers came in under budget, increased our surplus account carryover from last year.
- d. Report of the CIO and Election Committee - CIO Mukherjee
 - i. Received laptop from Grad College (free loan). The laptop comes for free but must be returned to Grad College if GPSS decides to not use it anymore.
 - ii. 62 senators till now. Please encourage colleagues to join GPSS as senator.
 - iii. Orders for clickers placed.
 - iv. ITS facing problems with NET-ID authentication (using LDAP) which affects our plans for porting PAG forms online.
- e. Report of the URLA Chair - URLA Chair Huffman
 - i. GPSRC conference date and location decided. Some committees still need to be filled.



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- ii. Annual Security and Fire Safety report is out - an interesting read
- iii. Student health advisory committee. The SHAC Outreach Forum topics were:
 - 1. Update on the situation with a confirmed case of TB in a student and the various steps and precautions being taken. The case was found during routine testing, thus allowing prompt action. Student Health is also working with the Iowa Department of Health.
 - 2. Information regarding the difference between viral and bacterial infections and the importance of not using antibiotics unless indicated.
 - 3. Promotion of flu vaccination. Thielen Student Health Center has flu vaccine clinics in various locations on campus as well as at the health center.
 - Student Health: Wednesdays and Saturdays during normal hours
 - State Gym: next Wednesday after 4pm
 - 4. Prevention Services update on online modules providing education regarding alcohol and sexual misconduct. This is the online modules all incoming freshman are required to complete. However, by next year it will apply to all new students including transfer students and graduate students. Student feedback on the modules has been positive and outcomes promising.
 - 5. Student Health is using social media for giveaways. Students can follow on Facebook, Twitter, etc.
 - [facebook.com/CycloneHealth](https://www.facebook.com/CycloneHealth)
 - [pinterest.com/CycloneHealth](https://www.pinterest.com/CycloneHealth)
 - health.iastate.edu
- iv. Following are the updates pertaining to Advisory Board First Meeting, CELT:
 - 1. DATE: 16th September, 2013
 - 2. Agenda:
 - a. SOTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning), and Learning Technologies
 - b. Forthcoming meeting: 21st October [Agendum: The Role of Teaching at ISU - How it is Communicated and Evaluated]
 - c. ISU LEARN committee:
 - Your opinions matter. The ISU LEARN committee has developed a focus group to gather your feedback. We want



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to hear your comments on the current SUCCESS and FAILURES of the black board and other electronic learning modules you have used here at ISU. Please sign up for a focus group. Just send an email to dbsnider@iastate.edu to RSVP. If you don't know your availability but think you would like to be involved, please send an email to me anyways. Just let me know if you can come at 5 pm or if you will be a little late based on lab or class commitments.

What: Free Pizza

Share your opinion about online learning [and improvements to online communities]

When: October 1 or October 2 (your choice) (5 PM)
Team interaction is encouraged. The focus group will be here until 7 PM.

Where: Durham 206

As a side note, the LEARN committee is also gathering lecturer and faculty input as well. If you know a professor that does an exceptional job managing their blackboard course – please encourage them to share their opinions and ideas with the faculty and lecturer focus groups as well.

v. Computational Advisory Committee

We had our first meeting on Sept. 17th. This meeting was mostly an informational and administrative "catch-up" for new members of the committee. Additionally, the topics of discussion included the updated budget, and CAC funding proposals. We also discussed how to fund campus-wide big projects to really ensure that the additional money coming from surge in admission is utilized in the most effective way possible. No specific idea in that regard was discussed during the meeting. That will happen over the course of next couple of months

vi. Transportation Advisory council

1. Fines and Fees – We have not raised fines in 3 years and we raised all permit \$10 across the board last year.
2. Trailer Policy – We have academic and organizations with trailers on campus. We are looking at new policy to restrict them to off campus location as not to take spaces in lots near buildings. We are currently housing them at ISU Surplus on Southern Hills Drive for a small fee. We do have one professor that is requesting for academic trailers to be housed on campus – lot 68.



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3. Electric Charging Stations – there was an inquiry about the possibility of getting a station on campus along with the City of Ames. There is a large cost involved in adding these alone or to parking meters.
 4. Smart Cards – All meters (but 1 in 61A) take Smart Cards. We have sold 1167 cards.
 5. 5 Year Plan – Angie Solberg and Mark are working together looking at projects on campus that will affect parking lots on campus. This helps plan accordingly for crack-filling, resurfacing and line painting.
 6. West Campus Parking Deck – A study is underway about putting a deck on the West side of campus to the Northwest of the College of Design. They are looking at a 700 stall deck but are unsure of costs and how it will be funded at this time.
 7. Budget - Last year's revenue at \$1million with \$780,000.00 in Capital Projects. 77% of the campus parking lots are in good condition.
 8. Appeals/Reports – Visitor Voids are only valid for 75 days from the date of the citation.
 9. Motorcycle Parking – We moved more motorcycle parking to lot 38A (South end of Stange Road) and in lot 52 (in front of Gerdin)
 - a. GSB talked of a bike sharing idea with 100 bikes that could move around campus.
 10. Permits – We have had an increase in Commuter permits
 - a. All 24 hour spaces need to be approved by VP for Business and Finance.
 - b. At some universities if construction takes away parking for a project/ building the cost is \$15,000 a stall if it is not replaced. We do not have this policy.
 11. Commuter Parking - We have sold out of lot 29 (Molecular Biology) but we do have space in 2 other commuter lots. Discuss commuter lots at Iowa State Center.
 12. Haber Road/Freddy Court Update – East side of Haber road will open 500 stalls of surface parking. Lot 112L and 112M will change back to original lots 114 and 119.
- vii. University Committee on Women-Current work includes finalizing the Status of Women Report and working on the College of Vet Med Report and LAS Report; Alissa Stoehr is the Chair of the Graduate Student sub-committee, which is working on a report that looks at recruiting more female graduate students, and ensuring that the necessary services are available to those students.



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viii. Lectures Committee-Iowa State is very lucky to have a wide variety of interesting and dynamic speakers coming to campus within the next few months! Here are just a few:

1. Kwame Anthony Appiah-Princeton University
2. Ambassador Karen Hughes
3. Nev Shulman-MTV's "Catfish"
4. Ambassador Nirupama Rao-India's Ambassador to the US
5. Robert Krueger-Identifying Mental Illness
6. Kesho Scott-Challenging Chinaphobia

The full schedule can be found at www.lectures.iastate.edu

ix. GPSRC update:

1. The date of the graduate and professional student research conference is April 4th, 2014. The conference will be held in the design building. The rooms that can be reserved now are in the process of being reserved. Rooms such as classrooms can't be reserved yet, but we are prepared to reserve them as soon as room scheduling allows it.
2. We've received support (at least, in promise) from all colleges, and we should consider supporting the conference ourselves so that we really take ownership of the conference.
3. The judging and submissions committee is meeting at 5:00 p.m., tomorrow, at 1312 Gilman. Important decisions about how judging will be done will be decided during that meeting.

x. Board of regents lunch next Wednesday. I'll take one senator to come along.

f. Report of the PAG Chair - PAG Chair Diddi

- i. 154 PAG applications have been approved till now. Money is left for approximately 42 PAG applications.
- ii. The first PAG committee meeting was held on September 16, 2013 and was attended by Senator Lawana, Senator Lois, Senator Lopez, Senator Zenko and PAG Chair Diddi. The current process for PAG was discussed.
- iii. The committee discussed various aspects of the PAG process:
 1. Online transition
 2. Presenters and non-presenters funding
 3. Only one PAG per student for the entire program
 4. Make a database of students who received PAG's
 5. Preference given to grad students whose departments are represented in GPSS
 6. Lottery system
 7. Monthly review of applications, allocate monthly amount



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- iv. Rules for PAG, general and special circumstances – plan to write rules for PAG.
 - v. Discussed GPSS awards and their criteria – Allocated amount \$4000 annually. Some of the awards discussed were:
 - 1. Outstanding graduate student of the year
 - 2. Outstanding senator of the year
 - 3. Graduate leadership award
 - 4. Senator of the month (recognition) to compete for Senator of the year.
 - vi. Other thoughts of the committee were to reduce the number of GPSS awards, make it more competitive and transfer the rest of the amount to PAG.
- VI. Old Business [NONE]
- VII. New Business
- a. Senate Order F13-02 Nominating Graduate Students to the GSB Senate
 - i. Ardhendu Tripathy introduced himself.
 - ii. Discussion:
 - Q: Is this in addition to the existing GSB Senator at Large position?
 - A: Yes
 - Q: Are they both GSB and GPSS Senators?
 - A: Yes, they represent graduate college in GSB.
 - iii. VOTE:
 - 1. YES : 53
 - 2. NO : 0
 - 3. ABSTAIN : 3
 - 4. PASSES
- VIII. Announcements
- a. Events Announcement (by President Prisacari)
 - i. MU will honor Veterans’ Day with Gold Star Hall Ceremony on Friday, November 8, 3:15pm in the Great Hall
 - ii. Latin American Film Festival – 5 films every Wednesday for 5 weeks shown in Soultz Family Visitor Center
 - iii. Fulbright Lunch and Learn seminars: October 2, 12:10-1pm, Gold Room, MU, “Cultural explorations” by Anicia Peters
 - iv. Grant Writing seminar: October 3, 830am-5pm, Sun Room, MU, registration is free, \$75 book <http://iowastategrants.eventbrite.com/>
 - v. University Awards Ceremony – October 2, Sun Room, 3:30pm
 - vi. United State and India: Ambassador Nirupama Rao: Tuesday, October 8, 7:30pm, 127 Curtiss Hall



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- b. Senator Anderson
 - i. 3rd floor of library is ready after renovation.
- IX. Adjournment @ 9:45 pm