

University of Iowa – Graduate Student Senate
General Assembly
December 5th, 2023 at 5:30 pm (UCC 2520D)

1. Call to order – 17:36
2. Food Pantry/Clothing Closet Presentation (20 minutes) - Faith Surface
 - a. Moved into new space in the IMU in August 2023
 - i. Food Pantry first opened in 2016 (~10,000 lbs distributed); food insecurity highlighted by COVID (~99,000 lbs distributed in 2022)
 - ii. Oct 2023 alone distributed 10,542 lbs.
 - b. Limits on every fridge/shelf/freezer changed daily
 - c. Food Pantry can be used once a week
 - d. Provide culturally relevant food that is also nutritious
 - e. Get food from HACAP, Table to Table, donations, other pantries
 - f. 10% budget goes to buying food and paying staff
 - g. How to donate? Amazon wishlist, donation drives, donation bins
 - h. Clothing Closet - Free professional clothes for everyone.
 - i. 5 items per semester.
3. Approval of November Minutes – voted on and approved!
4. Graduate College Updates
 - a. Dean Getz – All good!
 - b. Going to the council of graduate meeting
5. Executive Council Reports
 - a. President- Karley Monaghan
 - i. Charter Committees (Mason Koelm)
 1. Hancher auditorium feedback for Hancher season) – 2 students
 2. Research Council (advise on research policies) – 1 student
 3. Athletics (work athletics director) – 1 student
 4. University libraries (work on library catalog) – 1 student
 - b. Vice President- Mekhla Singhania
 - c. Treasurer- Soheil Hosseini
 - d. Executive Associate-Stuti Gupta
 - e. Membership Officer- Jordan Ismaiel
 - i. Please let Jordan know if you or your colleagues are graduating and fill positions as soon as possible.
 - f. Parliamentarian- Valeria Cota
 - g. Webmaster- Kyleakin Helm-Kwasney
 - h. Social Media Director- Hannah Nennig
 - i. Travel Funds Director- Emese Kovacs
 - i. If you travel to fulfill degree requirements, apply for degree-related funds. But you need to be travelling.
6. COGS Update- John Tappen
7. GPSG Update
 - a. Voted to select DEI director
 - b. Discussed grants that needed to be funded; decided to give to students

- c. Representative from Office of Ombudsperson
- 8. Committee Updates
 - a. Graduate Teaching- Joey Small
 - i. Lots of events for next semester
 - ii. Teaching methods workshop
 - iii. Peer observation framework
 - iv. Teaching culture across campus
 - b. International Student- Stuti Gupta
 - i. Ball finally rolling for next semester (for World Dance Tour)
 - c. Jakobsen- Mekhla Singhania
 - i. Brainstorming ideas for events
 - ii. Trying to get sponsors for awards
 - iii. Date for Jakobsen Research Showcase – March 23, 2024
 - d. Social and Service- Valeria Cota and Hannah Nennig
 - i. Working on the workshops and will be rolling for next year.
 - ii. Coffee Hours are up and running.
 - e. Travel Funds- Brooke Yeager
 - i. Trying to advertise more on TVs, in dining halls etc.
 - ii. 47 applicants this cycle (lower than usual)
- 9. Open Discussion
 - a. Jacob Payne-COGS, Fees Petition
 - i. [Cogs.org/endthefees](https://cogs.org/endthefees)
 - b. Fees in question are classified as 'supplemental pay' to the University. In 2017, an Iowa law was passed that makes it illegal for COGS to bargain about these fees with the Board of Regents (essentially this cannot be a topic of discussion during bargaining). So, COGS is going with this petition to the University to try to change University policy terms.
- 10. Adjournment – 18:55