General Assembly Meeting

**February 12, 2025**

**Attendance:**

1. **Call to Order – 5:33 PM**
2. [**Approval of December 2024 minutes**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdofabPKjKWDVBqltqbFCcaNeoYlxP9_4NCwra4LTyXsSElwQ/viewform?usp=header) **– voted on and approved!**

# Presentation from Student Legal Services

1. FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL; two licensed attorneys currently work in the office. *(The Smallest in Big Ten :’()*
2. Helps UI students with legal services (e.g., landlord issues, immigration, mediation, and notary)
3. The most frequent issue for grad and professional students: tenants’ rights
4. Access to affordable (free) resources including lease review
5. The Student legal services website offers a resource about tenants’ rights and the link is here: https://studentlegal.uiowa.edu/know-the-law/tenants-rights.

# 4. Executive Council Updates

1. President: Kyleakin Helm-Kwasny
   * 1. Graduate Student Appreciation Week is coming up in April.
     2. Iowa Innovation Leadership Fellowship: Offers a year-long experience for graduate trainees to focus on healthcare innovation including connecting with industry leaders, venture capitalists, and entrepreneurs.

* https://innovation.uiowa.edu/about-us/iowa-innovation-leadership-fellowship
  + 1. Ideas for supporting graduate students with disabilities?
    2. Hawkeye Excellence Awards nominations are now available.
* https://awards.studentlife.uiowa.edu/awards/hawkeye-awards#:~:text=We%20gather%20each%20spring%20to,over%20500%20organizations%20on%20campus.
  + 1. Graduation deadlines:
       1. February 28: Applications for degrees are due.
       2. April 29: Single thesis deposit due by 5 PM.
       3. May 15/16: Commencement at 7 PM
       4. (Be sure to apply for support to rent required graduation regalia!)

1. Vice President: Joey Small
   * 1. Jakobsen Conference: March 29, 2025
        1. Registration is now open! Tell your friends and peers.
        2. Looking for faculty/staff/postdocs to judge
        3. Poster making workshop
2. Treasurer: Stuti Gupta
   * 1. Spend the budget so the budget won’t get impacted in the upcoming year!
     2. If you have any questions about budgeting, feel free to reach out!
3. Executive Associate: Hee Kyoung Jung
4. Membership Officer: Priyanka Newase
5. Parliamentarian: Caleb DeWitt
   1. Constitution revision discussion
6. [Revision #1 voting](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfQIvR5tORpIWY5bT8emOhqgII0qDzx-M2TXXrVt6lmQ3zn3A/viewform?usp=header) – voted on and approved!
7. [Revision #2 voting](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIQPA6e-2rvKlL5usRylXqZdUk2caxrg8LK3e_z6rgMjVfMg/viewform?usp=header) – voted on and approved!
8. [Revision #4 voting](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdguaQ9HkLABXMkdJZ9_-88irg0qJHONB6i4XH6Aog1aFCvnQ/viewform?usp=header)
9. [Revision #3 voting](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc49hPln5DSix93deZ1L6uVv2vI33FFcj_t6uBPdeWZCG8c3w/viewform?usp=header) – voted on and approved!
10. [Revision #5 voting](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdwqjtP8eZ5X2xo5ar_TowW6E2cbZpBsiTZbHrNobsqokjX8g/viewform?usp=header) – voted on and approved!
11. Webmaster: Sabrina Ahmed
12. Social Media Director: Kshitija Kale
    * 1. Graduate Student Appreciation Week social media campaign
         1. Nominate any graduate student for the week!
         2. Email about nomination/recommendation will be out soon.

Ii. Teaching committee – Any ideas are welcome.

i. Travel Funds Director: Brooke Yeager

1. The Cycle 3 funding cycle is open now through March 3, 2025
2. Includes travel between Jan 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025

# 5. Graduate College Updates

1. Dean Thein
2. Dean Campo
3. Fellowships are currently open. Encourage peers to apply! The deadline will come more quickly than you would imagine!
4. Dean Rodriguez-Rodriguez
5. Grad college supports international graduate students. Please feel free to reach out.
6. CLAS Deans

# 6. COGS Updates

i. Open bargaining meeting was last week. Keep pushing for more!

# 7. GPSG Updates – Travis Fischer

# 8. Grad Council Updates – Tennessen

a. Had an informative discussion about AI use and misuse in academia

# 9. GSS Committee Updates

1. Service and Social Committee: Travis Fischer
2. Jakobsen Committee: Joey Small
3. Teaching Committee: Claire Christian
4. International Students Committee: Priyanka Newase
   1. Showcase will offer movie tickets. Stay tuned for the email!
5. Travel Funds Committee: Thomas Dainty

# 10. Open Discussion

a. ~~Letter regarding parking and transportation concerns~~

b. Discussion on implications of NIH hiring/funding freeze for graduate students – will continue the conversation if you are interested!

# 11. Adjournment – 7:10 PM