



Graduate Student Senate  
Executive Council Meeting  
Minutes  
26-August-2014

The University of Iowa  
Graduate College  
205 Gilmore Hall  
Iowa City, IA 52241  
(319) 335-3260

Notes from our first exec council meeting:

Thanks to those of you who could make it to the meeting last night, I know it ran long and we didn't cover everything so I wanted to send an overview.

What we did discuss:

Dean Berkowitz discussed the new graduate student orientation feedback he had received so far. Thanks to all who helped with this event, I've heard great things from lots of students about our panel!

Increasing the TF budget from 60K to ~120K

The "future of graduate education at Iowa" (this is what took so long) - we will be hearing more about this as the year progresses. Dean Keller will most likely give a version of this talk at our October meeting

ITS will be taking over the computer resource distribution that we have historically been in charge of with our computer resources committee. This is mainly because of tracking purposes.

The Grad College is going to propose an increase in the Professional Enhancement Fee (PET). This is a mandatory fee that is currently \$30 for full time students (pro-rated if you have less than 9sh). The proposal asks for an increase of \$10 per semester. The fees cover salaries of staff members and post-docs in the grad college related to the student success initiative. GSS will also benefit from this fee increase as some of these funds are placed into the Jakobsen conference. I expressed my full support for this increase and hope you do the same - Dean Keller will bring this to us at a general assembly meeting also (but it needs to go to the Regents by Sept. 2nd).

Dean Keller may not be at our first general assembly meeting, so many of the above issues will be tabled until our October meeting.

Things we didn't really discuss:

We are moving our meetings to 2520D UCC. I have updated the GSS website, but please pass this information along! We are doing this so we can hopefully provide snacks at more meetings as we won't be limited to IMU Catering.

My plan for the first general assembly meeting: have our general beginning (call to order, approval of agenda/minutes, introduction of senators). I want to then have the grad college report (forgoing the 2:2:2 for this meeting). Followed by our usual GSS Committees powerpoint (this is in place of the 2:2:2) where the committee chair(s) or someone familiar with the committee stands and gives a brief overview of the committee and the responsibilities of its members (time commitments/general duties). The meeting would conclude with senators being free to swarm individual committee chair(s)/representatives to ask questions and/or sign up for the committee.

I'm open to suggestions regarding changes to the proposed agenda for our first meeting. I am also looking for people to invite to speak at future general assembly meetings. I have Lisa Kelly from the Center for Teaching coming to talk at the October meeting, but no one else on the docket.

We need 15 nominations for people to review GPSG Travel Grant applications (I do not know what this entails but the time commitment seems minimal)



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We will need a new Treasurer come spring semester since Brian will be graduating. I would like to find this person sooner rather than later so they can be "trained in" before the end of semester budget is due at the end of the year.

Again, thanks to those who made it last night (I promise to try to keep the future exec council meetings quicker!). Please let me know if you have questions about anything,

Gaby