I. Call to Order – 6:00 pm
   Approval of Agenda and Minutes (~1 min)

II. Introduction of Senators (~2 min)

III. Graduate College Report (10 min)

IV. Guest Speaker (15 min)
   Liz Christiansen- Office of Sustainability
   Abbey Moffitt- UISG

V. 2:2:2: (4 min)

VI. Executive Reports
   A. President’s Report – stef shuster*
   B. Vice President’s Report – Ulrike Carlson*
   C. Treasurer’s Report – Andy Koons*
   D. Membership Officer’s Report – Candice Robinson
   E. Parliamentarian’s Report – Sam Bouwers
   F. Graduate Council Report – Kristi DiClemente, Lea Ljumanovic, Maneesh Kumar, stef shuster*
   G. Graduate Student Organizations Liaison – Nirmalla Barros
   H. ECGPS Delegate Report – Kristi DiClemente, Ulrike Carlson*
   I. DGSAC Chair Report – Steve Levillain
   J. Webmaster Report – Maneesh Kumar

VII. Committee Representative Reports
   A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Matt Calamia, Jenni McCabe*
   B. Computer Resources Committee – Brian Borchers
   C. International Student Committee – Emma Hashman*
   D. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Danielle Dietz, James Skretta, Kate Wohlman, Tiara Perez*
   E. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – stef shuster
   F. Legislative Committee – Clint Huntrods
   G. Service & Social Committee – Andrew Juhl, Sara Hussain*
   H. Travel Funds Committee – Lindsey Thomas, Kristi DiClemente*

VIII. Announcements

IX. Open Discussion
   • Opened by chair - Closed by motion with second and approval by senate

X. Adjournment (~1 min)

* Reports included

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Vi. Executive Reports
   A. President’s Report – stef shuster
      Hello! Thank you to all of the active and engaged senators who have participated this
      semester in the Graduate Student Senate. By now, most of you should be familiar with the way
      that GSS operates and what is expected of you as a senator. As a gentle reminder, please
      continue forwarding announcements and newsletters to students in your department to help
      keep everyone in the loop on funding opportunities and events that are of interest to graduate
      students. The spring semester is always a busy one for GSS. We host a lot of service, social,
      and conference opportunities during the spring. Look for news updates on our annual Jakobsen
      Conference in the coming weeks. This is a wonderful opportunity for newer students to gain
      valuable experience presenting at conferences while also providing a platform for more
      “seasoned” graduate students to gain feedback on developing ideas.

      While usually a time for relaxing or catching up on work, this Winter Break we will host at
      least one social gathering for graduate students (most likely a low key event). The GSS is
      committed to our mission of not only providing a voice for grad students, but keeping us
      connected with each other. In a similar line, the UI Main Library hopes to unveil the new
      graduate student study space after the Winter Break. This is not a firm timeline, but they are
      working hard on this project with the GSS.

      As a gentle reminder: If you are no longer going to continue your service as a senator
      during the Spring semester, please notify our Membership Officer, Candice Robinson (candice-
      robinson@uiowa.edu), of who your replacement will be. And, if you work with other student orgs
      and have an idea for a collaborative event with GSS, send me an email (stef-
      shuster@uiowa.edu)!

   B. Vice President’s Report – Ulrike Carlson
      This last month was a busy one – we finished the survey about use of the Graduate Student
      carrels at the Main Library and had another meeting with the Director of the Main Library, where
      we presented the results. Director Baker was open to our suggestions and concerns and a
      solution involving the old Government Publications Room on the 3rd floor of the Main Library will
      be forthcoming in the near future.

      Thank you all for your input and passing on the survey link. Thank you also to Kristi
      DiClemente, Elizabeth Deifell and stef shuster, who were instrumental in creating the survey
      and editing and presenting the results.

      I hope you will all have relaxing holidays and look forward to another productive semester
      with GSS. See you next year!

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C. Treasurer's Report – Andy Koons
   Nothing particularly new to report. Just want to remind everyone that I'm happy to field any
   questions and ideas that relate to GSS finances. Also, most committees have not spent much--
   which is fine as long as it's done intentionally. We want to make sure that this year's funds are
   spent on this year's students. Finally, since this is the last meeting of this semester, I want to
   wish everyone a happy winter break and holiday season!

D. Membership Officer's Report – Candice Robinson

E. Parliamentarian's Report – Sam Bouwers

F. Grad Council Report – Kristi DiClemente, Lea Ljumanovic, Maneesh Kumar, stef shuster
   The Graduate College is in the process of reviewing and revising the Presidential
   Graduate Fellowship program. While not firm, yet, the program will be renamed to the
   Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship program with fewer awardees, more accountability,
   and transparency for both fellows and departments. Look for announcements soon regarding
   the finalized changes. There was a lengthy discussion regarding a proposed public abstract for
   thesis and dissertation submissions. This is also in the works but seeks to help external
   constituents better understand graduate student research and creative work. Students may be
   asked to write a 200-word summary of how their work contributes to society.

G. Graduate Student Organizations Liaison – Nirmalla Barros

H. ECGPS Delegate Report – Kristi DiClemente, Ulrike Carlson
   At the last ECGPS meeting, we heard about the National Coalition Building Institute
   (NCBI) program, hosted by the Chief Diversity Office. This training workshop teaches effective
   leadership skills in the areas of prejudice reduction, violence prevention, conflict resolution, and
   coalition building. Please contact Lindsay Jarratt (Lindsay-jarratt@uiowa.edu), Diversity
   Resources Coordinator, if you are interested in signing up for this training (http://ncbi.org). The
   ECGPS is teaming up with Dance Marathon to help raise money for pediatric oncology and
   bone marrow transplant patients. Between January 23rd and February 2nd, all 6 graduate and
   professional student member governments will collect money in a contest for who can raise the
   most. The winning government will have a pre-determined individual selected who has
   volunteered to shave their head. More details on this collaborative fundraising drive will be
   announced over the Winter break.

I. DGSAC Chair Report – Steve Levillain

J. Webmaster Report – Maneesh Kumar
   Nothing to report.

VII. Committee Representative Reports
   A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Matt Calamia, Jenni McCabe
      The Fall Undergraduate Research Festival is coming up on Wednesday, December 7th.
      The GSS Academic Mentoring Committee is helping the organizers of the festival find 30
      graduate students who are willing to serve as volunteer judges. Judges will evaluate

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undergraduate research that is presented at the festival from 4:15PM-6:30PM. We need judges from a wide range of disciplines including Humanities, Biological & Health Sciences, Social Sciences, and Mathematics/Engineering. **WE NEED MORE JUDGES!** Please forward this on to other graduate students in your department and encourage folks to volunteer or consider volunteering yourself! Contact Jennifer McCabe (jennifer-mccabe@uiowa.edu) if you are interested in serving as a judge.

The Academic Mentoring Committee held their fall meeting on November 9th. The main focus of this meeting was to determine how best we can reach undergraduate students and inform them about graduate school in their area of study. The committee decided that it would be best to hold a large information session where general information is presented (e.g. how to obtain letters of recommendation; how to prepare for GRE) followed by break-out sessions when program-specific information will be discussed (e.g., how to prepare when applying to graduate school in social sciences, etc). We are currently in the early stages of planning this panel discussion which is tentatively set for March 2012.

**B. Computer Resources Committee – Brian Borchers**

**C. International Student Committee – Emma Hashman**

   Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 7 at 6 p.m. in the IMU. We have been working on talking with the Office for International Students and Scholars (OISS) to create a central page for all International Students to have resources for everything they need such as support from peers to visa information. Also, we will be talking with OISS to create single sheet of paper that has all the steps needed after arriving in the United States, along with quick links or resources to how to accomplish each task such as health insurance, etc.

**C. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Danielle Dietz, James Skretta, Kate Wohlman, Tiara Perez**

   As we get closer to the end of the semester, some more advertising initiatives are beginning to get underway. This week, we will be posting spotlight posters (highlighting previous conference winners), as well as other 11 x 17 posters. We will begin collecting names for faculty judges this week, and will be contacting them accordingly. The Conference website will be open for **submissions on the 4th of January** – we encourage everyone to submit; all who submit will be allowed to present! Please help us spread the word about the conference and the call for papers!

**E. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – stef shuster**

**F. Legislative Committee – Clint Huntrods**

**G. Service & Social Committee – Andrew Juhl, Sara Hussain**

   So far, we are planning the bowling event for Dec 4th. It will be paid for by GSS funds, with participants paying for their own shoes. We are looking into events for next semester - including the possibility of a trivia night with the med students, the souperbowl, and a poker night benefitting a local charity. We are still deciding on the charity of interest. Also - we are in the process of planning a last-day-of-the-semester pizza social (likely at Joe’s), and we will provide pizza and pop at this.

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H. Travel Funds Committee – Lindsey Thomas, Kristi DiClemente
The next Travel Funds and Supplemental Award scoring session will be held at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, December 7th (tomorrow!) in 41SH (Schaeffer Hall). The remaining Travel Funds deadlines for the 2011 fiscal year are on Thursdays, 11:59pm, as follows: January 19, March 22, May 17, July 19.

VIII. Announcements

IX. Open Discussion
• Opened by chair - Closed by motion with second and approval by senate

X. Adjournment (~1 min)
2011-2012 Graduate Student Senate

Roster of Elected Positions

Executive Officers:
- President: stef shuster, stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
- Vice President: Ulrike Carlson, ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
- Treasurer: Andy Koons, andrew-koons@uiowa.edu
- Executive Associate: Kimberly Hoppe, kimerly-hoppe@uiowa.edu
- Membership Officer: Candice Robinson, candice-robinson@uiowa.edu
- Parliamentarian: Sam Bouwers, samantha-honken@uiowa.edu
- ECGPS Delegates:
  - Kristi DiClemente, kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu
  - Ulrike Carlson, ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
  - stef shuster (alt), stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
  - Emma Hashman (alt), emma-hashman@uiowa.edu
- Graduate Council:
  - Kristi DiClemente, kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu
  - Lea Ljumanovic, lea-ljumanovic@uiowa.edu
  - Maneesh Kumar, maneesh-kumar@uiowa.edu
  - stef shuster, stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
- Webmaster: Maneesh Kumar, maneesh-kumar@uiowa.edu

Roster of Appointed Positions

Committee Chairs:
- Academic Mentoring Committee: Matt Calamia, matthew-calamia@uiowa.edu
- Computer Resources Committee: Jenni McCabe, jennifer-mccabe@uiowa.edu
- International Student Committee: Brian Borchers, brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
- Jakobsen Conference Committee: Emma Hashman, emma-hasman@uiowa.edu
- Jakobsen Conference Review: Danielle Dietz, danielle-dietz@uiowa.edu
- Legislative Committee: James Skretta, james-skretta@uiowa.edu
- Service & Social Committee: Kate Wohlman, katharine-wohlman@uiowa.edu
- Travel Funds Committee: Tiara Perez, tiara-perez@uiowa.edu
- Jakobsen Conference Review: stef shuster, stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
- Legislative Committee: Clint Huntrods, clint-huntrods@uiowa.edu
- Service & Social Committee: Andrew Juhl, andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu
- Service & Social Committee: Sara Hussain, sara-hussain@uiowa.edu
- Travel Funds Committee: Lindsey Thomas, lindsey-thomas@uiowa.edu
- Travel Funds Committee: Kristi DiClemente, kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu

Additional GSS Representatives:
- Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Committee (DGSAC): Steve Levillain, steve-levillain@uiowa.edu
- Graduate Student Orgs Liaison: Nirmalla Barros, nirmalla-barros@uiowa.edu
- GPAC: Andy Koons, andrew-koons@uiowa.edu
- Benjamin Gillig, benjamin-gillig@uiowa.edu
- Gene Parker, eugene-parker@uiowa.edu

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