



Graduate Student Senate
General Meeting
Agenda
17 February 2010

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

- I. Call to Order – 5:30 pm
 - o Approval of Agenda and Minutes (~1 min)
- II. Introduction of Senators (~2 min)
- III. 222: 2 Senators, 2 Departments, 2 minutes (5 min)
 - o Senator Mike Palermo – Urban and Regional Planning
 - o Senator James Ulstad – Mechanical Engineering
- IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)
 - o Dean Berkowitz
 - o Dean Keller
- V. Guest Speaker (15 min)
 - o Maggie Jesse – ITS Instructional Services
- VI. Announcements
 - o Post-Meeting Dinner Location: Mia Za's
- VII. Executive Reports
 - A. President's Report – Kristina Rogers*
 - B. Vice President's Report – Donna Lancianese*
 - C. Treasurer's Report – Andy Kopf*
 - D. Membership Officer's Report – James Skretta*
 - E. Graduate Council Report – Johnathan Gajdos, Alexandra Nica, Oksana Zagorodna*
 - F. Graduate Student Organizations – Alexandra Nica
 - G. ECGPS Delegate Report – Si-Chi Chin*
 - H. DGSAC Chair Report – Ulrike Carlson
 - I. Webmaster Report – Tim Paschkewitz
- VIII. Committee Representative Reports
 - A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Alexandra Nica*
 - B. Computer Resources Committee – Andy Kopf*
 - C. Education Outreach Committee – Ulrike Carlson, Perry Motsegood*
 - D. International Student Committee – Brad Thomas, Joseph Steinitz*
 - E. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Keith Avin, stef shuster, Kate Stopa*
 - F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – Alexandra Nica, Tim Paschkewitz
 - G. Service Committee – Nirmalla Barros, Kelly Gierlus*
 - H. Social Committee – Meggie Aube, Andy Kopf*
 - I. Travel Funds Committee – Tim Gupton, Oksana Zagorodna*
- IX. Election – Hancher-Finkbine Medallion nominations
- X. Open Discussion
 - o Opened by chair - Closed by motion with second and approval by senate
- XI. Adjournment (~1 min)

* Reports included



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VII. Executive Reports

A. President's Report

Starting on a good note, there are only 4 weeks of winter left. I don't know about you, but I'm certainly ready for spring!

Hancher Finkbine Medallion:

I want to call your attention to the University of Iowa Hancher-Finkbine Medallion. The Hancher-Finkbine Medallion is awarded to student leaders, faculty, administrators, and alumni to recognize leadership, learning, and loyalty. The tradition of awarding Hancher-Finkbine Medallions was established in 1964. They are named for the founder of the Finkbine Dinner, William O. Finkbine, and for Virgil M. Hancher, a student guest at the first dinner who served for 24 years as president of the University, and who, to an unusual degree, exemplified the three characteristics for which the awards are given. Seven medallions are awarded annually, to four outstanding students, one professor, one staff member and a graduate who has attained special distinction. The Finkbine Dinner Committee, composed of students, staff, faculty and alumni will select the Medallion recipients.

This is the first year that faculty within the Graduate College are eligible for the Hancher-Finkbine Medallion, and faculty in the following four programs may be nominated: **Center for the Book, Project on the Rhetoric of Inquiry (POROI), School of Library and Information Science, and Urban and Regional Planning**. If you are a representative of these programs, or know of students within these programs, be sure to nominate faculty members by visiting the website for submission information. The deadline is March 1, 5pm. Faculty Nomination Forms may be found at: <http://student-services.uiowa.edu/students/awards/finkbine.php>. All nominations are due on March 1.

Also, the Graduate Student Senate may select up to 2 students whose names will be submitted to the Finkbine Dinner Committee. Last year, one GSS nominee, Senator Alexandra Nica (Economics), was selected as the recipient of a Hancher-Finkbine Medallion.

April Elections:

In order for GSS to continue growing as an organization that serves as the voice of the graduate students at the University of Iowa, all positions within the GSS leadership must be filled with enthusiastic and dedicated individuals. It's time to start thinking about what role



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you want to play in GSS next year! Please consider serving in a leadership position of the Graduate Student Senate. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the current leaders. Please see the GSS Constitution for additional details (http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/files/GSS/GSS_Constitution_051009.pdf).

The following positions will be voted upon by the senate (additional detail is listed in the constitution).

- **President**

The President of the GSS is the chief executive officer of the GSS, and the primary advocate on behalf of graduate students both to the Graduate College and the University community at large. While specific duties of the President will vary from year to year, the President shapes the overall agenda and direction of the GSS.

- **Vice-President**

The Vice-President of the GSS assists the President in carrying out the functions of the Graduate Student Senate and shall assume the duties of the President when the President is absent.

- **Treasurer**

The Treasurer of the GSS is responsible for the administration of all GSS funds and business affairs.

- **Membership Officer**

The Membership Officer of the GSS is responsible for keeping track of the membership of the GSS and attendance at meetings of the GSS.

- **Executive Associate**

The Executive Associate assists the President in assuring the smooth running of the GSS.

- **Parliamentarian**

The Parliamentarian ensures that meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion. The Parliamentarian is the authority on constitutional issues, as well as the traditions of the GSS and Robert's Rules of Order.

- **Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Student (ECGPS) delegate + at least 1 alternate**

The ECGPS delegate is responsible for representing the interests of GSS in the ECGPS. One of the members will serve as the Vice-President of ECGPS.

- **3 Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee (GPAC) members (ECGPS)**

The following positions are appointed by the President of the Graduate Student Senate:

- **Graduate Student Organizations Liaison**

- **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council Chair**

- **Webmaster**

- **GSS Committee Co-Chairs**

Thank you for your continued dedication to GSS! We would not be able to keep grads informed without you!

Graduate Student Group Space in Main Library now available:

It seems as though class scheduling conflicts have been taken care of now, and we have been assigned space again in the Main Library.

Room 2058 Hours: 8am – building close (M-F), 12 pm to building close (Sat), and 12pm – 5:30 pm (Sun)

Room 2057 may also be used if not scheduled for other purposes.



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Please note – it is possible that the Registrar will need to schedule some all day event into one of these rooms at some time this semester, but we will receive advance notice and you will be notified through the listserv.

I am interested to hear how the rooms are being utilized, so if you are using the space, please send me a note and describe your time in 2057/2058. Do you work alone? Do you work in groups? Are you working on your dissertation? How do groups benefit your dissertation writing? etc. Your descriptions may provide useful advice for other grads who are unfamiliar with these student group spaces and further encourage students to utilize this space.

Thank you, again, to Nancy Baker, UI Libraries, and Dean Keller for their assistance in acquiring space for graduate student use.

B. Vice President's Report

The semester is off to running start and I have been working with various committees within GSS. Specifically, I have been working with the Social Committee on spring events and Jakobsen Conference Committee. If you are looking for committees to get involved this semester and you are not sure which, let me know and I can get you the information (donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu). Remember, it is never too late in the semester to get active in a committee!

C. Treasurer's Report

Committee chairs – please get me your completed Spending Plan forms as soon as possible. They do not have to be overly specific or detailed, but are just a way for me to make sure that you know you have funds and have a plan for how you intend to use them. Please contact me with any questions.

With money allocated this past month to the Service Awards dinner, a smaller amount remains for discretionary spending, but still plenty for committees that are seeking new or expanded programming.

GSS FY10 Budget – \$17,988.00
Discretionary GPAC Funds – \$1,652.67
Current "00-Account" Balance – \$1,007.10
The rest has been allocated to GSS Committees

D. Membership Officer's Report

In the past several weeks, we've been working to fill the remaining open seats in the Senate and several new members have joined! The Executive Council and I wish to give a warm welcome to those members: Derek Gottlieb – Teaching and Learning, Darin Mohr – Applied Math and Computational Sciences, Stephanie Hynes – Integrative Physiology, Diqiong (Joan) Xie – Biostatistics, Kathryn Trandem – Immunology, Andrea Lackman – Nursing. Though you may receive few verbal "thank you's" for serving as your department, your participation in GSS does not go unnoticed nor unappreciated. Thank you for all you will contribute!

There are still several open seats and if your department has seats to fill, we wish to encourage you to extend an invitation to those in your department – your Directors of Graduate Studies have already been contacted, but personal invitations always provide the most meaningful communication. If you are unsure if your department has remaining seats, consult the Attendance Record spreadsheet (the same sheet you use to sign in each meeting). In the sorted pages (at the bottom of the page, choose your respective Sheet)



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and you will see that the Green Spaces designate the amount of full senators allotted to your department. If you notice inaccuracies please notify me – james-skretta@uiowa.edu.

As always, please proof the attendance record to ensure your attendance is accurately documented. And if you would like a photo to appear on your personal webpage, I would be happy to upload it should you send one.

E. Graduate Council Report

At its January 21 meeting, the Graduate Council received updates on the work of the Graduate Education Task Force, the Jakobsen Research Conference committee, and the various fellowship programs administered by the Graduate College. In addition, the Graduate Council discussed a proposal to re-allocate five of the current Ballard/Seashore doctoral dissertation completion fellowships from full-year humanities and social sciences fellowships to 12 semester-long fellowships for students in the biological/life sciences, mathematical/physical sciences, and engineering. At the February 4 meeting, the Grad Council heard about the newly-opened Office of Postdoctoral Scholars. In collaboration with the Office of the Vice President for Research, the Graduate College opened the office to provide central support and assistance to postdoctoral scholars and fellows at the UI. The office, located in the Graduate college in Gilmore 205, is staffed by a Program Assistant and is overseen by Associate Dean Minnetta Gardinier. The Graduate Council also discussed a proposal to remove the outside member requirement from the Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College. The interpretation and enforcement of this requirement has presented a number of challenges to both programs and the College, and the Council voted to remove the Graduate College requirement that one member of a doctoral dissertation committee be from outside of the department or program. Individual departments and programs, however, may choose to require outside members should they decide to do so, and all dissertation committees will continue to require department/program approval.

F. Graduate Student Organizations – Nothing to report.

G. ECGPS Delegate Report – ECGPS Elections will be held soon, and many positions are available to graduate and professional students.

Specifically for GSS, these positions will be open:

- o Vice President (must be a graduate student for the 2010-2011 Academic Year)
- o 3 Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee Members (GPAC) + alternates
- o 2 ECGPS delegates + at least 1 ECGPS alternate (note: one of the two delegates will be nominated for the position of ECGPS Vice President, and then the position of delegate will be assumed by one of the alternates – by vote if necessary)

Positions open for any grad/professional student to fill:

- o GPAC Chair
- o Public Relations Officer
- o Service Officer
- o PAGs Chair(s)

H. DGSAC Chair Report – Nothing to report.

I. Webmaster Report – Nothing to report.

VIII. Committee Representative Reports

A. Academic Mentoring Committee

At our last meeting in January 2010, the committee briefly addressed the latest updates on the application forms and guidelines. Due to all the distinctions that have to be made between this committee's purpose and various entities on campus, we had to make sure



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that we have the approval of the forms and guidelines from the Vice President of Student Services and from the Graduate College before making them all publicly available and starting the matching process. In the last weeks, the forms and guidelines have been modified to that extent and will be made available on the website, pending one final approval.

The application for the Sandra Barkan Mentor Award will be available online towards the end of this week/weekend with the help of our webmaster. More details will be available on the website at that point as well. The deadline for the mentor applications is estimated to be approximately mid-March 2010.

Also at the last meeting, our Jakobsen Conference Event Planning Chair Kate Stopa has talked to the committee about the details involving the Jakobsen Conference workshop for undergraduate students that are interested in graduate school and graduate student life in general. The workshop will take approximately 45 – 50 minutes, with a short presentation followed by a roundtable with undergraduate and graduate students. Please let me know if you are interested in participating in this roundtable (alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu).

Reminder: the Jakobsen Conference will collaborate this year with SURF (the undergraduate research festival) in which undergraduate students present their research posters. These posters have always been judged by graduate students, hence if you would like to be a SURF judge, it would be a great opportunity to participate in this capacity to the conference.

B. Computer Resources Committee

All computers have now been distributed. Thanks to everyone who helped with the reallocations and distributions over the last six months. I also want to extend special thanks to President Rogers for her efforts in acquiring space to store the machines during the allocation and distribution process.

The committee will soon be actively seeking members for next year's distribution, along with perhaps a chair or co-chair. Applications go out to departments early in the summer, and the committee meets in late summer to determine how to allocate the computers to the various departments. Distribution generally occurs early in the school year. We are anticipating a large number of computers, around 300 at early estimates, so a good number of people would be beneficial.

If you have interest in this committee for the coming summer and fall and have any questions about it, email Chair Andy Kopf (ajkopf@gmail.com). Official signup will likely begin at either the March or April meeting.

C. Education Outreach Committee

The committee finalized plans for a thesis seminar on March 1st at 3:30 covering the new electronic thesis process and changes to the MFA deposit. A panel including Dean Wurster and the two thesis checkers within the Grad College will be available to discuss the process and answer questions from students. We are also working with the Jakobsen Conference committee and will continue plans for two more seminars later this semester.

Ulrike Carlson – ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
Perry Motsegood – perry-motsegood@uiowa.edu

D. International Student Committee

The ISC has drafted a resolution to express our concerns regarding the OISS proposal to increase the international student fee. We also submitted a letter of concern to Larry



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Lockwood, University Registrar (and head of the Miscellaneous Fees Committee that has passed the proposal). The ISC is also ramping up planning for Lekker, Lekker!, our annual review of the local ethnic food scene, which will take place from March 9th to April 16th. We are collecting sponsorships and gift certificates. Please let us know if you would be willing to help us with this.

E. Jakobsen Conference Committee

We are excited to see a great response for this year's Jakobsen conference with 162 submissions (66 posters, 96 presentations) and 72 judges. 91 students wish to be judged and in order to not overwhelm currently volunteered judges **we are in need of judges in the following departments:** Humanities (10); Social Sciences (2); Math, Physical and Engineering Sciences (10); Art (9). If you know faculty in these areas please try your best to recruit them. The Biological and Health Sciences has filled its quota!

The next group of posters advertising the conference for all students, faculty and staff on campus will be distributed during today's GSS meeting. The goal is to hang the posters during the week of February 27. We have an estimated 200 posters that must be hung so any and all help is appreciated. If you have not yet signed up for poster on the building list please do so by contacting keith-avin@uiowa.edu.

If you are not a member of our committee or a presenter at the conference, FREE registration is now open! Visit <http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/jakobsen-conference/register> to sign up. All registrants get free lunch, and all registered graduate students are invited to the reception prior to the awards ceremony.

Finally, air time has been purchased for the two weeks prior to the conference on WSUI 910 AM and KSUI 91.7 FM so please listen! We have had continued success with sponsorship with Hills Bank and the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies making contributions as well as in-kind donations from Java House, Capanna Coffee Company and the New Pioneer Food Co-Op.

See you on March 27 at the IMU!

Keith Avin, Publicity Co-Chair, keith-avin@uiowa.edu
stef shuster, Judging and Submissions Co-Chair, stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
Kate Stopa, Event Planning Co-Chair, kate-stopa@uiowa.edu

F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – Nothing to report.

G. Service Committee

Only 2 months away until our Annual Wiffleball Tournament to benefit the Crisis Center! We reserved the Field House's Main Deck for Saturday, April 10, 2010 12-5pm. A little bit of competition among departments is always a good time so please consider setting up a team! We plan on launching an online sign-up sheet soon where team captains can enter all their participant information.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 5:30pm in Callen Conference Room, Gilmore Hall.

Any questions, please contact Nirmalla Barros (nirmalla-barros@uiowa.edu) or Kelly Gierlus (kelly-gierlus@uiowa.edu). Thank you!

H. Social Committee



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Mark your calendars for some fun upcoming events from the social committee. Tomorrow, February 18, come by Joe's Place from 5-9 for some quality socializing time with your fellow grad students. There will be pizza, but only if you're among the first to arrive. Save the date for the biggest graduate social event of the semester, The Spring Bash. The event will be taking place on April 16 from 8-12 p.m. at The Sheraton. Live music will be provided by local band, Exposed Fiction. This will definitely be a night not to be missed!

If you are interested in being a part of organizing social events for graduate students, please come to our next meeting, we are always welcoming new members. The next committee meeting will be Wednesday, February 24 at 7 p.m. at T-Spoons on the corner of Market and Linn St.

As always, please contact social committee co-chairs, Andy Kopf and Meggie Aube with any suggestions or concerns.

I. Travel Funds Committee

Travel Funds GSS Committee chairs would like to remind all senators that the next GSS Travel Funds deadline is this Thursday, Feb 18.

The remaining deadlines for the 2009 fiscal year are on Thursdays, 11:59pm, as follows: Apr 22, May 20, July 8.

The next committee meeting (review) will be held at 5:30 - 9pm on TUESDAY, Feb 23 (*note this change!*), room 41 SH (Schafer Hall). The following review meetings will be held on Tue - Apr 27, Wed - May 26, Wed - July 14. Travel Funds Committee members will receive an email-reminder on Feb 18 about the review meeting on Feb 23. As always, cookies will be provided.

IX. **Election** – Hancher-Finkbine Medallion nominations

X. **Open Discussion**

XI. **Adjournment**



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2009-2010 Graduate Student Senate
 Roster of Appointed Positions

Executive Officers:

President	Kristina Rogers	kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu
Vice President	Donna Lancianese	donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu
Parliamentarian	Timothy Gupton	timothy-gupton@uiowa.edu
Treasurer	Andy Kopf	andrew-kopf@uiowa.edu
Executive Associate	Perry Motsegood	perry-motsegood@uiowa.edu
Membership Officer	James Skretta	james-skretta@uiowa.edu
ECGPS Delegate	Si-Chi Chin	si-chi-chin@uiowa.edu
Graduate Council	Johnathan Gajdos	johnathan-gajdos@uiowa.edu
	Alexandra Nica	alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
	Kristina Rogers	kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu
	Oksana Zagorodna	oksana-zagorodna@uiowa.edu
	Ulrike Carlson	ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Committee (DGSAC)		
Graduate Student Organizations Liason (GSO)	Alexandra Nica	alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
Webmaster	Tim Paschkewitz	timothy-paschkewitz@uiowa.edu

Committee Chairs:

Academic Mentoring	Ulrike Carlson	ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
	Alexandra Nica	alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
Computer Resource	Andy Kopf	andrew-kopf@uiowa.edu
International Student	Joseph Steinitz	joseph-steinitz@uiowa.edu
	Brad Thomas	bradley-thomas@uiowa.edu
Educational Outreach	Ulrike Carlson	ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
	Perry Motsegood	perry-motsegood@uiowa.edu
Jakobsen Conference	Keith Avin	keith-avin@uiowa.edu
	stef shuster	stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
	Kate Stopa	kate-stopa@uiowa.edu
Jakobsen Conference Review	Alexandra Nica	alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
	Tim Paschkewitz	timothy-paschkewitz@uiowa.edu
Travel Funds	Tim Gupton	timothy-gupton@uiowa.edu
	Oksana Zagorodna	oksana-zagorodna@uiowa.edu
Service	Nirmalla Barros	nirmalla-barros@uiowa.edu
	Kelly Gierlus	kelly-gierlus@uiowa.edu
Social	Meggie Aube	meghan-aube@uiowa.edu
	Andy Kopf	ajkopf@gmail.com

GSS Appointees:

Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee (GPAC)	Donna Lancianese	donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu
	Alexandra Nica	alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
	stef shuster	stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
	Raquel Baker (alt)	raquel-baker@uiowa.edu
	Aaron Hefel (alt)	aaron-hefel@uiowa.edu
	Saurav Pandit (alt)	saurav-pandit@uiowa.edu