



Graduate Student Senate  
General Meeting  
Agenda  
9 March 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 Jamie Sanchagrin – Geography
  - o Senator Perry Motsegood – Chemistry
- IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)
  - o Dean Keller
  - o Dean Berkowitz
- V. Guest Speaker (10 min)
  - o Gregory Bal – Student Legal Services
- VI. Announcements
  - o Post-Meeting Dinner Location: Joe's Place
- 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. Legislation: GSS-R-2009-002
- 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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**II. Introduction of Senators**

**III. 222: 2 Senators, 2 Departments, 2 minutes (5 min)**

- o Senator Jamie Sanchagrin – Geography
- o Senator Perry Motsegood – Chemistry

**IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)**

- o Dean Keller
- o Dean Berkowitz

**V. Guest Speaker (10 min)**

- o Gregory Bal – Student Legal Services

**VI. Announcements**

- o Post-Meeting Dinner Location: Joe's Place

**VII. Executive Reports**

**A. President's Report**

**1. April Elections:**

Congratulations to those of you that are only a few weeks away from graduating! I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors! A number of current GSS leaders are part of this group, so that means we are in need of motivated new leaders to fill positions for the 2010-2011 academic year. Please seriously consider serving in a leadership role! We need dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to lead this incredible organization!

The elections will be held at the next GSS meeting. The following positions will be voted upon. Please see the GSS Constitution for additional details:  
[http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/files/GSS/GSS\\_Constitution\\_051009.pdf](http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/files/GSS/GSS_Constitution_051009.pdf)

Elected Positions:

- **President**
- **Vice-President**
- **Treasurer**
- **Membership Officer**
- **Executive Associate**
- **Parliamentarian**
- **Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Student (ECGPS) delegates (2) + at least 1 alternate** - One of elected delegates will serve as the Vice-President of ECGPS.
- **3 Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee (GPAC) members (ECGPS)**

**At the May GSS meeting, the following positions will be voted upon:**

- **Graduate Council Members** – Nomination period open beginning at the April meeting.
  - o The president-elect will automatically take the respective graduate council seat
    - Fine Arts and Humanities;
    - Social Sciences and Education;
    - Biological and Medical Sciences;
    - Mathematical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences (Position not open – I will be renewing my seat for 1 year as allowed by the GSS Constitution Article V, Sect. G, Paragraph 2, Sentence h. unless the president-elect is in MPE)



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Appointed Positions:

The following positions are appointed by the President of the Graduate Student Senate. Please contact Kristina ([Kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu](mailto:Kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu)) or Donna ([donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu](mailto:donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu)) if you are interested in any of the following appointed positions, and your name will be passed on to the next GSS President for consideration:

- **Graduate Student Organizations Liaison**
- **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council Chair**
- **Webmaster**
- **GSS Committee Co-Chairs**
  - Academic Mentoring Committee
  - Computer Resource Committee
  - Conference Committee
    - Publicity
    - Event planning
    - Judging
  - Educational Outreach Committee
  - International Student Committee
  - Jakobsen Conference Review Committee
  - Service Committee
  - Social Committee
  - Travel Funds Committee

**2. Representation for your Department:**

If you are a senator or alternate for your department, please be sure that your department is represented next year. We hope you will consider serving another year in GSS. If you are unable to do so, please be sure that the appropriate steps are taken in your department to ensure that another graduate student will be representing your department beginning next fall. It's never too early to seek new membership from individuals in your department!

**3. Service Hours:**

Thank you for your service and dedication to GSS this year!

After spring break, each GSS senator will receive an email with your current number of logged service hours. In May, a banquet will be held for senators with 46+ hours of logged service.

There are still a number of opportunities available through GSS committees to earn hours, especially at the Jakobsen Conference. We may be winding down this academic year, but it's not too late to get involved! Contact the GSS committee chairs if you are interested in joining a GSS committee!

The most recent version of the service hours log and information about the Service Rewards System can be viewed at <http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/about>. If you find errors in your hours, please feel free to contact the appropriate individual to credit any missing hours. If you have served on any committees through ECGPS, please let me know so I may credit you for your hours of service.

**4. Task Force Forum:**

Last week ECGPS and GSS co-sponsored a Student Open Forum regarding the Six Task Force reports. The panel members included Provost Wallace Loh and Dean John Keller and



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the discussion was focused primarily on the Graduate Education Task Force report. About 20 students attended the event.

If you are a student that could not attend this forum and have questions regarding any of the task force reports and recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dean Keller.

**B. Vice President's Report**

During the past, I have continued to work with several GSS committees on projects. I would like to encourage senators who are interested in service work (in general) to think about a possible leadership position in GSS.

The University has purchased on-line community management system Orgsync for student organizations. Orgsync allows for all students and student organizations to streamline their events, calendars, forms, applications, media (virtual meetings via meebo, meeting pod casts, emailing, and texting), projector manager to-do lists, archival information, and much much more. If you go to <http://www.orgsync.com/>, you can register to join with your Hawk ID and password. After going to the main website page, in the upper right-hand, click on Login button. Use the "Custom Login" section. Select your community, by choosing the University of Iowa. Login with your HawkID and password. Search for the students orgs you would like to join. There will be more information at the next full senate meeting.

**C. Treasurer's Report**

Thank you to all committee chairs for your help in determining where our remaining discretionary funds are needed. Moving forward, FY11 budget requests are due to GPAC at the beginning of April, so please think about what events or programs you would like to request funding for in next year's budget.

GSS FY10 Budget – \$17,988.00  
Discretionary GPAC Funds – \$350.04  
Current "00-Account" Balance – \$1,007.10  
The rest has been allocated to GSS Committees

**D. Membership Officer's Report** – Nothing to report.

**E. Graduate Council Report**

The Graduate Council met twice since the last GSS meeting. The Council reviewed the report of the Task Force on Graduate Education and provided feedback to the Graduate College concerning the allocation of fellowships and Strategic Initiative Funds (SIF) to graduate programs given the recommendations in the Task Force to prioritize the awarding of fellowships. Graduate fellowships awarded by the Graduate College can be grouped into two categories: recruitment and completion/retention. Council members supported the notion that completion/retention fellowships (Ballard/Seashore, T. Anne Cleary, Summer) should be available to all graduate students irrespective of the rating of their graduate program. The Council also discussed the implications of prioritizing the awarding of recruitment fellowships based on program rating. After conferring with the Graduate Council as well as the Directors of Graduate Studies, the Graduate College has decided that the 14 programs in the Additional Evaluation Required category will not be eligible to nominate new students for recruitment fellowships; students in all programs, however, will continue to be eligible for completion/retention fellowships. Dean Berkowitz and Dean Keller provided an update to Council as to the status of the fellowship programs; nominations and selection processes are currently underway. Dean Wurster presented the Council with revised language for the Manual of Rules and Regulations incorporating the removal of the requirement for an outside member of a dissertation committee (this policy change had



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been previously approved by the Graduate Council); the proposed revision will be voted on at the Graduate Faculty meeting on May 4. Lastly, the Council discussed broad issues of retention and completion in light of a new NIH requirement for programs to report doctoral completion and time to degree rates to the NIH for graduate students who have received NIH training awards. The College is considering ways in which such information might be provided to prospective students for programs across campus, and the Council looked at some of the ways peer institutions present such data.

F. **Graduate Student Organizations** – Nothing to report.

G. **ECGPS Delegate Report**

- o ECGPS Elections will be held soon, and many positions are available to graduate and professional students.

Specifically for GSS, these positions will be open:

- Vice President
- 3 Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee Members (GPAC) + alternates
- 1 ECGPS delegate + at least 1 ECGPS alternate

Positions open for any grad/professional student to fill:

- Administrative Officer
- GPAC Chair
- Public Relations
- Philanthropy Liaison

- o **Presidential Charter Committees, or Student Judicial Court**

The Nominations Committee is currently taking applications for a possible 32 positions for graduate and professional students in 13 different committees. These committees include Campus Planning, Council on Teaching, Diversity, Family Issues, Financial Aid Advisory, Hancher Auditorium, Information Technology Advisory, Parking and Transportation, Recreational Services, Research Council, Student Health Services, University Libraries, University Safety and Security. In addition, we are looking for several new Justices to serve on the Student Judicial Court. More information on what each position entails is listed at the following website:

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~sgatui/nominations.html>

Applications can be found at the website above and at the Office of Student Life, Room 145 in the IMU. Applications are due on Tuesday, September 8th at 5pm in the Office of Student Life as listed above. Please e-mail Mosah Fernandez-Goodman at [mosah-fernandez-goodman@uiowa.edu](mailto:mosah-fernandez-goodman@uiowa.edu) with any questions.

- o Senators, please mark your calendar for the following ECGPS events:
  - o Thursday, March 11th, 8am, MERF, fund raising bake sale!
  - o Tuesday, March 30th, 6-9pm, Wii Tournament fund at College of Pharmacy, \$5 for dinner, a drink, and a chance to be the wii champion!
  - o Tuesday, April 20th, at 6pm, First Annual Interdisciplinary Speaker Series

Add yourself to our Facebook Group--> go to ECGPS--> EVENTS--> add yourself to First Annual Interdisciplinary Speaker Series.

H. **DGSAC Chair Report** – Nothing to report.

I. **Webmaster Report** – Nothing to report.



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**VIII. Committee Representative Reports**

**A. Academic Mentoring Committee**

Reminders:

1) The deadline for the Sandra Barkan Mentor Award application is March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. If you are nominated, please make sure you get all your materials and support forms in by the deadline. The mentor awards will be given during the Jakobsen Conference Award Ceremony in the evening of March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

2) The Academic Mentoring Committee will hold a workshop during the Jakobsen Conference on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with the title "Grad School 101: Bridging the Gap Between Undergraduate and Graduate School". The workshop is geared toward undergraduate students, to provide them with information about graduate school and graduate student life in general. It will contain a short presentation about the most important aspects of getting into graduate school and navigate academic and social life as a graduate student. The short presentation will be followed by a roundtable in which graduate students and undergraduates can address questions and talk in a very informal and relaxed manner. If you are interested in participating in this roundtable, please let me know ([alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu](mailto:alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu)).

**B. Computer Resources Committee**

Sign-up has now begun to serve on the Computer Resource Committee for this summer's reallocations. If you were not at the March 9 GSS meeting, please contact me, Chair Andy Kopf ([ajkopf@gmail.com](mailto:ajkopf@gmail.com)), to get your name added to the list. Sign-up will continue through the rest of the spring semester. Time commitment is minimal, with likely only 2-3 meetings over the summer, and then time spent distributing the computers in August and/or September.

If you are interested in serving as a chair or co-chair for this year's computer reallocations, please let me know. The next President will ultimately decide who fills this position, but I will forward the list of interested people on to that person.

**C. Education Outreach Committee**

The Electronic Thesis Dissertation seminar, as part of the Professional Development Series, was held on March 1<sup>st</sup> with Dean Wurster and Caren Cox from the Graduate College as panelists. Ninety five people were attendance discussing various aspects of the thesis deposit process.

Upcoming events for the committee are the Educational Outreach session for high school students at the upcoming Jakobsen Conference in March and we are planning an Interview Workshop in late April.

Next meeting is March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in Phillips Hall.

If you have questions or would like to participate in these events, please contact Ulrike Carlson ([ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu](mailto:ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu)) or Perry Motsegood ([perry-motsegood@uiowa.edu](mailto:perry-motsegood@uiowa.edu)).

**D. International Student Committee**

Lekker, Lekker! will take place from 3/09/10 - 4/16/10!!! Get ready to get out there and review some local ethnic restaurants...and to enter the drawing for restaurant gift cards!

The ISC has worked very hard over the past month to get some specific accounting details from OISS regarding the fee increase proposal (e.g., How much money does OISS need? Why? How much will they make from the fee increase?). We have been in communication



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with Dean of International Programs, Downing Thomas, the Registrar, Larry Lockwood, and OISS Director Scott King. At present, we have made very little progress. What we have been told is that OISS is not receiving sufficient General Education Funds from the University, and thus needs to increase fees. However, we have not been able to obtain any specific accounting details/numbers regarding this situation. Moreover, OISS has told us that both graduate and undergraduate fees are being increased because OISS services are not divided between those groups; however, OISS previously told us that part of the reason the fee increase was needed is that there was an increased use in advising by undergraduate international students. At this point, it seems that we will not be able to get much further on the issue of the present OISS fee increase proposal. Due to the difficulties we have had in trying to make sure that the OISS fee increase proposal will benefit our constituents, we are submitting a resolution to request that proposals to increase student fees in the future be a more open process in the hopes that this will help GSS better serve its constituents in the future.

**E. Jakobsen Conference Committee**

We are so excited about the 2010 Jakobsen Conference! If you are interested in attending the Jakobsen conference (or have friends, advisors, etc who are also interested) we have implemented an on-line registration process. Registering allows us to have a better sense of the number of folks who attend the conference. Also, when you register, you will receive a lunch during the conference. Please use this link to register: <http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/jakobsen-conference/register>

We need help compiling information about the Graduate Student Recognition Week. Please visit <http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/jakobsen-conference/graduate-student-recognition-week>. Once you log in with your HawkID and Password, you will see a detailed description of GSRW and of the information that we want to collect which includes: events that you are aware of that are done by your department; events that you are aware of in general planned during that week to recognize graduate students; photos (if possible) from such events held during GSRW last year.

The final Jakobsen conference schedule will be available on-line before or during the week of Spring Break.

We still need some help for day-of Jakobsen activities. Please contact one of the Co-Chairs if you are interested in helping out!  
See you on March 27 at the IMU!

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

**F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee** – Nothing to report.

**G. Service Committee**

It's time to register for our Annual Wiffleball Tournament to benefit the Crisis Center. Due to web site server issues, the signup sheet link is unavailable at this time, however, the link will be sent in the next GSS Newsletter and posted in the event calendar. There is an 8-person minimum to register a team & the deadline for registration will be **April 1**. We can only accept the first 8 teams!! 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!



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Be sure to look out for more information about our Restaurant Week too in mid-April to help Unicef's efforts in Haiti.

Our next committee meeting will be at 5:30 on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

**H. Social Committee**

Tonight after this meeting, please join us for the monthly grad student social hour! Stop over at Joe's place for some pizza and good conversation. If you have been hoping for a chance to get to know people in the senate, here is your chance. Further events in April include the Spring Bash on April 16th and an Astronomy/Camp Fire night on April 24th, more information will be arriving shortly. Please take several Spring Bash fliers to hang in your department/building. If you are interested in becoming involved in the social committee, our next meeting is Tuesday, March 23rd at 7 p.m. at T-Spoons on the corner of Market and Linn.

**I. Travel Funds Committee**

Travel Funds GSS Committee chairs would like to thank the following senators for making our half-online and half-printed review session so productive and efficient: Brian Borchers, Si-Chi Chin, Kristi DiClemente, Johnathan Gajdos, Alissa Hulstrand, Donna Lancianese, Carlos Mejia, Kyle Moody, Denise Morris, Michael Palermo, Senthil Perumal Kuppusamy, Tyson Shepherd, Katya Usova. Our review process wouldn't have gone nearly as well as it did if it wasn't for each of you being in the review room. Thank you! We received over 110 applications, and the review results are currently being summarized.

The next GSS Travel Funds deadline is on **Thursday, Apr 22**. Please direct your constituents to the GSS Newsletter next week that will include the application deadline announcement.

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

The committee meetings (reviews) are held on Tuesdays or Wednesdays following the actual application deadline dates as follows: **Apr 27, May 26**.

**IX. Legislation: GSS-R-2009-002**

**GSS-R-2009-002**

Resolution on moving toward more collaborative student fee proposals, March 2010

**Introduced by:** Senator Si-Chi Chin, Senator Anne Good, Senator Carlos Mario Mejía, Senator Joseph Steinitz, Senator Bradley Thomas, Senator Rui Zhang, Senator Oksana Zagorodna

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**WHEREAS**, we are concerned that when the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) increased the International Student Fee in 2006, the process of increasing the fee would have benefited from more transparency and collaboration with the affected population, and;



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**WHEREAS**, we have become concerned that OISS recently submitted a proposal to increase the International Student Fee in Fiscal Year 2011, and that this proposal would have also benefited from increased transparency (e.g., specific accounting/budgetary details showing why an increase is needed for the requested amount) and more collaboration with the affected population (e.g., a public forum to discuss the proposal with students).

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that we request that future fee increase proposals affecting international students, or any group of graduate students, be an open process that involves a public forum which is widely advertised to student leaders and by at least a mass email to the group of affected students.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we request that the public forum involves the administrators who propose the fee increase explaining the specific reasons for the increase (with accounting details showing that an increase is needed for the proposed amount to cover some specific costs) and answering questions about the proposal.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of the resolution is to be forwarded to the chairs of the following student groups: ECGPS, UISG, and OASIS.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of the resolution is to be forwarded to the following officials: Director of OISS, Dean of the Graduate College, Dean of International Programs, Chair of the Miscellaneous Fee Committee, and Vice President of Student Services.

- X. **Open Discussion**
  - o Opened by chair - Closed by motion with second and approval by senate
  
- 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<br>Committee (DGSAC) |                  |                               |
| Graduate Student Organizations<br>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<br>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    |