



Graduate Student Senate  
General Meeting  
Agenda  
4 May 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. Graduate College Report (15 min)
  - o Dean Keller
  - o Dean Berkowitz
- IV. Guest Speakers – Farah Towfic (Pharmacy) and Austin Ramme (Medicine) – PAGs/ECGPS  
Proposed expansion of the Professional Development Grants
- V. Announcements
  - o Post-Meeting Dinner Location: Oasis
- VI. Elections – Graduate Council Representative: Fine Arts and Humanities
- VII. Bill Proposal – GSS-Bill-2010-001
  - o Fiscal Year 2011 GSS Budget
- VIII. 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, Kristina Rogers
  - H. DGSAC Chair Report – Ulrike Carlson
  - I. Webmaster Report – Tim Paschkewitz
- IX. 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\*
- 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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**I. Call to Order / Agenda and Minutes Approval**

**II. Introduction of Senators**

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

- o Dean Keller
- o Dean Berkowitz

**IV. Guest Speakers** – Farah Towfic (Pharmacy) and Austin Ramme (Medicine) – PAGs/ECGPS  
Proposed expansion of the Professional Development Grants

**V. Announcements**

- o Post-Meeting Dinner Location: Oasis

**VI. Elections**

**Graduate Council Representative: Fine Arts and Humanities**

The Graduate Council is the academic policy-making body for the Graduate College. The GSS elects four of its members to the body on an annual basis. Graduate Council Representatives are required to attend meetings of the Graduate Council on a regular basis. Graduate Council Representatives are required to keep the Executive Council and the rest of the membership of the GSS informed as to the activities of the Graduate Council.

**GSS Representatives**

- **Fine Arts and Humanities - Open Seat**
- Social Sciences and Education - stef shuster (Sociology, GSS President-elect)
- Biological and Medical Sciences - Oksana Zagorodna (Free Radical & Radiation Biology, 1 semester left in her 1-yr term)
- Mathematical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences - Kristina Rogers (Chemistry, position renewed per the GSS Constitution Article V, Sect. G, Paragraph 2, Sentence h.)

**VII. Bill Proposal – GSS-Bill-2010-001**

**Fiscal Year 2011 GSS Budget  
Proposed GSS Budget for Fiscal Year 2011  
Submitted by Treasurer Kopf**

In accordance with Article VI: A. 2 of the GSS Constitution, the Finance Committee, under the chairmanship of Treasurer Kopf, proposes the budget for the Graduate Student Senate for FY2011. This budget, upon approval by the Senate, will take effect with the start of the University of Iowa's fiscal year on July 1, 2010.

The \$17,375 allocated to GSS by the Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee (GPAC) for FY2011 shall be budgeted as follows on the next page.



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<u>Event/Program</u>	<u>GSS FY2011</u>
James F. Jakobsen Conference	\$ 8,500.00
Graduate/Professional Student Fall Ball	\$ 1,500.00
Graduate/Professional Student Spring Bash	\$ 1,500.00
Graduate Student Fall Picnic	\$ 125.00
Social Hours	\$ 600.00
UI Museum of Art Co-Sponsorship	\$ 500.00
Service Committee Programming	\$ 750.00
Academic Mentoring Committee	\$ 200.00
Lekker Lekker – International Students Committee	\$ 200.00
Educational Outreach Committee	\$ 100.00
Travel Funds Committee	\$ 200.00
Welcome Week Orientation	\$ 100.00
Graduate Student Recognition Week	\$ 100.00
GSS Service Awards Banquet	\$ 1,200.00
Hancher-Finkbine Medallion Dinner	\$ 150.00
Discretionary Funds (To be allocated later as desired)	\$ 1,650.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 17,375.00</b>

VIII. **Executive Reports**  
A. **President's Report**

**New Leaders of GSS Elected at April Meeting**

Congratulations to the incoming members of the 2010-2011 GSS Executive Council! At the April meeting, the following individuals were elected and will begin their term at the end of the May meeting:

- President – stef shuster (Sociology)
- Vice-President – James Skretta (Music)
- Treasurer – Brian Borchers (Mathematics)
- Membership Officer – Ulrike Carlson (German)
- Executive Associate – Meryl Irwin (Communication Studies)
- Parliamentarian – Perry Motsegood (Chemistry)
- Executive Council for Graduate and Professional Students (ECGPS)
  - Delegate
    - stef shuster (Sociology)
    - Senthilkumar Perumal Kuppusamy (Human Toxicology)
  - Alternate
    - Eric Kaiser (Molecular Physiology & Biophysics)
  - ECGPS Vice President
    - Donna Lancianese (Sociology) – Donna was elected at the ECGPS elections meeting held Sunday, April 25.
- Graduate and Professional Allocation Committee (GPAC) Members
  - Tim Paschkewitz (Chemistry)
  - Kristina Rogers (Chemistry)



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- o Michael Palermo (Urban and Regional Planning)

**Get involved with GSS next year! Submit your name for appointed GSS Leadership 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)) if you are interested in any of the following appointed positions. I am collecting all names and will pass the complete list on to stef shuster, GSS President Elect for consideration. Thanks to those who have already submitted your names for consideration. **Please note that by submitting your name, this does NOT mean that you have already been selected for these positions.** stef will be in touch with some committees that will need to start some work over the late summer, but the complete, official roster of co-chairs will be available in August 2010. This allows time for new students in the fall to become involved in leadership roles of the GSS as well should any be interested in any of the following positions:

- **Graduate Student Organizations Liaison (1) - 0 nominations**
- **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council Chair (1) - 1 nomination**
- **Webmaster (1) - 0 nominations**
- **GSS Committee Co-Chairs**
  - o **Academic Mentoring Committee (2) - 1 nomination**
  - o **Computer Resource Committee (1 or 2) - 0 nominations**
  - o **Conference Committee - 0 nominations**
    - Publicity (1)
    - Event planning (1)
    - Judging & Submissions (1)
  - o **Educational Outreach Committee (2) - 2 nominations**
  - o **International Student Committee (2 - 1 should be an international student if possible) - 0 nominations**
  - o **Jakobsen Conference Review Committee (1) - 1 nomination**
  - o **Service Committee (2) - 1 nomination**
  - o **Social Committee (2) - 0 nominations**
  - o **Travel Funds Committee (2) - 0 nominations**

**Hawkeye Awards**

As stated on the Hawkeye Awards Website,

*The Office of Student Life and the University of Iowa Student Government work together to coordinate the annual Hawkeye Student Organization Leadership and Service Awards Program (Hawkeye Awards). The Hawkeye Awards Program recognizes the accomplishments of The University of Iowa's student organizations, their leaders, advisors, and community partners. The awards were presented Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.*

We are proud to announce that the Graduate Student Senate, GSS sponsored programs, and individuals in GSS were recognized at the awards banquet. I will announce the results at the May meeting!

**Thank you**

Looking back at this year, I am proud to have worked with those of you who have dedicated your time and energy to GSS. Thank you for all that you have done for the Graduate Student Senate, as well as the graduate student population this year. I look forward to working with the new executives, as they are a strong group that will effectively lead and will continue to build this organization. Congratulations to those who will be graduating in a



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couple weeks, and I look forward to seeing those of you returning for another year. I hope you will continue your service in GSS and encourage those around you to become involved. Thank you for a great year, and I look forward to seeing what next year will bring!

**B. Vice President's Report**

As the semester comes to end, I would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all the graduate students who gave their time and selves this academic year to GSS! We could not provide the quality programming that the Graduate Student Senate does without all of you. I hope that you will continue to participate in the Senate and GSS events in the future. I look forward to another stellar with the Graduate Student Senate. Have a fun and productive summer!

**C. Treasurer's Report**

For Committee Chairs: As the academic year winds down, please be sure that all receipts are turned in to me so that this year's financial records can be finalized as soon as possible. Thanks to everyone for all their help with this over the course of the year.

For FY2011, GPAC allocated \$17,375 for our new budget, very close to this past year's finances. With the help of the Finance Committee, I have prepared and proposed the FY2011 budget for approval by the Senate at this meeting, in accordance with the constitution. This budget takes effect over the summer, at the start of the University's fiscal year, and will be in effect for next year's Senate.

Finally, I offer my congratulations to the Treasurer-elect, Senator Brian Borchers from Mathematics, and wish him well in his new executive office next year.

GSS FY10 Budget – \$17,988.00

Discretionary GPAC Funds – \$30.52\*

Current "00-Account" Balance – \$1,725.38

\*All other GPAC funds have been spent or are allocated to GSS Committees

**D. Membership Officer's Report**

Good evening Senators!

I want to congratulate and thank all of you for a wonderful year of service. It's been a pleasure to get to know and work with so many outstanding individuals. I would also like to give a special thank you to those of you graduating and those of you who will not be participating in GSS next year.

Over the summer, we will be sending information to your DGS regarding GSS representation for next year. Many departments hold their own elections for senators (this differs from department to department, and you are most likely aware of how your department handles this). However, if you are not returning and your department does NOT hold elections, please find a replacement for yourself so that we can retain the senator population and your department and be duly represented.

I would like to invite everyone with me in welcoming Ulrike Carlson to the Membership Officer seat for 2010-11. She will do outstanding!

One final note: if you have not yet registered yourself with OrgSync, please do so. Search for GSS under the organizations and request to be added. All membership tools will be run via OrgSync beginning next fall.

Thank you everyone and I wish you all an exciting and relaxing summer break!!!



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**E. Graduate Council Report**

As an addition to the regular meeting schedule, the Graduate Council met with Provost Loh to discuss with him the Task Force on Graduate Education report and an upcoming Regents initiative that the three universities “develop a student outcomes assessment program for each academic program and establish targets for collecting and using assessment results”. Doctoral time to degree, completion, and student support are key issues facing graduate education today. The Provost suggested that programs publish data on key outcomes (e.g., completion, time to degree, placement) such that the information is accessible to prospective students; further, he proposed that each program should have an “action plan” with goals and metrics. At our regular meeting, the Council reviewed a number of proposals for graduate program admissions suspension, closure, and name changes from the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Education, and Dentistry. The Council also discussed “sunset clauses and timeframes” for student graduation for those students in programs which will be closing. The Graduate College wishes to avoid situations wherein students are enrolled for extended periods of time in programs that are slated for closure. There is a need to meet the commitment to currently enrolled students by allowing them sufficient time to graduate; Ph.D. programs are different from undergraduate programs in that program length is both longer and more undefined. The discussion will be continued at a future meeting. Meetings of the Graduate Faculty have been scheduled for May 4 and May 6 to consider new program proposals, the removal of the outside-member rule for doctoral dissertation committees, and program restructuring/suspension/closure requests.

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

**G. ECGPS Delegate Report**

The elections for the Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Students (ECGPS) were held on Sunday, April 25. The results are as follows:

- President – Lyndsay Harshman (CCOMSG)
- Vice President – Donna Lancianese (GSS)
- Executive Officer - Amy Hein (ISBA)
- Public Relations Officer – Gabriella Ives (MBAA)
- Service Officer – Adam Horwitz (GSS)
- GPAC Chair - Dazhi Liu (COPSC)
- Professional Advancement Grants
  - Prof Dev – Emily Lavender (COPSC)
  - Research – David Biagas (GSS)
  - Travel – Elaine Bossar (GSS)
- Diversity Committee – Bhupinder Singh (GSS)
- Student Advocacy and Governmental Relations Committee – Justin Randall (ISBA)
- Interdisciplinary Outreach Committee - Courtney Flynn (COPSC) and Harb Harb (CCOMSG)

\*Medicine (CCOMSG) Carver College of Medicine Student Government; Graduate (GSS) – Graduate Student Senate; Law (ISBA) – Iowa Student Bar Association; Business (MBAA) – MBA Association; Pharmacy (COPSC) – College of Pharmacy Student Council; Dental (IASDA) - Iowa American Student Dental Association – Denotes the member government affiliation for each individual.

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The Professional Advancement Grants in ECGPS offers 3 types of grant opportunities:

- Travel Grants
- Research Grants
- Professional Development Grants





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At the Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> ECGPS Meeting, Farah Towfic, Chair of the Professional Development Grants presented a proposal to ECGPS to expand the scope of the Professional Development grants. Currently, the grant provides funding to students who are attending professional workshops and conferences that provide hands-on educational and professional experiences not available at the University of Iowa. The ECGPS PAGs committee would like to see this grant expanded to include "International Experiences," which would not be classified as either workshops or conferences, but are opportunities that provide educational and professional experience opportunities not available at the University of Iowa.

At the time ECGPS wanted to vote on this expansion, Kristina Rogers, GSS president and ECGPS delegate wanted to see additional information from departments within the Graduate College having received limited information regarding graduate programs at the meeting. The council agreed to postpone the vote to May 7<sup>th</sup> to allow for time to further research of this grant expansion and ensure that graduate students would clearly benefit from this expansion. Over the last few days, students in various programs that could potentially benefit from this expansion (including Neuroscience, Urban & Regional Planning, Social Work, Anthropology, etc.) were contacted and asked to gather information that described the types of international travel (workshop, conference, international experience related) along with the sources of funding that are currently available for such opportunities. The GSS representatives have provided feedback, and have identified this expansion as one that would benefit their particular programs.

On Thursday, April 29, the GSS Executive Council met and discussed the proposal. Any questions and concerns of the GSS Executive Council regarding the language of the proposed ECGPS PAGs Professional Development Grant bylaws were forwarded to Ms. Towfic for consideration.

**H. DGSAC Chair Report**

The committee had a meeting earlier in the day on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. A verbal update will be given during the GSS meeting in evening.

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

**IX. Committee Representative Reports**

**A. Academic Mentoring Committee**

The Academic Mentoring Committee will have its last meeting on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and on the agenda are:

- 1) The future steps on the mentoring forms and matching process
- 2) The planning process and topic ideas for the mentoring workshops that will start in Fall 2010 in collaboration with ICRU (Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduate)
- 3) The Sandra Barkan Graduate Student Mentor Award application process and forms review and discussion for potential improvements

The minutes and outcomes of the meeting will be posted on the committee's page on the GSS website at <http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/committees/academic-mentoring>.

I want to thank all the senators in my committee for a great year and for their hard work in constructing the mentoring process, finalizing mentoring forms, participating in the Jakobsen conference Academic Mentoring workshop, reviewing the Sandra Barkan Graduate Student Mentor Award applications and helping throughout the year with everything mentoring-related.



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I am confident that next year will be an excellent one for the AMC, with many exciting projects ahead!

We will be working over the summer to finalize some of the points mentioned in the agenda above, so if you would like to be involved in that process, please let me know ([alexandranica@uiowa.edu](mailto:alexandranica@uiowa.edu)).

**B. Computer Resources Committee**

With the limited number of members so far, I have elected to do a final sign-up via email. All senators should expect to receive a listserv email calling for interested people to serve on the committee. Replying does not obligate you to serve, but will put you on this list to receive meeting announcements and other information, so please sign up if you are at all interested.

We anticipate a large number of computers to allocate this year, so anyone interested in helping with the process would be much appreciated.

Finally, anyone interested in serving as a chair or co-chair of this year's committee should indicate their interest at that time as well. Those names will be forwarded to President-elect Stef Shuster for her consideration.

**C. Educational Outreach Committee**

An IRB Basics Seminar was hosted on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, with 19 people in attendance. Kelly O'Berry from the Human Subjects Office spoke about the IRB application process. Overall, the seminar was a success with plenty discussion regarding the process. Evaluation sheets were collected by Kelly and will be shared with the committee when reviewed.

**D. International Student Committee**

The ISC is ironing out details for our survey of international students, which will focus on what services they use and want and their experiences with the services offered to international students at Iowa. This will help us better understand where we are serving students well, and where more work needs to be done. We have also begun talking about ways to promote Lekker, Lekker! outside of the review acquisition period, for example, by passing out Lekker, Lekker! bookmarks during the Grad College and International Student Orientations. We are hopeful that a budget for these undertakings will be provided.

**E. Jakobsen Conference Committee** – Nothing to report.

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

**G. Service Committee**

"Dine Local, Help Haiti" was a success! We are currently in the process of picking up the donations from the restaurants.

**H. Social Committee**

As the semester winds down, the social committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Spring Bash. The event was a huge success and we can't wait to do it again next year! The last event of the semester is the final Grad Student Social Hour which will take place on Thursday May 13 from 5-9 p.m. at Joe's Place. Free pizza for the early arrivers. Please join us to celebrate the end of the semester! Have a good summer!

**I. Travel Funds Committee**

The GSS Travel Funds deadline was on **Thursday, Apr 22**. The Committee Chairs would like to express a HUGE THANK YOU to the following members who participated in the review





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process: Nirmalla Barros, Si-Chi Chin, Kristi DiClemente, Alissa Hulstrand, Carlos Mejia, Michael Palermo, Senthil Perumal Kuppusamy, Kristina Rogers. The group was small but very efficient in reviewing. Thank you, we wouldn't have done it without you guys! Also, we'd like to thank the Committee Members who informed us on not being able to make it to the review this time. We hope to see everybody at the next review.

The Committee received over 90 applications, and the results are in the process of being summarized.

The remaining deadline for the 2009-2010 academic year is on Thursday, **May 20**, 11:59pm. The first deadline for the 2010-2011 academic year is **July 8**.

The committee meetings (reviews) are held on Wednesdays following the actual application deadline dates as follows: **May 26, July 14**.

- 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 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