



Graduate Student Senate  
General Assembly Meeting  
Minutes  
February 6, 2018

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

- 1. Call to Order General Assembly Meeting—6:00pm** – Ian Faith
- 2. Introduction of Senators** (2 mins.)
- 3. Graduate College Report** (10 mins.) – Associate Dean Sarah Larsen
  - a. The Dare to Discover campaign is now highlighting students. Look for graduate and undergraduate students on the banners downtown.
  - b. Upcoming Events:
    - i. The Graduate College can confirm they will hold two graduation ceremonies this Spring - one for master students (Carver) and one for doctoral students (Hancher)
    - ii. The Graduate College is working in conjunction with the Provost's Office to launch the graduate SERU (Student Experience in the Research Universities) survey. The University currently surveys students in an exit survey but have not done a comprehensive survey of the graduate student experience.
      1. Please help by encouraging fellow graduate students to fill out the survey when it launches. The information will be use to better serve the graduate student population.
    - iii. Internal Fellowship Application deadlines are out and deadlines are coming up quick. Keep tabs on their due dates and application requirements: <https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/internal-fellowships>.
    - iv. The Graduate College continues to offer professional develop opportunities. A grant-writing workshop was held for the humanities today. Keep an eye on out for professional development workshops happening throughout the term.
    - v. There was a winter break session of the CIRTL training this January. It was conducted via Zoom to increase accessibility and it as very successful.
- 4. Hawkeye Caucus Presentation** – Casey Westlake (5-7 mins.)
  - a. Hawkeye Caucus has launched a new advocacy tool. Take action and check it out: <https://hawkeyecaucus.com/>. It makes contacting your legislators easy!
  - b. The current focus of the tool is on the proposed cuts to state funding budget.
  - c. Please help get the word out. Legislators are still negotiating.
- 5. Old Business**
- 6. New Business**
- 7. Reports**
  - a. **President Report** – Ian Faith (5 mins.)
    - i. 2018 Hancher-Finkbine Call for Nominations (see announcements)
      1. It is the most prestigious award offered by the University. It is given to two grads and two undergrads. The application criteria is very broad so a range of nominations are welcome. Follow the link below for more information and email nominations to Ian ([ian-faith@uiowa.edu](mailto:ian-faith@uiowa.edu)) by Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.
    - ii. GSS representation is needed at the Inclusive Excellence Forum (February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 3:00-4:00 PM in the connector bridge between MERF and PBDB). Contact Ian ([ian-faith@uiowa.edu](mailto:ian-faith@uiowa.edu)) if you are interested in volunteering.
      1. This a biomedical recruitment event. Potential recruits to the different biomedical programs will come around tables set up between MERF and PBDB. The volunteer will just need to talk generally to the



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- prospective students that come by our table about what GSS does and about your experiences as a student.
2. Jenny Verniero volunteers.
  - iii. Grad Council representative for Medical and Biological Sciences needed
    1. Please email Ian ([ian-faith@uiowa.edu](mailto:ian-faith@uiowa.edu)) if you are interested in serving. It is a great opportunity to get involved and learn about the University.
    2. Watch for an email to vote on this position.
  - iv. Graduate Student Employment Committee (GSEC) Update
    1. We are still waiting for an update on the Human Resources recommended changes to Grad Care (that described at the last General Assembly meeting). Please pay close attention to this issue and speak up about your concerns.
    2. Please fill out the GSEC benefits survey:  
[https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_4Pm7TOcpoXGnx4x](https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Pm7TOcpoXGnx4x).
- b. **Treasurer Report** – James Mrkvicka (1 min.)
- i. **Chairs: PLEASE send your committee’s budget to James ([james-mrkvicka@uiowa.edu](mailto:james-mrkvicka@uiowa.edu)) ASAP.**
- c. **Graduate Council Report** (2 mins.)
- i. Graduate council meet with the 2020 Committee
  - ii. Please be aware that the thesis deposit model and timeline will be changing come Fall 2018. Please watch the Graduate College’s webpage for the updated regulations. The Graduate Council Representatives will also keep you updated as the changes are implemented. The changes are expected to improve the submission process and align more closely the general practice and mission of thesis committees.
- d. **GPSG Delegates Report** (2 mins.)
- i. GPSG has several on-going socials this semester:
    1. GPSG is working with the Night Mayor to host the Friday Night Vibes series of socials. The socials are usually held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. Please watch for the event announcements and share them with your constituents.
    2. The Welcome Back Bash as Big Grove was a huge success! Over \$2,000 was raised for hurricane relief in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.
  - ii. The groups first meeting the semester is tonight.
- e. **Committee Reports** (8 mins.)
- i. Graduate Student Success Committee – Nana Owusu
    1. The Graduate Student Success committee will be helping with Graduate Student Appreciation Week events. The committee will facilitate and prepare for the events planned for the first week of April (April 2nd - 6th). They will also be sending out event fliers as a reminder to save the date. Please keep an eye out for them and forward the information to your constituents.
  - ii. Graduate Student Teaching Committee – Caroline Cheung



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1. The committee is working on defining the committee's mission more clearly and better identifying their role in supporting TAs.
  2. They are currently working on determining how name the "award" TAs will receive for completing the TA Seminar Series.
  3. They are also talking over effective marketing for the future. If you have ideas, please contact Caroline.
- iii. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Maria Morabe
1. The conference is still in the accepting submission stages. The deadline has been extended to February 20<sup>th</sup>. Please submit and encourage you constitutes to do the same. Currently experience low turn-out numbers. This year will include additional cash prizes! For more information, visit: <https://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/jakobsen-conference/application-and-guidelines>.
  2. The conference is March 24, 2018 at the IMU.
- iv. International Student Committee – OPEN
1. The committee is looking for volunteers to serve as members and is still in need of a chair.
  2. Gurjap Singh volunteered to be chair. Seeing no other volunteers or nominations, Gurjap will serve as chair and try to recruit members to help.
  3. A request is made for the executive council to identify who was originally assigned to the committee.
- v. Service and Social Committee – Krista Grutz
1. The Service and Social Committee is currently collaborating with the on-going GPSG socials (e.g. Friday Night Vibes).
  2. The committee is in high need to members. Please volunteer if you have time.
- vi. Travel Funds Committee – Victoria Parker and Lyndsey DuBose
1. In the last round of the GSS Supplemental Travel fund applications 9 out of 11 were awarded.
  2. The current set of GSS Travel Funds as 60 applications. The applications have been scored and are being finalized. Award announcements should be sent out next week sending out announcements next week.

## 8. Adjournment – 6:55 PM

### Announcements

- a. **2018 Hancher-Finkbine Medallion Call for Nominations – February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**
  - i. This is an opportunity for GSS to nominate a fellow student whose hard work has made a difference on this campus. Four Medallions are normally presented to currently enrolled students, two for undergraduate students and two for graduate/professional students.
  - ii. Send nomination ideas to [ian-faith@uiowa.edu](mailto:ian-faith@uiowa.edu). Nomination criteria can be found here: <https://vp.studentlife.uiowa.edu/assets/Uploads/student-criteria.pdf>
- b. **Jakobsen Call for Submissions Deadline extended to February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**



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- i. To submit your work, visit <http://jakobsen.grad.uiowa.edu>. Oral and poster presentations accepted.

**C. Next Travel Funds Application Deadline – March 9, 2018**

- i. The next GSS Travel Fund application deadline is March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 11:59 PM. This round of applications is for conferences occurring between Nov. 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018.

2017-2018 Graduate Student Senate  
**Roster of Elected Positions**

**Executive Officers:**

President	Ian Faith	ian-faith@uiowa.edu
Vice President	Maria Morabe	marialiana-morabe@uiowa.edu
Treasurer	James Mrkvicka	james-mrkvicka@uiowa.edu
Executive Associate	KaLeigh White	kaleigh-white@uiowa.edu
Membership/PR Officer	Landon Elkind	landon-elkind@uiowa.edu
Parliamentarian	Shane Solst	shane-solst@uiowa.edu

**GPSG Delegates:**

Landon Elkind	landon-elkind@uiowa.edu
Ian Faith	ian-faith@uiowa.edu
Maria Morabe	marialiana-morabe@uiowa.edu
Jenny Verniero	jennifer-verniero@uiowa.edu
KaLeigh White	kaleigh-white@uiowa.edu

**Graduate Council:**

Ian Faith	ian-faith@uiowa.edu
Jenny Verniero	jennifer-verniero@uiowa.edu
KaLeigh White	kaleigh-white@uiowa.edu
Addison Woll	addison-woll@uiowa.edu

**Webmaster:**

Claire Muerdter	claire-muerdter@uiowa.edu
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**Roster of Appointed Positions**

**Committee Chairs:**

Graduate Success Committee	Nana Owusu	nana-owusu@uiowa.edu
Graduate Teaching Committee	Caroline Cheung	caroline-cheung@uiowa.edu
International Students Committee	OPEN	
Jakobsen Conference Committee	Maria Morabe	marialiana-morabe@uiowa.edu
Service and Social Committee	Krista Grutz	krista-grutz@uiowa.edu
	Addison Woll (Fall)	addison-woll@uiowa.edu
	Jenny Verniero (Spring)	jennifer-verniero@uiowa.edu
Travel Funds Committee	Victoria Parker	victoria-parker@uiowa.edu
	Lyndsey DuBose	lyndsey-dubose@uiowa.edu