1. **Call to Order General Assembly Meeting—6:00pm** – KaLeigh White
2. **Introduction of Senators** (5 mins.)
3. **Graduate College Report** (10 mins.)
   a. Dean Keller sends his regrets – on his way to Hawaii
   b. Invitation to American college health assessment survey – please participate
      i. Goes into strategic plan for Vice President of Office of Student Health & Wellness – get more services for grad students
   c. Commencement registration is underway
      i. Deadline is April 10th
   d. Fellowship application season is also underway
      i. Please submit applications
   e. Look out for #ILoveUIowa and tell us why
   f. Vice President for Research is having a joint event with the graduate college on March 28th featuring 3MT winners
   g. Candidates will be on campus for DEI Director position
      i. There will be public forums open for students
      ii. More announcements forthcoming – in the next 3 weeks, probably
   h. School of Psychology accreditation update
      i. Did receive accreditation for students to finish the program but no longer accepting new students
4. **Reports**
   a. **President Report** – KaLeigh White (2 mins.)
      i. American college health assessment survey – please do this!!
      ii. Thank you for coming!
   iii. Announcements:
      1. Hancher Finkbine Nominations due on Feb. 20th
      2. Disability rights initiative with Jenny Verniero to work on improving bionic bus services
      3. Series of Cortado “Coffee Break” networking socials for graduate students for Tuesdays at 2:30 – 3:30
         a. Plan is to host multiple events on both sides of the river
      4. Like us on Facebook please!!
         a. We have a FB page
         b. We have a Jakobsen event page
   b. **Jakobsen Update** – Ryan Stoldt (2 mins.)
      i. March 30th is the big day!
      ii. Looking for more abstracts
   c. **COGS Report** – Inga Popovaite (2 mins.)
      i. Long story short we are all getting a 2.1% raise every year to track with inflation
      ii. Tackling summer pay issue so that all pay is distributed evenly month-to-month
      iii. Please become a dues paying member to earn your right to vote and make a difference for all grad students! ($27/mo)
d. **Graduate Student Employment Committee Report** (2 mins.)
e. **Graduate Council Report** (2 mins.)
   i. Good feedback on Jakobsen presentation
      1. Suggestions on how to make scoring process easier / better
      2. Lots of good discussion on what the conference should be offering to grad students
f. **GPSG Delegates Report** (2 mins.)
   i. Partnering on a Big Grove Friday Night Vibes event on Feb 22\textsuperscript{nd} from 6-8PM to benefit the Iowa City Shelter House
   ii. Free food & non-alcoholic drinks provided
   iii. Please come!
g. **Brief Committee Reports** (5 mins.)
   i. Graduate Student Success Committee – Elliot Burghardt & Ellen Kiser
      1. Focus is graduate student appreciation week
      2. Planning on hosting panels on “What happens after grad school?”
      3. Will focus on easing transition to incoming senators in the fall
   ii. Graduate Student Teaching Committee – Sydney Skuodas
      1. Partnering with Teaching Center
      2. Starting in March, there will be a STEM reading / discussion group to discuss research ideas and improve teaching
   iii. International Student Committee – Anup Poudel
      1. Discussing issues among international students
         a. International student fee
      2. Trying to incorporate team of international students to promote cultural awareness - expect one event in this vein
   iv. Service and Social Committee – Gurjap Singh
      1. Cortado coffee break
v. Travel Funds Committee – Jennie Yujia Liu & Amanda Adams
   1. Not as many applicants as usual
   2. Last round 41 applications
   3. 67% funding rate

5. **Old Business**
   a. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** (5 mins.) – KaLeigh White
      i. Minutes are approved
   b. **Approval of Budget** (5 mins.) – KaLeigh White, Lyndsey Dubose
      i. If we heard from committees, the budget incorporates your budget, if we haven’t please get to us
      ii. New line item: Executive Council Budget
         1. Main purpose is to buy promotional items that won’t date themselves quickly
      iii. Budget is approved

6. **New Business**
   a. Breakout Groups Activity (30 mins.)
      i. Quick series of short brainstorming rounds (3min. writing, 2min. discussion)
1. Why did you join GSS?
   a. Department need
   b. Bettering graduate student life
   c. Learning how to get money from travel funds
   d. Recommendation from a friend
   e. Juicy gossip
      i. Loose translation: what’s going on in other departments
   f. Longing to be a part of Student Community
   g. Being a part of change on campus
   h. CV line
   i. Free food
   j. Meet people outside of department
   k. Asked by department to do it with not a lot of clarification on what it’s about
      i. Another student or faculty or admin?
         1. DGS
         2. Another grad student
         3. Department head

2. What does GSS do well?
   a. Collaborate with CoGS and GPSG well
   b. Travel Funds committee does an awesome job
   c. The longer, less frequent emails are a good thing
   d. Food is historically fantastic
   e. Jakobsen conference is very valuable even if it’s not taken advantage of by as many grad students as it should be
   f. Tough to say what we’re doing well cause we (young senators) don’t know what we’re doing
   g. Good at meeting every month – it’s tough with all our busy schedules!
   h. Good at providing a voice to grad students
   i. Events and stuff are good – just need to improve how we’re getting the word out about them

3. What could GSS improve on?
   a. Too much text in emails
      i. How to improve???
         1. Get to the point at the beginning of the email
         2. Give a quick list of important points and attach a file with more in-depth information
   b. Communicating to non-senators
      i. Better marketing
      ii. Improving committee participation
      iii. More public events
   c. Develop a stronger sense of comradery within the Senate
   d. More food
   e. Lack of institutional knowledge
      i. Guide for those going forward
      ii. Even specific to committees
f. Communication inefficiencies
   i. Things come up in meeting and it’s tough to fit into the next one -> what are next steps!?
   ii. College of Psychology thing is a good example

g. Feel more like messengers than a student voice

h. What do we really do as Senators?
   i. Senator orientation
   ii. Very word of mouth stuff

i. We should email program coordinators at the beginning of the year outlining what Graduate Student Senate is

j. Should we start a GroupMe?

4. What do you think the purpose or ultimate goal of GSS should be? What is something GSS could be doing?
   a. Serving community
      i. Providing professional development opportunities
   b. Providing voice to constituents
      i. Networking with more purpose
      ii. Lots of networking events are awkward
      iii. As grad students, we have a very unique skill sets
      iv. How can we pair up departments so that the interactions are as productive as possible and such that mutual benefit is maximized for both parties?
   c. Event to get GSS’ name out there – what do we do?
      i. GSS @ Department orientation
      ii. Cortado Coffee Break!
   d. More pressure on individual senators to listen to their constituents
      i. Departmental reports?
      ii. Bottomline is interpersonal communication b/w
   e. GSS pushes information down to constituents but needs to pull information up from them more effectively
      i. Can we open the floor at Group Meetings to have a forum to discuss departmental issues or even interdepartmental issues?
         1. Yes, next meeting.

7. Adjournment – 7:00 PM

Announcements
   a. Next Travel Funds Application Deadline – March 8th
      i. The next GSS Travel Fund application deadline is Mar. 8, 2019 by 11:59 PM. This round of applications is for conferences occurring between Nov. 1, 2018 and Apr. 30, 2018.
b. **Next General Assembly Meeting – Tuesday, March 5th, 2019**

   i. The next Graduate Student Senate general assembly meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 5th, 2019 from 6:00-7:00PM at the Old Capital Mall conference center (UCC-2520D).
## Executive Officers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
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## Graduate Council:

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## Webmaster:

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## Committee Chairs:

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