



Graduate Student Senate
General Assembly Meeting
Minutes - Pending Approval
October 1, 2019

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** – Peter Miller
2. **Introduction of Senators** (2 mins.)
3. **Graduate College Update** – Dean Keller (5 mins.)
 - a. Graduate College moving ahead with changes in the fellowship program
 - b. Summer goes from \$4500 to \$5000
 - c. Recruitment fellowships top offs move from \$2000 to \$5000
 - d. Thank you to those who are serving on Graduate College Strategic Planning Committee
 - e. Will be moving quickly once they get the committee formed
4. **Presentation by Ombudsperson** – Kristal Gibson (10 mins.)
 - a. Open house next Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30, it is National Ombudsperson Day!
 - b. Provide problem solving and conflict management to campus
 - c. An ombudsperson is confidential and independent
 - d. Increase in visitors from last year, about 2%
 - e. Most common visitor concern is evaluative relationship issues
 - f. Available to do consultations, want to talk but don't want to get involved
 - g. Serve more women and more racial/ethnic minorities in comparison to the proportions present on campus
 - h. No problem too big or too small. Let's talk!
 - i. There is lots of campus change
 - j. The Ombuds Office has moved to Third Floor Jefferson Building
 - k. 79% of visitors last year were satisfied when they came to the office
5. **Reports**
 - a. **President Report** – Christian Bako (5 mins.)
 - i. Graduate College Strategic Plan
 1. All of the colleges are tasked with developing their own strategic plans
 2. Will be funneled into the university wide strategic plan
 - ii. Committees
 1. Will have some strong committees
 2. Will get an email from Adam Wood organizing the committees
 3. No strict meeting schedule is necessary, but monthly meetings could be beneficial
 - iii. Voter Registration Drive
 1. Stay posted for more information
 - iv. Sally & Ken Mason Student Success Grants (see announcements)
 - v. GSS Cortado Coffee Hour
 1. In process, still working on it
 - b. **Other officer reports** (5 mins.)
 - c. **COGS Report** – Rachel Maller (2 min.)
 - i. Working on a grievance for student fees
 - ii. Working with adjunct faculty union
 - iii. Clarifying issues relating to ESL exams for teaching assistants
 - iv. Fall membership drive, 50 new members
 - v. Upcoming Events
 1. Wednesday, October 9, text banking in COGS office
 2. Wednesday, October 9, social at Joes at 6:00



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3. October 23, general meeting
4. October 27, board game social at 2:00 P.M.

d. **GPSG Delegates Report** – Ellen Kiser (3 mins.)

- i. First meeting, approved the budget and voted to support a \$2 student activity fee to support Bijou
- ii. Joint meeting on September 24
 1. Support of DEI Resolution
 2. Climate Call to Action Plan
 3. Resolution in Recognition of 100 years of student government, called for continued support and continued shared government system

6. Old Business

a. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** (1 min.) – Christian Bako

- i. Enter voting period, motioned by Ellen
- ii. Seconded by Anup
- iii. Approved unanimously

b. **Elections for GSEC Representatives** - Peter Miller (20 mins.)

- i. Six candidates
 1. Redwan Bin Abdul Baten
 2. Ethan J. Fuhrman
 3. Elizabeth Handschy
 4. Andrew Horvath
 5. Cody A. Norling
 6. Sydney Skuodas
- ii. A paper ballot was used
- iii. Candidates presented
- iv. Ballots were counted outside of the meeting by Peter and a volunteer
- v. 34 ballots
- vi. Four winners
 1. Ethan J. Fuhrman
 2. Elizabeth Handschy
 3. Cody A. Norling
 4. Sydney Skuodas

7. New Business

a. **Volunteer & appoint a new webmaster** – Christian Bako (2 mins.)

- i. What does the webmaster position entail?
 1. Not too much computer experience needed
 2. Upload minutes for General Assembly meetings and Executive Council meetings
 3. Attend Executive Council meeting once a meeting
 4. Make improvements on the website
 5. Update the membership roster which is on the website
- ii. Ask for a volunteer
 1. Sarah Kelly

b. **Proposed Amendment for funding change** - Peter Miller (2 mins.)

- i. College of Public Health left GSS
- ii. Need to document what implications this change has for funding



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- iii. These changes will be recorded in the by laws
- iv. This work will be part of the Constitutional Changes Committee
- v. Proposed change, we will give preference to students that are members of a college that is participating in GSS
- c. **Forming ad hoc committees (10 mins.)**
 - i. Roster audit and Senator Retention/Transition Committee
 - 1. Making sure the roster is up to date
 - 2. Ways to increase constituent communication
 - ii. Constitutional Changes Committees
 - 1. Make it so that we have a constitution and by laws that are separate
 - 2. Change to the GSS makeup and the College of Public Health split, specify how funding is going to work
 - iii. If you are interested, please email Caroline Cheung or Peter Miller
- d. **Adjournment – 7:00 PM**

Announcements

- a. **Next General Assembly Meeting – Tuesday, November 5, 2019**
 - i. The next Graduate Student Senate general assembly meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 5th, 2019 from 6:00-7:00PM at the Old Capital Mall conference center (UCC-2520D).
- b. **Upcoming GSS Funding Deadlines**
 - i. The next [GSS Travel Fund application](#) deadline is October 4, 2019 by 11:59 PM. This round of applications is for conferences occurring between July 1, 2019 and October 30, 2019.
 - ii. After October 4, the next [GSS Travel Fund application](#) deadline is November 8, 2019 by 11:59 PM. This round of applications is for conferences occurring between October 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020.
 - iii. The next [OVPR Research Grants for the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences application](#) deadline is November 1, 2019.
 - iv. The next [degree-related travel award deadline](#) is November 8, 2019 by 11:59 PM.
- c. **GSS Cortado Coffee Hour – Alternating Tuesdays and Wednesday – starting on Wednesday, Oct. 9th**
 - i. Do you like coffee? Do you like cookies? Do you like meeting graduate students from other departments? If so, please join GSS at Cortado Coffee & Café (26 S. Clinton Street) for a series of weekly “coffee-breaks” for ALL graduate students. Coffee and cookies will be available for free from 2:30-3:30 on alternating Tuesdays and Wednesdays during the Fall semester. The first Coffee hour is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9 from 2:30 to 3:30. Keep a look out for a Facebook event!
- d. **Sally & Ken Mason Student Success Grants – Applications due November 1st, 2019**
 - i. Thanks to the generosity of Sally and Ken Mason, funds are again available this fiscal year to support travel for undergraduate, graduate and professional students, to include travel to academic and professional meetings and conferences, study abroad, and any other student travel



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deemed beneficial to the student's academic experience. Please note that per the donor intent, preference will be given to first-generation undergraduate students. *At the University of Iowa, first-generation students are those students who do not have a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who completed a four-year degree.*

- ii. Applications must be completed online at <https://provost.uiowa.edu/sally-and-ken-mason-student-success-grant> and are **due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2019**. Students can request up to \$500 per application, but no more than one \$500 award will be made to any individual student. The student's travel must take place after December 1, 2019, but no later than May 15, 2020. Awards will be granted by approximately December 2nd.



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2019-2020 Graduate Student Senate
Roster of Elected Positions

Executive Officers:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Executive Associate
Membership/PR Officer
Parliamentarian

Christian Bako
Evan Krasner
Jennie Liu
Adam Wood
Caroline Cheung
Peter Miller

christian-bako@uiowa.edu
evan-krasner@uiowa.edu
yujia-liu@uiowa.edu
adam-wood@uiowa.edu
caroline-cheung@uiowa.edu
peter-miller@uiowa.edu

GPSG Delegates:

Evan Krasner
Ellen Kiser
Anup Poudel
Adam Wood

evan-krasner@uiowa.edu
ellen-kiser@uiowa.edu
anup-poudel@uiowa.edu
adam-wood@uiowa.edu

Graduate Council:

Emma Gabriele
Kody Waldstein
KaLeigh White
Christian Bako

emma-gabriele@uiowa.edu
kody-waldstein@uiowa.edu
kaleigh-white@uiowa.edu
christian-bako@uiowa.edu

Webmaster:

Sarah Kelly

sarah-m-kelly@uiowa.edu

Roster of Appointed Positions

Committee Chairs:

Graduate Success Committee
Graduate Teaching Committee
International Students Committee
Jakobsen Conference Committee
Service and Social Committee
Travel Funds Committee

Anup Poudel
Evan Krasner

Jennie Liu

anup-poudel@uiowa.edu
evan-krasner@uiowa.edu

yujia-liu@uiowa.edu