Minutes

I. Call to Order – 6:05 pm
   o Approval of Agenda and Minutes (~1 min)
     Treasurer Borchers filled in for Parliamentarian Motsegood, and Vice President Skretta presided in place of President shuster.

II. Introduction of Senators (~1 min)

III. 222: 2 Senators, 2 Departments, 2 minutes (~2 min)
   o Brian Borchers - Mathematics
   o Maneesh Kumar – Free Radical & Radiation Biology

IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)
   o There was no representative of the Graduate College in attendance. Vice President Skretta encouraged senators to visit the Graduate College website, highlighting information regarding the new ACT Scholars program.

V. Executive Reports
   A. President’s Report – stef shuster*
   B. Vice President’s Report – James Skretta*
   C. Treasurer’s Report – Brian Borchers*
     Treasurer Borchers emphasized a process of keeping copies of receipts to return with forms, so that accurate expenses can be tracked.
   D. Membership Officer’s Report – Ulrike Carlson*
     Membership Officer Carlson emphasized that working in committees is the most important responsibility of Senators, and suggested a New Year’s resolution to be diligent in both independent work and responding to committee e-mails.
   E. Parliamentarian’s Report – Perry Motsegood
   F. Graduate Council Report – Kristi DiClemente, Kristina Rogers, Oksana Zagorodna, stef shuster*
     Representatives discussed updates to complicated rules for acquiring both M.A. and M.S. degrees from the university and changes to course withdrawals.
   G. Graduate Student Organizations – Meggie Aube
   H. ECGPS Delegate Report – Senthilkumar Perumal Kuppusamy, stef shuster, Meggie Aube (alternate)*
     The ECGPS applicants for research grants should hear on their funding in about a week, while travel grand applicants may have to wait a bit longer.
   I. DGSAC Chair Report – Nirmalla Barros*
   J. Webmaster Report – Maneesh Kumar*
     Webmaster Kumar is busily working on the interface for the Jakobsen conference, and student submission should be available in January.

VI. Committee Representative Reports
   A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Tracy Morgan, Meryl Irwin*
   B. Computer Resources Committee – Brian Borchers
   C. Education Outreach Committee – Ulrike Carlson, Donna Lancianese*
     Attendance at Outreach events has been down, and may be due to the increased activities of the Grad College program “The Network.”
   D. International Student Committee – Joseph Steinitz, Chris Harris, Nikhil Sikka
   E. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Kyle Moody; Lynettia Felling; Lauren Rosales
     Online submissions should be available on January 6, 2011. Currently they are talking with faculty and students about many hands making for light work on conference planning and administration.
   F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – Kristina Rogers
G. Service Committee – Kimberly Hoppe, Katie Benson*  
A number of senators spoke about the excellent opportunity to participate in the upcoming “Souper Bowl” service event, and encouraged participation.

H. Social Committee – Mike Palermo*  
Fall Ball was reviewed and applauded. Reminders were given about Spring Bash in 2nd semester, the upcoming UIMA exhibit, and the final FAC at the Airliner.

I. Travel Funds Committee – Kristi DiClemente, Alissa Hulstrand*  
Chairs DiClemente and Hulstrand encouraged Senators to spread the word about applying for funding because of the very high rate of granting that has been achieved in the first semester. Also, members were reminded that if they had missed 2 meetings they were not longer considered part of the committee. Being in good communication is essential.

J. GPAC Representatives – Kelli Todd, Mike Palermo, Brian Borchers  
The latest round of GPAC negotiations when smoothly and quickly.

VII. Announcements

VIII. Open Discussion
  o  Opened by chair - Closed by motion with second and approval by senate  
Vice President Skretta opened a short discussion about the progress made on flood recovery programs. The site for the new School of Music will be the empty lot across from Starbucks. Hancher will be reconstructed out by Leavitt, and there are plans for a skywalk by the 2014 finish. The Art West building will be renovated and open in 2012-2013.

IX. Adjournment 6:35 pm
General Meeting
7-Dec-2010

Agenda and Reports

I. Call to Order – 6:00 pm
   o Approval of Agenda and Minutes (~1 min)

II. Introduction of Senators (~1 min)

III. 222: 2 Senators, 2 Departments, 2 minutes (~2 min)
   o Brian Borchers - Mathematics
   o Maneesh Kumar – Free Radical & Radiation Biology

IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)
   o Dean Keller
   o Dean Berkowitz

V. Executive Reports
   A. President’s Report – stef shuster

Hello! Just a reminder to maintain your committee work as the semester winds down and we have a little breathing room to re-organize and calibrate the important work that we are doing in GSS. If you have been a bit shy about joining a committee, now is an excellent time to email a chair/co-chair and ask how you can help! As a reminder, all Senators are expected to actively serve on one committee to maintain good standing in GSS. Please make a concerted effort to attend committee meetings when they are held and to volunteer your time. Our committees are only as strong as the time and energy we put into them. While the Co-Chairs are doing a fabulous job, they cannot do it all on their own. They need your help!

In setting a new precedent, I think it is important for the President of GSS to organize one event per year. So, I am currently looking around for a collaborative project to work on in the Spring. If you have a cool project in mind that you don't know how to get off the ground, contact me or James. We would love to help out with any committee or individual projects. Collaborations with other student orgs are also possible. Also, just a heads up that the DGSAC committee is still seeking input for their January meeting with Dean Maxson. Any concerns you may have relating to CLAS policies, curriculum, etc. can be raised on your behalf. For more information or to send along some agenda items for this meeting, please email Nirmalla Barros (nirmalla-barros@uiowa.edu). Finally, remember that the 13th Annual James F. Jakobsen Conference is about to bounce off the walls (or maybe just the computer screen). Save the date for March 26th and look for additional announcements regarding the on-line submission process for this excellent and invigorating graduate student conference!

B. Vice President’s Report – James Skretta

Good evening Senators!

I hope that everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving break and that you are pushing through the final days of the semester. It's incredible just how fast each semester goes!

This past Wednesday, Donna Lancianese, Matine Spence and myself attended a Main Library Renovation focus group meeting, where we meet with those designing the master plan for the future of the library, which, most prominently, is to include a new commons area. A designer showed several potential layouts and floor plans that would utilize space in different manners. Our input was requested regarding study space, materials access and overall effectiveness of things within the library. As of yet, no final decisions have been made and student input is being taken with open ears. If you have any opinions you would like to share about the current state of the Main Library or would like to share what you hope to see in a renovated library and enhanced commons area, feel free to let stef, Donna, or myself know and we'll be sure to pass the word!
Wishing you all a happy holiday season!

C. Treasurer’s Report – Brian Borchers

In short, still not that much money has been used. The majority of the roughly $500 dispensed so far has been spent on social activities, committee meetings and supplies. Two big expenses coming up include the Fall Ball and our donation to the Art Museum. As always, feel free to contact me if you have questions.

D. Membership Officer’s Report – Ulrike Carlson

As the end of the semester approaches - for many of you it is your first semester in GSS - I would like, once again, to point out that GSS depends on you and your commitment to GSS. It is very important that you not only attend senate meetings, but also volunteer your time to serve on at least one committee! Serving on a committee can mean a great enrichment of your graduate life, as well as a great learning and service opportunity - but only if you are willing to commit! GSS cannot function if only a few students do all the work. I know that every single one of us is very busy (We are graduate students, after all!), but if we all take our commitment to our committee seriously, the will be less work for everyone. I therefore urge you to take your committee work seriously, to try to attend meetings and to find out what each and every one of you can do to make GSS the successful student organization it has been up to now! Thank you and Happy Holidays and a great New Year!

E. Parliamentarian’s Report – Perry Motsegood

Nothing to report at this time.

F. Graduate Council Report – Kristi DiClemente, Kristina Rogers, Oksana Zagorodna, stef shuster*

The graduate council took a small break from meeting and came together on the 18th of November to discuss some important topics. Something to keep on the radar is a reconfiguring the process for dual Master’s degrees. The paperwork and requirements for graduate students who want to have two degrees from the University of Iowa was discussed at this last meeting. Look for more updates in the upcoming months. We also discussed potential changes in the way that colleges deal with course withdrawal due to academic performance. It was suggested that all colleges across the board standardize the way they deal with these issues. Again, more information on this in later agenda notes.

G. Graduate Student Organizations – Meggie Aube

Nothing to report at this time.

H. ECGPS Delegate Report – Senthil Kumar Perumal Kuppusamy, stef shuster, Meggie Aube (alternate)

ECGPS had a lot going on since the last GSS meeting. While impossible to capture it here, if you didn’t attend the Etiquette Dinner, rumors are that you missed out on some fun! At the last executive meeting we approved the Supplemental 1 GPAC spending, Travel and Research Awards recommendations, and discussed ways in which ECGPS and other member governments could collaborate on future projects. Look for announcements soon on cross-campus ventures in sustainable environmental issues (via a conference) and the UI Museum of Art Graduate and Professional Student Reception.

I. Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Council Chair Report – Nirmala Barros

The Dean had a last minute conflict for our November meeting. We’re hoping to re-schedule it for sometime in January or February. We’d still like to hear from you if you have any concerns for us to discuss at this
meeting. Some previous agenda items from last year's Dean's meeting include the status of the budget, TA line cuts, flood recovery status, and the time frame for expected changes from the Graduate and Professional Education Taskforce Report.

J. Webmaster Report – Maneesh Kumar

Meeting with former Webmaster Tim Paschkewitz continues, and preparation for the Jacobsen Conference begins.

VI. Committee Representative Reports

A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Tracy Morgan, Meryl Irwin*

The committee has been very busy this past month. Working with the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU), we were able to provide 12 judges to the Fall Undergraduate Research Forum (FURF). We also worked with another on-campus group, the Research Ambassadors, to provide graduate students to present on scientific poster use and design. Finally, we completed one of our two online application forms for mentoring, and are on-time to have the program running starting in Spring 2011. Thanks to all the committee members who volunteered to help out with these activities!

Our committee is always happy to take new members. If you are interested in joining please email the chair (theresa-morgan@uiowa.edu).

B. Computer Resources Committee – Brian Borchers

Nothing to report at this time.

C. Education Outreach Committee – Ulrike Carlson, Donna Lancianese

The Educational Outreach Committee collaborated with the Graduate College on a lecture, "Achieving a Healthy Work-Life Balance", which is part of The Network lecture series. The lecture takes place on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 3:30-5:00 pm in 106 GILH (Gilmore Hall). Our speakers are Kathleen Staley from Counseling Services, Nicole Studt from Family Services and Misty Brents from Student Health. Please remind your constituents of this upcoming event.

D. International Student Committee – Joseph Steinitz, Chris Harris, Nikhil Sikka

Nothing to report at this time.

E. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Kyle Moody; Lynettia Felling; Lauren Rosales

Nothing to report at this time.

F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – Kristina Rogers

Nothing to report at this time.

G. Service Committee – Kimberly Hoppe, Katie Benson

We will be collecting the penny wars containers at this meeting. Please email Katie Benson or Kimberly Hoppe if you were not able to bring your containers today. We will be creating bowls at 'Fired Up' for the Souper Bowl again this year in January and will keep you all updated with a date and time. Thanks!
H. Social Committee – Mike Palermo

Thanks for a great semester of events. January 11 the UI Museum of Art is throwing its annual Professional and Graduate Student Reception. The theme is “A Love Affair with Lil Picard and Andy Warhol.” Keep an eye out for more emails about the event and here’s a link for more information. uima.uiowa.edu/the-professional-graduate-student-reception/

I. Travel Funds Committee – Kristi DiClemente, Alissa Hulstrand

We had another successful round of Travel Fund Awards. Thanks to everyone who came out to score on the 17th, we greatly appreciate your time. This cycle we had over 50 eligible Travel Fund applications and we awarded exactly 50%. Our next Travel Funds deadline will be in February. This cycle was also the inaugural round of the GSS Supplementary Travel Award for Research. We received around 20 eligible applications of which we awarded over 50%. The next Supplementary Travel Award deadline will be in April. We had quite a few no-shows to the last meeting; both Alissa and I would appreciate our committee members letting us know if they are unable to make a meeting. Thanks.

J. GPAC Representatives – Kelli Todd, Mike Palermo, Brian Borchers

Nothing to report at this time.

VII. Announcements

The next Friday After Classes (FAC) is December 10th 7-9:30pm at the Airliner. Come out and share some food or conversations before the madness of finals week begins! For any questions related to this FAC, please contact Mike Palermo, Social Committee Chair (michael-palermo@uiowa.edu)

VIII. Open Discussion

- Opened by chair - Closed by motion with second and approval by senate

IX. Adjournment (~1 min)
Graduate Student Senate
General Meeting
Agenda
7-Dec-2010

2010-2011 Graduate Student Senate
Roster of Elected Positions

Executive Officers:
President: stef shuster, stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
Vice President: James Skretta, james-skretta@uiowa.edu
Parliamentarian: Perry Motsegood, perry-motsegood@uiowa.edu
Treasurer: Brian Borchers, brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
Executive Associate: Meryl Irwin, meryl-irwin@uiowa.edu
Membership Officer: Ulrike Carlson, ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
ECGPS Delegates: Senthikumar PK, senthil-kumar-pk@uiowa.edu
Graduate Council: stef shuster, stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
Kristi DiClemente, kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu
Kristina Rogers, kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu
Oksana Zagorodna, oksana-zagorodna@uiowa.edu
Webmaster: Maneesh Kumar, maneesh-kumar@uiowa.edu

Committee Chairs:
Academic Mentoring Committee: Tracy Morgan, theresa-morgan@uiowa.edu
Meryl Irwin, meryl-irwin@uiowa.edu
Computer Resources Committee: Brian Borchers, brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
Education Outreach Committee: Donna Lancianese, donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu
International Student Committee: Joseph Steinitz, joseph-steinitz@uiowa.edu
Chris Harris, christopher-harris@uiowa.edu
Nikhil Sikka, nikhil-sikka@uiowa.edu
Jakobsen Conference Planning: Kyle Moody, kyle-moody@uiowa.edu
Laura Rosales, lauren-rosales@uiowa.edu
Netta Felling, lynettia-felling@uiowa.edu
Jakobsen Conference Review: Kristina Rogers, kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu
Service Committee: Kimberly Hoppe, kimberly-hoppe@uiowa.edu
Katie Benson, katherine-f-benson@uiowa.edu
Social Committee: Mike Palermo, Michael-palermo@uiowa.edu
Travel Funds Committee: Kristi DiClemente, kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu
Alissa Hulstrand, alissa-hulstrand@uiowa.edu

Additional GSS Representatives:
Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Committee (DGSAC):
Nirmalla Barros, nirmalla-barros@uiowa.edu
Margrid Joseph, margrid-joseph@uiowa.edu
Graduate Student Organizations Liaison (GPAC):
Meggie Aube, meghan-aube@uiowa.edu
Brian Borchers, brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
Kelli Todd, kelli-todd@uiowa.edu
Mike Palermo, michael-palermo@uiowa.edu
Alexandra Nica (alt.), alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
Tim Paschkewitz (alt.), timothy-paschkewitz@uiowa.edu

Roster of Appointed Positions

http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu

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