

Lauren Lavin

College of Public Health #201
145 N Riverside Dr, Iowa City, IA 52242
(605) 321-3395
llavin@uiowa.edu

March 9, 2023

I am excited to be applying for an executive position in Graduate and Professional Student Government. Currently, I am a first year PhD student in Health Services and Policy at the College of Public Health. My journey in the first year of my program has taken me across a wide variety of interests, including health economics and maternal and child health. However, as I really started to dig into what motivates me, I realized it was seeing research used and implemented in real-world settings. This is how I have been directed towards the policy and leadership side of the program. When I heard about the executive position application, I was immediately intrigued by both the policy and leadership development aspects of these roles, but even more so by the ability to advocate for graduate students at the University of Iowa. I believe a senior leadership position would allow me an opportunity to grow in knowledge and ability to advocate for this group of people and develop my skills as a leader. I once heard "you can't serve people you can't see," and it really stuck with me. My hope is that through my role in GPSG, all people will feel seen and served.

I look forward to developing skills as a leader advocate, as I hope to continue in leadership roles both during my time in graduate school and in my career. I have currently demonstrated leadership skills during my first year here at Iowa through my position as the Events Director for the College of Public Health Graduate Student Association, involvement with Grants and the Mental Health Committee in GPSG, and becoming a founding member of a peer mental health program called Here 2 Help in the College of Public Health so I have some experience with the organization already. I firmly believe that in order to lead, you are first called to serve, and service begins through involvement in the community around you.

Sincerely,

Lauren Lavin