

The Director of Governmental Relations is in a unique position to make sure student voices are heard at the highest level and I want to make sure the voices of Graduate and Professional Students are heard just as loudly as the voices of other students. By increasing attendance at Hawkeye Caucus and establishing an opportunity for GPSG members to advocate in Des Moines, I believe that Graduate and Professional Students will be just as strong of a presence as the undergraduate students. I have experience with both types of efforts. As an undergraduate student, I was the Director of Governmental Relations for the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) and I was able to train students, provide comments on different bills, and help pass legislation. I helped increase attendance at UNI Day (UNI's version of Hawkeye Caucus) and trained and led student advocates on a weekly basis at the State Capitol. Students can accomplish a lot when they are able to advocate, and I want to help Iowa's Graduate and Professional Students learn how to advocate effectively. I have spent the last year on the GPSG Governmental Relations Committee and we were able to accomplish some great things that I would love to continue as the Director of Governmental Relations.