University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government

General Assembly Meeting

September. 29th, 2023, 7pm

Iowa Memorial Union 337 MGC Room

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation by Amanda Elkins and Alyssa Pomponio with Student Legal Services outlining the services provided by SLS.

Floor opened for questions.

* Is there any delay in the process? No, usually the process goes quickly with little backlog.
* Is there collaboration with the People’s Law Library? There is no direct collaboration; there may be some overlap. The People’s Law Library is linked on the SLS website.
* Do you advise students living off-campus with no affiliation to the university? Yes. Will not assist in any issues with university housing, but any outside housing issues can be addressed.
* Does SLS have a role in advocating for students’ issues (e.g., costs)? There is no direct role. Typically SLS does not help students until they are on campus (with some exceptions for international students moving to the U.S.).
* How does SLS help with employment issues for student employees? SLS does not get involved with direct conflicts with the university, because SLS attorneys are university employees. There is a conflict-of-interest concern.
* Are there any grants/financial support for outside legal referrals? The only financial assistance SLS offers is with immigration services. There are other student financial assistance programs to help with that.

**Attendance:**

Executives:

In Attendance:

President Mason Koelm

Vice President Adriana Kotchkoski

Cabinet Director Khyathi Gadag

Finance Director Matthew Klaes

Physical Safety Director McKenna Raimer

International Affairs Director Raghav Sharma

Governmental Relations Director Sydney Wagner

Mental Health Director Nanle Gusen

Communications Director James Miller

Grants Director Shaoshuai “Shirley” Chen

Interprofessional Director Robin Nilsson

Not in Attendance:

GPAC Director Eric Field

DEI Director Madeleine Wood-Smith

Delegates:

Association of Graduate Nursing Students (AGNS)

Nikta Kia | Absent

Emily Puetz | Absent

Carver College of Medicine Student Government (CCOMSG)

Abby Davison | Present

Chandler Brown | Present

College of Pharmacy Student Leadership Council (COPSLC)

Rebecca Scribano | Present

Sabrina Renner | Present

College of Public Health Graduate Student Association (CPHGSA)

Ellie Madson | Present

Nick Lembezeder | Absent

Graduate Student Senate (GSS)

Fine Arts & Hum. - Jordan R. Ismaiel | Present

Physical Science, Math, Eng. - Soheil Hosseini | Present

Social Science & Ed. - Celine Fender | Absent

Biology and Med. - Emily Hagan | Absent

At-Large 1 – Karly Monaghan | Present

At-Large 2 – Priyanka Kailas | Absent

Iowa American Student Dental Association (IASDA)

Vi Phan | Present

Sam Allen | Absent

Arshi Munjal | Absent

Tyler Jenness | Present

Iowa Student Bar Association (ISBA)

Rhianna Lightle | Absent

Austin McLellan | Present

Karlyn Simcox | Present

**Reports of Officers and Standing Committees:**

President:

* Email from India Student Alliance; invited to event on Saturday. Free for university of Iowa Students.
* GPSG will be involved in the Homecoming Parade on October 6.
* Campus Safety Student Advisor Board has invited us to meet from noon to 1:00 on October 10.
* Shared Governance Session/Joint Legislative Session with USG, Faculty, Senate, and Counsel is Tuesday, October 10 from 5-7.
  + Directors are required to attend.
  + Delegates are encouraged to attend.

Vice President

* Constitutional Review (CoBRA). Want all colleges to have the opportunity to take part.

Finance Director (Budget, GPAC, Grants)

* Student Activity Fee Committee approved contingency budget.
* Money should have gone through to the member governments.

Cabinet Director

* Has begun meeting with Directors one-on-one.
* Meeting with Communications Director regarding representation from each college on the communications team.

**Cabinet Updates and Period of Q&A**

GPAC Director Eric Field

* Not in attendance.

Physical Safety Director McKenna Raimer

* Fresh-Check Day (Mental Health Therapy)
* Ideas or initiatives encouraged.

International Affairs Director Raghav Sharma

* Been in a couple meetings with team. Planning to have discussion with exec committee regarding event proposals
* lunch and learn events
* discussing with Michelle Williams for doing a leadership event. What ways can we come up with to fund these types of events. We can use up to $500 for events. What sort of events will we do and how/when will we do it?

DEI Director Madeleine Wood-Smith

* Not in attendance.

Governmental Relations Director Sydney Wagner

* Board of Regents Meeting happening soon; they will be around campus.
* Federal Hawkeye Caucus will be occurring; if there are any issues your colleges would like to discuss, please direct them to the Government Relations Director

Mental Health Director Nanle Gusen

* Fresh-Check day is next week on October 4th; calling for volunteers.
* World mental health day event.
* Met with UCS Director about filling the gaps on campus in holistic mental wellness.
* Working towards collaborations with other student organizations.

Communications Director James R Miller

* Call for Communications Committee members

Grants Director Shaoshuai “Shirley” Chen

* Financial Allocations for each grant cycle
  + Last year for each cycle we had $14,000 - $15,000.
  + This year, we have only $9,000 to allocate. We will need to set the cutoff higher.
* New committee members added; total of 22 grant proposal reviewers
* Application update for first cycle
  + Yesterday was the C1 deadline;
  + 74 total applications received.
  + Each reviewer will receive 6-7 applications to review
  + They will review for 1-month, then we will vote on the results

Interprofessional Director Robin Nilsson

* Begun communicating with committee members
* Talked with Director Sharma regarding collaborations on events

**Reports of Officers and Standing Committees**:

Association of Graduate Nursing Students (AGNS):

* None

Carver College of Medicine Student Government (CCOMSG):

* None

College of Pharmacy Student Leadership Council (COPSLC):

* None

College of Public Health Graduate Student Association (CPHGSA):

* None

Graduate Student Senate (GSS):

* None

Iowa American Student Dental Association (IASDA):

* None

Iowa Student Bar Association (ISBA):

* Had meeting today; planning events
* New 1L Representative elected.

**Old Business:**

* None

**New Business:**

D.B. 2 Approval of GPAC Cycle 2:

Call for sponsor:

* Introduction by Representative Monaghan: Met on Saturday to approve revisions and deny requests for money from different organizations.

Floor opened for questions and comments | None

Floor opened for debate | None

Call for motion to end debate and vote:

* Motion: Representative McLellan
* Seconded: Representative Simcox

Resolution Passed

D.B. 3 Hawkeye Caucus:

Call for sponsor: Representative McLellan

Representative McLellan yields time to President Koelm

* University is going to D.C., which they do every couple of years. President, VP, and Gov Rel Director are going.
* Fly out on November 27th (Monday after Thanksgiving)
* Allocated $1,700 for the trip.

Floor opened for questions and comments | None

Floor opened for debate | None

Call for motion to end debate and vote:

* Motion: Representative Simcox
* Seconded: Representative McLellan

Resolution Passed

D.R. 3 Sustainability Director Special Election Resolution:

Call for sponsor: Representative McLellan

* Representative McLellan yielded time to President Koelm: Introduced and endorsed candidate Abby Crabtree.

Floor opened for questions and comments | None

Floor opened for debate | None

Call for motion to end debate and vote:

* Motion: Representative McLellan
* Seconded: Representative Simcox

Resolution Passed

D.B.4 Personal Emergency Alarm Act:

Call for sponsor: Representative McLellan,

* Representative McClellan yielded his time to Physical Safety Director Raimer
* GPSG has partnered with Campus safety regarding personal alarm devices.

Floor opened for questions and comments:

* Allocating for purchase of 1,000 alarms. Will these be available to G/P students or all students? Campus Safety is purchasing half, matching USG and GPSG allocations. Governments are doing 80-20 split that we usually do. We need to collaborate with campus safety for allocation.
* How are we doing distribution? Pilot program to figure out it we want to purchase more. Initial allocation will be handing items out at events. Campus safety would prefer to spread out distribution rather than delivering them all at once.
* Speaking on behalf of constituents: Campus Safety is different from University of Iowa Police Department. A lot of grad students dealing with safety situations are interacting with the RVAP office and interacting with their own department or college administration.   
  Is there a way for campus safety to further share this information? This is exactly why Campus Safety wants to do this with public distribution, to create a distinction from university police. It might be good to bring RVAP into the fold on this.

Floor opened for debate | None

Call for motion to end debate and vote:

* Motion: Representative McLellan
* Seconded: Representative Simcox

Resolution Passed

Call for Motion to Adjourn

* Motion: Representative McLellan
* Seconded: Representative Ismaiel