

University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government
General Assembly Meeting
April 16, 2024
Iowa Memorial Union 337 MGC Room

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

Attendance:

Executives:

In Attendance:

President Mason Koelm
Vice President Adriana Kotchkoski
Cabinet Director Khyathi Gadag
Finance Director Matthew Klaes
Physical Safety Director McKenna Raimer
Governmental Relations Director Sydney Wagner
Mental Health Director Nanle Gusen
Communications Director James R Miller
Grants Director Shaoshuai “Shirley” Chen
GPAC Director Eric Field

Not in Attendance:

Interprofessional Director Robin Nilsson
DEI Director Aimen Hameed
International Affairs Director Raghav Sharma

Delegates:

Association of Graduate Nursing Students (AGNS)
Nikta Kia | Present
Emily Puetz | Absent
Carver College of Medicine Student Government (CCOMSG)
Abby Davison | Absent
Chandler Brown | Present
College of Pharmacy Student Leadership Council (COPSLC)
Rebecca Scribano | Absent
Sabrina Renner | Present
Sarah Canfield | Present
College of Public Health Graduate Student Association (CPHGSA)
Ellie Madson | Present
Nick Lembezeder | Absent
Allison Darling | Present
Graduate Student Senate (GSS)
Fine Arts & Hum. - Jordan R. Ismaiel | Absent
Physical Science, Math, Eng. - Soheil Hosseini | Present
Social Science & Ed. - Celine Fender | Absent

Biology and Med. - Emily Hagan | Present
At-Large 1 – Karly Monaghan | Present
At-Large 2 – Priyanka Kailas | Absent
Iowa American Student Dental Association (IASDA)
Vi Phan | Absent
Sam Allen | Present
Arshi Munjal | Absent
Tyler Jenness | Absent
Iowa Student Bar Association (ISBA)
Rhianna Lightle | Absent
Austin McLellan | Present
Karlyn Simcox | Absent

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

President:

- Iowa legislature budgetary allocations are in, and they look good overall.
 - One major concern is the limited funds being allocated for DEI initiatives.
 - The Senate is restructuring the bill in favor of the University and will be sending this back to the House.
 - The University will be monitoring the situation and keep student government updated.
- RVAP is being moved to DVIP, an organization operating in the Southeastern portion of the state.
 - This is a plan that has been in the works for a while.
 - A good portion of the grants received by RVAP go straight to the university and restructuring them to better support rural communities will be good.
 - The coverage is shifting away from the university, but the university will be creating a new supplemental group focused on the university
 - There will be shifts in staffing that will occur, which is creating some pushback.
 - Aside from the staffing, there should not be a significant impact to services.

Vice President:

- No substantial updates. Just transitioning the position.

Finance Director (Budget, GPAC, Grants):

- No updates.

Cabinet Director:

- No updates.

Cabinet Updates and Period of Q&A

GPAC Director Eric Field:

- Thank GPAC for all the work they did last night and getting the legislation ready.

- Looking forward to closing out the end of his three years.

Physical Safety Director McKenna Raimer:

- Birdie distribution went well.
- Looking forward to a smooth transition.

International Affairs Director Raghav Sharma:

- Not present

DEI Director Aimen Hameed:

- Not present

Governmental Relations Director Sydney Wagner:

- We had Hawkeye Caucus the first week of this month.
 - Thanks to James and Abby for coming.
 - We had meetings with legislators.
- Next Friday we have a meeting with legislators.
 - If you have any questions, forward them to Sydney.

Mental Health Director Nanle Gusen:

- Thank you to everyone for successful mental health around the world event. Had a great turnout and everything went well. Hoping to see better wellness on campus and hosting more collaborative events in the future.

Communications Director James R Miller:

- Reminder for headshots from new executives and cabinet directors.

Grants Director Shaoshuai “Shirley” Chen:

- Overview of Grants funding.
 - We are looking at a decreased budget for the upcoming year.
 - To account for this, we are minimizing the maximum award available for categories to allow us to distribute grants to more students.
 - Believes a reputation of getting an award is still important, but we can’t control the money.
 - Tried hard to limit review bias and facilitate fairness in applications.
 - Allowing repeated applications for previously denied claims.
 - Set limit for discrepancy between two reviewers.

Sustainability Director Abby Crabtree:

- Saturday is the trash crawl.
- Still discussing with university regarding construction projects that are happening.

Interprofessional Director Robin Nilsson:

- Not present

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees:

Association of Graduate Nursing Students (AGNS):

- Thank everyone for a great year.

Carver College of Medicine Student Government (CCOMSG):

- Med school Gala was last month and a great success
- Doc Dash 5K is this Saturday
- Shoutout to positions entering their residency

College of Pharmacy Student Leadership Council (COPSLC):

- Recently inducted new executive members.

College of Public Health Graduate Student Association (CPHGSA):

- Just completed elections and have new incoming delegates ready for next year.
- End of year formal is happening this Saturday.

Graduate Student Senate (GSS):

- Had elections and filled all of their positions.
- Friday Night Vibes event was successful last Friday.
- Thank everyone for a great year with GPSG.

Iowa American Student Dental Association (IASDA):

- Currently in the process of electing new members. There will be new individuals in the near future.

Iowa Student Bar Association (ISBA):

- Barristers Ball held last month and was a massive success.
- Held elections but have been unable to fill some positions.
- Congrats to Mason on your nuptials.

Old Business:

- Reminder to vote for the end of year awards!
 - Delegates need to vote by midnight tonight.

New Business:

- D.B. 11, D.B. 12, and Director Elections

D.B. 11 – FY25 GPAC Funding Cycle Approval Act:

Floor opened for questions and comments | None

Floor opened for debate | None

Resolution Passed

D.B. 12 – GPAC Funding Tenets and Bylaws Amendments:

Floor opened for questions and comments | None

Floor opened for debate | None

Resolution Passed

GPSG Elections:

- For each director position up for election:
 - Present candidates were afforded the opportunity to provide statements and delegates were offered the opportunity to ask questions of candidates.
 - Delegates then engaged in deliberations regarding the candidates.
 - After deliberation, votes were taken for each candidate.
- Election Results:
 - Sustainability Director: Josie Welker
 - Interprofessional Director: Brigitte Ledferd
 - Government Relations Director: James R Miller
 - Communications Director: Ganrong “James” Fu
 - Physical Health and Safety Director: Austin Olberding
 - Grants Director: Nanle Gusen
 - International Affairs Director: Krishna Venkatapur
 - GPAC Director: Nathan Chen
 - DEI Director: Lara Zeng
 - Mental Health Director: Bethany Walczak

Meeting Adjourned