



2020-2021

ADMINISTRATION
REPORT

SUBMITTED BY:
Dakota Coates
2020-2021 GPSG President



Table of Contents

Section 1: Introduction	2
Section 2: General Assembly and Legislative Actions	3
Section 3: Executive Statements and the News	7
Section 4: Committees	8
Standing Committees	8
AWARDS COMMITTEE	8
BENEFITS COMMITTEE	10
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE	10
STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE	10
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE	11
2020-2021 Ad-Hoc Committees	11
CAMPUS FEE COMMITTEE	12
COVID-19 COMMITTEE	12
Section 5: Campus-Wide Advocacy Initiatives	13
GRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT	13
FOOD INSECURITY	15
DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & BIAS REFORM	15
ONLINE GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION	15
RESEARCH	20
Section 6: On-Going Projects	21
Section 7: Advice for the Future Administrations	22
Section 8: Final Thoughts	24
Appendix	25
Appendix A: Orders Establishing Ad-Hoc Committees	26
Appendix B: Survey on the COVID-19 Vaccine Chart Summaries	27
Appendix C: Survey on the Student Experience Chart Summaries	32
Appendix D: GPSG 2020-2021 Budget	50
Appendix E: Fall 2020 Orientation Modules	51
Appendix F: 2020-2021 GPSG Resolutions	56
Appendix G: 2020-2021 GPSG Statements	94



Section 1: Introduction

The requirement for this report was established in the Resolution to Promote Transparency on GPSG Resolutions passed October 2, 2020. Accordingly, this administration report is the first of its kind, and it is designed to provide a general summary of the administration's actions on GPSG matters during the 2020-2021 academic school year.

The report contains eight sections: Section 1: Introduction; Section 2: General Assembly and Legislative Actions; Section 3: Executive Statements and the News; Section 4: Committees; Section 5: Campus-Wide Advocacy Initiatives; Section 6: On-Going Projects; Section 7: Advice for the Future Administrations; and Section 8: Final Thoughts. Additionally, an appendix of any referenced documents has been included.

This report was drafted primarily by 2020-2021 GPSG President Dakota M. Coates, with some additional support from members of the 2020-2021 Executive Committee.



Section 2: General Assembly and Legislative Actions

The General Assembly had a robust term, addressing issues both within the structural operations of GPSG as well as an array of policy proposals aimed at bettering the lives of not only graduate and professional students at IUB but the entire student body. Notably, the General Assembly passed more resolutions this year alone than in the prior three years combined, and the most resolutions of any single GPSG administration. As President I applaud the great work of our representatives, committee chairs, and the executive team for the amazing work they put into making this a record-breaking legislative year.

At our first General Assembly in September, the GA passed our 2020-2021 budget. The 2020–2021 budget reflects an organization focused on providing academic support, student advocacy, and a long-term commitment to community building amongst the graduate student body. Any funds that are left in remainder are carried over into the next term’s budget, and shall be used to cover summer expenses, stipends, Fall 2021 orientation programming and/or other emergency funding needs. This budget can be found in the [Appendix D](#).

Below, I have included each of the resolutions passed by the 2020-2021 General Assembly as well as the follow-up actions that took place for each resolution. The text of these resolutions is also available in [Appendix F](#). All of our digital resolutions—full text and signed—can be found on our [website](#).

- [Resolution to Deem Inactive Assembly Seats and Solicit Participation](#): This resolution deemed 25 seats inactive. The Vice President and the Executive Committee worked to host special elections in a few of these departments. However, the concerns related to these vacancies will continue into the next administration and will need to be reviewed as part of potential seat consolidation.
- [Resolution for the Master of Science in Accounting Program to be Represented in GPSG](#): Added a new seat to the GPSG General Assembly.
- [Resolution on Access to Course Information](#): This resolution was provided to the Bloomington Faculty Council (BFC), the Graduate Faculty Council (GFC), the University Graduate School (UGS), the Division of Student Affairs, and the Provost. This was then passed through to each of the program Deans who encouraged faculty members to ensure that they are providing this information in a timely fashion. Additionally, COAS incorporated this in their semester guidance document that is sent to all faculty.
- [Resolution to Address Food Insecurity on Campus](#): This resolution was sent to several campus partners. As a result, the BFC Student Affairs Committee has launched a subcommittee on food security to examine ways in which the Bloomington Campus, through collaboration with faculty, can provide students greater access to information about our resources here on campus. Additionally, we partnered with members of the



Board of Trustees and the IU Foundation to raise tens-of-thousands of dollars for food insecurity across the entire IU system.

- [Resolution to Address the Graduate-Student Marketing](#): This resolution was shared with UGS, the Division of Student Affairs, GFC, the Provost, and IU Studios. As a result, several campus bodies have begun examining ways in which they can separately communicate their resources to graduate students. Furthermore, multiple IU administrators have worked to divide their communications between graduate and undergraduate students to ensure that messages are more tailored to the needs of the graduate student body.
- [Resolution to Promote Transparency on GPSG Resolutions](#): We are continuing to utilize the procedures outlined in this resolution, inclusive of this administrative report.
- [Resolution on Access to High-Speed VPN](#): This resolution was shared with OIS, UGS, UITs, and the GFC. We met with UITs to examine whether there were any potential ways in which we would be able to bolster our current infrastructure abroad to better support student access and VPNs. However, due to the system structure that was too cost prohibitive and too minimal effective to be achievable. Nonetheless, UITs did work to send students recommendations on how to enhance their access to the necessary technology, including using IUAnyware and its remote desktop function. They have also started discussions with the institutions that we collaborate with abroad to see if there are ways in which IU and other universities could leverage our partner institutions' technology to better serve these students.
- [Resolution to Address Parking Concerns](#): This resolution has been shared with the Provost, Dean O'Guinn, and IU Parking Operations. Parking Operations is currently discussing what can be done to potentially implement these suggestions.
- [Resolution To Enhance Fee Transparency & Encourage Fee Reduction](#): Pursuant to several prior General Assembly Resolutions, GPSG is continuing to address concerns related to campus fees. Notably, the University has removed the drop/add course fee attached to class scheduling. Additionally, following our requests for a breakdown of the Combined Mandatory Fee, IU has released the breakdown and has continued to raise awareness of how those taking online classes outside of Bloomington can receive a discounted fee. We are continuing to pursue discussions for initiating freezes on the collection of mandatory fees and the international fee. Accordingly, we are working closely with the Provost's Office to review the current state of mandatory fees and to outline potential next steps. We have also met with Vice President & Chief Financial Officer John Sejdinaj and Executive Vice President for University Academic Affairs John Applegate to discuss ways in which we can freeze fees and enhance the information available around what fees are used for.



- [Resolution in Support of Transparent Acceptance Letters](#): This resolution was submitted to the BFC, UGS, GFC, and Provost Robel. The Provost is in full support of the development of a universal letter baseline to be used across all programs that (1) include specifics about the stipend amount in which a student will receive; (2) explain the full extent of the benefits attached with an SAA position (tuition remissions, insurance, etc.); and (3) provide a clear picture of the fees that a student will pay. Accordingly, the GFC Graduate Initiatives Committee is currently working to review examples of good and poor offer letters and are working with GPSG to develop a potential template.
- [Resolution to Address Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct](#): This resolution was sent to the IU General Counsel, the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE), the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs (OVPF AA), and the several other campus administrators. OIE and OVPF AA are currently working to develop several of the informational components of this resolution. Similarly, we have met with the General Counsel's Office to examine ways in which we may be able to provide students with guidance on the legal parameters involved in the resolution. With regards to the specific policy changes, we have submitted them to OIE to incorporate into the new version of UA-03 when they begin the redrafting process.
- [Resolution to Enhance Student Mental Health Resources on Campus](#): This resolution was shared with the Provost, the Graduate Faculty Council, and the Mental Health Taskforce. Currently, the IU Health Center is examining ways in which they may be able to implement several of our resolution's recommendations—particularly with regards to the number of available insurance companies, the accessibility of CAPS, and the number of free CAPS sessions. Additionally, the Mental Health Taskforce has incorporated our resolution suggestions into their final report to Dean Wimbush and we hope to see several of our marketing changes implemented in the coming academic year.
- [Resolution for Climate Action](#): This resolution was shared with various campus offices and administrators who oversee IU's sustainability initiatives.
- [Resolution for Effective Use of Wellness Days](#): This resolution was shared with the University Graduate School and the Provost to be shared with program Deans. Following the resolution, a few programs implement alternative wellness days in their program.
- [Resolution to Encourage Graduate Student Prioritization in Vaccination](#): This resolution has been shared with Dr. Carroll and Provost Robel for consideration as the University continues to monitor Indiana's roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- [Resolution for the Elimination of Unremittable Fees](#): We have been working closely with Dean Daleke to solidify the elimination of the unremittable fee across all of the programs. Accordingly, all of the Deans have agreed to phase out unremittable fees and we are working to get information on the potential timelines for the completion of this phase out. We are also working to increase the information available about what "unremittable" fees



were. Accordingly, a student would see tuition listed on the bursar bill as a charge and a fee remission as a credit, but the fee remission would only be 90% (in state) or 95% (out of state) of the tuition cost. The remaining 5-10% was the unremittable fee. Following this resolution, the School of Education has already announced that starting next academic term unremittable fees will be eliminated.

- [Resolution to Amend the Bylaws](#): The amendments were incorporated into the Bylaws. The most notable changes for next year are (1) that the Vice President shall be empowered to make non-material edits to the Bylaws to correct further errors and (2) that a new standing committee dedicated to Academic Affairs and Faculty Relations will begin. This committee will be chartered by the Vice President and will address matters related to academic affairs and faculty at IU Bloomington and the greater IU Community, such as academic policies; advising/mentoring; graduate student rights and privileges; ombuds; and tenure.
- [Resolution on the COVID-19 Vaccine](#): This resolution has been shared with Dr. Carroll and Provost Robel for consideration as the University continues to monitor Indiana's roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- [Resolution to Enhance International Students' Services and Fee Transparency](#): This resolution has been shared with UGS and OIS.



Section 3: Executive Statements and the News

At times, it is necessary for the Executive Committee and the GPSG Community Coordinator to issue statements on behalf of GPSG in response to issues facing the IU Bloomington Community. This administration, the following statements were issued:

[March 21, 2021: Statement Regarding Recent Events Impacting AAPI Community](#)

[February 5, 2021: Statement on Finances, Health, and Other Advocacy Efforts](#)

[October 28, 2020: Statement Regarding Prof. McGibbon](#)

[September 24, 2020: GPSG Statement Regarding Jordan Renaming Recommendations](#)

[June 10, 2020: GPSG Releases Statement Regarding Recent Events](#)

[June 2, 2020: GPSG Releases Statement on the Fall 2020 Reopen Plans](#)

The text of these statements can also be found in [Appendix G](#).

Furthermore, GPSG and its leadership was occasionally cited in the IDS and other IU News Sources. A few of the articles are included here.

October 28, 2020: [IU graduate student government demands Murray McGibbon stop teaching](#)

October 17, 2020: [IU working to address food insecurity exacerbated by pandemic](#)

October 5, 2020: [IU Board of Trustees Approves to Committees to Search for McRobbie's Successor](#)

September 2, 2020: [Bloomington Faculty Council discusses COVID-19 response, passes new interim suspension policy](#)

April 22, 2020: [IU Food Institute, IU Dining give emergency meals to students and families](#)

April 20, 2020: [Emergency Meals Project tackles food insecurity in IU community during pandemic](#)



Section 4: Committees

The various GPSG Committees tackle a wide array of issues and each sought to rise to the challenges of the 2020-2021 term.

Standing Committees

Throughout the 2020-2021 term, there were five standing committees, that reflect our officer positions. They are the Awards Committee, the Benefits Committee, the Diversity Committee, the Student Health & Wellness Committee, and the Sustainability Committee. Starting in the 2021-2022 term there will be six standing committees, with the addition of the Academic Affairs and Faculty Relations Committee, which will be chaired by the Vice President. A summary of the work of each of our standing committees can be found below.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Awards Officer and the Awards Committee administer four GPSG awards: Travel Awards, Research Awards, the Faculty Mentor Award, and the Yolanda Treviño Service Award.

2020-2021 Travel Awards

The GPSG Travel Awards are awarded each semester to support travel expenses to conferences at which the student's work will be presented (i.e., paper presentations, speeches, posters, or interactive design), or to help support travel to workshops, special trainings, competitions, and auditions that will benefit the student professionally. Typically, each travel award is \$500, and we award approximately 25–30 grants each during the fall and spring semesters. Due to COVID-19, we have slightly tweaked the awards to respond to the shifting travel needs during the pandemic. Accordingly, we broke the rewards up into \$250 awards, although students can still apply for two awards totaling \$500, which allowed for the potential of 52 awards each semester or 104 total. This fall, we received 25 applications for the travel awards—a notable drop from years past—but fortunately we were able to fully fund the requests that we received.¹ In the spring we saw a slight uptick in applications and were able to grant 35 awards.²

Some of the conferences we helped student attend this year include: Annual North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education, German Studies Association Conference 2020, American Public Health Association 2020 Annual Meeting and Exposition, The Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health (D&I), Cornell University School of Criticism and Theory, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting 2020, and Future Tense 2020 Surface Design Association. We also helped students fund some unique presentations for their virtual conventions, including:

¹ We gave out \$4,979 in travel awards during the Fall 2020 semester. Many applicants requested less than the usual \$500.

² We gave out \$10,202.50 in travel awards during the Spring 2021 semester.



registration and technology support for a student chairing and presenting research on a panel called “#MeToo in Fairyland: Abuse and (Un)Tellability in Fairy Tale and Folk Narrative”; a presentation on the “Collaboration Café,” an active learning space at IU; a computer model that maps oxygen abundance in modern galaxies, and tracks how galaxies change over time; an analysis of a study to determine the impact of the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act; and an exhibition of artwork at the Appalachian Center for Craft Gallery.

2020-2021 Research Awards

The GPSG research awards are awarded each spring semester to offset research expenses incurred in connection with academic field research, including travel costs, archival research, laboratory research, payment for research related services, and purpose of research related supplies. These awards are offered to graduate and professional students following a competitive process. Each award is \$1,000 and only awarded in the spring semester of the academic year. This spring, we received around 88 research award applications. We have currently awarded 12 research awards this spring, and the General Assembly reappropriated unused travel award funds to boost this during the April General Assembly.

A few examples of research that we helped to fund are: computing resources for quantum computing; a study of the gaming and interactive entertainment industry; wearable technology-based modeling; mental health research; and more!

2020-2021 Faculty Mentor Award

The Faculty Mentor Award recognizes outstanding faculty mentorship to graduate and professional students. When soliciting nominations for faculty we encourage students to nominate those mentors and faculty members that (1) foster the long-term development of students, (2) encourage students to develop individual talents and strengths by providing support and guidance in their research, (3) sponsor students and their work both on and off campus, including supporting student attendance and participation at conferences, and (4) assist with alumni contacts and furnish specific job information tailored to the student’s strengths/regional preferences The winner of the 2020-2021 Award is: Dr. Y Joel Wong.

2020-2021 Yolanda Treviño Service Award

The Yolanda Treviño Service Award recognizes an individual by nomination who has performed outstanding service to improve the graduate student experience and community at IUB by volunteering their time and service. The core value of this award is “service above self” in which an individual goes beyond himself or herself to serve others. The winner of the 2020-2021 Award is: Lana Ruck.



BENEFITS COMMITTEE

The Benefits Officer and Benefits Committee have focused on several initiatives over the past two years. Much of the current academic year has been focused on researching inequalities around various topics: (1) leave policies for graduate students, (2) student academic appointee contracts across departments, including stipends and benefits, and (3) fees. In all cases, we have identified a number of inconsistencies and are working to rectify these, advocating for more consistent policies or empowering graduate students to advocate for better benefits within their own departments.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

The GPSG Diversity Committee acts to reaffirm the organization's commitment to social justice and inclusive policies at IU Bloomington. Under the supervision of the Diversity Officer, the GPSG Diversity Council and Diversity Committee have led several initiatives over the past few years. During this past academic year, the Diversity Committee has also been studying issues related to aiding international students in addressing the inconsistencies and challenges related to the TPAC and TOEFL requirements at IU. Additionally, they Committee is working closely with the Community Development Coordinator to host a Diversity Summit during the Spring semester that will focus on elevating graduate student research, IU's multicultural organizations, and more!

STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The Health and Wellness Officer chairs the GPSG Health and Wellness committee. This committee is often our largest, and is designed to support student with issues related to physical health, mental wellbeing, and safety on campus and in Bloomington. This goal is accomplished through continued relationships with IU Health Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, and Culture of Care along with many other relevant and interested committees and groups on campus. The Health and Wellness Officer is not only a crucial component of GPSG but also the university as a whole. Student wellbeing is crucial to the success of the students and whether it is through the representation of graduate students of campus committees, strong leadership in the position as chair of the GPSG Health and Wellness committee, or by simply maintaining persistent attention to student recommendations, the Health and Wellness Officer is the main liaison between the administration in order to ensure that graduate student wellness needs are met.

The committee has remained vigilant of the impact that COVID-19 has had on the mental health of our graduate and professional students. Accordingly, GPSG has continued to provide critical and blunt feedback about the state of our mental health resources on [the Graduate and Professional Student Mental Health Task Force](#). As a major voice on the task force, GPSG has called for bolstering the marketing of our mental health resources, developing Canvas/Syllabus inserts, boosting funds for counseling, removing perceived and actual barriers to access, and



collaborating with IU Studios to continue the destigmatization campaign around mental health. The GPSG General Assembly also passed a [Resolution to Enhance Student Mental Health Resources on Campus](#) which highlighted to the Task Force and the University specific areas and ways in which they can bolster our existing resources. One piece of this is that we hope to continue expanding the virtual and online resources available to our students. The current plan is to retain several of the virtual options (such as Zoom CAPS sessions) in the post-COVID world.

GPSG was also an early supporter of establishing Wellness Days to account for the loss of breaks in the COVID-19 academic calendars, to ensure that our students are given the opportunity to take a mental and physical breather throughout the Spring Semester. IU has in fact established three wellness days (Feb. 16, March 24, Apr. 22) on which most programs will not hold classes. For programs that have accreditation barriers, predominately our professional programs, we continue to work with their Deans to find creative solutions that allow for them to either implement the wellness days in full form or implement a similar alternative. To this end, the GPSG Health and Wellness Committee also drafted a [resolution](#) calling for all programs to fully implement the wellness days such that programs will ensure their students receive an actual break from their academic and employment commitments.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The GPSG Sustainability Officer leads the Sustainability Committee to address issues like waste reduction, energy efficiency, and transportation alternatives, and collaborate with many stakeholders in administration, staff, faculty, and students. In this function, the officer works with the Transportation Policy Advisory Council, the Student Transportation Board, the Student Sustainability Council (SSC), and the Campus Sustainability Advisory Board.

In February 2021, the sustainability committee aligned with the Bloomington Faculty Council and other IU entities to pass a [resolution on climate action](#). This legislation called for the development of a strategic plan for IU to achieve carbon neutrality and encouraging IU to enhance its research commitment to renewable energy. Lastly, the Sustainability Officer is working closely with the Community Development Coordinator to host an Earth Day summit this April. The summit will include invited speakers, films, and presentations by community groups and IU students from all campuses to highlight environmental and climate policy, conservation, sustainability/resilience, city planning, biology, ecology, earth and environmental sciences, environmental justice, Earth and the visual arts, community building, environmental economics, social entrepreneurship, food security and sustainable agriculture, energy, anthropology, and psychology and sociology.

2020-2021 Ad-Hoc Committees

Pursuant to the power established in 3-5.4 of the GPSG Constitution and 6-2 of the GPSG Bylaws, the GPSG Executive Committee can create ad-hoc committees. These committees often handle very specific topics and automatically dissolve on May 1st. This year, the GPSG



Executive Committee Established two ad-hoc committees this cycle: the COVID-19 Ad-Hoc Committee and the Campus Fee Ad-Hoc Committee. The orders establishing these committees can be found in [Appendix A](#). The COVID-19 Ad-Hoc Committee was tasked with monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on the graduate and professional student body; making suggestions related to campus closure, reopening, or services provided; and, if necessary, will be empowered to submit COVID-19 related resolutions to the GPSG General Assembly. The Campus Fee Ad-Hoc Committee was tasked with reviewing and summarizing all fees currently being assessed by the university. Additionally, the committee was empowered to make recommendations for resolutions related to fees to the GPSG General Assembly. A summary of the committees' work is below.

CAMPUS FEE COMMITTEE

This committee worked on the [resolution to eliminate unremittable fees](#) which was passed by the General Assembly. It also worked to investigate an array of student fees across the IU system and has developed an [internal fee tracking sheet](#) for GPSG to use as a means of targeting fees across all aspects of campus. The data from this sheet comes from the [University Bursar's Master Fee List](#). The committee has also passed a [resolution](#) that focuses on amplifying support for international students and seeking relief around the international student fee.

COVID-19 COMMITTEE

The committee took on both a data collection and resolution drafting structure. The committee ran two surveys that were sent out to all graduate and professional students. The first survey was on whether IUB should require the COVID-19 vaccine and what that process should look like. A summary of the survey can be found in the appendix. The committee also launched a more extensive COVID-19 University Experience survey. The results of this survey can be found in [Appendix C](#). This committee also worked on two resolutions surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine. The committee worked to submit legislation that would incorporate prioritization of graduate student employees in the vaccination process at IU. Additionally, the committee passed resolution to the April General Assembly that encourages the University make the COVID-19 vaccine mandatory for students, subject to certain exemptions, which was informed by the committee's earlier survey on the topic.



Section 5: Campus-Wide Advocacy Initiatives

Over the past year, GPSG has refocused upon its role as a student government and made extensive efforts to advocate for issues important to graduate student success. Here, I want to highlight a few programs/initiatives that either executives or officers completed during this administration. I have tried to bucket them into topographical areas.

GRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

In September 2020, the GPSG President and Benefits Officer authored a resolution for the Bloomington Faculty Council (BFC) to pass a [in Support of the Rights and Protections for Graduate Student Academic Appointees during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). Through this resolution, we were able to guarantee all graduate and professional students research and employment protections during the ever-evolving COVID-19 disruptions. Specifically, the BFC affirms the following nine principles and expectations for the Bloomington campus for the 2020-2021 year:

1. That Student Academic Appointees' (SAA) ability to continue to make timely progress toward the completion of their degrees be prioritized as a consideration in all relevant discussions and decision-making processes;
2. That any additional costs associated with the transition to and/or from an online educational format shall not be externalized onto graduate student instructors;
3. That units shall offer SAAs the same protections and personal health considerations offered to faculty where the determination of their instructional and other work responsibilities is concerned;
4. That reductions in the SAA workforce shall be avoided if at all possible;
5. That cuts to SAA pay and benefits shall be avoided at all costs if at all possible;
6. That the SAA employment contracts include clear and explicit provisions regarding the terms of their employment, including, but not limited to, level of compensation, the scope of their responsibilities, and the average hourly commitment;
7. That the Council reaffirms its commitment to the SAA Mediation Committee policy (BL-ACA-D23), and encourages the campus to continue to examine ways in which we can support and expand the Graduate Student Ombuds-process;
8. That international students serving as SAAs be assisted with addressing challenges related to visas and travel restrictions, and accommodated to the greatest extent possible; and
9. That all of Indiana University Bloomington's instructional and research employees, including faculty and SAAs, recommit ourselves to doing our best to support one another, and the students we teach, under circumstances that are largely unprecedented and far from ideal.

In December of 2020, the GPSG President worked with the Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) to establish a new provision in the graduate bulletin requiring all graduate programs to develop leave policies for their student employees. The new language will be state:



Though timely academic progress is essential to all programs of study, students will occasionally encounter extenuating circumstances that affect their ability to make adequate progress and which may necessitate a leave of absence. All schools must establish and maintain school-level leave policies for students enrolled in graduate degree programs. Graduate student leave policies must be clearly communicated and accessible to all students and, in general, should address all procedural, academic, and financial considerations.

The University Graduate School will likewise provide exceptions and/or increased flexibility with regards to academic progression to all students approved for a leave of absence by their respective schools.

Furthermore, the GPSG President worked with the GFC Academic Policy Committee to develop a leave FAQ supplement to go alongside this policy. The supplement reinforces that the graduate schools must establish and maintain their own graduate student leave policies. It also outlined 9 minimum factors that should be addressed in the policies:

1. Appropriate reasons for a leave of absence;
2. Eligibility;
3. Duration allowed;
4. Academic and financial (including insurance) ramifications;
5. Student responsibilities (if any) during leave;
6. Procedures for requesting and initiating leave (and leave approval process);
7. Procedures for returning from leave;
8. Provision for the protection of students from work-related, faculty-guided research requirements during the leave; and
9. Notification procedures for any necessary program, department, unit, and/or university-wide bodies, including but not limited to the University Graduate School.

Through the provision of this guidance, it is made clear the not having a policy cannot be a unit's "established" policy. The FAQ also stressed that all units should plan to submit their proposed leave policies by the end of the 2021 calendar year, and highlighted that the UGS and GFC will undertake a census to ascertain whether the units have complied with the Bulletin change by the end of the 2021-22 academic year.

With regards to campus fees and graduate stipends, GPSG has worked this past year to finalize the elimination of unremittable fees across all graduate programs, ensuring that students will be able to receive full tuition remissions. Furthermore, we have worked with the Provost's Office and the University Graduate School to raise the Jacob's stipends by over \$3,000 for FY22, increase the campus stipend average to over \$19,000, and develop an offer letter template for consistency and transparency across all graduate programs.



FOOD INSECURITY

GPSG has become a major force in the area of food security. GPSG, through President Dakota Coates and Vice President Dan Myers, was a foundational force in establishing the [Emergency Meal Project](#) on campus to provide students who are facing food insecurity with free meals. This partnership with IU Dining, the Food Institute, the Campus Kitchen, and the Crimson Cupboard helped ensure that more than 5,000 IUB students, both graduate and undergraduate, were able to receive free meals over during the summer of 2020. Additionally, we worked to develop COVID-19 safe delivery protocols that ensured even our most vulnerable students were supported.

In October, the General Assembly passed a [Resolution to Address Food Insecurity on Campus](#), and we have worked to continue institutionalizing our fight against hunger. We worked with the IU Foundation to have Food Insecurity be the primary focus of their Giving-Tuesday campaign in December. Accordingly, we were able to help raise thousands of dollars for the [Crimson Cupboard](#) and the winter stint of the Emergency Meal Project. Furthermore, our efforts helped highlight the issue on all campuses across the IU system, in which we have been able to direct tens-of-thousands of dollars into food security initiatives. We are also currently collaborating with the IU Student Trustee Molly Connor to establish food security as a critical focus for the All University Student Association (AUSA) and we continue to work closely with several members of the Board of Trustees to develop new ways for IU to tackle this challenge.

DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & BIAS REFORM

GPSG was one of the few student members of the summer 2020 Title IX policy drafting committee. While the group was limited under the Trump Administration's altered guidelines, GPSG worked tirelessly to ensure that students still received the greatest level of protections and transparency. GPSG also worked to take lessons from the heinous revelations about [former Professor McGibbon](#) to address gaps in our current discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct policies. Accordingly, we worked closely with the leadership of the Office of Institutional Equity and the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs to design policy recommendations that will enhance awareness, transparency, and accountability in our university policies. Thus far, the University has been incredibly receptive to our [recommendations](#), and we believe that a majority of these requests will become official practice and policy in the next variation of [UA-03](#).

ONLINE GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

COVID-19 made it so that none of these in-person events could continue in their historical form. But that did not stop our organization. Instead, GPSG partnered with the University Graduate School and developed, from scratch, an online orientation program for all incoming graduate and professional students. We launched a Canvas page that offered a support mechanism to approximately 3,000 new Fall 2020 students. We developed seven modules, that addressed

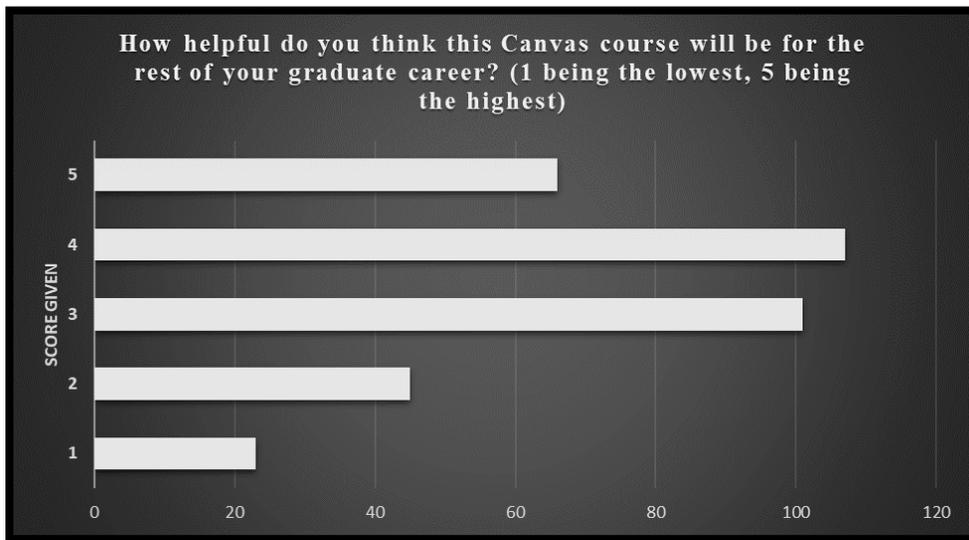
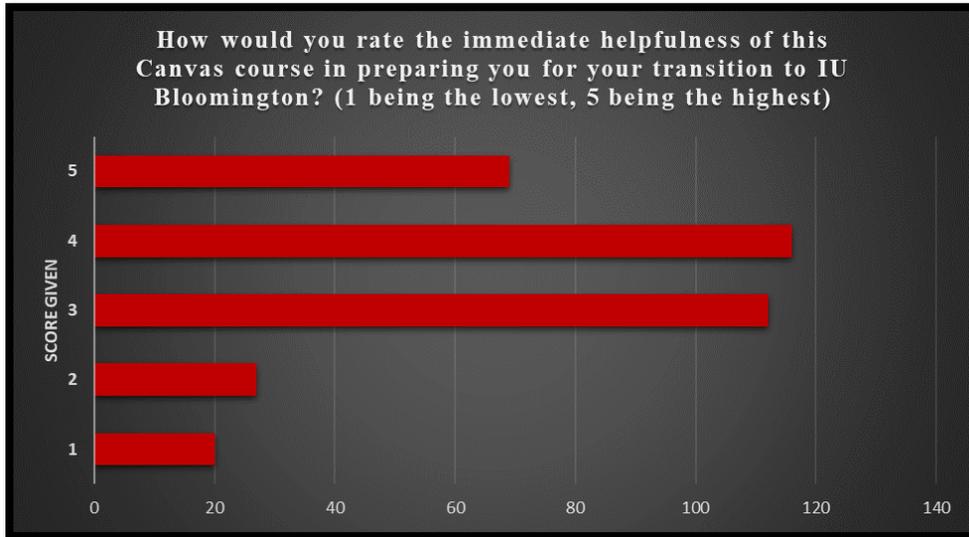


housing, technology set up, financial wellness, childcare, health & wellness, professional development, community building, and more! A full breakdown of the module categories can be found in the [Appendix E](#).

Additionally, we launched several discussion boards to allow our new students the chance to interact with each other in place of our annual mixer. Here, hundreds of students talked about their hometown roots, why they chose IU, and what non-academic activities they enjoyed. We concluded the orientation with a [Fall 2020 Welcome Event](#). This hour-and-a-half program included a welcome from [Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs and Dean of the University Graduate School James Wimbush](#) as well as several other administrators and deans from the University Graduate School.

Moreover, students were provided with an overview of the graduate experience and tips on graduate student success from the Graduate Faculty Council Chair Spencer Hall and Graduate Student Taylor Duckett, who is a student in the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies, from the Graduate Mentoring Center. We also had research librarians provide a 15-minute overview to students on how to leverage our campuses research resources during the pandemic and also offered them an initial insight into how our libraries can assist graduate students throughout their academic careers. The program concluded with a panel of four speakers—from across multiple campus entities—who were there to help answer student questions. The panel included Andi Cailles (Division of Student Affairs); Luciana Guardini (CAPS); Kyle Thompson (Office of International Services); and Trevor Verrot (Walter Center for Career Achievement). More than 500 students attended the event live, and when accounting for unique views, we had over 800 students view the welcome program. GPSG believes that this orientation was the culmination of a campus collaborative effort—bringing more than 165 university employees into the process³—and we plan to continue this digital option in the future. As part of the launch of the virtual orientation, we incorporated a feedback survey for the course. We received responses from around 344 students on the quantitative questions.

³ Includes such programs as: Division of Student Affairs; CAPS; Graduate Mentoring Center; Graduate Faculty Council; Bloomington Faculty Council; University Graduate School; Student Legal Services; IU Libraries; Asian Culture Center; First Nations Educational and Cultural Center; LGBTQ+ Culture Center; La Casa Latino Cultural Center; Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center; Crimson Cupboard; the Provost's Office; UITS; Money Smarts; the Bursar's Office; IU Parking Operations; Residential Programs & Services; IU Dining; Recreational Sprots; Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning; Grad Grants; Center for Excellence for Women and Technology; Institute for Digital Arts & Humanities; the Social Science Research Commons; Writing Tutorial Services; and more!



We also received around 260 answers to the open-ended questions orientated that asked students what they found most useful, areas that we should prioritize for improvement, and what suggestions they would like to see for future iterations of the site. GPSG has already started working to incorporate this feedback into the 2021 Orientation page. Here are some of the comments we received below.

What Students Found Most Useful about the Online Orientation

“I personally think that everything that is covered in this canvas course was super helpful. Being this my first time in Bloomington and at IU, I had many questions regarding housing, transportation, crimson card, IU email, health insurance and health wellness, etc. that would be



difficult to answer during this pandemic situation. I was able to feel somehow supported by this course; it made me feel that I was not alone during this new transition to graduate school.”

“The variety of topics and information provided on each module was very useful. Coming from another state and being a graduate student, the Coming to Bloomington module and Academic and Research Resources were really helpful.”

“I found this course to be very thorough in presenting information that was useful in making the transition to an online course-based program.”

“Touching up base upon things like "how to maintain mental health and how to seek help, where to seek help. Mental health is still considered a taboo at multiple places. So, it is really great to normalize it by putting it here. The fact that "it's okay to ask for help" and one must not be ashamed or upset or scared about it.”

“One-stop hub for all school-related information.”

“Having no previous experience at IU, the introductory course gave me a strong foundation to better prepare for my transition.”

“I must say that this Canvas course is very useful as it has everything for a new Hoosier. If you ask me to choose the most useful aspect, I would like to choose every piece of information here.”

“The discussion areas where you can get advice and help for things. This helped me feel more confident about the apartment complex I chose and gave me a better idea of grocery stores and things. Without COVID, this may have been a way to make friends - though this seems kind of impossible with the online learning environment.”

“Information about basic financial policies and resources for new graduate students. Also helpful for campus policies regarding COVID-19. I also intend to use the Canvas page in the future whenever I need to access or locate a relevant campus resource.”

“The most useful aspect of this course is that all the information is filed and stored in one place-- rather than us receiving a million emails and losing track of them.”

What Students Marked as Priority Areas for Improvement for the Online Orientation

“I don't actually use it because I'm a previous student, so it would be nice if there were some aspects geared more towards previous students.”

“Since it is self-directed, it is tough to keep up the stamina to go through all of the modules while starting other classes and courses.”



“The least useful aspect was having the modules released close to and after the start of the semester. It was definitely a very low priority to check this course once classes began.”

“To me the least helpful things had to do with housing, dining, and shopping. This is because I went to IU Bloomington as an undergraduate student, so I was familiar with these things already.”

“Not all modules were available at the same time. I was not able to regularly go back when each module was open so often, I did not use the module and acquired my information and resources from other sources.”

“Sometimes the reading was a lot but that's just being nitpicky. I'd rather have that than not enough!”

We also distributed a survey to the attendees of the virtual welcome program. Similar to the course feedback, we asked students both quantitative and open-ended questions that we are using to enhance the experience for the next iteration. Here is some of the feedback we received.

Students Who Agreed With The Statement	% strongly agree and agree
I felt welcomed and belonging to the IU community.	84%
I am more familiar with strategies for academic success as a graduate student.	76%
I am more familiar with the resources, offices, and people to support me as a graduate student.	84%
My initial questions about IU and graduate school life were addressed.	76%

Program Component Was Useful	% strongly agree and agree
“Introduction” to the University Graduate School by Vice Provost Daleke	55%
“Strategies for Success in Graduate School” by Professor Spencer Hall and Graduate Student Taylor Duckett	72%
“Research Productivity During a Pandemic” by Dean Walters	67%
“Your Campus Support Network Answers your Questions” by Staff from Campus Offices	72%



RESEARCH

GPSG President Dakota Coates also served as the sole student representative on the [Laboratory Research University-Level Restart Committee](#). The committee meet twice-per-week throughout the summer and continues to meet monthly to examine how campus research operates throughout COVID. On this committee, GPSG ensured that all IU students were provided adequate, and free, PPE; that restarting research was a voluntary process; and that students were able to reengage with their research with stringently enforced safety procedures. The full guidance is available [here](#).



Section 6: On-Going Projects

Although a lot was accomplished this year, there are still legislative projects that will need to be continued as we move into the next administration. A few of them are:

- **Inactive Seats:** During the next administration, they will likely need to consider the consolidation of seats for programs that have small, long-term inactive seats.
- **Food Insecurity:** GPSG should continue its efforts to be a leader in this area. We will need to continue to (1) support the development a university-wide support system for food insecurity; (2) collaborate with university partners to fundraise for food insecurity; and (3) assist in marketing the resources available on campus.
- **Unremittable Fees:** GPSG will continue working with UGS to monitor which programs still have unremittable fees and mark off each unit as they are removed.
- **Mental Health:** GPSG will want to continue working with the IU Health Center on the rollout of additional insurance option and CAPS accessibility. Additionally, it will want to continue its involvement with the mental health taskforce to enact our recommendations and assist with the rollout of mental health information to student orgs and faculty.
- **Title IX:** GPSG will want to continue working with OIE to incorporate our recommendations into the new version of UA-03 once they begin the redrafting process. This process will likely take place during the summer of 2021.
- **Offer Letters:** GPSG will need to remain active in collaborating with the university on developing the template and assisting in the launch and tracking of the new letters.
- **Fees:** GPSG should continue to work with the university to enhance informational awareness around the uses of fees and pursue targeted freezes and eliminations of fees.



Section 7: Advice for the Future Administrations

This advice comes from GPSG President Dakota Coates.

The old adage that “Rome wasn’t built in a day” is often never truer than in the context of student government. Indiana University, like all higher education institutions, is rife with bureaucratic, multi-layered approval processes and it is always critical to account for this when executing resolutions. Accordingly, it will be rare that something is achieved with a single meeting or through a single administrator. Thus, it is important to be patient, to foster stronger partnerships, and to be willing and able to adjust, and compromises along the way. I have repeatedly found throughout my nearly seven years as a student leader, that you get much farther at IU when you speak sternly, but respectfully; provide candid thoughts and feedback; and share victory whenever possible. And never attempt to lie, misrepresent, or mislead any individual—be they a student, faculty, or staff member—for the potential consequences could be irreparable damage to GPSG and the interests of the graduate and professional student body.

Furthermore, it is important to build strong allies early-on to ensure that GPSG is not fighting any battle alone. This year, GPSG’s relationship with Dean Daleke, the Student Trustee, and Provost Robel have been incredibly important in accomplishing our long list of policy achievements. Given that IU will soon have a new president and new provost, as well as other likely shakeups in administrative leadership, I would encourage all future GPSG Executive Committees to create and build upon relationships with IU staff and administrators. While you do not need to be their friend, always look for ways that you can be their partner.

I would also encourage you to strive for an informed and engaged Executive Committee. I have always tried to keep my team in the loop with things happening on campus, even if it does not relate to their specific position. In doing so, we have been able to not only engage in thoughtful discussion of student issues, but we have also worked to develop a strong communication network amongst the team. Take the time to familiarize yourself with the inner workings of the various faculty councils, study the administrators that you are negotiating with to learn their priorities, follow what other IU or Big 10 organizations are doing to inform your own actions, and utilize your predecessors and the institutional knowledge of GPSG to get into the nuance of policy. Similarly, take the time to understand how policy making works at IU, as well as how University finances operates, for this will not only give you a better grasp of how to effect change at IU but it will also ensure that you can develop implementation plans within the IU ecosystem.

Additionally, I would implore you to develop an administrative agenda that addresses the needs of all graduate and professional students. As a student leader it is easy to get consumed on what your individual priorities are, or to pursue initiatives that the individuals in your cohort would like to see. But as the voice for over 10,000 graduate and professional students you must always strive to expand your focus. Accordingly, I would encourage you to find areas where you can advocate for change that impacts all graduate and professional students, such as we did with Food Insecurity, COVID-19, and Title IX. However, it is also no secret that graduate and



professional students have very unique needs, and there are many issues that may only impact graduate students or that may be distinct to our professional programs—and it is GPSG’s responsibility to assist with both sets of those concerns and to give both communities the attention and care they deserve. So be sure to build strong communication networks with our various programs, promote a welcoming environment, touch base with an array of the GPSG representatives, and make sure you are proactively advocating for the various subsets of our constituency.

Do not be afraid of failure. As a student leader, you are always working against the grain of the status quo—and more often than not your single term will not be able to achieve the full change you seek. And that is okay. Work to chip away at the block and find new tools that can be used to smooth away the task in front of you. It will happen more than once that a method you are using will not work or a communication channel will breakdown or simply the current state of law or finances stops you from progressing. Do not let it discourage you. Instead, relish in the victories that you achieve. Celebrate the time when you help a student with a small problem, when you get a partial concession, and when a program you put on is successful.

However, a related piece of advice, is that you must be willing to accept criticism and admit when you are wrong. In your role, you are going to be communicating with a plethora of students, faculty, and staff—many of whom are going to disagree with you. Particularly with students, you need to let them disagree, listen to their concerns, make them feel heard, and attempt to address their needs as you move forward. Transparency at all level of advocacy is key. The worst thing that one can do is flatly disregard a student with dissenting or opposing opinions. This will not only tarnish the public opinion of GPSG moving forward but it will also result in the student losing faith that GPSG cares about their needs—forcing them to attempt to navigate their challenges without our help.

Lastly, keep in mind that everything you do and every action you take during your term reflects on GPSG and will have lasting impacts on the organization long after you time here. Once you take on a leadership position in GPSG, you no longer just “speak as yourself;” instead, when you act it is on behalf our organization and the over 10,000 graduate and professional students on our campus we speak for. Thus, while at times it may be tempting to act on emotion or personal frustration, I always encourage each member of the next administration to reflect on each of their action to ensure that what they are doing is in the interest of all graduate and professional students. It is important to always keep in mind that our funding, our official advocacy designation, our committee appointments, and our access to administrators are in many ways privileges that we have been granted, and can always be impacted as campus leadership changes.



Section 8: Final Thoughts

It has been one of the greatest privileges of my life to lead GPSG this past year. I am incredibly proud of all the work that the 2020-21 Executive Committee has put into their positions this year, and their long list of policy achievements and our record-breaking number of resolutions speak to their true dedication to the graduate student body. This past year, I have been involved in over 500 advocacy meetings amounting to over hundreds of hours of advocacy on behalf of students. My team has similarly dedicated hundreds of hours towards expanding GPSG's influence and addressing the needs of graduate students. Through this results-oriented approach, GPSG has fully become true beacon of leadership, compassion, and progress this year—and I have no doubt in saying that the organization is operating at the strongest it has been in years. We have reasserted our involvement as a policy leader on campus and a necessary partner for nearly every issue that touches student life. And while we did not achieve everything our administration set out to do, the impact of what we did accomplish will live on at IU for years to come.

I will end with a note to the graduate and professional students of 2021-22, be they returning students or those entering IU for the first time. The Graduate and Professional Student Government is here to be an ally for you, and this organization is the pinnacle of mature governance—research driven and outcome oriented—so please continue to engage with us in the way you have this past year. GPSG is, and always will be, a welcoming partner for all graduate and professional students no matter how small their concern or how brief their time here is.

Thank you all for the pleasure of serving as your President, I will forever be grateful for the opportunity I was given this past year! I will always be an ally to the IU students, and I look forward to the next chance I will have to help my fellow Hoosiers!

Respectfully Submitted,

Dakota Coates

Dakota Michael Coates

President | Graduate and Professional Student Government

Chair | IU All University Student Association

dakcoate@iu.edu | potgpsg@indiana.edu



Appendix

[Appendix A: Orders Establishing Ad-Hoc Committees](#)

[Appendix B: Survey on the COVID-19 Vaccine Chart Summaries](#)

[Appendix C: Survey on the Student Experience Chart Summaries](#)

[Appendix D: GPSG 2020-2021 Budget](#)

[Appendix E: Fall 2020 Orientation Modules](#)

[Appendix F: 2020-2021 GSPG Resolutions](#)

[Appendix G: 2020-2021 GSPG Statements](#)



Appendix A: Orders Establishing Ad-Hoc Committees

Establishment of the GPSG COVID-19 Ad-Hoc Committee

Pursuant to the power established in 3-5.4 of the GPSG Constitution and 6-2 of the GPSG Bylaws, the Executive Committee formally creates the GPSG COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

Pursuant to the provisions above, this committee shall automatically resolve on May 1st, 2021.

This committee shall be comprised of the GPSG Executive Committee, two representatives from the Indiana Graduate Workers Coalition, and up to five representatives from the GPSG graduate and professional student body.

This committee shall be chaired by the GPSG President, or in their absence the GPSG Vice President.

This committee shall be tasked with monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on the graduate and professional student body; making suggestions related to campus closure, reopening, or services provided; and, if necessary, will be empowered to submit COVID-19 related resolutions to the GPSG General Assembly.

Establishment of the Campus Fee Ad-Hoc Committee

Pursuant to the power established in 3-5.4 of the GPSG Constitution and 6-2 of the GPSG Bylaws, the Executive Committee formally creates the Campus Fee Ad Hoc Committee.

Pursuant to the provisions above, this committee shall automatically resolve on May 1st, 2021.

This committee shall be comprised of the GPSG President, GPSG Vice President, GPSG Treasurer, GPSG Benefits Officer, two representatives from the Indiana Graduate Workers Coalition, and up to five representatives from the GPSG graduate and professional student body.

This committee shall be chaired by the GPSG President, or in their absence the GPSG Benefits Officer.

This committee shall be tasked with reviewing and summarizing all fees currently being assessed by the university. Additionally, this committee shall be empowered to make recommendations for resolutions related to fees to the GPSG General Assembly.

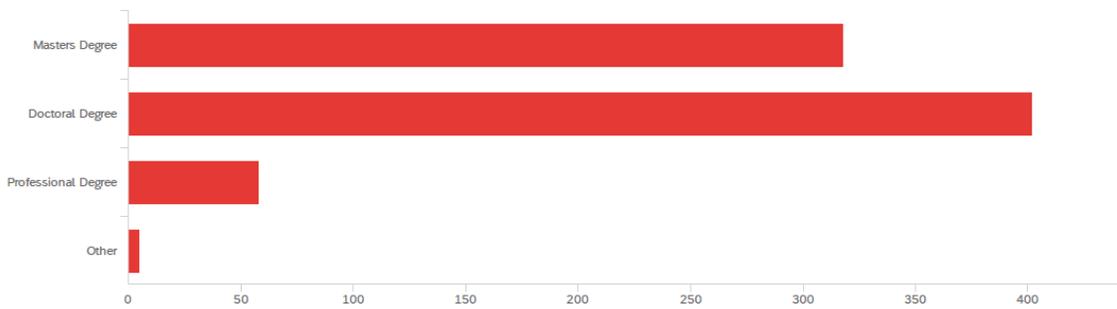


Appendix B: Survey on the COVID-19 Vaccine Chart Summaries

Default Report

Survey on IUB COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements
 March 1, 2021 12:28 PM MST

Q1 - Please select your current degree being sought.



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Please select your current degree being sought.	1.00	4.00	1.68	0.64	0.40	783

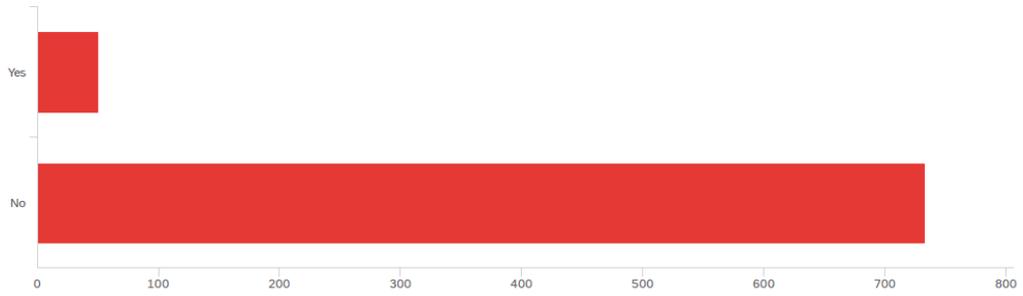
#	Field	Choice Count
1	Masters Degree	40.61% 318
2	Doctoral Degree	51.34% 402
3	Professional Degree	7.41% 58
4	Other	0.64% 5

783

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5



Q2 - Have you already received, or are you currently in the process of scheduling, a COVID-19 vaccine?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Have you already received, or are you currently in the process of scheduling, a COVID-19 vaccine?	1.00	2.00	1.94	0.24	0.06	783

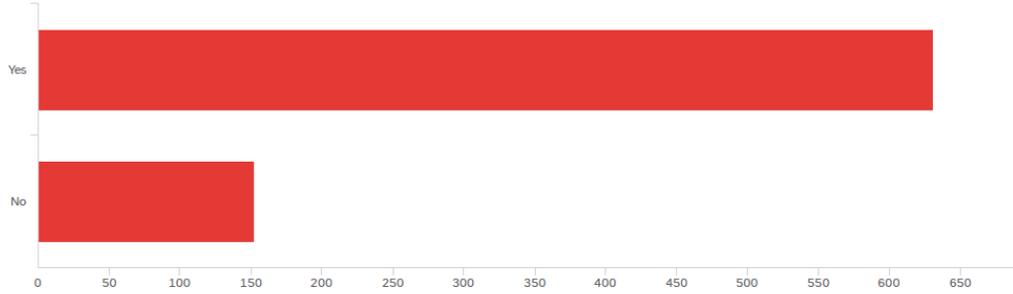
#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	6.39% 50
2	No	93.61% 733

783

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3



Q3 - Would you be in favor of IU requiring all students be vaccinated for COVID-19?



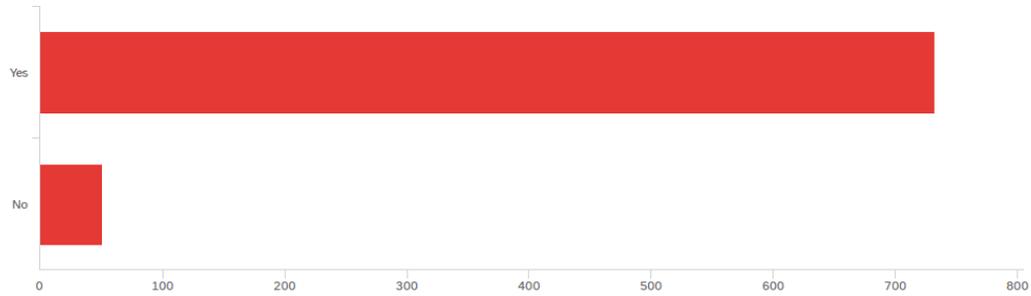
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Would you be in favor of IU requiring all students be vaccinated for COVID-19?	1.00	2.00	1.19	0.40	0.16	783

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	80.59% 631
2	No	19.41% 152
		783

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3



Q5 - If IU required the COVID-19 vaccination, do you believe that it must be provided for free by the university?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	If IU required the COVID-19 vaccination, do you believe that it must be provided for free by the university?	1.00	2.00	1.07	0.25	0.06	783

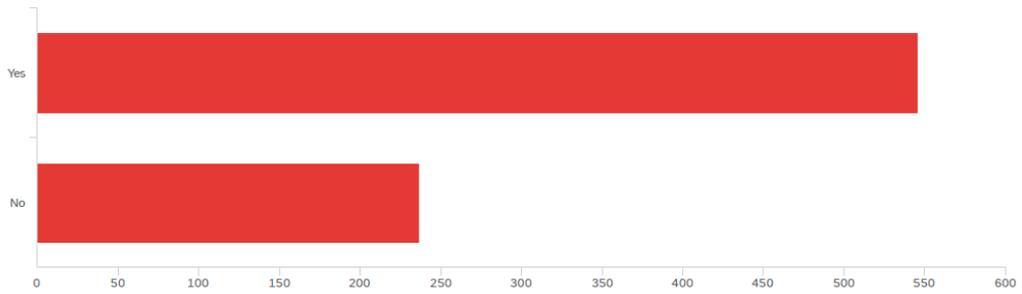
#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	93.49% 732
2	No	6.51% 51

783

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3



Q6 - If the vaccine is mandatory, do you believe that the university should allow for exemptions (such as medical, ethical, religious, or geographic)?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	If the vaccine is mandatory, do you believe that the university should allow for exemptions (such as medical, ethical, religious, or geographic)?	1.00	2.00	1.30	0.46	0.21	783

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	69.73% 546
2	No	30.27% 237

783

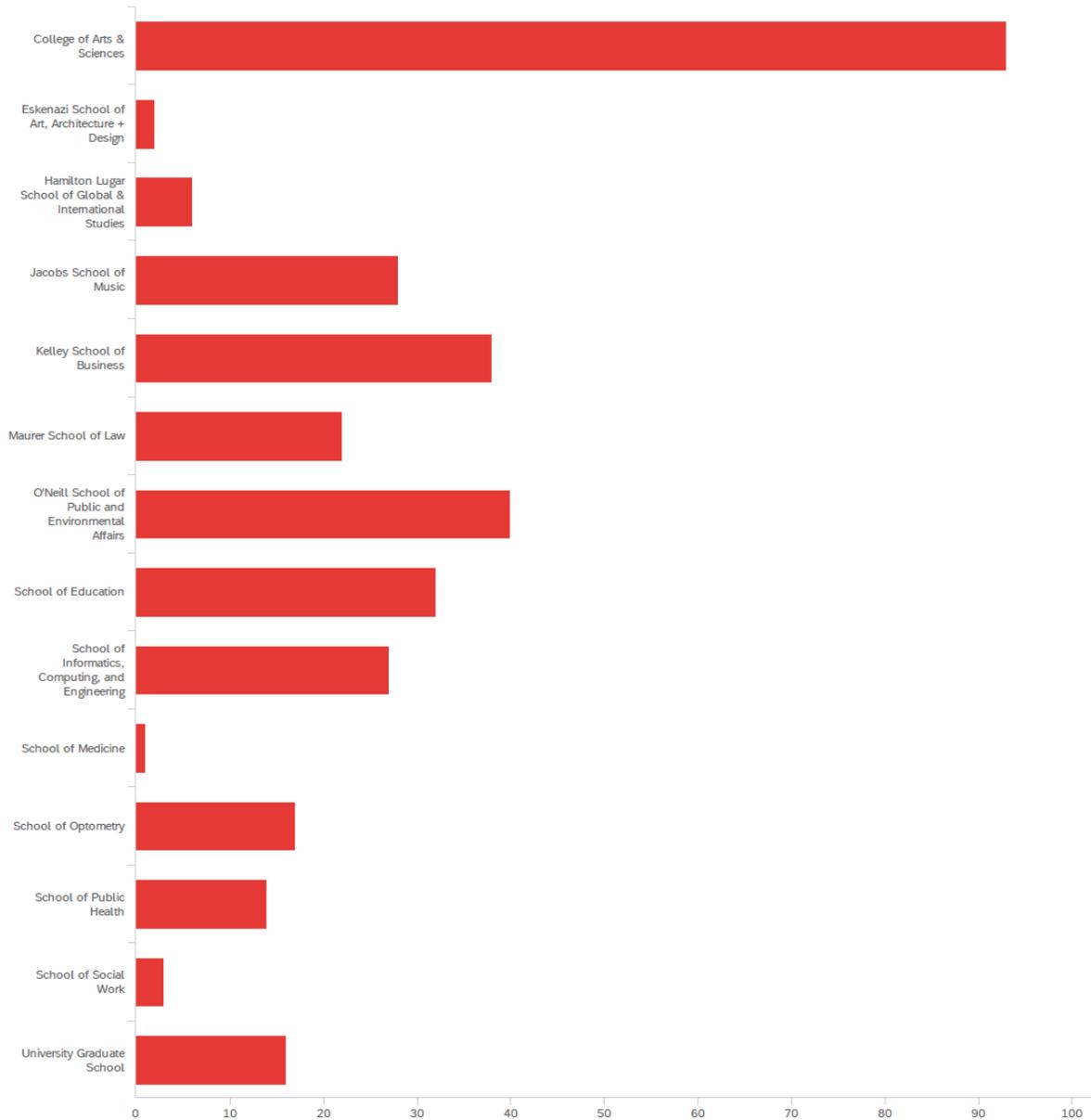
Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3

End of Report



Appendix C: Survey on the Student Experience Chart Summaries

Q1 - Choose your school.



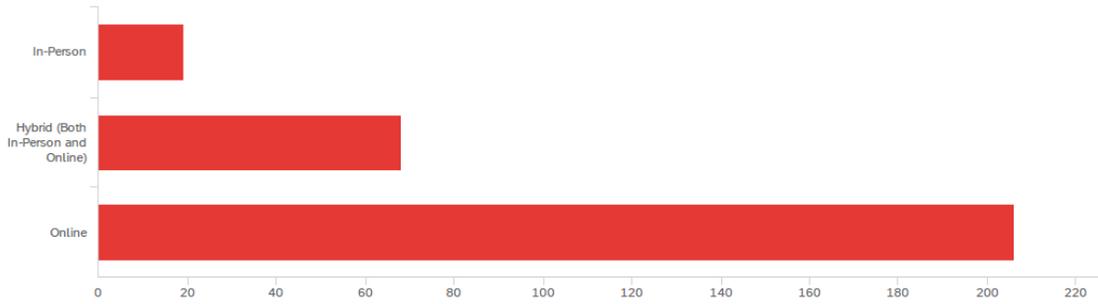


#	Field	Choice Count
1	College of Arts & Sciences	27.43% 93
2	Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design	0.59% 2
3	Hamilton Lugar School of Global & International Studies	1.77% 6
4	Jacobs School of Music	8.26% 28
5	Kelley School of Business	11.21% 38
6	Maurer School of Law	6.49% 22
8	O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs	11.80% 40
9	School of Education	9.44% 32
10	School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering	7.96% 27
11	School of Medicine	0.29% 1
12	School of Optometry	5.01% 17
13	School of Public Health	4.13% 14
14	School of Social Work	0.88% 3
15	University Graduate School	4.72% 16

339



Q2 - How would you classify the majority (over 50%) of your class attendance style during the 2020-21 term?

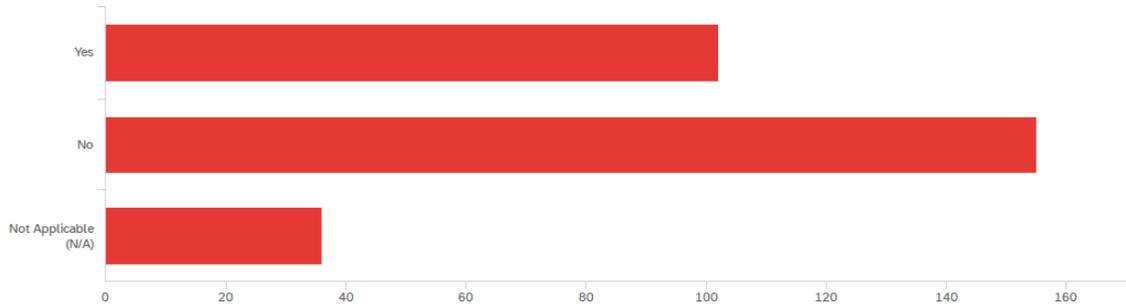


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How would you classify the majority (over 50%) of your class attendance style during the 2020-21 term?	1.00	3.00	2.64	0.60	0.36	293

#	Field	Choice Count
1	In-Person	6.48% 19
2	Hybrid (Both In-Person and Online)	23.21% 68
3	Online	70.31% 206
		293



Q3 - During the 2020-2021 academic year, were you required to be in-person for any of your course work?

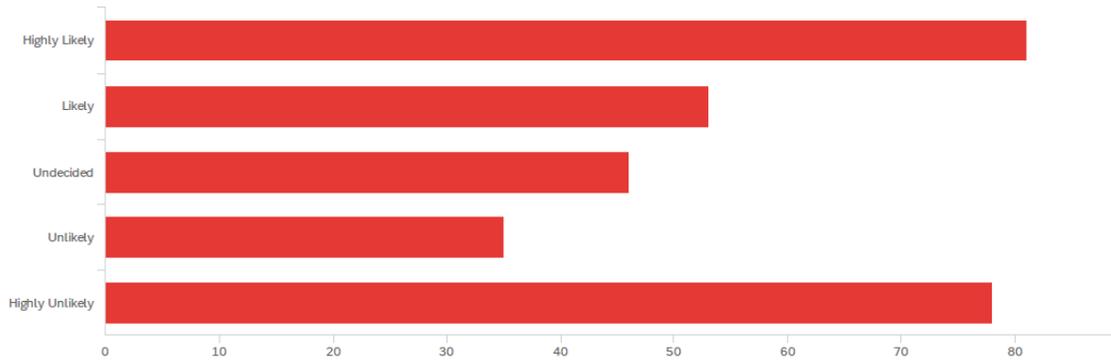


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	During the 2020-2021 academic year, were you required to be in-person for any of your course work?	1.00	3.00	1.77	0.65	0.42	293

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	34.81% 102
2	No	52.90% 155
3	Not Applicable (N/A)	12.29% 36
		293



Q4 - How likely would you be to attend a class in person if an online option is available?

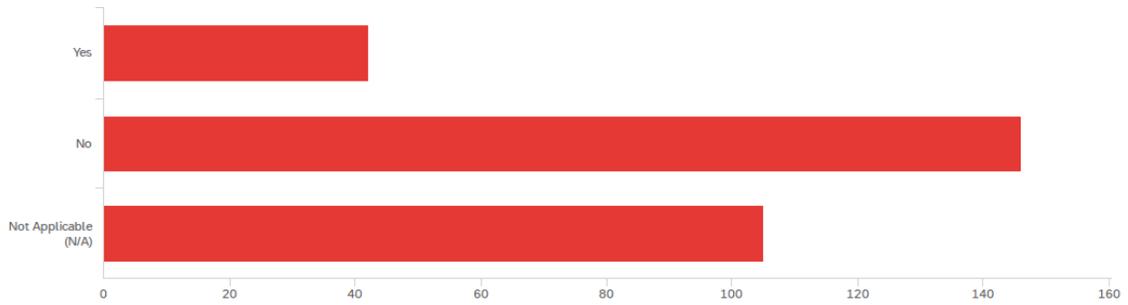


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How likely would you be to attend a class in person if an online option is available?	1.00	5.00	2.92	1.57	2.46	293

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Highly Likely	27.65% 81
2	Likely	18.09% 53
3	Undecided	15.70% 46
4	Unlikely	11.95% 35
5	Highly Unlikely	26.62% 78
		293



Q5 - During the 2020-2021 academic year, were you required to be in-person for any of your research work?

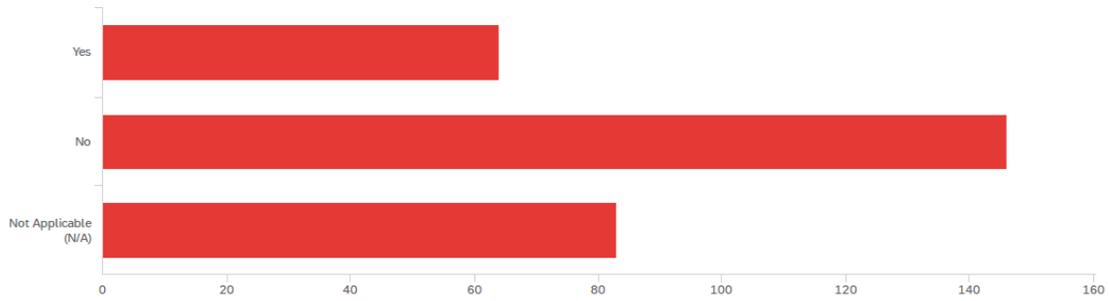


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	During the 2020-2021 academic year, were you required to be in-person for any of your research work?	1.00	3.00	2.22	0.67	0.46	293

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	14.33% 42
2	No	49.83% 146
3	Not Applicable (N/A)	35.84% 105
		293



Q6 - During the 2020-2021 academic year, were you required to be in-person for any of your assigned graduate student employee or student academic appointee responsibilities?

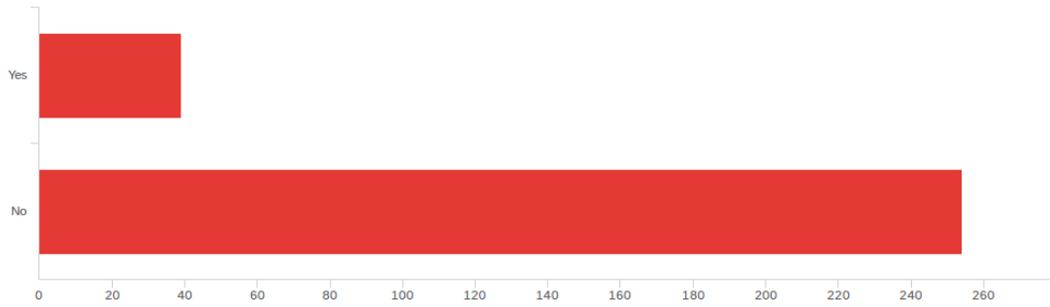


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	During the 2020-2021 academic year, were you required to be in-person for any of your assigned graduate student employee or student academic appointee responsibilities?	1.00	3.00	2.06	0.71	0.50	293

#	Field	Choice	Count
1	Yes	21.84%	64
2	No	49.83%	146
3	Not Applicable (N/A)	28.33%	83
			293



Q7 - Did you have any other in-person requirements beyond coursework, employment, and/or research?



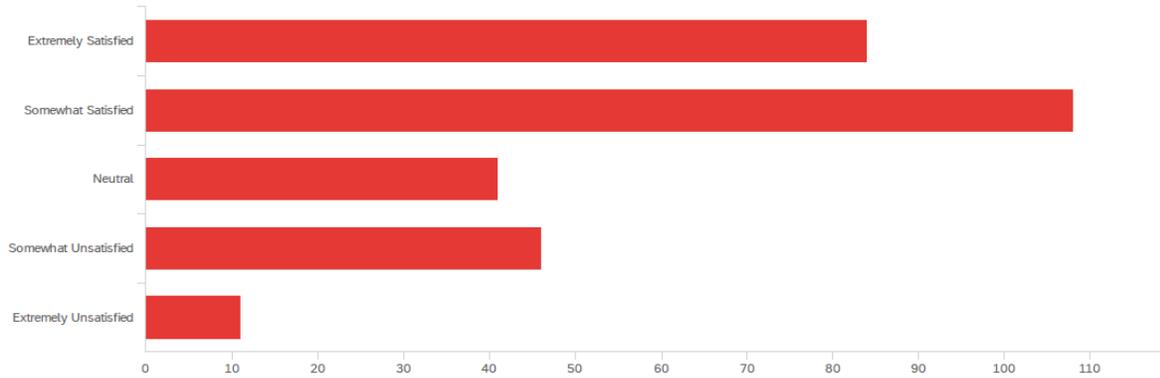
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Did you have any other in-person requirements beyond coursework, employment, and/or research?	1.00	2.00	1.87	0.34	0.12	293

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	13.31% 39
2	No	86.69% 254

293



Q8 - Overall, how satisfied are you with Indiana University's handling of COVID-19?

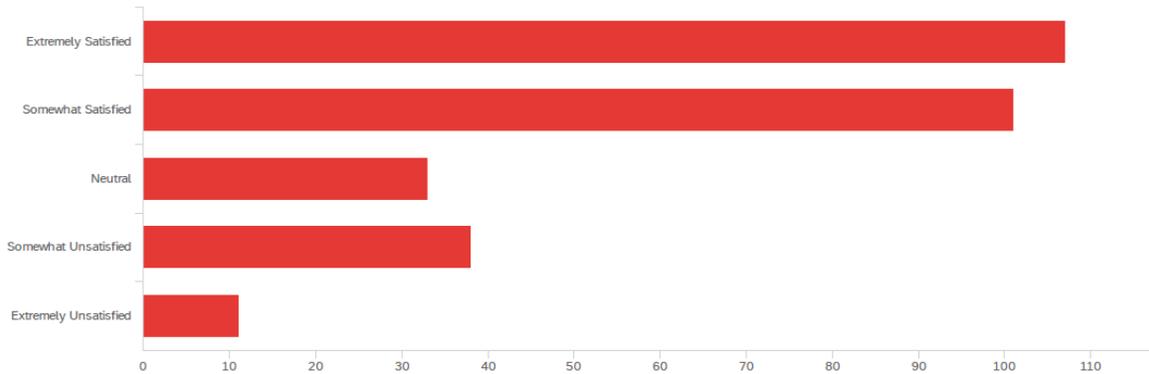


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Overall, how satisfied are you with Indiana University's handling of COVID-19?	1.00	5.00	2.28	1.15	1.33	290

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely Satisfied	28.97% 84
2	Somewhat Satisfied	37.24% 108
3	Neutral	14.14% 41
4	Somewhat Unsatisfied	15.86% 46
5	Extremely Unsatisfied	3.79% 11
		290



Q9 - Overall, how satisfied are you with your individual program's handling of COVID-19?

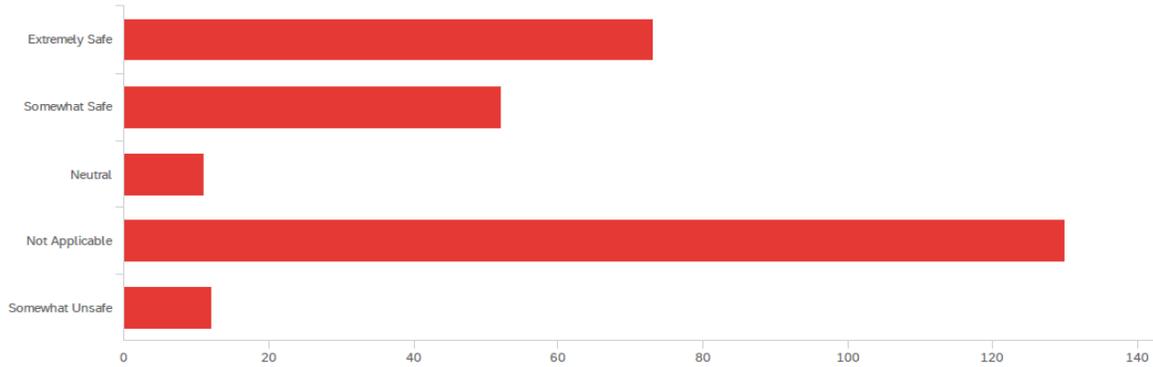


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Overall, how satisfied are you with your individual program's handling of COVID-19?	1.00	5.00	2.12	1.15	1.33	290

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely Satisfied	36.90% 107
2	Somewhat Satisfied	34.83% 101
3	Neutral	11.38% 33
4	Somewhat Unsatisfied	13.10% 38
5	Extremely Unsatisfied	3.79% 11
		290



Q10 - Overall, how safe did you feel when attending an in-person class?

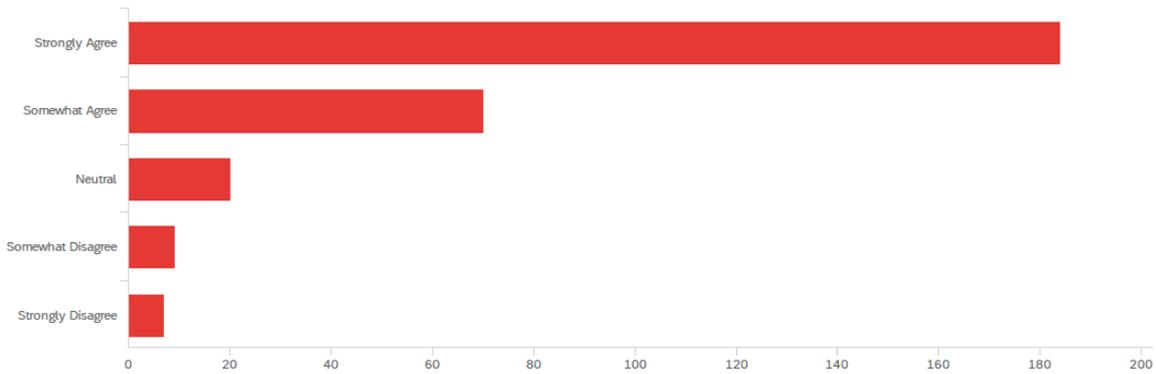


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Overall, how safe did you feel when attending an in-person class?	1.00	5.00	2.84	1.36	1.85	278

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely Safe	26.26% 73
2	Somewhat Safe	18.71% 52
3	Neutral	3.96% 11
4	Not Applicable	46.76% 130
5	Somewhat Unsafe	4.32% 12
		278

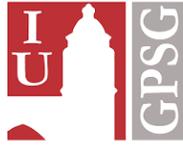


Q11 - How much do you agree with the following statement: My department should continue to offer, but not mandate, reasonable accommodations introduced because of COVID-19 (e.g., Zoom, lenity in attendance, asynchrony, etc.)?

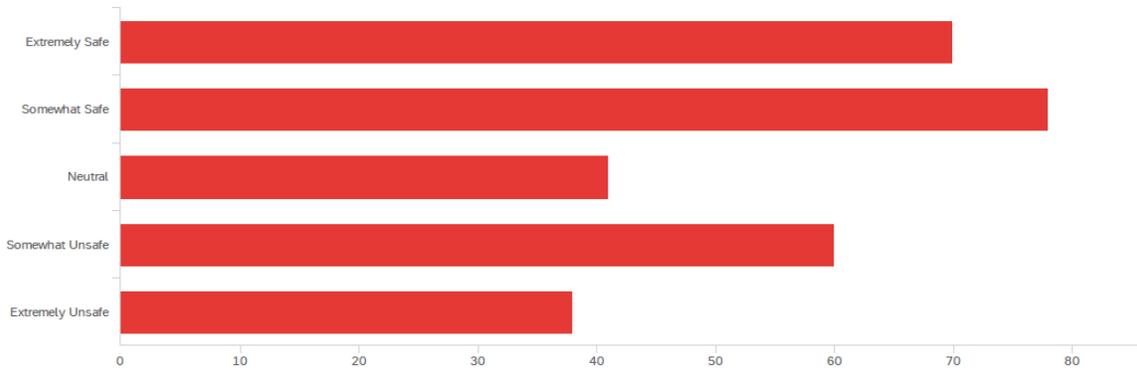


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much do you agree with the following statement: My department should continue to offer, but not mandate, reasonable accommodations introduced because of COVID-19 (e.g., Zoom, lenity in attendance, asynchrony, etc.)?	1.00	5.00	1.57	0.93	0.86	290

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Strongly Agree	63.45% 184
2	Somewhat Agree	24.14% 70
3	Neutral	6.90% 20
4	Somewhat Disagree	3.10% 9
5	Strongly Disagree	2.41% 7
		290



Q12 - How safe would you feel attending in-person programs starting in Summer 2021 or Fall 2021?

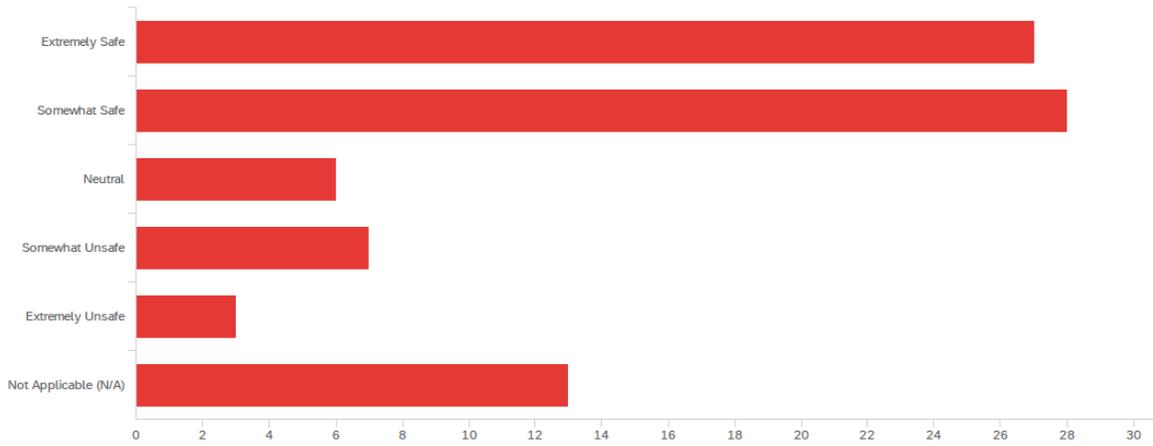


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How safe would you feel attending in-person programs starting in Summer 2021 or Fall 2021?	8.00	12.00	9.71	1.38	1.90	287

#	Field	Choice Count
8	Extremely Safe	24.39% 70
9	Somewhat Safe	27.18% 78
10	Neutral	14.29% 41
11	Somewhat Unsafe	20.91% 60
12	Extremely Unsafe	13.24% 38
		287



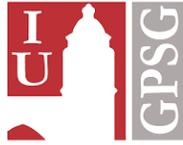
Q13 - How safe did you feel with your in-person or hybrid teaching / employment assignment?



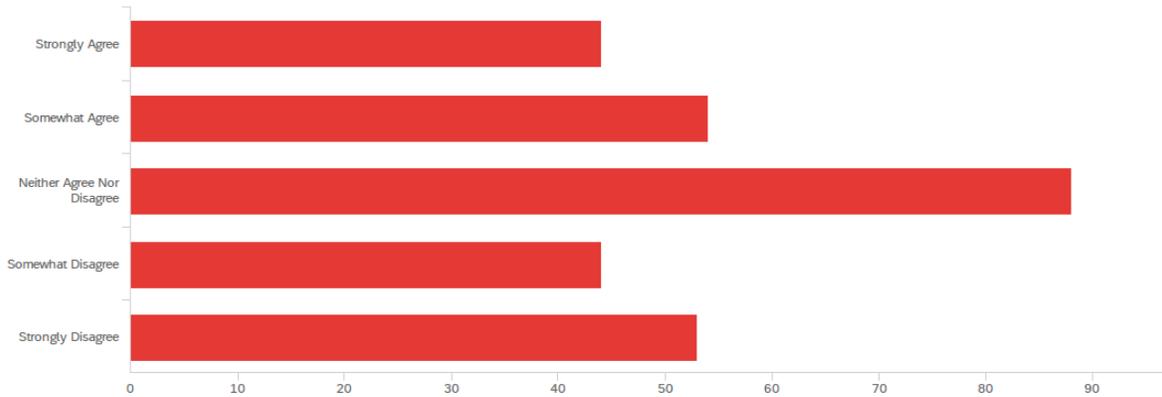
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How safe did you feel with your in-person or hybrid teaching / employment assignment?	1.00	6.00	2.64	1.76	3.11	84

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Extremely Safe	32.14% 27
2	Somewhat Safe	33.33% 28
3	Neutral	7.14% 6
4	Somewhat Unsafe	8.33% 7
5	Extremely Unsafe	3.57% 3
6	Not Applicable (N/A)	15.48% 13

84



Q14 - How much do you agree with the following statement: The University has provided adequate mental health support services during the pandemic.

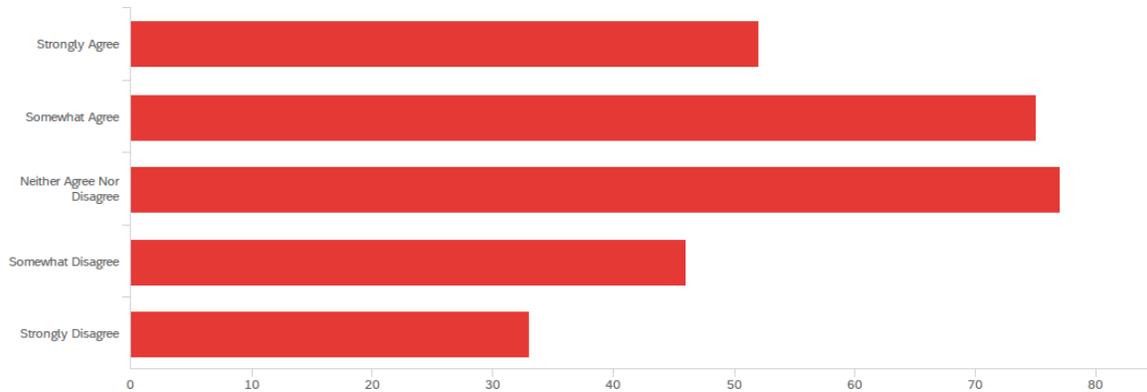


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much do you agree with the following statement: The University has provided adequate mental health support services during the pandemic.	1.00	5.00	3.03	1.31	1.72	283

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Strongly Agree	15.55% 44
2	Somewhat Agree	19.08% 54
3	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	31.10% 88
4	Somewhat Disagree	15.55% 44
5	Strongly Disagree	18.73% 53
		283



Q15 - How much do you agree with the following statement: The University has made mental health support services accessible to you during the pandemic.



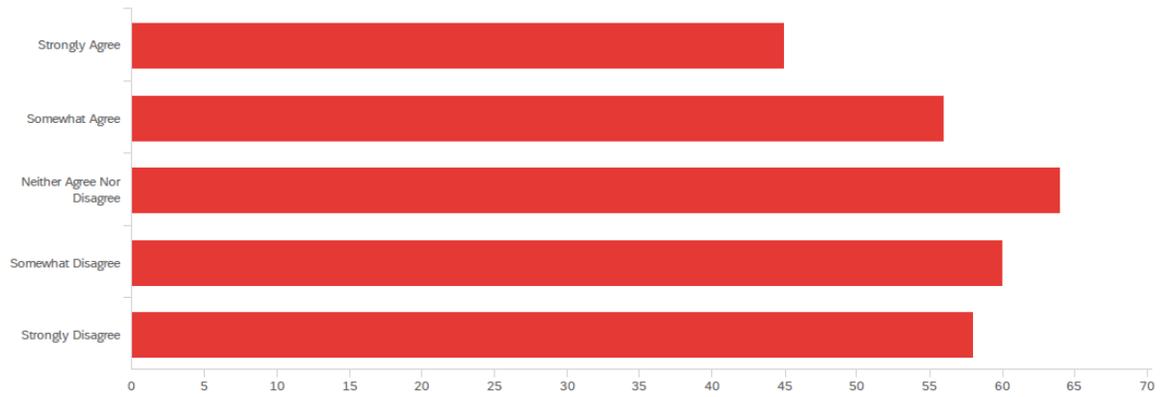
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much do you agree with the following statement: The University has made mental health support services accessible to you during the pandemic.	1.00	5.00	2.76	1.25	1.57	283

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Strongly Agree	18.37% 52
2	Somewhat Agree	26.50% 75
3	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	27.21% 77
4	Somewhat Disagree	16.25% 46
5	Strongly Disagree	11.66% 33
		283



Q16 - How much do you agree with the following statement: I am likely to use

University-provided mental health support services as a result of pandemic-related stress or concerns.

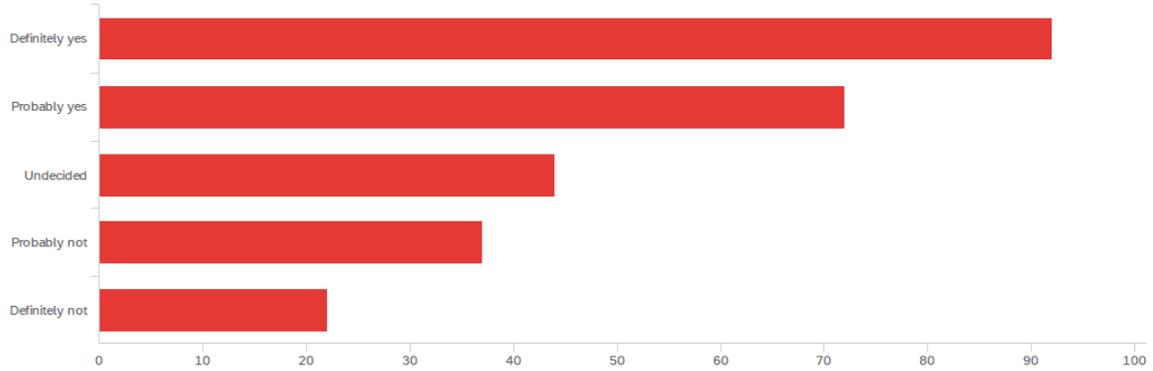


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How much do you agree with the following statement: I am likely to use University-provided mental health support services as a result of pandemic-related stress or concerns.	1.00	5.00	3.11	1.36	1.85	283

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Strongly Agree	15.90% 45
2	Somewhat Agree	19.79% 56
3	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	22.61% 64
4	Somewhat Disagree	21.20% 60
5	Strongly Disagree	20.49% 58
		283



Q17 - Will you be traveling out of state over the summer (for any reason)?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Will you be traveling out of state over the summer (for any reason)?	1.00	5.00	2.34	1.30	1.69	267

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Definitely yes	34.46% 92
2	Probably yes	26.97% 72
3	Undecided	16.48% 44
4	Probably not	13.86% 37
5	Definitely not	8.24% 22
		267



Appendix D: GPSG 2020-2021 Budget

EST FUTURE REVENUES	\$99,999.00
EST REMAINING EXPENDITURES	\$97,150.00
EST ENDING CASH (4/30/2021)	\$2,849.00

Revenues		
Sources of Revenue	Amount	Notes
Beginning Cash Balance 07/01/19	-\$5,606.00	
Mandatory Student Fees (Fall Semester)	\$48,500.00	Student Activity Office Projection (Deposit made in ~August)
Mandatory Student Fees (Spring Semester)	\$45,105.00	Student Activity Office Projection (Deposit made in ~January)
Mandatory Student Fees (Summer Semester)	\$5,000.00	Student Activity Office Projection (Deposit made in ~May)
University Graduate School	\$6,000.00	Only For Research Awards
Yolanda Trevino Service Award	\$1,000.00	Only For Specific Service Award
Total Revenues	\$99,999.00	

Expenditures				
Advocacy Efforts	Proposed Spending	Actual Current Spending	Amount Remaining in Budget	Notes
AE: Benefits Officer Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
AE: Diversity Officer Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
AE: Health & Wellness Officer Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
AE: Sustainability Officer Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
AE: Awards Officer Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
AE: Committee Programming	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	Projected
Total Advocacy Efforts	\$6,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,500.00	
Elected Leadership				
EL: Vice President Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
EL: Treasurer Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Fellowship (\$500 per Semester); Appropriated Prior
Total Elected Leadership	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
UGS SSA Positions				
SSA: President Academic Year Salary	\$16,000.00	\$5,333.33	\$10,666.67	Per UGS SAA 12-month Staff Contract (\$1,333.34 per month); Appropriated Prior
SSA: Community Development Coordinator	\$16,000.00	\$5,333.33	\$10,666.67	Per UGS SAA 12-month Staff Contract (\$1,333.34 per month); Appropriated Prior
SSA: Communications Coordinator	\$16,000.00	\$5,333.33	\$10,666.67	Per UGS SAA 12-month Staff Contract (\$1,333.34 per month); Appropriated Prior
SSA: Staff Health Care Benefits	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	Per UGS SAA Staff Contract; Appropriated Prior
SSA: All SAA Summer 2021 Contract Expenses	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$16,000.00	
Total SSA	\$70,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$48,000.00	
Academic Support				
AS: Travel Grants	\$26,000.00	\$0.00	\$26,000.00	104 \$250 awards (52 each semester) Projected
AS: Research Grants	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	12 \$1000 awards (12 spring semester only)
AS: Yolanda Trevino Service Award	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	1 \$1000 award (spring semester only)
Total Academic Support	\$39,000.00	\$0.00	\$39,000.00	
Community Building				
CB: Orientation Week	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Projected; \$1500 Appropriated Prior
CB: Grad Appreciation Week	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	Projected
CB: Social Hours	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	Projected (8 events at \$200 each); \$300 Appropriated Prior
CB: Other Programming	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	Projected
CB: Professional Headshots	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	Projected
Total Community Building	\$5,150.00	\$0.00	\$5,150.00	
Resources				
R: Promotional Items	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Projected; \$300 Appropriated Prior
R: Marketing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Projected; \$220 Appropriated Prior
R: Excomm's Discretionary Fund	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	Projected
Total Resources	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	
Staff Resources				
SR: Office Supplies	\$132.30	\$132.30	\$0.00	Projected; \$350 Appropriated Prior
SR: Retreat	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$200 Appropriated Prior
Total Staff Resources	\$182.30	\$182.30	\$0.00	
Total Expenditures	\$122,832.30	\$25,682.30	\$97,150.00	

*This is a total of all the spending that has already occurred + estimated future spending
 **This represents the amount we have already spent since May 1, 2020
 ***This number represents the remaining estimated spending to occur between now and May 1, 2021

*Boxes highlighted in yellow are those expenditures that have not yet been approved by the general assembly for the 2020-21 school year.

**Boxes highlighted in red are those expenditures for which we were able to spend less than the approved budget had estimated.



Appendix E: Fall 2020 Orientation Modules

Module 1: Before I Move

- *1.1: Welcome!*
 - Welcome Video From Katie Kearns (UGS)
 - How to Use this Course
 - Graduate Student Check List
 - GPSG Resources
 - The History of IU
 - IU: 200 Years in the Making
 - IUB Virtual Campus Tour
 - Module 1 Discussion: Why Did You Choose IU?
- *1.2: Becoming a Hoosier*
 - Canvas and One.IU
 - Duo Authentication
 - IU Email
 - Student ID and the Crimson Card
 - Required Documents
 - IU Policies and Handbooks
 - Disability Services for Students (DSS)
- *1.3: Finances & Funding*
 - Financial Aid & Student Central
 - MoneySmarts
 - Jobs at IU
- *1.4: COVID-19 Information*
 - Helpful links about COVID-19
 - Fall 2020 Informational Website

Module 2: Coming to Bloomington

- Welcome Message from GPSG Community Development Coordinator Sadie Neuman
- *2.1 Housing*
 - Finding Housing and Roommates
 - Local Banking
 - IU Classifieds - Roommates, Furniture, & More
 - Suggested Move-In Item Checklist
 - Module 2 Discussion: Housing Questions, Advice, and Roommates
 - Module 2 Discussion: Hometown Roots
- *2.2 Parking and Transportation*



- Getting to Bloomington
- IU Parking Permits
- Bloomington Bus Systems
- IU Ride & Zipcar
- Cycling Around Town
- Scooters
- *2.3 Shopping in Bloomington*
 - Grocery Shopping Information
 - Furniture Shopping Information
- *2.4 Student-Parents*
 - Child Care Services
 - Parental & Paid Leave
 - Lactation Room Locations

Module 2.5: The Most Important Module

- Welcome Message from GPSG President Dakota Coates
- Module 2.5 Discussion: Any questions you have?
- *2.5.1: Graduate & Professional Student Government*
 - A Short Introduction to GPSG
- *2.5.2 Health Insurance*
 - Health Insurance & Benefits
- *2.5.3 Bursar - Tuition and Fees*
 - How to Access Your Bursar Account
 - Payroll & Direct Deposit
 - Mandatory Campus Fees
 - Estimate Your Tuition and Fees
- *2.5.4 Getting Your Textbooks*
 - Ordering Textbooks
- *2.5.5 Technology Support*
 - UITS
 - IUanyWare
 - IUWare
 - IU Mobile App - Google Store
 - IU Mobile App - Apple Store
- *2.5.6 Student Advocacy*
 - Student Legal Services
 - Veteran & Military Services
 - Channels for Support
- *2.5.7 Required Online Training*



- Responsible Conduct of Research
- Sexual Misconduct Training
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Training
- Classroom Climate Workshop
- Associate Instructor Training (check your program's expectations)
- 2.5.8 *COVID-19 CRAs*
 - Student Commitment Form - All Students Coming In-Person Must Complete
 - Community Responsibility Acknowledgement Form - All Employees Working In-Person Must Complete

Module 3: Student Health & Wellness

- Welcome Message from GPSG Health & Wellness Officer Jozie M. Barton
- The Dimensions of Wellness
- 3.1 *IU Health Center & Local Medicine*
 - Mental Health Services
 - Surviving Grad School
 - Medical & Prescription Services
- 3.2 *Nourishment*
 - IU Dining
 - Nutrition
 - Food Security & Grocery Stores
 - Local Restaurants
- 3.3 *GPSG Health & Wellness Officer*
 - Let's Talk Grads
 - CarryOnFriends Podcast - Imposter Syndrome
- 3.4 *The Graduate Mentoring Center*
 - The GMC: Contemplative Practices
 - The GMC Programs
- 3.5 *Get-Up-And-Go*
 - Healthy IU
 - IU Recreational Centers
 - Intramural Sports & Activities
 - Get to Know Campus
 - Biking 2.0 - Cycling with the Community
 - Module 3 Discussion: Your favorite non-academic activity

Module 4: The Grad School Experience

- Welcome Message From Samantha Demmerle



- *4.1 Transitioning Into Grad School*
 - The University Graduate School (UGS)
 - Time Management
 - Imposter Syndrome
- *4.2 Preparing For Class*
 - Planning for Your Classes
- *4.3 Professional Development*
 - Introduction to Professional Development
 - IU Career Centers
 - IU Certificate Programs
 - Other Certificate & Training Programs
 - Developing Your Teaching
 - Mentoring at IU
 - Fellowships & Awards
 - Module 4 Discussion: How do you plan on using your degree?

Module 5: Finding Your Campus Community

- *5.1 Graduate & Professional Student Government*
 - GPSG ExComm Welcome Message
 - How To Get Involved With GPSG
 - GPSG Website
 - Module 5 Discussion: Questions for GPSG?
- *5.2 Graduate Student Organizations*
 - Student Organizations
 - Forum for International Graduate Students (FIGS)
 - Module 5 Discussion: Find the Student Organization for You
- *5.3 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Resources*
 - UGS Diversity and Inclusion
 - Cultural Centers
 - Center of Excellence for Women and Technology
 - Bias Incident Reporting
- *5.4 Academic & Research Resources*
 - Institute for Digital Arts & Humanities
 - Library Resources
 - Research Support through the Social Science Research Commons
 - Writing Centers
- *5.5 Activities Around Bloomington*
 - The Best of Bloomington
 - Module 5 Discussion: Favorite Places in Bloomington



FAQs

- Insurance Questions
- Parking Questions
- COVID-19 Questions



Appendix F: 2020-2021 GPSG Resolutions

Resolution To Deem Inactive Assembly Seats And Solicit Participation

Whereas, the Fall 2020 GPSG General Assembly holds 131 seats (including Diversity Council), only 88 of which are currently filled. There were 25 seats that have been empty for three or more semesters;

Whereas, Article 1-3.2 of the GPSG Bylaws states that “departments without Representatives for three or more semesters may be placed on an inactive department list by a majority vote of the Assembly. All opportunities must be provided to the department to participate, and the relegation of the seat to the inactive list is not automatic. Departments become active automatically by sending a Representative to the Assembly;”

Whereas, Article 1-3.2.1 of the GPSG Bylaws states that “inactive departments will be notified of their status at the beginning of each semester as an attempt to solicit participation. Graduate and professional students in inactive departments will still be eligible for GPSG funds, despite their departments’ inactive status;”

Whereas, the GPSG recognizes that deeming seats inactive as an approach to solicit participation is an essential component of a long-term, measurable solution to Representative attendance and engagement challenges.

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that:

(1) The GPSG General Assembly puts the following 25 seats on an inactive list and requires the GPSG to use the inactive status to solicit their engagement:

- a. College of Arts and Sciences: Linguistics; Political Science; Religious Studies; Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures; Speech & Hearing
- b. Hamilton Lugar School of Global & International Studies: African Studies; Central Eurasian Studies; East Asian Languages & Cultures; Latin American & Caribbean Studies; Russian & East European Studies



- c. School of Education: Curriculum and Instruction (including Literacy, Culture, and Language Education) (1 of 4 seats)
 - d. Maurer School of Law: LLM; PhD
 - e. Jacobs School of Music: Voice, Early Music, Choral Conducting (1 of 2 seats); Woodwinds, Brass, Composition, Wind Conducting (2 seats); Piano, Organ, Percussion, Guitar, Jazz Studies (2 seats); Music Education
 - f. School of Informatics & Computing: Computer Science (Master's and PhD) (1 of 3 seats)
 - g. School of Optometry: Optometry Grad; Optometry Prof (3 of 4 seats)
 - h. Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design.
- (2) Seats will be automatically removed from the inactive list once a Representative is chosen, returning to normal status.
- (3) Instructs the Executive Committee, pursuant to 1-3.3 of the Bylaws, to consider whether consolidation of “constituents of two or more departments previously recognized separately to combine those constituencies into one “department” for the purposes of representation” for inactive seats that have “a clear connection between the units in question;”

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on October 2, 2020.



Resolution for the Master of Science in Accounting Program to be Represented in GPSG

Whereas, the Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) Program is a graduate level program in the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University Bloomington;

Whereas, the MSA Program has a current enrollment of 41 students;

Whereas, the MSA Program is not represented in the Graduate and Professional Student Government;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that:

- (1) The MSA Program be granted representation in the Graduate and Professional Student Government General Assembly, in accordance with the policies and rules thereof;
- (2) The appropriate number of seats be appointed to the MSA Program upon approval of their representation.



Resolution on Access to Course Information

Whereas, a common problem at IU Bloomington is that faculty are late to release their syllabus, required textbook list, and other class materials to students adequately before the start of the semester;

Whereas, this lateness creates problems for students who are not given adequate time to prepare for the course;

Whereas, this delay often creates undue burdens for students in acquiring textbooks in time for the beginning of the course;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for a campus-wide requirement that every faculty member must release a syllabus to students containing at least the first two (2) weeks of course expectations at least one (1) week prior to the start of a course.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for a campus-wide requirement that every faculty member must submit their required textbook list to the IU Bookstore at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of a course.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for a campus-wide requirement that every faculty member must, when applicable, publish their Canvas course at least one (1) week prior to the start of a course.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly advocates that the Bloomington Faculty Council consider implementing appropriate consequences for faculty who repeatedly fail to meet the above timeline.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on October 2, 2020.



Resolution to Address Food Insecurity on Campus

Whereas, the [Hope Center](#) found that approximately 45% of college students have suffered from food insecurity;

Whereas, the [IU 2019 Financial Wellness Survey](#) found stark numbers of food insecurity across IU's campuses, highlighted below;⁴

University-Wide Stats

- 37% - The Food that I bought just did not last and I did not have money to get more.
- 45.3% - I could not afford to eat balanced meals.
- In the last 30 days:
 - 27.6% - Was hungry but did not eat because there was not enough money for food
 - 45.3% - Ate less than one felt they should because there was not enough money for food
 - 33.6% - Cut the size or skipped a meal because there was not enough money for food

IU Bloomington Stats

- 36.8% - The Food that I bought just did not last and I did not have money to get more.
- 43.8% - I could not afford to eat balanced meals.
- In the last 30 days:
 - 26.9% - Was hungry but did not eat because there was not enough money for food
 - 38.4% - Ate less than one felt they should because there was not enough money for food
 - 33.8% - Cut the size or skipped a meal because there was not enough money for food

Whereas, food insecurity has a disparate impact on First Generation Students, Minoritized Students, and Female Students;

Whereas, COVID-19 has increased the financial burden on college students and has caused an increase in Food Insecurity at IU Bloomington;

Whereas, the Graduate and Professional Student Government has been advocating for increased food security on campus through support of the Campus Kitchen organization and Emergency Meals Project;⁵

Whereas, the Graduate and Professional Student Government is partnering with the University

⁴ Note that this was pre-COVID and did not include graduate students; therefore, it is likely that each of these numbers are higher than currently reported.

⁵ https://gpsg.sitehost.iu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/food_insecurity_resolution.pdf



Graduate School on a survey of graduate student financial struggles, which will provide data and guidance;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for an increase in University support offered to the Crimson Cupboard, the Campus Kitchen, and any Emergency Meal Programs established on campus.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the establishment of donatable meal points/swipes through the IU Dining meal plan program.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG support the mission of the AUSA Food Insecurity Taskforce to combat food insecurity across all IU campuses.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for food security funding as a priority for the Committee for Fee Review.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the establishment of a university-wide office tasked with tracking, reporting, and addressing food security issues across all IU campuses.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the establishment of the Food Security Council.

- This group should comprise at least the following: one IUSG Representative, one GPSG Representative, a Campus Kitchen Student Representative, a Crimson Cupboard Student Representative, a Food Institute Representative, an IU Dining Representative, a Representative from the Dean of Students Office, and three faculty members.
- This group shall be tasked with tackling food insecurity on campus through meal programs, funding initiatives, nutritional programming, and other actions deemed necessary by the FSC to address the dietary needs of students.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on October 2, 2020.



Resolution to Promote Transparency on GPSG Resolutions

Whereas, the General Assembly passes several resolutions each academic year;

Whereas, there is currently no official system in place to ensure that the General Assembly is updated on the progress of existing resolutions;

Whereas, it is critical that the General Assembly know the current status of resolutions so as to inform future resolutions and to allow for communication of updates back to constituents;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG Communications Coordinator will contact the IDS to inform them of all resolutions passed by the GPSG General Assembly, as well as any associated signing statements.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG President and/or the appropriate member of the Executive Committee provide an update to the General Assembly of on-going resolutions at the start of the Fall and Spring semesters.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG President provides a summary of the administration's actions on resolutions and other GPSG matters by the final Spring Semester General Assembly meeting.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on October 2, 2020.



Resolution to Address the Graduate-Student Marketing

Whereas, a majority of the resources on campus are advertised and structured solely towards undergraduate students;

Whereas, graduate and professional students have highlighted the lack of graduate student oriented programing and services;

Whereas, recent e-mail and marketing issues during COVID have underscored the need to separate communication schemes for graduate students and graduate student employees;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for all university units to ensure that their marketing targets graduate students to an equal degree as undergraduates.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for all university units to, to the greatest extent possible, provide graduate and professional students with services tailored to their unique needs.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for all university units to provide the GPSG Executive Committee or the University Graduate School with graduate and professional student usage rates at least once per academic year.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on October 2, 2020.



Resolution on Access to High-Speed VPN

Whereas, international students and scholars of Indiana University Bloomington must participate in long-distance online courses and/or programs outside the United States because of U.S. [travel restrictions](#) during the pandemic of COVID-19;

Whereas, IU online education relies, at least in part, on services provided by U.S. companies, such as Google, Instructure (Canvas), and Zoom;

Whereas, [certain countries or regions](#)⁶ block Google services, and slow down the access speed of other U.S. services;

Whereas, [almost 40% of IU international students](#) are from the aforementioned countries or regions;

Whereas, [IU's mission](#) is “to provide broad access to undergraduate and graduate education for students throughout Indiana, the United States, and the world, as well as outstanding academic and cultural programs and student services;”

Whereas, a [survey of Chinese students](#) shows that they often have to purchase VPNs that can circumvent geo-blocking, costing students an average of \$3-15 per month;

Whereas, a VPN is a necessary student service for those living physically in the aforementioned countries, as necessary as Wi-Fi for students at the campus.

Whereas, international students have consistently highlighted that their ability to study and engage in research is severely hindered without a VPN;

Whereas, [IU VPN \(Indiana University SSL VPN Service\)](#) is considered outdated and is too slow to provide students a true alternative to purchasing their own VPN;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that:

GPSG advocates for IU international students' equal access to online education, research, and activities.

GPSG calls on the university to provide detailed guides to all students on how to obtain and use private, cost-effective VPN's.

⁶ Such as China, Crimea, Cuba, Iran, Myanmar, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria



GPSG advocates for the University to adopt an international solution to address the above VPN challenges, and the following actions are the General Assembly's current recommendations with the goal being to achieve a download speed of at least 25 Mbps across all times and locations tests:

- a) The University will update the IU VPN and improve its speed to the commercial level. IU may configure VPN servers, such as Microsoft Azure or Amazon Web Services, to accelerate the speed of IU VPN in the aforementioned countries' networks. Thereby, its tested download speed should be at least 25 Mbps across all times and locations tested;
- b) The University will purchase a commercial VPN for the University community and include it in IUware. Thereby, its download speed should be at least 25 Mbps across all times and locations tested;
- c) The University will subsidize the expense of a VPN for international students, or American students, who are currently enrolled at IU while residing in one of the aforementioned countries. The amount of the subsidy per student should no less than \$5 per month and shall be provided to a student each semester; or
- d) The University shall discount the mandatory fees for international students, or American students, who are currently enrolled at IU while residing in one of the aforementioned countries. The amount of the discount per student should be no less than \$5 per student, and the discount shall be applied each semester.

GPSG advocates that, in the event that the University establishes an updated VPN, subsidy, or discount, the university shall not charge or increase any fees (mandatory fees, international student fees, etc.) for the cost of the adopted action.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on November 6, 2020.



Resolution to Address Parking Concerns

Whereas, Indiana University Bloomington offers three carpool parking programs: the Two Person Carpool, Three+ Person Carpool, and Hoosier Commuter Club. These programs benefit the university by reducing emissions and congestion, and also benefit employees through savings and additional perks such as free Emergency Ride Home and ride-matching services. However, they are currently limited to full-time faculty and staff;

Whereas, graduate and professional students with employee premium permits were historically eligible for the Three+ Person Carpool program until 2013. At this time, they lost eligibility due to employee status restructuring from the Affordable Care Act mandate. Also, the carpool permit eligibility was standardized to focus on 1) employees who park at campus for the full day (eight hours), every weekday, and 2) employees who would otherwise drive alone;

Whereas, graduate students, although not full-time employees, often need to be on campus for the full eight-hour day, and can be required by their programs to be in labs or classrooms even longer. These responsibilities frequently cause students to drive and park their car on or near campus for the full day;

Whereas, the graduate and professional students at the University of Iowa, University of Minnesota Duluth, and Northwestern University are eligible for carpool parking permits;

Whereas, the build-up of a graduate student carpool parking program beginning with Hoosier Commuter Club benefits and Zipcar credits would limit the abuse of the program, which historically occurred through the selling of permits, vacant reserved spaces, and secretly driving alone;

Whereas, carpooling incentives lead to more carpooling by the targeted groups.⁷

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for a two-year freeze on the costs associated with student parking passes.

⁷ Neoh, J.G., et al. 2017. Journal of Transportation. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs11116-015-9661-7>; Javid, R.J. et al. 2016. Transportation, Land and Air Quality Conference. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/308697559_The_Environmental_Impacts_of_Carpooling_in_the_United_States; Cordillo, J. 2018. BrandeisNOW. <https://www.brandeis.edu/now/2018/january/rideamigos-staff-feature.html>



Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for an expansion of carpool parking passes to make all appointed graduate students eligible for the permit and all associated benefits.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that we are open to partnering with Parking Operations and the Transportation Policy and Safety Committee to cooperatively develop a benefits program for graduate and professional students who carpool to campus for the full day. We would like to start discussion with making the benefits open to all graduate and professional students who park on campus for the full day during the week, including students eligible for EM-P, EM-S, and Student permits. We support benefits beginning with Hoosier Commuter Club eligibility and Zipcar credits, expanding as the program grows.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for an academic semester equivalent to the Garage Summer (GSU) permit.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the university to consider establishing student-only parking lots/garages on the Bloomington campus that are within a 5-10-minute walk from the center of campus.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the creation of temporary EM-S or EM-P parking permits for graduate and professional students attending professional development programs at an IU Campus.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for a virtual access option for disabled students to obtain either temporary or permanent parking passes.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on December 4, 2020.



Resolution To Enhance Fee Transparency & Encourage Fee Reduction

Whereas, graduate and professional students have called for a review of an assortment of campus fees;

Whereas, graduate and professional students continue to face financial challenges due to the wide array of fees charged at IU;

Whereas, COVID-19 has increased the financial vulnerability of graduate and professional students;

Whereas, there is a notable disparity in fees charged by IU for printing, dropping/adding classes, transcripts, and other fees in comparison to other Big 10 Institutions;

Whereas, the GPSG General Assembly has frequently highlighted concerns about the amount of fees charged;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG calls upon the University to permanently eliminate the drop/add course fees attached to class scheduling and to extend the grace period for dropping/adding courses.⁸

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG shall work with the University to increase the amount of free printing provided to graduate and professional students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG reaffirms its commitment to the [removal or reduction of transcript fees](#).

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG supports a five-year freeze on any and all increases associated with the international student fees and seeks greater transparency on the use of these fees.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG, as a co-chairing organization of the [Committee for Fee Review](#), calls for an increase in transparency related to the CFR process.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG supports a two-year freeze on all mandatory fees.

⁸ Note, the drop/add access fee of \$8.70 will not be charged for the spring 2021 semester.



Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG calls upon the University to provide greater transparency around the breakdown of any “bundled” fees charged to students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG calls upon the University to discount the Spring 2021 mandatory fees for any and all students whose academic course load consists of fewer than 50% in-person courses to account for the reduced access or usage of services during both the January-February period and during the remainder of the Spring semester.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG supports the GPSG Executive Committee’s decision to establish an as-needed ad-hoc committee to review and summarize all fees currently charged by the University.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG supports an increase in general transparency regarding all fees on campus in relation to (1) how they are assessed; (2) upon whom they are assessed; and (3) how they are utilized.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG Executive Committee will be empowered to seek reductions, eliminations, or alterations of all fees on campus.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on December 4, 2020.



Resolution in Support of Transparent Acceptance Letters

Whereas, programs at Indiana University Bloomington send acceptance letters to new students with details about funding and workload;

Whereas, university policy [ACA-26](#) states “Letters or other documents appointing adjunct faculty and associate instructors shall include the duration of the appointment, the compensation, any benefits, and the responsibilities of the appointee;”

Whereas, graduate students have notified the GPSG that acceptance letters can be incomplete or unclear about funding packages and workloads;

Whereas, this lack of information can involve estimates of the dollar value of program fees, mandatory fees, and international student fees that are assessed each semester;

Whereas, the lack of clarity can also include descriptions of the expected workload for program-specific tasks;

Whereas, these letters can also include confusing or misleading descriptions for the amount of years that funding is guaranteed (e.g. a letter can contain “4 years, subject to renewal” but then not be renewed after the first year);

Whereas, it is our observation that these letters tend to be unclear in a way to make it seem that a prospective student is being offered more than they really are;

Whereas, the lack of clarity in acceptance letters can cause unnecessary difficulties for students to plan their finances and time, as their education is hindered by unexpected expenses or work requirements. It also prevents prospective students from making an accurate, informed decision when deciding on a school to attend;

Whereas, we believe this lack of clarity can place letters in violation of ACA-26 when Associate Instructor positions are involved. However, it is important that this clarity apply to all acceptance letters;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that:

- (1) Indiana University Bloomington regulate that acceptance letters to prospective graduate and professional students should include 1) estimates of program-specific, mandatory, and international student fee expenses; 2) a concrete description of the work required by the department and the number of years of funding offered; 3) clear



information about all additional expenses or requirements that would impact a student's financial or schedule planning; and 4) would include timing and schedule for when the fees will be assessed.

- (2) Programs found to be in violation of ACA-26 or otherwise lack clarity in expenses and workload should be required to fix their letters and notify all students, regardless of their time in the program who were misled.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on January 22, 2021.



Resolution to Address Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct

Whereas, IU Bloomington had at least 39 reports of faculty/staff sexual misconduct in the past academic year, the majority of which were allegations of sexual harassment;⁹

Whereas, the recent cases of faculty violations of Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct, including the cases of Murray McGibbon¹⁰ and Ian Samuel,¹¹ have brought forth concerns related to transparency, preventative mechanisms, and informational awareness in relation to our Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct procedures;

Whereas, the GPSG Executive Committee¹² has called for the University to take further steps to “provide a safer academic experience for all students;”

Whereas, the GPSG General Assembly, during a closed session in November of 2020, outlined an assortment of Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct violations that the Representatives and their constituents had experienced;

Whereas, the GPSG President Dakota Coates has met frequently with leadership of the Office of Institutional Equity and the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs design policy recommendations that strive to conform with existing legal restrictions related to Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct policies;

Whereas, the current University Policy on Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct¹³ is currently an “interim policy for the 2020-21 academic year” and is currently seeking out feedback;

Whereas, President Joe Biden has stated¹⁴ that he intends to rescind and/or reform former-President Trump’s guidance related to Title IX, further reinforcing that the University’s existing policy will undergo revision;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University to amend its Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct policy to include the following:

⁹ Student Welfare and Title IX Report, IU Board of Trustees Dec. 2020 Meeting.

¹⁰ <http://specials.idsnews.com/iu-theater-department-sexual-harassment-title-ix/>

¹¹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/05/13/professor-accused-misconduct-admits-it-and-resigns>

¹² <https://www.idsnews.com/article/2020/10/iu-graduate-student-government-demands-murray-mcgibbon-stop-teaching>

¹³ UA-03: <https://policies.iu.edu/policies/ua-03-discrimination-harassment-and-sexual-misconduct/index.html>

¹⁴ <https://joebiden.com/vawa/>



- When a Faculty member has been found responsible for a violation, resulting in level two sanctions,¹⁵ the following additional restrictions would apply:
 - The Faculty member shall not be allowed to take on any additional students as advisees, Student Academic Appointees, or mentees.
 - The Faculty member shall not be allowed to chair any committees in which they would serve in tandem with a student.
 - That Faculty member shall not be allowed to serve on any committee in which they would oversee student-directed policy.
 - That Faculty shall meet with their unit chair and disclose the scope of all current involvements on campus, which shall be subject to restriction upon the discretion of the unit chair and/or OIE.
 - The Faculty member shall be removed from positions of decision-making authority¹⁶ and shall not be able to return until an appropriate evaluation has been performed by either the unit chair and/or OIE.

- When a Faculty member is currently being investigated under this policy, the Faculty member must be ineligible from taking on any additional advising functions involving graduate or undergraduate students, and they may not resume advising until they have been found not responsible or the investigation results in a level one sanction. Further, we encourage the appropriate unit(s) to be as restrictive as possible in limiting existing advising relationships.

- That Faculty members who have been found responsible for violation of the policy are ineligible to serve on any adjudicatory or appellate review role/body contemplated under this policy, such as the faculty board of review.

- That the appropriate university body(ies) establish(es) a policy or policies to permit students to serve as an advisee, mentee, or SAA for a Faculty found guilty of a level two sanction with approval from the unit head and, when possible, with informed consent from the student.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University to take the following steps to enhance transparency in the standard operating procedures related to bias and harassment:

¹⁵ As set forth in UA-03, Level Two Sanctions include sanctions that directly modify job duties, salary, or job status, including affecting compensation, consideration in tenure, or promotion decisions, suspension, and termination.

¹⁶ Decision-making authority does not include teaching or research related decisions, unless otherwise stated in an OIE decision.



- That each unit shall review all necessary alternative courses or graduation requirements for students in the event that a Faculty member found responsible for a violation warranting level two sanctions is the sole available instructor for a required course. Furthermore, the University shall develop a mechanism to allow impacted students to request alternative accommodations to existing required courses or graduation requirements.
- That the University shall take any steps to increase notice and transparency, within the confines of its existing legal obligations, to alert students, staff, and other faculty members when a faculty member is being investigated for and/or is found responsible for a Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct violation.
- That the University shall continue to find ways to coordinate with other institutions to enhance sharing of information related to Faculty members who are terminated as a result of and/or found responsible for Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct violations.
- That the University adopt a general practice of requiring all potential faculty and/or staff sign a waiver allowing prior employers to release information related to Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct violations or investigations that occurred during their tenure at the prior employer.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University to take the following steps to enhance informational awareness for students:

- That the University shall clarify the process by which the campus communicates with Departments when a Faculty member is being investigated and/or has been found responsible for a Title IX or Harassment violation.
- That students be provided with and made aware of whistleblower protections to prevent issues of academic retaliation connected to reporting or utilizing bias, harassment, or Title IX reporting systems.
- That the Office of the Vice President & General Counsel shall clarify to students, staff, and other faculty the breadth to which they can publicly speak out on concerns related to Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct, particularly on matters related to public disclosure of investigation proceedings and on general commentary related to potential legal exposure (such as defamation).



Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University eases the process associated with FOIA requests under IC 5-14-3-4(b)(8)(C)¹⁷ which allows for the release of “personnel files of public employees and files of applicants for public employment” that involve “the factual basis for a disciplinary action in which final action has been taken and that resulted in the employee being suspended, demoted, or discharged.” GPSG advocates that the University consider methods of automatic release or expedited review processes as potential solutions.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University to ensure that tenured faculty members found responsible for misconduct in violation of university policies are provided no additional leniency, and encourages the University to consider revocation of any and all benefits and/or rights associated with tenure in the event a faculty member is found guilty of a level two sanction. Further, in these cases we would encourage the University to also consider the revocation of the Faculty's graduate instructor status."

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University to require annual bias and harassment training for all faculty and staff members.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for the University to implement awareness of all forms of reporting mechanisms for Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct, including into all program orientations and to develop a related informational Canvas page insert that Faculty are encouraged to include on their course sites.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on January 22, 2021.

¹⁷ Indiana FOIA Law, IC 5-4-13, https://www.in.gov/ieerb/files/IC_5-14-3_Access_to_Public_Records.pdf



Resolution to Enhance Student Mental Health Resources on Campus

Whereas, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) recently surveyed the prevalence of mental health issues on college campuses, as well as the impact that depression and anxiety have on academic performance;¹⁸

Whereas, the need for increased mental health services was already projected to increase over the next decade, prior to the amplifying effects of COVID;

Whereas, the [University of Wisconsin](#) offers all sessions for free, pursuant to the payment of their campus Health Fee;

Whereas, [University of Indianapolis](#) offers all of their counseling services for no cost;

Whereas, the [University of Nebraska](#) offers students free counseling services with the payment of the University Program and Facilities Fee (equivalent to the IU Health Fee);

Whereas, graduate and professional students at IU Bloomington receive [two free](#) Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) visits per semester;

Whereas, students can only schedule CAPS counseling over the phone, which may disincentivize some students from utilizing the service;

Whereas, two visits per semester is insufficient to ensure the wellbeing of students, who require help at a higher frequency;

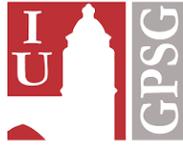
Whereas, recent events including the COVID pandemic have negatively affected the mental health of students, making resources such as CAPS even more important;¹⁹

Whereas, the current system may deter graduate students from utilizing services due to the possibility of encountering their students;

Whereas, the accessibility of mental health resources is vital to propagating the success of students across all graduate and professional programs which should be of utmost priority to the university;

¹⁸ <https://www.csc.edu/care/resources/statistics/index.csc>

¹⁹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/09/11/students-great-need-mental-health-support-during-pandemic>



Whereas, there is currently a limited number of staff at CAPS that have medication management authority and the ability to prescribe psychiatric medications;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG supports the mission of the Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Mental Health Task Force to combat the long-term and COVID-19 related mental health challenges facing graduate and professional students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for an increase in the number of free CAPS sessions offered to graduate and professional students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for CAPS to develop a more accessible online scheduling system for CAPS-related services.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the free, unused CAPS session offered to graduate and professional students to rollover each semester until graduation.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for the University to examine ways to increase insurance assistance services and flexibility at the IU Student Health Center.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for continued development of facility procedures that minimize instructor/student interaction and improve patient anonymity to encourage the utilization of mental health services by graduate students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for continued use and development, beyond COVID-19, of alternative forms of counseling services including hybrid, virtual, text, and other mental health services.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for a centralized Indiana University webpage to include all available mental health resources and counseling and scheduling services inclusive of all graduate and professional schools and programs.



Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for hiring additional staff at CAPS that have medication management authority and have the ability to prescribe psychiatric medication to students.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on January 22, 2021.



Resolution for Climate Action

Whereas the Paris Agreement (2015); the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report (2018); and the Fourth National Climate Assessment Report by the US Global Change Research Program (2018) have all warned of the catastrophic dangers to global society if climate change is not addressed;

Whereas, the IPCC and Paris Agreement recommend that global society achieve net zero anthropogenic carbon emissions (i.e. carbon neutrality) by mid-21st century to avoid the most dire consequences of climate change²⁰;

Whereas, carbon neutrality refers to maintaining a balance between carbon emitted and removed from the atmosphere, with the overarching goal of achieving net-zero annual carbon emissions;²¹

WHEREAS, the world's leading scientists and environmental scholars agree that nations, states, cities, businesses, and *universities* have an obligation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to mitigate climate change;

Whereas, the impacts of climate change are disproportionately borne by low-income, minority, and other underserved communities;²²

Whereas, climate change-driven rising average temperatures across Indiana are expected to induce stress on its public health, infrastructure, and agricultural systems, affecting the entire Hoosier community;²³

Whereas, IU is internationally recognized as an Innovative University in Reuters' Top 100: The World's Most Innovative Universities;²⁴ and is home to the Environmental Resilience Institute, which helps communities across Indiana reduce their carbon footprints and enhance climate resilience;

²⁰ <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/spm/>

²¹ <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20190926STO62270/what-is-carbon-neutrality-and-how-can-it-be-achieved-by-2050>

²² <https://un.org/en/desa/climate-change-and-social-inequality>

²³ Widhalm, M., Hamlet, A. Byun, K., Robeson, S., Baldwin, M., Staten, P., Chiu, C., Coleman, J., Hall, B., Hoogewind, K., Huber, M., Kieu, C., Yoo, J., Dukes, J.S. 2018. Indiana's Past & Future Climate: A Report from the Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment. Purdue Climate Change Research Center, Purdue University. West Lafayette, Indiana. DOI:10.5703/1288284316634

²⁴ <https://www.reuters.com/innovative-universities-2019>



Whereas, Core Value 7 of the IU Bicentennial Strategic Plan commits to “Sustainability, stewardship, and accountability for the natural, human, and economic resources and relationships entrusted to IU;”²⁵

Whereas, Action Items of the Strategic Plan include the goal “to solidify IU’s focus on efficient and environmentally conscious campus design and operation;”

Whereas the IUB Bicentennial Priority One includes “Responsible Stewardship” and

- a. “developing sustainability understanding through comprehensive programming and engagement with the campus as a laboratory for sustainable practices” (Bicentennial Priority 1, Objective 1, Number 2e);
- b. “pursuing and supporting sustainability on our campus” (Bicentennial Priority 1, Objective 3, Number 1c);
- c. “support[ing] innovative campus ‘living laboratory’ initiatives that provide opportunities to integrate campus operations, faculty and student research, education, student life, and community engagement to applied, solutions-oriented sustainability research” (IU Bicentennial Strategic Plan, Principles of Excellence Three: IU Continuing Priorities Number 3)

Whereas, the IU community has demonstrated its desire for the University to address climate change through student marches and the Carbon Neutral IU petition;²⁶

Whereas, carbon neutrality can be achieved through a mix of strategies including switching to low-carbon, renewable energy sources for consumptive use, increasing energy efficiency of buildings and operations, waste reduction, planting trees, and purchasing carbon offsets;

Whereas, several other Big Ten Universities have already committed to carbon neutrality and are in the process of implementing their climate action plans;

Whereas, Indiana University has been a proven leader and model for global crisis management, with the successful implementation of a highly effective COVID-19 mitigation plan;

Whereas, proactively addressing the climate crisis is essential to IU maintaining its reputation as an innovative and prestigious university, and attracting the bright students and renowned faculty that reputation brings.

...

²⁵ <https://strategicplan.iu.edu/mission-values-vision/index.html>

²⁶ <https://www.carbonneutralindiana.org/indiana-university-carbon-neutral-petition>



Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates:

- For IU to demonstrate its innovative reputation and fulfill its strategic plan by pledging to achieve carbon neutrality²⁷ in its operations by 2040;
- That Indiana University-Bloomington develop a Climate Action Plan as a roadmap toward achieving carbon neutrality and enhancing climate resilience at IUB, by 2023;
- For IUB to publish comprehensive reports on its carbon emissions and progress in implementing the climate action plan, and for those reports to be accessible on the SustainIU website;
- For annual public forums to be hosted to communicate progress on carbon neutrality and the climate action plan with students, faculty, and the rest of the IU community;
- For graduate and professional students to be involved in the process of transitioning IU to a carbon neutral future through research and student development opportunities;
- For IU to join 650+ other colleges and universities in signing onto Second Nature's [President's Climate Leadership Commitments](#) as a means of ensuring third-party accountability toward fulfilling its climate commitments;
- For Indiana University-Bloomington to research and invest in on-campus, distributed renewable energy generation (i.e. rooftop solar, biofuels) as way to reduce its carbon footprint

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on February 5, 2021.

²⁷ Carbon Neutrality only referring to IU's SCOPE 1 and SCOPE 2 carbon emissions.



Resolution for Effective Use of Wellness Days

Whereas, prior to the pandemic, graduate students report higher rates of stress, compared to undergraduate students, affecting the adequacy of their academic work;²⁸

Whereas, as a result of the pandemic, the majority of graduate students report high rates of stress affecting their ability to complete their academic responsibilities;²⁹

Whereas, GPSG recognizes and appreciates the university's implementation of wellness days into the Spring 2021 semester;

Whereas, graduate student constituents have reported unsatisfactory and inconsistent planned use of these wellness days by their respective programs;

Whereas, graduate students have expressed confusion regarding how their programs and teaching responsibilities will honor the wellness days;

Whereas, the Provost instructed deans across IU campuses to eliminate classwork, class attendance, and any other academic responsibilities on three specified days throughout the semester.

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for full implementation of wellness days across all graduate and professional programs.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG advocates for finding creative solutions to comply with accreditation requirements, while still upholding the purpose of these necessary wellness days.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG urges the Provost to require programs to implement these wellness days and meet non-compliance with consequences.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the GPSG requires consistent and transparent communication from the university and among

²⁸ https://mountainscholar.org/bitstream/handle/10217/211436/JOUF_JOSA_v29_2019-2020.pdf?sequence=1#page=102

²⁹ According to poll of GPSG constituents



programs to inform students of how their individual programs will be implementing the wellness days.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on February 5, 2021.



Resolution to Encourage Graduate Student Prioritization in Vaccination

Whereas, the US Center for Disease Control (CDC) has designated College, Universities, and Professional Schools as industries recommended for vaccination prioritization;³⁰

Whereas, while the State of Indiana is currently utilizing an age-based vaccination schedule,³¹ Indiana University Bloomington is working to develop its own vaccination procedures for eventual vaccination of students;

Whereas, IU Bloomington is already developing plans for becoming a COVID-19 vaccination site;³²

Whereas, as educational and research support employees, it is critical that graduate students be vaccinated to ensure they can safely work in-person;

Whereas, graduate students in these roles are essential employees and are more likely to interact with a large population of faculty, staff, and students and are at a greater risk of exposure to COVID-19;

Whereas, certain graduate student programs require a greater degree of in-person course work and research obligations;

Whereas, funding sources for graduate students often have time-sensitive components that require progress and completion be made in connection with in-person course work and research;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for Indiana University to prioritize the vaccination of graduate student employees and Student Academic Appointees (SAAs) in educational or research roles who are expected to work in-person. These positions would include, but not be limited to, associate instructors, assistant instructors, teaching assistants, research associates, research assistants, laboratory assistants, and practicum (or equivalent) roles.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that GPSG advocates for Indiana University to prioritize the vaccination of all students, regardless of citizenship status, in programs that necessitate a greater in-person classroom and/or research

³⁰ <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/categories-essential-workers.html>

³¹ <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/index.htm>

³² <https://news.iu.edu/stories/2021/01/iub/releases/15-bloomington-covid-19-vaccine-site.html>



experience, have time-sensitive requirements, or have a critical component that requires an in-person experience.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on February 5, 2021.



Resolution for the Elimination of Unremittable Fees

Whereas, unremittable fees are calculated as a certain percentage of tuition (approximately 5-10%) and are assessed by some colleges and schools at Indiana University Bloomington to graduate and professional students;

Whereas, as tuition at Indiana University Bloomington increases every year, so does the amount assessed for the unremittable fees;

Whereas, unremittable fees impede the ability for programs to hire top applicants for research and teaching positions;

Whereas, it is not communicated to graduate and professional students what the income from these fees to colleges and schools is used for;

Whereas, unremittable fees are an unnecessary burden for graduate and professional students who are already in precarious financial situations;

Whereas, the College of Arts and Sciences eliminated unremittable fees for its graduate programs starting Fall 2020. Other programs, including those in the Jacobs School of Music and University Graduate School assistantships, still charge unremittable fees to students;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that –

- (1) Schools and colleges across Indiana University Bloomington eliminate unremittable fees charged to graduate and professional students by Fall of 2025;
- (2) Schools and colleges should provide immediate transparency for what unremittable fee revenue is used for;
- (3) Schools and colleges unable to eliminate unremittable fees should consider fee reductions (e.g. a decrease in %) or implement a uniform increase in stipends that effectively offsets unremittable fees – that will not be offset by raising any other campus fees; and
- (4) The University Graduate School obtain an immediate timetable of phaseout of unremittable fees from all schools that still charge them.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on February 5, 2021.



Resolution to Amend the Bylaws

Whereas, within the GPSG Bylaws there are a few corrections and edits that need to be made to improve the style and readability of the document.

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that following changes be made to the GPSG Bylaws:

- **Removals**
 - 2-2.2 – Due to redundancy with 2-2.3;
 - 2-6.2 – removal of the parliamentary language to reflect the historical merger of the positions with the Vice President;
 - 5-3.4 – removal of the programming committee;
 - 6-1.5 – removal of the programming committee;
- **Stylistic Edits**
 - Miscellaneous corrections for additional spaces; formatting; missing or incorrect punctuation; renaming of “Executive Body” to “Executive Committee”; and any typographical errors;
 - 2-4.1, Clause 2 – Remainder from prior amendments when the Bylaws had an Appendix, replace with reference to Article 9;
 - 2-7.2 – change “s/he seeks” to “they seek” to utilize gender neutral language;
 - 2-7.5 – correct the internal reference to say “Article 2” and add “Officers” to the end of the sentence;
 - 2-7.6 – eliminate the empty section.
- **Additions/Alterations**
 - 2-7.3 – replace “treasurer” with “highest ranking non-election seeking official”;
 - 6-1.5 – fill the empty committee slot with the “Academic Affairs and Faculty Relations. GPSG Academic Affairs and Faculty Relations Committee is chaired by the GPSG Vice President and addresses matters related to academic affairs and



faculty at IU Bloomington and the greater IU Community, such as academic policies; advising/mentoring; graduate student rights and privileges; ombuds; and tenure.

- 8-3 – Add the following language “The Vice President shall be empowered to make non-material edits to the Bylaws to correct typographical errors; incorrect citations; incorrect or missing punctuation; incorrect or missing spaces; or corrections of names for GPSG bodies. These changes shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee and reported to the General Assembly.”

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on February 5, 2021.



Resolution on the COVID-19 Vaccine

Whereas, COVID-19 vaccines are becoming increasingly available to college students in the United States;

Whereas, President Biden has stated that all adults in the United States should be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine by May 1, 2021;³³

Whereas, the GPSG COVID-19 Ad-Hoc Committee surveyed graduate and professional students on the potential vaccination process at Indiana University;³⁴

Whereas, 94% of survey respondents noted that they had not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine;

Whereas, 81% of survey respondents were in favor of IU requiring that all students be vaccinated for COVID-19;

Whereas, 94% of survey respondents were in favor of IU providing the vaccine for free in the event that it was required for all students;

Whereas, 70% of survey respondents were in favor of providing exemptions (e.g., medical, ethical, religious, or geographic exemptions), in the event that the vaccine was required for all students;

Whereas, there are students, faculty, and staff who are unable to receive a vaccine due to medical restrictions, and thus, a higher percentage of students having been vaccinated would ensure that those individuals may be on campus without additional health risks;

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that Indiana University should require all students attending courses in-person to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, subject to the following exemptions: medical, ethical, religious, or geographic location. The documentation for the medical exemption would be similar to that of the COVID-19 testing process at IU, and would allow for lived experience documentation.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that in the event the University cannot mandate the COVID-19 vaccine, the institution will take all necessary steps to strongly encourage and incentivize students to receive the vaccine. A few potential steps could include: providing a financial incentive, hinging the restart of campus

³³ <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/11/covid-vaccine-biden-will-direct-states-to-make-all-adults-eligible-by-may-1.html>

³⁴ 913 students were included in the survey.



events on specified vaccination levels, and limiting attendance at large, in-person events to vaccinated/exempted students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the University takes all measures to provide a COVID-19 vaccine for free or at as low of a cost as possible to students.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the University is encouraged to adopt an educational marketing campaign for the COVID-19 vaccine to ensure that students are fully informed of the safety, health benefits, travel considerations, and other benefits/impacts of receiving the vaccine.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that the University work to collaborate with other local, state, federal, and international (e.g., private airlines) institutions to assist students in the vaccination process and to provide all necessary information around vaccination requirements and limitations in a timely fashion.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on April 2, 2021.



Resolution to Enhance International Students' Services and Fee Transparency

Whereas, international students have experienced a wide array of financial, psychological, and academic vulnerability during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, international students of Indiana University Bloomington (IUB) must participate in long-distance online courses and/or programs outside the United States because of U.S. [travel restrictions](#) during the pandemic of COVID-19. International students who are physically in different time zones have to attend synchronous online classes during their late nights to meet attendance requirements, which increases their health risks;³⁵

Whereas, some U.S. embassies and consulates may close and suspend the issuing of F-1 visas to upcoming first-year international students, which may cause delays for students required to attend in person classes given the shift away from online courses in Fall 2021;

Whereas, the suspension of in-person services provided by the IUB Office of International Service (OIS) prevented international students from receiving desired assistance like psychological counseling and documents review originally located in OIS Office;

Whereas, the [virtual service](#) provided by OIS currently cannot meet some of the needs of the international students. For example, OIS's phone-call-only service burdens telecommunications costs of international students who are not in North American telecom carriers' serving areas. OIS's Quick Question Advising is only from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. in the American Eastern Time Zone. This is not friendly to international students who are physically in other time zones;

Whereas, the IUB international student fee has nearly [quadrupled](#) from \$91.80 in 2017 to \$357 now;

Whereas, the Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) Assembly has frequently highlighted [concerns](#) about the amount of international student fees charged.

...

Therefore, be it resolved by the GPSG Assembly that:

GPSG calls on the University to enhance services for international students impacted by COVID-19 as soon as possible;

GPSG advocates for OIS to consider the following actions for serving international students until reopening the OIS office:

³⁵ Point to recognition of the passing of [an international student's sudden cardiac death](#) at another campus.



- (1) OIS will ask all instructors NOT to require international students who are in other time zones to attend synchronous classes and NOT to penalize students' attendance grade;
- (2) OIS will ask all instructors to consider international students' time zones when instructors set times of synchronous exam, review sessions, or office hours;
- (3) OIS will provide upcoming students with their best assistance to get their visas before the Fall 2021 orientation, will provide international students who intend to join the in-person class remotely with technical assistance, and shall assist in providing notice to instructors about students who may need online access;
- (4) OIS will set appropriate deadlines for their review of international students' documents, forms, and applications related to academic records, immigration status, and others. OIS shall inform students that when they will complete reviews;
- (5) OIS will partner with the IU Student Health Center and CAPS to provide free, online counseling services for international students, separate from the free CAPS sessions.
- (6) OIS will provide ZOOM Drop-in advising sessions during the working time that are convenient for time zones of international students who are physically outside the U.S. OIS may survey international students' current time zones to find session time working for most international students;
- (7) OIS will provide a chat service for students;³⁶
- (8) OIS will timely inform international students of any policy changes related to international travels and visas in lucid languages. OIS may consider the forms of the weekly newsletter or online introductory sessions until the end of the pandemic of COVID-19;

GPSG advocates for faculty and staff to consider the geopolitical circumstances of international students when those students request accommodations.

GPSG seeks greater transparency on the use of international student fees. OIS shall publicize annual cost reports on international student fees by the end of each academic year, specially outlining the expenses associated with federal regulatory compliance.

³⁶ Similar in nature to the UITS chat service which is 24/7. <https://uits.iu.edu/>



GPSG supports a five-year freeze on any and all increases associated with the international student fees. GPSG encourages OIS to charge discounted international student fees for students taking all online classes, like [discounted combined mandatory fee policy](#).

GPSG advocates for the university establish an International Student workforce for retention, funding, and responding to employment disruptions resulting from COVID-19 – and to honor the admission letters for students who are unable to enter the U.S. due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on April 2, 2021.



Appendix G: 2020-2021 GPSG Statements

June 2, 2020: GPSG Statement on the Fall 2020 Campus Reopen Plans

Over these past few days, [President McRobbie](#) and [Provost Robel](#) have released their letters to students about plans to resume classes on IU's campuses and IU Bloomington in particular. Further details specific to the Bloomington campus will be released in the weeks ahead, and all of this information will be available [here](#). Please note, the School of Medicine, Maurer School of Law, the School of Optometry, and all quarter-based programs will not necessarily be bound by certain campus-wide or university policies. The Graduate and Professional Student Government ([GPSG](#)) is working with individual professional schools and degree programs to stay up to date on how all IU graduate and professional students will be affected.

We strongly encourage students to be in contact with their department heads and school leaders as some accreditation and certification may change how policies are implemented in different degree programs. We will work diligently to keep the GPSG population updated to all changes for individual schools/departments as we are made aware.

Throughout the summer, GPSG has continued to take bold steps to advocate for our students. GPSG President Dakota Coates is meeting weekly with Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Health Sciences and Associate Dean of the University Graduate School [David Daleke](#) to discuss how UGS can mitigate the financial impact on students and to guarantee the greatest degree of academic and personal flexibility in our newly announced hybrid system. Additionally, he is meeting with Assistant Vice Provost For Student Development [Katie Kearns](#) to ensure that the IU Bloomington Fall Orientation continues to offer students a welcoming and informative introduction to the University. Unlike in any year's past, the GPSG Officers have been vigorously involved in advocacy over the summer. We have been actively attending various town halls, student forums, campus committees, and much more to ensure that we are hearing and relaying the challenges being faced by graduate and professional students.

See below for specific advocacy and policy updates:

Health & Safety

The health and safety of the graduate and professional students remains our primary concern as IU looks to reopen in the Fall. Accordingly, GPSG has received a guarantee that **all** students will be able to receive at least two free cloth masks to use on campus. Additionally, students who are engaged in research or other laboratory work will be provided additional PPE by the university at **no additional cost** to the students. Furthermore, we have ensured that all campus reopening plans provide the greatest degree of flexibility and opportunity for individual student choice on all levels. Thus, **no student** will be required to return to perform research, and **no student** will be required to attend an in-person class. Instead, the University will offer all students an **online option** for their classes – **regardless** of if they are in a high-risk group or not.



GPSG has successfully worked to ensure that students will receive free access to coronavirus testing, and we are currently working to ensure that students will face little-to-no expenses in relation to vaccinations in the fall.

Research

GPSG President Dakota Coates has also served as the primary student representative on the Laboratory Research University-Level Restart [Committee](#). The committee will continue to meet twice-per-week throughout the summer and will continue to reexamine how campus research operates as we move into the fall. On this committee, they have advocated and confirmed that students will be provided adequate – and free – PPE, that research restart will be a **voluntary process**, and that graduate and professional students will be able to reengage with their research with stringently enforced safety procedures. We have ensured that graduate and professional students will be granted priority for returning to their research. Their full guidance is available [here](#).

Academics

We continue to be heavily involved in discussions addressing how the university will manage the academic calendar in the Fall. While we continue to advocate for the greatest degree of online, distance classes – we understand that a notable portion of our students would prefer to return to an in-person format when able. To ensure that we try to serve both populations of students, we continue to advocate for a flexible academic experience that supports students whether they are attending virtually or in-person. However, we will continue to push the university to enforce their health and safety guidelines – and will work closely with any student who feels as though they are not being provided adequate academic support. We have also encouraged the University to enact greater flexibility with the G901 course. Until then, we have worked closely with the UGS and the various academic departments to established alternative sources of support to supplement the existing G901 course. For students who would prefer to delay their attendance at IUB, we have worked with the university to ensure that **all students** are given extreme deference on decisions to defer their admission – at no detriment to the student.

GPSG has repeatedly expressed our concerns with the cancelation of breaks – and we continue to encourage the university to develop alternative break options so as to ensure that students are able to receive a proper break both to prepare for the remainder of their semester and for mental health and recuperation purposes. Additionally, we are continuing to raise concerns surrounding the potential for confusion by utilizing multiple academic calendars at the same time. To that end, we are encouraging the university and departments to create **clear and manageable** academic calendars such that students are not burdened with an overly complex class schedule.

GPSG has received a guarantee that all students – regardless of if a class is in-person by default – will have the option to continue their coursework virtually should they feel uncomfortable



attending in-person **for any reason**. This is critical for graduate and professional students – for peace of mind, personal health, and academic predictability.

Financial

GPSG has continued to work with the University to ensure that graduate and professional students received a proportional share of the CARES ACT higher education emergency relief fund to assist with financial burdens that have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, we have worked with the University to ensure that students who are ineligible for CARES funding, such as international students and DACA recipients, had alternative sources of funding for the University.

GPSG, through President Dakota Coates and Vice President Dan Myers, was a foundational force in establishing the [Emergency Meal Project](#) on campus to provide students who are facing food insecurity with free meals. As of this statement, the EMP is supporting over 70 students per day – via a fee-free, judgement-free, and student-focused system. GPSG collaborated on a fundraising push for the EMP, and we have been able to raise enough funds to offer this meal program throughout the rest of the summer. We are continuing to collaborate with IU Dining, the Food Institute, the Campus Kitchen, and the Crimson Cupboard to ensure that the program can continue to operate into the Fall semester such that we can continue the fight against food insecurity.

Pursuant to several prior General Assembly Resolutions, GPSG is continuing to fight for a reduction of campus fees and tuition during the coronavirus. In particular, we are in on-going discussions with the University to waive any fees associated with schedule changes. Additionally, we will continue to call for a reduction in both the overall tuition rate and the mandatory fees to match the reduction in access and services. GPSG will also be working with the Office of International Services to ensure that international students are able to receive relief from the international student fee.

Student Workers

We are continuing to work with the UGS to ensure that student workers are able to retain their positions across campus – and we are encouraging auxiliaries to find alternative avenues for students (such as Housing GAs) who’s programs may have a reduced workforce in an online system. We are also working with the University to ensure that graduate instructors will receive the proper support for transitioning their classes online – and again, we have received clear assurance that **no graduate instructor** will be required to teach an in-person class.

International Students

We are continuing to work with the [Office of International Services](#) and UGS to ensure that international students are being provided proper resources to continue their academic career. Our



goal is to ensure that these students will be able to continue their academic careers with as few disruptions as possible. Accordingly, we are working to ensure that recordings and class-participation-alternatives are being pursued across all degree programs – and, that affected students are able to maintain as much of their financial support as possible. Additionally, GPSG will continue to call on IU to provide immigration and legal support to students who are navigating the visa process.

GPSG has also been in regular contact with Vice President for Diversity Equity and Dean of the University Graduate School [James Wimbush](#) and Vice Provost Student Affairs and Dean of Students [Dave O’Guinn](#) to encourage the University to leverage its resources to support all graduate students affected by the recent [executive action](#) taken against Chinese graduate students. OIS has provided a brief [summary](#) of who is impacted by the current order and they are continuing to closely monitor the situation. For any students who believe they may be impacted or who need legal/visa assistance, please contact OIS and [IU Student Legal Services](#).

GPSG Officer Initiatives

Each officer will be establishing a full-year plan for both policy and programming initiatives and are continuously reviewing ways in which their position can best support graduate and professional students during coronavirus. To that end:

- The Awards Officer is currently reviewing all of the financial awards that GPSG offers, and we are looking for ways in which we can reorient awards to meet the challenges associated with virtual conferencing, digital research, and coronavirus.
- The Benefits Officer is actively advocating for compensation adjustments due to teaching burden changes and contingency plans for pervasive sickness in graduate students. He is also gathering more information regarding research protocols for graduate students, transit system changes due to COVID19 regulations, and training surrounding online instruction.
- The Diversity Officer is actively reviewing the continuation of diversity programming and education in a virtual environment as well as ensuring the necessary campus changes, such as student housing changes, accommodate all students including international students and students of different abilities.
- The Health & Wellness Officer is continuing to work with the IU Health Center, the SRSC, and other campus entities to ensure that students are able to receive proper telemedicine, mental health support, and online resources for physical/personal health.
- The Treasurer is actively reviewing our budget to ensure that GPSG can reorient our funds to ensure that we are able to shift funds into additional awards or to support campus initiatives, such as the Emergency Meal Project.
- The Sustainability Officer is currently exploring ways in which turbulent times like these can be used to reevaluate current practices to allow for long-term changes that help reduce IU's ecological footprint to be made.



- The Vice President is committed to maintaining a constructive GPSG Assembly that will have engaged Representatives, exciting parliamentary procedures, and an extraordinary ability to advocate for graduate and professional students.

Sincerely,

The 2020-2021 GPSG Executive Committee



June 10, 2020 GPSG Releases Statement Regarding Recent Events

Dear IUB Graduate and Professional Community,

The IU Bloomington Graduate and Professional Student Government stands with the members of our community and nation that have been affected by the recent events. We acknowledge the injustices of events in Minneapolis and across the nation and the countless injustices that occur in this country every day for people of color. Moreover, we recognize the recent injustices of police officer killings have specifically and disproportionately impacted Black individuals and panic surrounding COVID-19 has led to discrimination against Asian populations. We, as the Graduate and Professional Student Government, remain committed to equity, inclusion, and empowerment throughout our graduate and professional community. The IUB GPSG General Assembly has often and will continue to reaffirm our commitment to a university that celebrates diversity and creates an inclusive environment regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, or nationality. The below resolutions indicate our previous efforts to help protect all students in the GPSG community and the Assembly will work in the coming year to continue to uphold and build on these standards.

[Resolution to Protect Community Members](#)

[Resolution Reaffirming GPSG's Commitment to Equality](#)

[Resolution to Affirm Indiana University Values in Pursuit of a More Inclusive Student Body](#)

We also express support and profound admiration for the black graduate and professional students at IU. Graduate school is difficult and stressful enough by itself, and it is made that much more difficult for graduate students of color, simply because of the color of their skin. IUB GPSG commits to using its voice to do all in its power to work for and fight for the reality of just and equitable academia and society.

We call on our university officials to provide meaningful support to graduate students of color at IUB during this time of racial turmoil. GPSG recognizes that deep-seeded issues will not be solved with one statement. What matters is action. In the coming year, we hope to work with the new General Assembly and campus officials to increase diversity training and racial awareness, rename Jordan associated campus landmarks, and increase funding for scholarships and organizations supporting minority students. We strongly encourage students to reach out and support the [Black Graduate Student Association](#) in their continued efforts to fight for racial justice both on campus and in the greater Bloomington community. We continue to support and encourage others to support the missions of the [Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center](#), [La Casa](#), [Hillel](#), the [Asian Culture Center](#), and the [LGBTQ+ Culture Center](#) as they strive to create and facilitate activities and programs that challenge, support, and contribute to the continued development and success of our diverse student body.

If you find yourself needing support do not hesitate to connect with [CAPS](#) or with the GPSG leadership. Our team welcomes your thoughts, and we encourage you to get involved during this coming academic year. The IUB GPSG Diversity Committee, Diversity Council, and Health & Wellness Committee will meet when we return this fall, and we hope students will join these bodies to support diversity initiatives and fight for equality on the IU campus.



For more information about getting involved, please reach out to [IUB GPSG](#). Lastly, if you experience or witness an incident of bias in connection with IU please file a [bias incident report](#), so the University can effect change to make Indiana University a place where all people are treated with civility and respect.

Sincerely,
The 2020-2021 GPSG Executive Committee



September 24, 2020: GPSG Statement Regarding Jordan Renaming Recommendations

The Graduate and Professional Student Government commends [President McRobbie's recommendation](#) to remove David Jordan's name from Jordan Hall, Jordan River, Jordan Avenue, and the Jordan Parking Garage. Furthermore, we would like to extend our gratitude to the members of the [Jordan Committee](#) for engaging in a thorough, yet expedient, review of both Jordan's history and the impact that his legacy has had and continues to have on IU Bloomington students, faculty, and staff. In highlighting Jordan's history as a "vocal advocate for white supremacy" who was a "vociferous and avowed eugenicist" the Committee rightly concluded that Jordan no longer deserves to be honored at IU Bloomington's campus.³⁷ Recognizing the harm caused by these symbols on our campus is just a first step, and we look forward to the University moving past the racist and sexist legacy of Jordan and embracing a renewed commitment to diversity and inclusion across campus.

As the University Renaming Committee will now take up the mantle to consider a new name for Jordan Avenue, as well as the other Jordan-affiliated locations, we call on the Committee to take advantage of this opportunity to rename these locations after one of our many renowned IUB graduates of color, graduates identifying as LGBTQIA+, and/or graduates committed to the promotion of diversity and inclusion in their respective fields.

³⁷ View the Committee's full report [here](#).



October 28, 2020: GPSG Statement Regarding Professor McGibbon

In response to the [IDS article](#) addressing associate Professor Murray McGibbon, the IUB Graduate and Professional Student Government Executive Committee is calling on Indiana University Bloomington to take swift action to ensure that this faculty member is immediately removed from his teaching capacity. Furthermore, we urge the University to consider additional mechanisms to ensure that the students he teaches and/or interacts with in the Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance can feel safe and free from his “concerning pattern” of sexual harassment, which included “evidence of quid pro quo sexual harassment.” The University has already recognized that McGibbon’s actions have made “students uncomfortable and uneasy” and many have reported that they are fearful to raise further concerns due to his position within the Department. This is completely unacceptable, and the students in the Department are right to demand a more proper punishment and greater protection from a known harasser. McGibbon’s continued presence in the Department poses an immediate threat to the safety and security to the students he may interact with, and his actions continue to place him at odds with the mission and vision of Indiana University. We hope that the University will take all appropriate measures to further minimize McGibbon’s role on students this semester, and the Executive Committee will work with the General Assembly and the Representative from this Department to recommend further steps that the University should take to provide a safer academic experience for all students.



February 5, 2021: Statement on Finances, Health, and Other Advocacy Efforts

Over these past few months, GPSG President Dakota Coates, the Executive Committee, and the GPSG General Assembly have been working tirelessly to fight for our graduate student community on a litany of issues – and our administration continues to be fiercely focused on getting results. President Coates has continued to work closely with Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Health Sciences and Associate Dean of the University Graduate School [David Daleke](#), the Student Trustee [Molly Connor](#), Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students [Dave O’Guinn](#), Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs and Dean of the University Graduate School [James Wimbush](#), and Provost [Lauren Robel](#) to ensure that the personal, professional, and policy interests of the graduate student body is fully represented across the University. Unlike in any year’s past, the GPSG Executive Committee remained heavily involved in advocacy efforts over the winter break – and continued to make progress on vital issues. Furthermore, we continue to be an incredibly active force on student forum, campus committee, and other much more to ensure we are relaying the challenges being faced by graduate and professional students.

See below for specific advocacy and policy updates:

Financial Health and Student Workers

GPSG continues to be a leading force in addressing the financial health of our graduate students, which was a major focus of President Coates and Vice President Myers over winter break. We are happy to announce that we have made substantial progress through our work with UGS and the Provost’s Office.

Stipends

As part of an effort to increase informational awareness around the state of the Student Academic Appointee stipends, we have continued to encourage the University to track the financial status of our students. We launched a survey in the Fall about the state of graduate student finances – which will be used to inform both future advocacy efforts but is also the foundation for what we hope to be a reoccurring survey to continue to gauge the financial health of our community. Additionally, we have worked closely with the Provost’s Office and the University Graduate School to address the current state of academic unit SAA stipends. The Provost’s office has created a summary of the academic year support for PhD SAAs in 2019-2020 (shown below).³⁸

³⁸ This chart does not include GAs or professional degrees, which will continue to be a focus of future research. Full document available [here](#)



	Number of PhD SAAs	Average Compensation (Stipend + Fellowships)	Average Tuition and Fee Remission	Average Health Insurance Premium	Average Total Package Funding
College of Arts & Sciences	1345	\$20,878	\$28,500	\$3,252	\$52,630
• Arts & Humanities	346	\$18,327	\$23,605	\$3,252	\$45,184
• Natural & Mathematical	678	\$22,900	\$29,182	\$3,252	\$55,334
• Social & Historical	321	\$19,527	\$25,315	\$3,252	\$48,094
Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies	40	\$22,456	\$19,250	\$3,252	\$44,958
The Media School	38	\$18,508	\$19,250	\$3,252	\$41,010
School of Education	147	\$19,571	\$20,920	\$3,252	\$43,743
Kelley School of Business	60	\$25,908	\$34,900	\$3,252	\$64,060
Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering	236	\$21,399	\$21,772	\$3,252	\$46,423
Jacobs School of Music	40	\$17,120	\$31,266	\$3,252	\$51,638
O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs	52	\$19,929	\$21,939	\$3,252	\$45,120
School of Medicine	25	\$22,500	\$31,932	\$3,252	\$57,684
School of Public Health	74	\$19,262	\$19,669	\$3,252	\$42,183
School of Optometry	11	\$21,500	\$24,881	\$3,252	\$49,633
IU Bloomington	2,082	\$21,175	\$27,348	\$3,252	\$51,775

This allowed for tracking the average stipend, tuition remission, and insurance coverage for graduate students from the prior academic year across all programs. Accordingly, this has allowed for a targeted approach aimed at increasing the average stipend across our academic programs. Notably, Jacobs has agreed to increase their stipends for FY22³⁹ by \$3,092, in order to offset a program fee and as a general stipend increase – which will raise their average from \$17,120 to over \$20,000. Similarly, the COAS Arts & Humanities program is taking steps to finalize their two-year increase for stipends which will place the program over \$19,000 in FY22. Additionally, the Luddy School has continued to work at increasing their stipends over the course of this year – amounting to an average of a 10% increase in stipends. We are incredibly happy to announce that these steps will raise the average stipend for all PhD SAA’s to over \$19,000 – and we are working to ensure that this will apply to both continuing and new SAAs. However, we know that there is still more work ahead. We will continue to work with the University to help students whose stipends may remain under these averages, and we encourage those students to reach out to us so we can engage in targeted outreach. Furthermore, we will continue to work to increase the stipends

³⁹ FY22 means the 2021-2022 academic year.



for our non-graduate-programmatic SAA positions and our graduate assistantships to over \$19,000 as well.

Also, of note, the “[For All](#)” fundraising campaign has raised over \$56 million dollars that will go towards funding over 200 graduate fellowships in the coming years. As these funds come in over future semesters, GPSG will continue to work with IU to ensure that they go towards funding competitive and properly compensated fellowships.

Offer Letters

One area that we have been focused on is address the lack of [transparency in acceptance letters for incoming graduate students](#). Accordingly, we have been discussing this issue with UGS Dean Daleke and working to prioritize specific programs in which graduate students have expressed concerns about their offer letters. Additionally, we are happy to say that the Provost will be working with GSPG and UGS to develop a template for graduate student offer letters moving forward. Our goal for these letters will be to (1) include specifics about the stipend amount in which a student will receive; (2) explain the full extent of the benefits attached with an SAA position (tuition remissions, insurance, etc.); and (3) provide a clear picture of the fees that a student will pay. This new template will serve as the minimum requirement for all graduate offer letters in the future.

Fees

Pursuant to several prior General Assembly Resolutions, GPSG is continuing to address concerns related to campus fees. Notably, the University has removed the drop/add course fee attached to class scheduling. Additionally, following our requests for a breakdown of the [Combined Mandatory Fee](#), IU has released the breakdown and has continued to raise awareness of how those taking online classes outside of Bloomington can receive a discounted fee. As a reminder, the deadline to petition for this [2021 Spring Fee Discount](#) is Monday, February 15, 2021.

Furthermore, we have been working closely with Dean Daleke to solidify the elimination of the unremittable fee⁴⁰ across all of the programs. Accordingly, all of the Deans have agreed to phase out unremittable fees and we are working to get information on the potential timelines for the completion of this phase out. Additionally, the general assembly is taking up a resolution on Friday that calls for programs that will be unable to remove unremittable fees in the coming academic year, to embrace step-down reductions in the interim.

⁴⁰ “Unremittable” fees were essentially a net reduction in the amount of a fee remission. Accordingly, a student would see tuition listed on the bursar bill as a charge and a fee remission as a credit, but the fee remission would only be 90% (in state) or 95% (out of state) of the tuition cost. The remaining 5-10% was the unremittable fee.



We are continuing to pursue discussions for initiating freezes on the collection of mandatory fees and the international fee, as well as striving to increase the information available about what services these fees make possible. Accordingly, we are working closely with the Provost's Office to review the current state of mandatory fees and to outline potential next steps.

Health & Safety

COVID-19

The health and safety of graduate and professional students remains a primary concern as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, we have worked closely with Dean Daleke, Vice President for Research [Fred Cate](#), and our medical leaders at IU to continue to promote a safe and protected learning and research environment here at IUB. We are happy to report that as of this statement (1) there have been **zero** classroom transmission; (2) the graduate student community continues to have the fewest number of cases or student-to-student transmission in any setting; and (3) IUB's overall positivity rating remains incredibly low even in the face of record high testing. We worked closely with the University during the Fall Semester to help distribute information on [mitigation, voluntary, and symptomatic testing](#) – and we continue to work with the University to manage the [COVID-19 information](#) shared with students.

Even though it is unlikely that the State of Indiana will open vaccines up to student population until the summer or fall, the GPSG COVID-19 Ad-Hoc committee is proactively writing resolutions concerning issues related to COVID-19 vaccination on our campus to ensure they are integrated in our eventual plan. Accordingly, the committee has submitted a resolution to the General Assembly calling for IU to prioritize the vaccination of graduate student employees and Student Academic Appointees (SAAs) in educational or research roles who are expected to work in-person – as well as graduate students in programs that necessitate a greater in-person experience. Throughout our discussion with the University, they have often noted that they intend to treat our critical graduate student employees “like faculty” when it comes to distribution of the vaccine and GPSG looks forward to helping this become a reality. Furthermore, the committee is working on two surveys to analyze graduate student thoughts on COVID issues. During February, the COVID-19 Committee is running a [survey](#) on whether IU should require that all students receive the COVID-19 vaccine and what exemptions students believe should be offered. We also plan on utilizing these survey results to collaborate with [Dr. Carroll](#) to address specific student concerns related to the vaccine during his [Ask Aaron](#) events. In March, the committee will launch a survey about the research and classroom experience this past year, and what students would like to see addressed for the coming academic year.



Mental Health

We have also remained vigilant of the impact that COVID-19 has had on the mental health of our graduate and professional students. Accordingly, President Dakota Coates and our Health and Wellness Officer Jozie Barton have continued to provide critical and blunt feedback about the state of our mental health resources on the [Graduate and Professional Student Mental Health Task Force](#). As a major voice on the task force, GPSG has called for bolstering the marketing of our mental health resources, developing Canvas/Syllabus inserts, boosting funds for counseling, removing perceived and actual barriers to access, and collaborating with IU Studios to continue the destigmatization campaign around mental health. The GPSG General Assembly also passed a [Resolution to Enhance Student Mental Health Resources on Campus](#) which highlighted to the Task Force and the University specific areas and ways in which they can bolster our existing resources. One piece of this, is that we hope to continue expanding the virtual and online resources available to our students – and the current plan is to retain several of the virtual options (such as Zoom CAPS sessions) in the post-COVID world.

GPSG was also an early supporter of establishing [Wellness Days](#) to account for the loss of breaks in the COVID-19 academic calendars, to ensure that our students are given the opportunity to take a mental and physical breather throughout the Spring Semester. Accordingly, IU has established three wellness days (Feb. 16, March 24, Apr. 22) on which most programs will not hold classes. For programs that have accreditation barriers, predominately our professional programs, we continue to work with their Deans to find creative solutions that allow for them to either implement the wellness days in full form or implement a similar alternative. To this end, the GPSG Health and Wellness Committee has submitted a resolution to the General Assembly calling for all programs to fully implement the wellness days such that programs will ensure their students receive an actual break from their academic and employment commitments.

Food Security

GPSG continues to be a major force in the area of food security. In October, the General Assembly passed a [Resolution to Address Food Insecurity on Campus](#) – and we have worked to continue institutionalizing our fight against hunger. We worked with the IU Foundation to have Food Insecurity be the primary focus of their Giving-Tuesday campaign in December. Accordingly, we were able to help raise thousands of dollars for the [Crimson Cupboard](#) and the winter duration of the Emergency Meal Project. Furthermore, our efforts helped highlight the issue on all campuses across the IU system, in which we have been able to direct tens-of-thousands of dollars into food security initiatives. We are also currently collaborating with the IU Student Trustee Molly Connor to establish food security as a critical focus for the Student Association (AUSA) and we continue to work closely with several members of the Board of Trustees to develop new ways for IU to tackle this challenge.



Academics

We continue to be heavily involved in discussions addressing how the university will manage the academic calendar. While we will continue to advocate for the greatest degree of online, distanced class access during COVID – we understand that a notable portion of our students would prefer to return to an in-person format – and thus, we continue to advocate for a flexible academic experience that supports students whether they are attending virtually or in-person. We will continue to push the University to enforce their health and safety guidelines – and have worked closely with any student who feels as though they are not being provided adequate academic, research, or employment support to resolve their concerns on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, we have continued to work with UGS to provide flexibility in the G901 and doctoral dissertation context. We are hopeful that one of the post-COVID changes that we can keep will be allowing for our doctoral students to retain the virtual flexibility of their defenses when needed.

Additionally, we have worked closely with UGS Dean Daleke and other program Deans to ensure that students receive reliable [access to course information](#). Accordingly, several programs have implemented new procedures to ensure that students are able to access information well before the first day of class, and we continue to pursue new avenues to promote greater digital access to classroom resources.

University Policy

We are continuing to work on establishing more uniform student leave policies across our academic programs. Thus, we have worked with the Graduate Faculty Council to update the academic bulletin requiring that all graduate programs establish school-level leave policies for students and to clearly communicate all procedures for taking this leave.

GPSG has also taken swift action in light of the reprehensible actions of [former-professor McGibbon](#). Accordingly, the GPSG General Assembly met in November to outline an assortment of discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct policy concerns that the representatives had – from which a small drafting committee developed a [Resolution to Address Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct](#). President Coates has worked closely with the leadership of the Office of Institutional Equity ([OIE](#));⁴¹ the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs, and the IU General Counsel’s Office to address concerns related to transparency, preventative mechanisms, and informational awareness related to our Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct procedures. GPSG is working closely with the aforementioned offices to integrate these protections into the [UA-03](#) University Policy following the end of the interim policy term.

⁴¹ The department that oversees IU’s Title IX policies.



If you have any questions or concerns regarding these policy changes and initiatives, please contact your GPSG Representative or email iugpsg@indiana.edu.

Sincerely,

The 2020-2021 GPSG Executive Committee



March 21, 2021: Statement Regarding Recent Events Impacting AAPI Community

The GPSG Executive Committee is devastated by the sharp increase in hate and discrimination directed against the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in the U.S. over the last year. The shooting in Atlanta this past week serves as yet another disturbing example of the violence frequently faced by the AAPI community, many of whom are experiencing greatly heightened levels of anxiety and distress. GPSG unequivocally condemns discrimination or violence of any kind. We take seriously our continued responsibility to foster an inclusive environment in which our students feel safe, heard, and valued.

To our Asian students, faculty, staff, and community members, GPSG stands in full solidarity with you. We remain steadfast in our commitment to our core value of advocating for an inclusive and empowered graduate and professional student community.

Each and every one of us has a role to play in combatting any form of racial violence, discrimination, and prejudice, and we look forward to working with the University to create a safer community for all students. If you witness incidents of hate, we encourage you to reach out and use the resources available on campus. Acts of discrimination or harassment can be reported by either emailing biasincident@indiana.edu or incident@indiana.edu, or submitting a report [here](#).

If you would like GPSG to advocate on specific issues or bring them before our general assembly, please reach out to iugpsg@indiana.edu or contact your department representative.