EDITOR’S NOTE: ‘In This Together’ seeks to raise awareness about the complex issues of sexual violence. We asked the Iowa State community to share perspectives in various mediums as survivors, bystanders and allies. The initiative is a partnership between the Iowa State Daily, Green Dot and the Margaret Sloss Women’s Center.

It happens way too often

It happens way too often, to so many around us. With people we don't know or people that we trust.

So many gymnasts on that team.
So many actresses with a dream.
A student behind a dumpster.
A young girl and her abductor.

The time has run out.
For the abuse, the blaming, the doubt.
For the sake of the children, the women, the men.
Time is up for the abusers, for all of them.

When you get that email, a regulatory notification of a crime.
To you it's just an email, to someone it brings them back to that time.
A time they're probably working to overcome, to decipher.
When they were a victim, no, when they were a survivor.

I think of that night, after a high school dance.
He's cute and he likes you, maybe you like him too.
But you tell him no, not here, not now, not with you.
Tries to pull you upstairs, he can't take the cue.
You're with someone else and you're drunk too.
But he doesn't stop, not till he's through.
And then when you're sleeping, asks his friend to join too.
On a couch full of people, somehow nobody knew.
It happens too often, this is not new.
It could happen to anyone. Hashtag Me Too.

Warrior

Advocate. Lobby. Fight. I was always a warrior.
Marriage. Kids. Laughter and play. I was always a warrior.
I don’t know

BY ANONYMOUS

I thought I knew him but I guess I didn’t, I thought I could trust him but now I know better. Just because someone claims to love you doesn’t mean they truly do. To him “boyfriend” just meant being able to get what you want when you wanted it. Who cares if she doesn’t want it; this is supposed to be for me right? Who cares if she says no? I will just hit her, bother her, be mad at her until she stops fighting and let me get what’s mine. If she should just let me get what I want we wouldn’t have this problem. Right? WRONG.

My work

BY ANONYMOUS

My story is why I am an advocate for survivors and sexual assault awareness. When I was five and seven years old, I was touched sexually by a cousin and a teenage boy whose family lived with my mom. The first time that I ever had anyone touch me inappropriately, I did not know what they were doing was wrong. In my first experience, my cousin asked if I wanted to have a blow job. He told me that it was okay and normal to do, but when they touched me I knew that it was not okay. I do not remember the exact words that I used, but it was along the lines of “please stop.” While they stopped, I never talked about it with anyone because I did not want to get in trouble. I didn’t even know what had happened, but I knew it did not feel okay and was unsure of what my family’s reaction would be.

The second time that I was touched inappropriately, I was seven. A teenager and his family lived with my mom in our house. We shared a bedroom and had a bunk-bed together. One day he asked me if I wanted something that he learned about; not knowing what he was talking about, I said yes. He told me to pull down my pants and bend over. When his penis touched my back, I said “I do not want to do this” and moved away. He said not to tell anyone. They moved out shortly after.

Both of these situations went unattended as I went throughout my life, but I know that they affected how I was willing to engage in all male circles, engage intimately with my partner and even be in relation with other individuals. I always felt guarded and unwilling to be in spaces freely. It was not until I was in college and that those memories came back like a freight train and collided with other issues I was experiencing at the same time.

My mental health was at an all time low. “What is wrong with me?” and “Why did I let it happen?” were questions I asked myself every day. It was a never ending cycle of torment, but I was still so ashamed to talk about it, even to my fiance. This affected so many aspects of my life that I truly believed that I would commit suicide and end all of the pain that I was experiencing. One day it clicked; I said to myself, “I am over having anxiety about what I am, I am done letting this control my life.” I asked my fiance to talk and let her know my experience. She asked “if I ever told anyone before?” and I said “no.” That moment transformed my life. I knew that as long as I lived I would work to make sure that no other kid would go through what I had gone through, that my work would be rooted in assisting those who have experienced sexual assault and sexual violence.

Witnessing the impact of sexual assault

BY NATASHA GREENE

As an Iowa State student, I witnessed the tremendous impact sexual violence can have on a victim’s happiness, academic success and overall wellbeing. I saw it impact fellow students and community members make the traumatic impact worse by their reactions. As a victim advocate, I saw the deep and profound impact of sexual and relationship violence in our community on a regular basis. I worked with and alongside survivors of all ages, but spent much of my advocacy career working with children, teens and college students. I witnessed first-hand the way systems either empowered survivors’ healing, or didn’t, depending on the response. I heard survivors recount the re-victimization of being blamed or shamed by their significant others, friends, family and “the system.”

In particular, I noticed that for survivors who interacted with the criminal justice system, the way they were treated by law enforcement impacted their healing process greatly.

In communities where officers seemed too busy, uninterested or asked questions from a state of disbelief and blame, it compacted the disbelief survivors felt from our society as a whole and their individual support systems. Disclosing victimization from any power-based violence is an incredibly difficult and complex decision for many survivors. When officers take time to listen and show empathy, the positive impact is clear and evident.

As an officer, I continue to see the devastation power-based personal violence leaves in our community. Efforts on campus, including Green Dot and Start By Believing, are important reminders that many of us want the future to look differently. They are also initiatives that give students, faculty, staff and the community tangible strategies and tools to make a difference. We each have a role in ending power-based violence and the structures that silence survivors. Explore what strengths you have to offer and find a way to positively impact Iowa State University and add your own green dots to our campus.
The blue folder

BY ANONYMOUS

The folder gave me back control.

The blue folder nestled between my engineering textbook and marketing notes allowed me to escape.

The nondescript blue folder in my back-pack given to me by the police and ACCESS – which was standard procedure for any sexual assault victim, after I'd spent three raw hours sitting with them struggling through sobs to convey repeated sexual assault from someone I'd thought was a friend, who I had cut off contact from six months before but he just kept coming up around campus, in class, in group projects, around my apartment and oh my god I just can't get rid of him - gave me back my freedom.

The nondescript blue folder told me "it is very normal to feel fear, shock, guilt, self-blame, and anger after an assault" after I'd been bottling everything up for months and months and couldn't take the stomach-knotting panic and fear that I was going to see him and I wasn't going to be able to save myself and it would happen again every time I was walking home alone at night or in broad daylight and finally talked to a Sexual Assault Response Team.

In the blue folder, next to the Title XI information packet, Law Enforcement Reporting Options, and Sexual Assault Exam Services, was power. I didn't even have to proceed any farther if I didn't want to – there's a case number and contact information if I ever choose to start an investigation into the most fu**ed up year and a half of my life. This scum of the earth human had no control over my life anymore because now I have cards to play.

The words "this is not your fault" from the police officer: the first person I'd told ever that this had happened to me. The Wheel of Power and Control: I realized how absolutely fu**ed up my friendship with this asshole was. The blue folder: validation that I was not okay, and that it was okay to be not okay.

The shaky, scared me that was hiding in the background trying to calm her screaming mind was okay. The day-to-day me just trying to keep busy and not stop to think or process was okay. The angry, fearless me who wanted to hit this fu**er with a baseball bat was okay.

I am scared. I am proud. I am overcoming. I am pissed as hell.

And all it took was a single blue folder.

You never think it's going to happen to you

BY ANONYMOUS

When I was in fourth grade I was molested by my grandfather. He told me not to tell anybody, and I didn't until he tried it with my sister and she told my parents. I can never decide whether or not to consider it sexual abuse, because it wasn't rape or anything. Because of that, it's been hard for me to deal with the affects it's had on my life, because I'm not sure if I'm just crazy or freaking out over something that wasn't a big deal in the first place.

You never truly understand the phrase "you never think it's gonna happen to you" until it does. I remember each year in elementary school they taught us what was a "good touch" and "bad touch," and looking back at it now I don't understand how I missed all the signs. After it all came out, I went through therapy and just tried to forget about it. That was just what I thought I was supposed to do. Now I'm not sure, because I see how it has affected me in everyday life. Ever since then, I feel like I've developed an anxiety disorder, because it's like in every moment I'm just waiting for another terrible thing to happen so I can get over it and move on.

The worst thing about it is that I continue to blame myself for it; that I let it happen to my younger sister; that I didn't recognize the signs enough to prevent her from getting hurt. That's what kills me the most. I haven't told anyone here, I don't know if my story can really help anyone. My sorority literally supports domestic violence awareness, and whenever we go around in a circle and explain why we chose this particular one, I feel as though I can never share my true reason, because I'm not sure what people will think. I don't even think it will matter.
POLICE BLOTTER

4.2.18

An officer investigated a property damage collision at 40 Schilletter Village (reported at 8:07 a.m.).

An officer investigated a property damage collision at Lot 62 (reported at 2:40 p.m.).

An officer checked on the welfare of an individual at Wallace Hall (reported at 3:40 p.m.).

An individual reported the theft of a bicycle at Oak Hall (reported at 10:41 p.m.).

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CORRECTIONS

The Iowa State Daily welcomes comments and suggestions or complaints about errors that warrant correction. To submit a correction, please contact our editor at 515-294-5688 or via email at editor@iowastatedaily.com.
Qatar should not host the World Cup

Would be a logistical nightmare

BY SANDEEP STANLEY
@iowastatedaily.com

Soccer is the world’s favorite sport, and its most prestigious international tournament, the World Cup, is taking place this summer — in Russia.

While there is a great deal of controversy over the prospect of a Russian World Cup, especially with the various international incidents that the host nation seems eager to cause, I would like to take a look to the World Cup of 2022, which will be hosted in Qatar.

The prospect of a Qatar World Cup is a testament to the home-sweet-home corruption of FIFA, allowing Qatar to host the World Cup is a logistical nightmare which involves immense expenditures for national soccer federations, to say nothing of the detestable human rights violations being committed.

Qatar’s bid to host the 2022 World Cup was selected by the FIFA Executive Committee in 2010; two of its members were suspended before the vote even began due to allegations of corruption regarding their votes. Qatar is the smallest nation to ever host a World Cup, and this will be the first World Cup they have the privilege of playing in — simply by virtue of being the host nation. Since their bid succeeds, there have been major shakeups in the executive echelons of soccer — the largest of which was long-serving FIFA President Sepp Blatter stepping down amidst an FBI investigation into his organization.

As it stands now, the 2022 World Cup is a logistical hassle just based on the location alone. When Qatar launched their bid in 2009, an evaluation report expressed concerns about the effect of the summer heat on players and spectators, with daytime temperatures reaching over 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer. FIFA’s brilliant solution to this? Hold the World Cup in the winter, during November and December. The major problem with this is that the vast majority of domestic leagues, including the world’s top six leagues, are in full swing during the winter. Additionally, the UEFA Champions League, the world’s premier international club competition, also schedules matches from October to December.

National associations will have to reschedule their entire 2022-2023 season schedule around the World Cup, and clubs have already voiced their concerns about the prospective arrangements.

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who represents 214 clubs in his capacity as the head of the European Club Association, warned that “The European clubs and leagues cannot be expected to bear the costs for such rescheduling. We expect the clubs to be compensated for the damage that a final decision would cause.”

But more important are the various and widespread accusations of human rights violations. Qatar is currently spending billions of dollars on infrastructure and construction for eight new stadiums and has imported hundreds of thousands of migrant workers from India, Nepal and Bangladesh for their projects.

When they enter the country, they are immediately subject to the Qatari kafala system, a controversial set of laws that force migrant workers to obtain their employer’s permission to change jobs or leave the country. This is not the first time that FIFA has had to deal with the kafala system. In 2013, French footballer Zahir Belounis was trapped in the Gulf nation for almost three years amid a dispute over unpaid wages. He appealed to 2022 World Cup ambassadors Zinedine Zidane and Pep Guardiola, as well as to then-President Blatter, but received the same response: there was nothing they could do.

Trapped in Doha with his wife and daughter, and his bank account steadily running out, Belounis was reportedly contemplating suicide. Even so, he had a fairly substantial pool of resources to draw from to fund his family’s expenses, and he was eventually released.

But how much more severe must the plight of migrant workers trapped by this draconian system be? A report by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) on the kafala system includes the perspective of a worker from the Philippines who says that “we are afraid to complain to the authorities. We see that workers who do complain are either blacklisted, deported or threatened. Our managers told us that workers who go on strike get detained within 12 hours.”

A further investigation from Human Rights Watch reveals that workers bound by the kafala system often live in squalid camps unfit even for housing animals, work all day in sweltering build sites that FIFA has deemed unsafe for players and spectators and often suffer both fraud and wage theft. The death toll so far across the country is estimated at 1,200 and is projected to rise to 4,000 by 2022.

Is this a justifiable cost to play a simple game? FIFA — who is now very tellingly sponsored by the state-owned airline Qatar Airways — astonishingly only had this to say: “FIFA is in regular contact with the Qatar 2022 organizing committee and the supreme committee for delivery & legacy handling matters relating to the 2022 FIFA World Cup.”

Ben Carson is unqualified, and it shows

In March 2018, Ben Carson, Secretary of The Department of Urban Housing and Development (HUD), implemented a policy shift that will reverse Obama administration policies that erase racial, ethnic and income segregation in development projects and federally subsidized housing.

This move would reduce federal efforts to enforce fair housing laws and sideline community officials who are aggressively pursuing civil rights cases.

As a Trump appointee, it makes perfect sense that Ben Carson would be working to reverse any Obama-era policy, even if that policy was helping people. Trump has been on a crusade to make sure that he undoes everything Obama put in place, and that fact that Ben Carson is helping in that mission is no surprise.

As an African American man, it makes absolutely no sense as to why Carson would make this policy change. These changes are taking us backwards, not forwards. This decision benefits no one. As a country that is trying to solve racial tensions, not make them worse, this policy change is unapologetically racist and damaging.

It also makes no sense that Carson would remove the words like “inclusive” and “free from discrimination” from HUD’s mission statement. What does that accomplish? Carson is fighting against his own interests and making it more difficult for the country to try to mend racial wounds.

Ultimately, what this all comes back to is that Carson isn’t qualified to be the secretary of HUD.

Carson has no previous political experience before he decided to run for president in 2016. Secretary of HUD is the first government office that he has held, and it shows.

Naturally, he blamed the purchase of a $31,000 dining set for his office on his wife. The ISD Editorial Board is sure that Mrs. Carson is a lovely and capable woman, but Ben Carson shouldn’t be putting that responsibility in her hands in the first place. It is his department, not hers, and it is his job to make sure his department isn’t spending an extravagant amount of money on a dining set.

Carson has no experience in government, and because of that, Trump is able to control and manipulate him however he likes. Carson will soon match Trump’s wishes and policies, even if they go against his own interests, because he simply doesn’t understand how to do his job.

EDITORIAL
Iowa State University is pleased to announce the names of 802 students who have outstanding records of academic achievement and active state community service. The excellence of our university community is built upon the excellence of our students, faculty and staff. These students have demonstrated their commitment to excellence by being ranked in the top two percent of their college by class or by their selection for a university leadership award. We congratulate them for their pursuit of excellence.
These Iowa State students are doing it.
Traffic cameras are only permitted in limited circumstances. A new restriction requires a justification report to allow cameras.

Iowa set to restrict traffic cameras

The Iowa House passed legislation that would restrict the use of traffic cameras in Iowa.

The bill started out as a traffic camera ban when it passed the senate earlier this year, but amendments made in the house changed the bill to allow traffic cameras in limited circumstances.

One new restriction includes a requirement of a “justification report” for all traffic cameras. These reports are public record and have to be open to a public hearing before each proposed camera can be placed.

The legislation would also ensure that any fine given by a camera would be the same as a fine given by an officer.

This is a concern that was first brought up in the senate in regards to the traffic camera citations being civil penalties rather than legal ones.

In other words, traffic cameras, in their current state, are seen as a non-issue to people who can afford to pay the fine as there is no legal punishment attached.

Sen. Brad Zaun, R-Urbandale, said during debate on the bill, “If you are wealthy, you can get as many of these tickets as you want as they are not reported to insurance companies or the (Department of Transportation).”

In addition, the bill requires cameras on primary roads to get approval from DOT before being placed and requires that they be calibrated each day to ensure that they do not falsely give out tickets.

In the Senate, most Republicans supported the legislation and most Democrats opposed the ban, but six Democrats did vote for the ban.

While the Senate approved the ban, the option to restrict rather than ban was narrowly shot down in an amendment with a vote of 28-22.

Sen. Tony Bisignano, D-Des Moines, argued that the decision should be left to local governments and that the bill would put law enforcement officials in danger, especially on busy roads like Interstate Highway 235.

“To deliberately put their lives in jeopardy by telling them they have only one way to enforce speeds doesn’t show any respect,” Bisignano said.

Many of those who voted for the ban took issue with the process at which people received tickets or citations.

“The person who gets the citation in the mail is the person whose address is to pay the fine,” Zaun said. “I believe, in this country, you have the right to face your accuser, but most importantly you are innocent until proven guilty.”

While some support a ban or additional restrictions, others believe that traffic cameras should remain in their current state.

Sen. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell, D-Ames, who ended up voting for the house revisions, said: “As far as I know they are not currently being used in Ames, but they should be left as an option for law enforcement officials.

“There needs to be a balance of safety and rights and the bill, when I read it, did not seem like it would infringe anyone’s rights. That being said, traffic cameras are very good at keeping areas safe; if you see a police officer you slow down the same way as if you see a traffic camera and slow down. In multiple instances across Iowa, traffic cameras have led to reduced accidents in a drastic way.”

Commander Geoff Huff of the Ames police said that he believes traffic cameras are unnecessary for the city due to low speed limits and relatively few traffic accident related injuries. Even still, he noted that there are some places that traffic cameras can improve safety.

“If you have a really bad area with lots of accidents, we can’t just have officers sitting in one spot all day long,” Huff said. “There’s probably a place for (traffic cameras), it’s just that we haven’t done it here.”

Going on to explain that he believes traffic cameras should exist as tools to increase public safety, Huff disparaged the idea of using automated traffic enforcement to generate funding through fines.

“The idea of any traffic enforcement is to gain voluntary compliance with the traffic laws,” Huff said. “If you put in a traffic camera and it reduces accidents and it reduces injuries, that’s probably a good use. But, again, if it’s just to make revenue, probably not.”

Law enforcement officials lobbied against the changes, citing the safety increases, and they argued that traffic cameras were just another tool for law enforcement.

“Sometimes we don’t have the staff or funding required to enforce traffic laws in the state and traffic cameras provide a solution to that issue,” Wessel-Kroeschell said.

The bill will have to be sent back to the Senate and eventually to the Governor’s desk before it becomes law.
This Saturday, the Iowa State Weight Club will host its annual Bar Wars mock competition. This year however, Bar Wars is raising money for Sanford Children’s Foundation — a foundation that is close to a member of the weight club.

Sanford Children’s Foundation, located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, provides education and ground-breaking technology specifically for childhood cancer. The president of the Iowa State Weight Club, Ben Briggs, has a personal connection to the foundation.

“[Sanford Children’s Foundation] definitely helped my family and friends battle through cancer and many deadly diseases,” Briggs said.

Bar Wars has a goal of raising $50,000 this year and plans to donate to this foundation in future mock competitions.

“I thought that this would be a good way to give back and to involve the ISU Weight Club in giving back as well,” Briggs said.

Along with the general public being invited to participate or even just to watch, the Iowa State Weight Club invites many Division I schools to join the action such as the University of Iowa, University of Minnesota and Drake.

Individuals will participate in the squat, bench press, and deadlift. There are three attempts allowed for each lift. Social media director Austin Aiello explained, “Your score is based on the sum of your best successful attempts from each exercise.”

For some, training can start 15 to 20 weeks prior to power lifting competitions. However, a mock meet is a great way to practice, try out the sport, or in this case, support a great cause.

“This mock meet specifically gives participants an idea of what actual events will feel like. “It’s a long event… after you’re done with bench, you’re going to be exhausted,” Briggs said. “This is a tutorial to power lifting.”

Weigh-ins for athletes participating begins at 8 a.m. this Saturday. Following weigh-ins will be a rules meeting, then lifting at 10 a.m. All Bar Wars events are held at State Gym.

The cost will be $10 per athlete and a dollar minimum for donations. Remember that all proceeds go directly to Sanford Children’s Foundation. Spectators are welcome and the entry fee is $5. T-shirts for the event are being sold for $25. The shirts are available on the Iowa State Weight Club Facebook or Instagram pages.

Keep an eye out for upcoming power lifting events this summer as well.
A second story on sexual assault

When Sarah Ashby, a former Iowa State political science major, was still a student, she was drugged and raped by a stranger. Although that experience was traumatic for her, that’s not the story that she wants to tell now.

“I kind of feel like sexual assault, like rape, is already a topic that’s being discussed openly and so I think it might be better just to tell a second story,” Sarah said.

When she was still in school, she worked on a congressional campaign with one of her teaching assistants as an adviser. They saw a lot of each other during the campaign, in class and sometimes around Ames, so they friended each other on Facebook.

Sarah said that he would sometimes message her about random things or about the campaign, but one day he suggested that they hang out away from work or school.

“I told him that I would love to hang out and I didn’t say ‘as friends’ because I thought that was implied because he was three/four years older than me,” she said.

“I didn’t think that I was giving out any signals that I was interested.”

On a night that Sarah wasn’t feeling like going out, she messaged him and invited him to watch a movie at her apartment. He agreed.

When he got to her apartment, the two were having a few beers before they started the movie, when he spotted Sarah’s cat, which she said hated to be picked up.

“He still picked her up and was trying to force her to be held and that just really bothered me,” she said. “Forcing someone into something isn’t how you’re supposed to treat a person or an animal.”

She shook it off and they sat down for the movie. After awhile, he started touching her leg, then her neck and then he started kissing her.

“I didn’t stop him at first,” she said. “But then I was like ‘yeah, I don’t want to do this.’”

But when she told him it was time for him to leave, she said that he resisted by playfully arguing, bear-hugging her, picking her up, trying to kiss her again and trying to pull her onto his lap.

She said that she never yelled at him, but she did tell him to leave or to stop in response to all of his advances.

“He finally left and the moment I closed the door, I just started crying,” she said.

She said that this experience was more traumatizing for her than when she was drugged.

Although that experience was traumatic for her, that’s not the story that she wants to tell now.

Sarah described herself as strong and outspoken, and she surprised herself by not doing anything at the time.

But in that moment, she said she felt like she couldn’t do anything because it was someone she knew and trusted and she didn’t want to ruin their friendly relationship as colleagues.

She said that not only was the experience more traumatizing, but she’s more afraid to tell people about this because she feels like when she speaks up about it, people don’t understand that it is a big deal.

“When you speak out about it, you want people to notice and make a change, but if people are just kind of rolling their eyes at your situation, then they’re not going to make a change,” she said.

She believes that not making a big deal out of this situation reinforces the idea that women should avoid being victims more than men should avoid being harassers.

“We teach girls that they don’t have a right to do what they need to do for themselves, we teach them that they need to do whatever they need to do to please guys,” she said. “The pressure shouldn’t be on women to avoid these situations or to say no stronger, it should be on the guys to not put us in those situations.”

Although this experience was hard for Sarah, she said that she doesn’t have any residual trauma or PTSD.

“When I’m asking a guy over I’ll stop for a second, remember what happened and worry that I’m giving him the wrong idea, but I know it’s not my job to keep him from acting inappropriately.”

Sarah said that she doesn’t have any residual trauma or PTSD. According to Planned Parenthood, consent is:

- Freely given: you can’t give consent if you’re drunk, high or passed out.
- Reversible: it’s okay to say yes and then change your mind - at any time!
- Informed: you can only consent to something if you have all the facts.
- Specific: saying yes to one thing doesn’t mean you’re saying yes to other things.
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An increase of 3.8 percent to Iowa State University undergraduate has been proposed for the upcoming academic year, as outlined by the Iowa Board of Regents.

Included in the agenda for the upcoming Regents meeting April 12, the board will consider the proposed increases which are scheduled for final approval at the June 2018 meeting.

Currently, Iowa State undergraduate students pay $7,457 in mandatory tuition and fees. For resident students, an increase of 3.8 percent is about $284. For non-resident students, however, it’s $852.

The proposal comes just a week after Gov. Kim Reynolds approved $10.9 million in midyear cuts to the Iowa Board of Regents that will be absorbed by both Iowa State and the University of Iowa.

According to the tuition proposal, the Iowa Regents requested an appropriation increase for Fiscal Year 2019 of $12 million that would “be used for financial aid to resident undergraduate students.” However, the Iowa Legislature has yet to approve this.

The tuition proposal outlined by the Regents also comes nearly nine months after interim Iowa State President Ben Allen outlined in August a 7 percent undergraduate tuition increase each year for five years.

Student Government President-elect Julian Neely said that while it would have been better for students and families to know the proposed tuition increase sooner, he sees it as a fault of the Iowa Legislature for disinvesting in higher education.

“Now, we have to develop an action plan to help legislators understand the importance of education,” he said.

Neely said that when speaking with the Regents at the next meeting on April 11 and April 12, a big piece of the conversation will be asking if the increase is needed, as well as highlighting the impact it has on the Iowa State community.

Raising concerns of retention, Neely pointed to a last-minute tuition increase as putting students in a tricky situation because it increases their financial need yet funding options, such as scholarships, have already passed.

Also submitted to the Regents for approval are differential tuition rates for specific programs at Iowa State.

According to the proposal, Iowa State’s goal is to “simplify differential tuition rates over the next three years by phasing into just two differential rate categories — A and B.

Rate A includes a differential increase of $1,600 once fully phased in that is applied to resident, non-resident and international graduate students within specific programs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Human Sciences and the College of Design.

Rate B, which focuses on the Ivy College of Business, College of Business and some programs within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences includes a differential increase of $2,614 for resident graduate students and $3,026 for non-resident and international graduate students after a two-year phase in.

Iowa State is also proposing a $542 tuition increase for all international students. When approved, it will serve as the final installment of a three-year phase in.