I. **Call to Order**  
Meeting called to order at 9:04 am

II. **Roll Call**  
Chairman Senator Eddie Schwieterman, Astronomy  
GPSS Treasurer Vera Giampietro, Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning  
Senator JD Ross Leahy, Marine Affairs  
Senator Seyda Ipek, Physics  
Senator Evan Firth, Oceanography  
Senator Alexandra Kaufman, Health Sciences  
Senator Colin Bateson, Mechanical Engineering  
Senator Finis Ray, Built Environments

_Guests_  
*Christine for Quantitative Ecology*  
*Guest for Physical Therapy 2013*  
*Henry for KSA*

III. **Approval of the Agenda**  
Agenda passed unanimously.

IV. **Approval of the Minutes**  
Committee approved minutes from 2/15/2013 unanimously.

V. **Consideration of Departmental Allocations**

**Departmental Allocation for Quantitative Ecology**

There was a brief discussion about the Departmental Allocation before the guest arrived.

Senator Leahy thought the allocation seems straightforward except for taking pint glasses home. Chairman Schwieterman said this is not allowed as stated in the guidelines. Senator Kaufman tried clarifying to just fund the rice maker and crockpot. The chairman said all the items can be funded, but it needs to be made clear that it all stays on school property. Senator Leahy said funding the glassware is not something the committee can do. Treasure Giampietro clarified that the glasses cannot be fund as there is nothing to be done to enforce that they are not taken home. Senator Bateson added that the glasses are a personal use item and should not necessarily be provided by the department.

**Quantitative Ecology**

Christine came to present on behalf of the Quantitative Ecology department. She said her program is interdisciplinary and very spread out. They have a weekly soup and rice potluck to bring everyone together. Currently they have one a soup maker but it is old, so she is requesting money for a new one. The rice maker is currently broken. They would like to invest in a new one. The estimated cost of the soup pot is $63, the rice maker is $119 on Amazon, includes tax and shipping. They also are requesting $125 for logoed pint glasses to have to drink from throughout the day.
Chairman Schwieterman informed the guest that GPSS doesn’t purchase logo items and the other problematic part is storing these items at home. GPSS is only allowed to fund things stored on campus. The rice and soup maker are fine. He asked if they have a need for unlogo’d glassware. Christine said she can ask, but thinks people really wanted to have the logos.

Chairman Schwieterman told Christine that now GPSS has stickers for putting on funded items and asked if she would comply with this. She said yes. Treasure Giampietro noted this brought the total of the request to $197.14.

**Senator Ipek moved to fund Quantitative Ecology at $200.**
**Senator Firth seconded the motion**
**Motion passed unanimously.**

VI. **Consideration of Special Allocations**

There was a brief discussion period of the allocations before guests arrived.

Senator Ipek observed that KSA is requesting quite a bit of money, especially at a 5% graduate student attendance level. Chairman Schwieterman agreed there were very few graduate students indicated, but it would not be a stretch to give them $200.

Regarding the Physical Therapy request, Chairman Schwieterman expressed a strong interest in funding this request because it is a graduate student-run event, benefiting graduate students, and building professionalism. Senator Firth also added that it is helpful for advancement with employers.

Chairman Schwieterman said he wanted to fund the entire request. Treasurer Giampietro noted that the committee funded this group last year at $750. Senator Ipek inquired as to whether they would request funds from ASUW as well. Chairman Schwieterman believed that they had only checked GPSS on the application. The Treasurer confirmed this. Senator Leahy also pointed out that this request is just for rental and facility, and not for banners or advertising. The Chairman reiterated that, going forward, this is the type of event to fund at higher levels.

**Physical Therapy Club**

Catherine and Kaitlin came to represent the Physical Therapy club. They are members of the second year physical therapy class. It is their duty to put on a job fair for the graduating students for this year. They invite students from various related departments, and from the similar programs in the area including Puget Sound and Eastern, community professionals, etc.

Chairman Schwieterman asked if most of the attendees were expected to be UW graduate students. Catherine said about 80% will be graduate students.

Treasure Giampietro asked if they are requesting funding from ASUW. Catherine said no, as their RSO advisor thought that ASUW might be out of money. Chairman Schwieterman asked how successful people are at networking at this event. Kaitlin responded that they are very successful, and that she herself is in contact with more than three potential employers from last year. The Chairman reiterated his interest in funding this type of event. Senator Leahy said it definitely deserves a high level of funding because of the focus on graduate students.

Treasurer Giampietro asked if they would be willing to acknowledge GPSS in an announcement as a primary funder for the event. Catherine said that they absolutely would be willing to mention GPSS, and they could also include the GPSS logo on their advertisements and banners. The Treasurer asked if they had anyone else funding them. Catherine mentioned that ASUW had contacted them, but that she would not pursue ASUW funding if GPSS provided enough. Treasurer Giampietro asked how they planned to make up the difference in
cost if GPSS did not fund them fully. Kaitlin said that they would make up the difference by selling shirts and other items.

**Senator Leahy moved to fund Physical Therapy at $1000**
**Senator Bateson seconded the motion.**
**Motion passed unanimously.**

**KSA Fashion Show**
William & Henry came to represent KSA. Their organization plans an annual culture event. Last year they did a fashion show, and plan on doing the same this year. Currently they are working on outreach to the senior community. Their involvement helps project a strong Korean culture and history. They have many performances, traditional clothes, and music. They are requesting $1000 from GPSS.

Treasure Giampietro confirmed they were asking ASUW for $3300. Senator Ipek questioned their source of national funding. Henry said they had received $2000. With this support, they anticipated additional expenses of $4300.

Senator Leahy asked if they were charging for the event. William said no. Senator Kaufman asked what time the event would start. William stated that the event would take place from 6-8 pm, possibly 9 depending on delays. Senator Kaufman pointed out that the Lyceum would be rented for 12 hours. William described the need for time to set up the runway, seating, lighting, and run a dress rehearsal. Treasurer Giampietro asked if the other rentals are additional services. Henry confirmed this, that the other rentals would include clothing.

Chairman Schwieiterman asked if they knew about the Wells Fargo fund. William said yes but they had been informed that funds may not be available any longer. This was confirmed by the Treasurer. She also stated GPSS cannot fund purchasing clothes, to which William responded that they are only requesting GPSS funds for the Lyceum. Senator Kaufman asked about the ticket crew at the door and why KSA has them for 12 hours. William informed the committee that this is older information and an officer from KSA would track the attendance.

Treasurer Giampietro suggested that it would be beneficial for KSA to come back in two weeks. This would allow them to get updated information from the HUB, talk to Wells Fargo, and then talk to ASUW. This will help GPSS make a better decision. Chairman Schwieiterman added that GPSS funds on student percentage breakdown and noted that they only showed an anticipated 5% graduate attendance. Senator Ipek said they should be looking for 90% of their funding from ASUW. Treasurer Giampietro offered for the committee to help them work on better configuring numbers, the form, etc. She will also talk with Sean and the HUB to help with their application form. She asked if they could come back to the March 8 meeting.

William said yes.

Treasurer Giampietro said she had talked to Riley, and that ASUW should have about $20,000 left. Chairman Schwieiterman asked if the Wells Fargo fund is out. The Treasurer suggested talking to Rene to verify that.

**VII. Budget Update**
Treasurer Giampietro presented the newly updated budget proposal where changes are highlighted in blue. This is the budget that the Executive committee approved. Senator Firth specifically drew attention to the added HUB fee and decreased phone and internet budget, and asked for further explanation. Treasure Giampietro responded that GPSS has been charged the HUB administration fee in past years but that it hadn’t been included in past budgets, for unknown reasons. Chairman Schwieiterman asked if it was directly related to the HUB building. The Treasure explained it is an SAO services and accounting fee. As for the
Technology Recharge Fee, GPSS does not have to pay this because graduate students are waived from paying the fee.

Senator Bateson raised a question as to the basis for the stipend for the officers and the tuition waiver. Treasure Giampietro explained that the budgeted stipends represent the maximum amount that GPSS could be liable to pay for officer compensation. Senator Bateson asked if this was a decision by GPSS. The Treasurer clarified that those numbers come with being a part of the Union. As for the tuition waivers, the number indicated merely shows what officer tuition waivers could cost if there were a mix of officers from various departments, with one officer from each tier. Last year an additional chunk of money was spent because one of the officers came from a fee based program. She stated there is not a way to plan for officer tuition waiver costs except to use the General Fund in cases where the cost exceeds that which was budgeted. Chairman Schwieterman suggested this is a reason to leave the Union. Senator Bateson added it is a justification for carrying a higher General Fund. The Treasurer agreed, but expressed an opinion that GPSS should take the time to assess whether or not it wants to dedicate such substantial reserve resources to the few individuals who serve as officers.

Chairman Schwieterman observed that the contention over staff numbers has changed and now no one is making as little as $13 or as much as $20 and hour. Treasurer Giampietro confirmed the changes and that employee benefits had also changed. Senator Leahy wanted a rationale for those changes in the hourly staff. The Treasurer explained that the Treasurer and Secretary each had two staff employee hours allocated to them, at 20 hours total, and the Vice President and President have two staff employees at $17-19/hr at 40 hrs a week. Running the numbers, the amount for paid help is widely varying. The changes are to tighten the spread, thus the highest wages came down, the lowest went up, and hours were redistributed. Senator Leahy asked who these staff members were. Treasurer Giampietro described the positions as follows. For the President and Vice President, there is the University Affairs Director and Special Assistant to the President. The Treasurer oversees the Budget Specialist and Events Planner, and technically the Office Manager. The Secretary oversees the Communications Specialist and Research Analyst. The Vice President oversees the Policy Analyst and Organizing Director. The President and Vice President receive more support monetarily, and still after the changes there is a disparity.

Senator Leahy wished to have further explanation on how make sense that the Vice President and President need that much more help. The Treasurer stated that the general consensus was that they shouldn’t be all the same. Senator Firth felt that if there was more room in the budget, that the Treasure and Secretary would get more support, in lieu of cutting hours and pay allocated to the President & Vice President staff members. The Treasurer also stated that the President suggested hours being built into the schedule of the Vice President and President staff members to help out other officers. Senator Leahy agreed with the changes. Chairman Schwieterman liked that the minimum hourly rate is up as a way to provide graduate students an employment opportunity that pays more than $13 an hour.

Treasurer Giampietro noted that at the bottom, the previous deficit was $62,000 and now that is down $7,000 putting to total at roughly $55,000. She also said if this budget is to be changed by the committee, then two different budgets would be presented to Senate.

**Senator Kaufman moved to pass the budget as approved by the Executive Committee.**
**Senator Ipek seconded the motion.**
**Motion passed unanimously**
VIII. Travel Grants
Senator Bateson asked how much of the budget would be for Travel Grants. The Treasurer said that the recommendation is $20,000. Chairman Schwieterman stated it would be coming from the General Fund. Senator Ipek asked about the Innovation Fund. Chairman Schwieterman shared that the travel grants committee wants $21,000 to be allocated for FY14; they have recommended a new 56 point grading rubric, a new timeline, guidelines, etc., all of which should make the application and approval process much smoother. The contention is that initially it was not desired to fund at the level recommended by the Travel Grants committee. This amount would be more than departmental and special allocations combined.

Treasurer Giampietro said the Executive Committee was talking primarily about the level, and then more about the report itself. The draft had not been shared yet. She believed that Kristen sent out the resolution that day, which included the final report. The original plan was a five point plan. The committee was to gather information about which departments were currently providing travel funding to their students. Daniel said these were nonspecific and not easy to determine. The officers would like the travel grants committee to do more of this type of investigation.

Senator Firth pressed that quantitative figures needed to be provided. Chairman Schwieterman suggested changing the bylaws for three people to continue working on this task during the summer. This also provides one cycle of getting the applications, and getting them out.

Senator Firth proposed having Travel Grants recipients present their work at GPSS summits to help promote GPSS and its Travel Grants program. Treasurer Giampietro said another option to support the Travel Grants committee was to bring their application process and criteria to the F&B committee to help improve it. She offered to start this if there was interest from the committee. Senator Firth agreed we are the most qualified to vet this process.

Chairman Schwieterman verified there as a consensus on the resolution. Treasurer Giampietro said that after the budget is passed on Wednesday 2/27 in the Senate, that Daniel will present a resolution for Travel Grants to go back into the bylaws.

Senator Firth stated that we are giving Travel Grants a year to reestablish itself and its functionality. The Treasurer pointed out that the work suggested by the Travel Grants committee does not actually have a person identified who could take it on.

Senator Firth asked who is applying to the Innovation Fund. Treasurer Giampietro said Adam (President) would be applying. Senator Ipek thinks there needs to be poll for graduate students to determine how the feel about their money being spent in such a manner.

Senator Kaufman confirmed that part of the report includes a presentation on the 27th. Treasurer Giampietro said it will happen next week. Senator Kaufman reiterated that this discussion will be presented next week. The Treasurer said possibly as Daniel will ask for objections/comments at the meeting. Chairman Schwieterman said he will come up with an amendment discussing criteria on how the summer works, and how the budgeting level for next fall will be decided.

Concluding, Chairman Schwieterman and Senator Firth liked having a summit presentation as a condition to be funded.

IX. Announcements
None
X.  **Adjournment**  
Meeting adjourned at 10:13 am.