Minutes: Official Meeting of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate Finance and Budget Committee
March 8th, 2013

I. Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 9:08 am

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

Guests
Douglas for PSA
William for KSA
Alexandra Oliva for FASA
Yuri for Comedy Jam
Nell for Astronomy

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

IV. Approval of the Minutes
Committee approved minutes from 3/1/2013 unanimously.

V. Consideration of Special Allocations
Before reviewing applications there was a brief discussion about them and about how much money was left for funding.

Chairman Schwieterman asked the committee to note that the application is the same as before for KSA. This is the group that was asked to come back because they did not have updated information and they had not yet met with ASUW. Senator Leahy asked about ASUW’s status for funding. Treasurer Giampietro confirmed that they have closed their application period, but they still have some money left over for a few pending applications. Senator Bateson was willing to fund at a smaller level based on graduate percentage but not fully. Chairman Schwieterman also added that funding at the graduate percentage would be around $700, which is higher than what’s been funded on average over the year. Senator Bateson said because the event is in Red Square it is hard to accurately estimate the number of students. Senator Leahy asked if Poly Day had been to ASUW, to which the Chairman said no.

Polynesian Student Association
Douglas came to present for PSA. He described PSA as an organization on campus whose purpose is to promote recruitment and retention of college and high school Polynesian students. They have several ways they initiate this. They go into different areas on campus and in high schools, and collaborate with the campuses to promote community and encourage
students to stay in school all the way through their undergraduate degree. At their event Poly Day, they provide a cultural workshop, information on school and scholarships, and then at the end, hold a big dancing cultural event to bring everyone together.

Chairman Schwieterman asked whether the group is only requesting funds for the specified items. Doug described that these are the quotes from Party Rents and for Sound Systems. They also have money to use from a general fund. Senator Bateson asked where they get the vendors. Doug was unsure as the information was passed down from previous years. Senator Ipek asked if the attendance is mostly high school students. Doug confirmed this but said they advertise it to all of the UW campus as well. Senator Kaufman asked about the student composition of their organization. Doug said they are an undergraduate program. Senator Ipek wanted to know where the 20% graduate student attendance came from. Doug described that they have a large alumni presence. Senator Leahy asked if they recruit from active graduate students, and Senator Ipek added if they had seen ASUW. The answer to both was no. Chairman Schwieterman suggested they try to get funding from ASUW. Senator Leahy explained to the guest that GPSS is primarily to fund graduate sponsored organizations and events.

Senator Bateson noted a discrepancy in their quotes for the sound system. Doug clarified that the two figures where estimates and quotes, and that the request had been made prior to this knowledge. The same was pointed out about the campus stage estimate. Chairman Schwieterman confirmed they had been funded half their request by Wells Fargo, and asked about funding from the EAA. Doug had not applied to the EAA as of yet. The Chairman then described that the committee will only fund at the graduate level of attendance. Senator Bateson asked how the breakdown of students was determined. Doug said the high school and undergraduate numbers were tracked through applications, but the Graduate student percentage was unknown. Senator Bateson followed with a question regarding this year’s attendance. Doug expected an increase, since last year they had over 100 students more than anticipated. Senator Bateson asked if they had other avenues for funding. Doug stated that they had just put in an application to the ECC.

Treasurer Giampietro calculated that the total request was $3000. Funding 20% would be $600. Senator Leahy felt that the 20% is a bit stretched since it seems that most are alumni, and they are generally an audience. He suggested funding at $300.

**Senator Kaufman moved to fund PSA at $300**
**Senator Firth seconded the motion**
**Motion passed unanimously**

*Korean Student Association*
William came to present for KSA. Responding to a question about updated figures, William said that they had discussed it with the HUB administrator. She is going to deduct personnel expenses, and also there are no additional stage rental fees as they will just use the floor. However, they were unable to obtain the exact quotes, as they would not be provided to them until the following week. They did get full funding for the HUB from ASUW. At this time they need funding for the performers’ fees, which is about $1400. They also need to provide them with snacks and drinks, which they estimate at $500, clothes and costumes, for about $600, bringing the total to $2500. William emphasized that whatever is received from GPSS will go to performers.

Chairman Schwieterman asked again for the attendance estimates. William predicted around 350, due to Lyceum limitations, but possibly less because of the runway. They may offer standing room in the back so anywhere from 350-400 max. Regarding graduate students, William reached out to a Korean association in downtown Seattle due to their connections to graduate students, and he is going to go downtown to make a radio advertisement. His senior
advisors are also helping them get connected with more graduate students. Senator Bateson asked if the estimated 5% is based off of last year. William said that number is made up as there was no way of tracking. He also said they were going to have a panel at the Korean Association of Seattle with graduate students, and they are trying to connect with medical and law students. Senator Leahy asked if the panel will be mostly professionals. This was confirmed.

Senator Firth pointed out that their requested amount should be covered by the ASUW funding. William described that the additional parts for performers, facility, etc. bring the need back up to a higher level. Senator Firth asked where the extra $500 will go. William said toward the clothing because it is expensive. Senator Kaufman asked if they will keep the clothing for next year. William said this was a thought. The senator was then confused if the clothing was a rental or purchasing fee. William said one is purchase, and the rest are rental.

For comparison sake, Chairman Schwieterman gave the breakdown as $215 for 5%, 430 for 10%, 645 for 15%, but due to their efforts it seems that the graduate student attendance will be higher than 5%. Senator Firth wanted to fund at $300 based on the breakdown. Senator Leahy asked if the performers are from abroad. Guest said no they are local, and they set their own price. Senator Leahy emphasized that GPSS is not allowed to fund food. William was aware of this. Chairman Schwieterman thought that $500 is fair because of their attempt to reach out to graduate students. Senator Firth noted that 5% of attendance is equivalent to 20 students. Senator Firth added that GPSS would be funding at 10% of total incurred cost, not the amount they are requesting.

**Senator Bateson moved to fund KSA at $300.**
**Senator Leahy seconded the motion.**
Motion passed unanimously.

**Filipino American Student Association.**
Amanda came to present for FASA. She described that her organization is a legacy group on campus. They want to foster community with students on our campus to explore education, politics, etc. This event they are hosting is a play about 3 young boys that fall back to 1970 into a political hiatus. It goes through a series of events to make them realize they have a voice on campus and this shows how the ethics of our society has been built from the ground up. FASA has various members participating in the show who are both graduates and undergraduates.

Senator Bateson asked who wrote the play. Amanda did. Chairman Schwieterman asked if this is the first show they have done. Amanda described this as the first play she has written, but that there is a play/event every year that is left to the chair to decide. Senator Leahy asked for the capacity of Kane Hall. Senator Bateson surprisingly knew the exact number at 720. Senator Ipek observed that they have the room for 3 days. Amanda explained this was to set up are run dress rehearsal. Senator Ipek confirmed that she was only requesting $248. Amanda said yes, to cover the overhead charges for room rental. Chairman Schwieterman noted this is a cheap event with a large audience, and asked if she had reached out to graduate students. Amanda said she had a panel of graduate students when planning for the event from various schools on the UW campus.

**Senator Ipek moved to fund FASA at $250.**
**Senator Firth seconded the motion.**
Motion passed unanimously.

**Comedy Jam**
Yuri came to present for Comedy Jam. This is a nontraditional Greek sorority, but their chapter teams up with a national one. This will be the 10th annual comedy jam. They have brought in many Latin kings of comedy and other well-known comedians from the area. They
are also working on their diversity by bringing in several different comedians of different backgrounds to make this event special.

Chairman Schwieterman asked how she estimated the graduate student number. Yuri explained that they have a graduate chapter in downtown Seattle, and that they have helped take in a portion of ticket sales and book comedians. The estimate of graduate students last year was 20%, which was low. This year they are trying to have 170 students total. This number is smaller because they have scaled down to have a sold out show. Senator Ipek asked if they sold tickets. Yuri said yes, at $10/person. Senator Leahy asked if this allowed them to make revenue. Yuri said no, as the money goes to paying back Sound Bytes, who only front the money. Senator Leahy inquired as to who/what Sound Bytes is. Senator Bateson described it as a part of ASUW that provides its own funding to groups. Yuri said that contribution would help cover the comedian costs.

Senator Leahy requested updated funding from the list. Yuri confirmed that they had received: ASUW-$2500, Wells Fargo- $800, ECC- out of money, Alumni Assoc-out of money, La Raz-$1500, SoundByte-$2000. She also thought that the fees for microphones ran up to $150 in equipment rental. Senator Leahy asked if the performers would be performing anywhere else during their time in Seattle. Yuri did not think so. She also described that they had a proposal workshop for planning tips, fundraising, and asking for donations, however they were told no because sometimes comedians can cause controversy.

Treasurer Giampietro noted that last year GPSS funded their event at $750. Chairman Schwieterman asked if attendance was higher last year. Yuri said no, the venue held more people, but attendance was less. This year they are pushing for fundraising, flyers etc. that will happen after they know the total amount of funding being given to them.

Senator Firth urged the committee to keep in mind this is 34-60 graduate students and before the committee has been funding at around $1-$10 per person. Chairman Schwieterman agreed with this and added that the committee hasn’t funded above $10/person all year, so the maximum allocation should be $600. Senator Firth asked about the graduate student involvement in the organization. Yuri again said that there is an alumni chapter that is made up of graduate students and students that have graduated. Most of them are from Seattle although other schools were represented here. Senator Leahy suggested funding at $500.

**Senator Kaufman moved to fund LTA Comedy Jam at $500.**
**Senator Ipek seconded the motion.**
**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Astronomy**
Nell came to present for Astronomy. Her department has requested funding for a new refrigerator where they store bulk food for purchase, personal lunches, Friday pizza lunches that they host, profits of which go back to the graduate students, etc. Their current refrigerator is very old, the seal is cracked, and it’s leaking cold air. A student poll showed the vote to be 21-1 in favor of a new refrigerator. The refrigerator they are considering is from Sears.

Treasure Giampietro asked if they considered an energy efficient option. Nell said no. Senator Leahy made a funny remark about neglecting climate change. Chairman Schwieterman said that any refrigerator would be more energy efficient. Treasure Giampietro asked how long they have had the current refrigerator. Nell estimated more than 7 years. Senator Leahy asked how they would dispose it. Nell thought they had a graduate student who volunteered to remove it with his truck. Senator Ipek suggested they use the UW surplus services. Treasurer Giampietro stated that using surplus does cost money, and Senator Ipek believed that cost would be covered by the department.
Senator Kaufman moved to fund Astronomy at $460
Senator Ipek seconded the motion
Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Plans for Next Quarter
Chairman Schwieterman suggested to the committee following up with the different groups for pictures and funding etc. and to also make a plan regarding the funding crunch. Senator Bateson noted there is money available from Departmental Allocations. Treasurer Giampietro said she announced to the Executive committee meeting that the Finance and Budget committee would be transferring funds from the Departmental to the Special Allocations fund.

VII. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.