Executive Committee Meeting  
October 24th 2012

Adam Sherman, GPSS President  
Amber Trout, GPSS Executive Senator  
Melanie Mayock, GPSS Vice President  
Chris Lizotte, GPSS Executive Senator  
Kristen Hosey, GPSS Secretary  
Vera Giampietro, GPSS Treasurer  
Rene Singleton, SAO Advisor  
Michael Kutz, ASUW University Affairs  

1) Call to Order  
Adam: calls meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

2) Approval of Agenda  
Chris: moves to approve agenda  
Kristen: seconds  
Motion unanimously approved by the committee.

3) Approval of Minutes from 10/12 Exec Meeting  
Melanie: moves to approve minutes  
Chris: seconds  
Motion unanimously approved by the committee.

4) UAW Arbitration Resolution  
Adam: Where to begin? Status updates. Last senate meeting the resolution was introduced. We had a lively and constructive conversation. Adam and I and other students have attempted to come to an agreement on what is valuable language for GPSS to pass as a resolution. We’ve spent time meeting late at night and as of now we don’t have anything we are comfortable with.  
Kristen: How many people are working on this?  
Adam: About 10 people. Clearly the document does not address needs of many senators  
Melanie: Were there major difference you could verbalize?  
Adam: I’m counting on Chris to help flesh it out. What they really want is for us to take a strong stance. But how would this be implemented? The inability to think one step beyond now is what led us to this situation. I’m hesitant to say “flat out comply” without thinking ahead. I’ve been trying to push something such as ‘we urge an expeditious resolution and all parties be in good faith’. I want the contract to be explicit. From ASE position, they think they would have to re-enter negotiations with the university.  
Chris: It seems like neither side wants more negotiation. I’m not sure I’m a good representative of ASE.
Adam: ASEs feels like there has been lots of bad faith on behalf of University. My guess is that if they lost they would want to file for a motion for reconsideration. They feel like they are being dealt with poorly.

Chris: One reason they feel bad faith is because decision was made in spring and then it went into limbo. Frankly, the union leadership has been a black box for years. A closed system. Information doesn’t float out easily. Because information they were getting was partial and even wrong. Nothing in the decision says anything about invalidating fees. They had expectations that were based upon fractured opinions.

Adam: There is some reason for that. It is complicated and involves many parties. When people are left in dark they start to have expectations. Its frustrating.

Chris: Part of the problem is that there is a fundamental misunderstanding of how fees are administered.

Adam: A lot of misinformation.

Melanie: This will come up at November 7th senate meeting. It would be useful for people here to speak up at next meeting. In that vein, there are process issues and substance. Your point is saying that university should not appeal.

Adam: It says in contract, arbitrators decision is final. In the future if they file with arbitrator...

Kristen: This isn’t something that has happened in past?

Adam: Not to this extent.

Michael: Why isn’t it legally binding?

Adam: Legality is complicated. The contract says that the arbitrator statement is final. The courts could view this decision either way. The law is not that simple. The judge could change the arbitrator decision.

Melanie: Adam, are you going to offer any amendments? The people who will talk most will be the union activist. If we want a broader conversation...

Rene: I have a question about how people feel. Is the union having meetings with people?

Adam: I think the people who are most active, have a venue for their opinions. We have had a meeting. We met from 8pm to 10pm plus emails back and forth. But with emails you can say whatever you want.

Melanie: The union has been holding some meetings. Those might get people more riled up.

Rene: I’m not talking about the dynamics of the issue. I’m just talking about people being accommodated in the room. Where do frustrated people go to talk?

Kristen: I’m wondering if these people are all the sponsors or are there more?

Adam: I think it would be helpful to think about the role of gpss. We have a dispute between employer and employees. We represent them as students. Is our role to say the arbitrator is right? Or say there are principles at stake? Is our role to be a mediator?

Chris: Its a tricky situation. My opinion has evolved. If we say that the university must comply tacitly that says that arbitrator decision was final. This has lots of implications that people backing resolution have not thought of.

Vera: I guess I don’t know the whole history. It seems like its not appropriate in this case. We
represent students but we are not hearing from whole swath who are not ASEs, plus we have different opinions. Providing a venue is best.
Amber: I’m leaning that way too. I do think that providing a space for letting off steam. I don’t know if we can come out with strong opinion.
Melanie: I don’t think many people at senate meetings understand much. If we can do something relating to fees that would be useful.
Adam: A resolution is not the sole action that GPSS can do. People think the resolution is the binding statement. A lot of times things get worked at through working together in committee. I don’t think we can insert ourselves by supporting some students and not others. There is lots of complications and room from gpss to do other work.
Melanie: A week from now when kristen sends out agenda, maybe a statement for and against?
Rene: Is there a group of students on the opposite end of this? Senators with different viewpoint?
Kristen: When you mentioned this employer/employee dispute, remember we represent ‘all aspects of students’. I’ve been in and out of ASE realm. People outside of ASE realm, people simply say we don’t want fees. Its hard to have counter argument.
Chris: There is no opposition per se because resolution sounds innocuous. But Number 1 we are saying appealing is not acceptable option. There is no opposition because it hasn’t been thought through to that extent.
Adam: We provide HW each week.
Kristen: This has come up in past with travel grants. I’ve been talking to Trond about an online discussion board.
Adam: Could we have moderator approval?
Kristen: Yes because Trond and I are working on it currently. Maybe if we put this on top as something to do.
Melanie: I would volunteer to draft up documents on fees. How are they suppose to have an opinion without a background.
Rene: I’m imagining having one or two meetings on topic and then it will be at rest. Think about how this situation can to be. Think about role of gpss in future after topic is put away.
Vera: There has been talks about assumption that if uw has to pay back fees that this would increase fees for non ases. where did this assumption come from?
Adam: If university is ruled against. Where does the money come from? There are a lot of different pools of money to pull from.
Vera: I feel like saying that is pitting people against each other.
Melanie: There is some truth but we should explain better.
Vera: I know UPASS is unique because of the Metro.
Adam: There was much conversation in upass advise board that this program was not sustainable. For PACS that went through budget, there is no money.
Adam: All I’m saying is that this is possible.
Vera: Making a lot of other options apparent would be better.
Melanie: It is possible that we sound inflammatory.
Adam: To be honest, I have not been informed of a situation or option that will not negatively impact students.
Melanie: We need to go into background

5) Senate Meeting Agenda Discussion
Adam: We are not setting the agenda, we are having a discussion.
Vera: I circulated a document. The idea came from discussions here. Improve senator experience where they are more engaged. If part of our mission is to develop community then having them talk together is good. I’ve talked to Kristen about the shake-up in how we set the senate agenda. Whenever someone adds an item onto the agenda, the info should come out ahead of time. It should be made explicit through email that the information gathering should happen before meeting. Senate meeting is for discussion rather than hearing issue for first time. This burdens secretary therefore whoever sends item should prepare more information.
Adam: Sometimes there are things that aren’t sponsored by us. For example student fees.
Vera: You guys should work together to figure out how info gets compiled. I’m not saying all or nothing but if you want people to actually digest info then dumping it on them at meeting is ineffective. They should be prepared before meetings.
Rene: If you give deadline and say we must have info turned in by this time.
Adam: Reserve item 10 days in advance but have info compiled by monday at 1pm.
Kristen: You can still walk in, as a senator, to say I want to amend agenda. If you want something to read ahead of time then compile it ahead of time.
Rene: Are you guys seeking participation levels or what is it you are seeking from senators? Or not looking bored? Because there are a lot of action that doesn’t get noticed. When I squeeze in there its really interesting. You have people engaged and movement. It is a lively group. This is only the second meeting, the alive part is coming and give them some more time.
Amber: Give them note guards and then they can put it in box.
Rene: You have a lot of student government people as undergrads.
Adam: I still think there is value in people getting prepared beforehand.
Vera: The main items are the schedule and deadlines. Also, my radical idea of checking in with people. It wouldn’t be discussion opportunity but way for senators to connect to talk about issue afterword. Putting that up front prioritizes senators needs. Simple as a minute or two of fielding issues.
Adam: I think that is good idea. Are we concerned that issue gets raised that will dominate agenda?
Kristen: I think we should encourage them to have their items come after. If you are going to come to floor to amend agenda you should be aware.
Chris: This is for things that are less burning.
Vera: Does anybody have objections to what you have read?
Rene: Is there gonna be a point for committee chairs to speak?
Adam: Some committees are active and some are not. Once chairs have committees to oversee then they will be active.
Vera: Does that come in the form of chair reports?
Adam: Yes and general recommendations. There's a lot of different things they can do. Anything else on here?
Melanie: I don’t think it hurts to talk about things to put on agenda. Big topics or breakouts now? I move to extend time by 5 minutes?
Kristen: Second.
Melanie: I was of the mind that in addition to doing Vera and Kristen’s ideas it might be time to do another breakout session. But since there are some issues that affect some groups but not others. Maybe give people 2 topics to talk about. For example, arts and humanities people. Maybe have two different options for what to talk about.
Chris: It’s worthwhile to start talking about. I think we might need to do a bit of prep.
Melanie: Maybe just broadening it to talk about students council. I want to do breakouts but make sure it works for everyone.
Chris: I’m interested in starting arts and science council.
Adam: There are some student leaders very active with this. Maybe have Evan come and talk about what undergrads are doing. From what I’ve heard, arts and sciences is up and running.
Melanie: Is there going to be election?
Michael: We’ve encouraged dean of arts and sciences to arrange it based on those already involved in leadership. We want diversity in divisions, but it won’t necessarily be representative of all departments.
Melanie: I worry about breakout group that is 40 people listening to Evan.
Amber: There needs to be way of linking people back together.
Melanie: I feel like student council things may have to be independent in a way. Some kind of intro and breakout group. Maybe pair elements together.
Adam: I’m confused about how this will work. At some point we need everybody understanding what’s happening. If they just do breakout groups, how do they all understand?
Kristen: I’ve been working on a roster online. I just sent out email to GPAs. If you look at the graduate school, this is what we have to work with. If we can get roster sorted, it will help with breakout groups.
Melanie: There is a challenge of breakout groups based on college council. My original idea is to give people another option.
Kristen: There are other schools such as nursing, law. Sounds like public health has good blueprint. What if a group doesn’t have college council?
Adam: other things on agenda?

6) GPSS Committee Appointments

Vera: Does anyone want to hear about my committee appointments? Mass approval.
Finance and Budget- Evan (oceanography), JD (marine affairs), Finus (land arch), Shada (physics), Jorge (economics). Anyone opposed to appointees?
Chris: I move to approve
Kristen: seconds

Vera: Student Life- Chris Lizotte, Will Scott
Kristen: moves
Michael: seconds

Vera: Social Committee Ezra (oral bio)
Chris: motion
Kristen: seconds

Melanie: State Leg Committee- Amber (public health), Patricia (health serv), Sebastian (law). I move to approve
Kristen: seconds

Melanie: Fed Leg Committee- Alice (genetics), Gia (pharmaceutics). I move to approve them
Kristen: moves
Melanie: seconds

Kristen: Diversity Subcomm- Allan-Michael (comp lit), Moroni (native am). I have two grad students non senators waiting on application Brita (marine affairs), Laura (cum ed). I move.
Chris: seconds

Kristen: DRAC- Andrea (drama) I move
Chris: seconds

Vera: Jenna Sullivan to Social Committee (immunology). I move to approve her.
Kristen: seconds

Adam: Univ Affairs- Kiana, Will (comp sci eng), James Harmon (poli sci), Durmis Karmatee (physics), Alexandra (law school). I would recommend these people to approve
Chris: moved
Kristen: seconds

Adam: Acad Admin Affairs- Alex k (law school), Gia Lin. Motion to approve?
Vera: moves
Kristen: seconds

Adam: Comm Affairs- Alison Miller (health admin), Charlie Tenison (public admin). I recommend these people.
Melanie: move
Chris: seconds

Rene: I recommend that you guys keep a master list of these people for alumni associations. Master list keeping for records.
Kristen: I actually need agenda minutes, bills, etc sent to me.
Melanie: Email you or put it somewhere?
Kristen: On server or just on website.
Adam: Any other appointments?

7) SAF Appointment

Adam: We interviewed three people. We have only recommended one. The other two, there were concerns. We are recommending Brian Davis from evans school. I have been doing lots of personal recruiting. I want to appoint Brian. Motion to approve Brian?
Chris: move
Vera: seconds

8) Executive Officer Reports

Chris: I’m pretty good for now
Amber: CBE did their election and working with associate dean to set up first meeting. I still feel that space should be devoted for first years council. Nurturing college councils. These guys are thinking about right now and not the future.
Adam: We have thought about getting them together.
Amber: Unofficially when you are not put together. I just want to put it out there. There needs to be more. Something to check, some idea exchanging needs to happen. Whether its coffee hour or organize common things.
Chris: Two things. First, I do want to keep pursuing coordinated effort about fees. Some kind of continuation... I’m talking about longer term effort. More importantly, arts and science dean search. The whole process was extended by one month. I have been granted permission to select proxy because i can’t go to airport interview. If anyone here is interested in going as proxies or if you know someone else.
Adam: Do you have specific questions?
Chris: I have questions related to diversity. It would require a briefing.
Adam: Do you think it would be better for us or another student in arts and sciences?
Chris: If anyone knows someone good from arts and sciences, let me know
Rene: If someone from GPSS does this, it may breach confidentiality.

9) Officer Reports
Melanie: Washington state legislature. We have slossy. We have met twice so far and have several people. Seven people plus myself. We are working on state leg agenda. We will bring it to discussion nov 7th and vote nov 28th. Regarding restoration higher ed funding to 2007 levels. Cap gains tax as possible area of funding. Want this to be useful to senators. I want to add in something about teaching assistance support. Adding a plank about reasonable tuition. Its super hard to legislate. Make transparency language stronger. When programs get moved to fee base and tuition doubles. It wouldn’t hurt to have legislation. Financial aid section will be similar to previous years. Child care matching grant. People say that it is budget dust. No reason not to push for it at state level. Theres a section on efficiency and we discussed to switch in for shared governance. I want another section that aren’t priorities related to student wellness and funding. Other things from committee- Bigger program on collecting testimonials from students regarding research or tuition comments before legislative session starts. I want to mentioned Wa student association. They are drafting leg agenda nov 17th. Push that group to be more active on revenue. There are people in group who are more conservative on taxes. Ross Hunter gave presentation on state budget. I’m hoping revenue and cap gains tax gets into agenda. I know some other schools interested in child care. Danny has been working on policy reports. One regarding value of grad students. Financial aid for grad students. Fact sheets. As soon as election is over we will start prepping for lobby day. Federal committee had first meeting last week. That group doesn't need to revise federal agenda. A couple people are taking on research vs federal loan. Government relations committee has first meeting tomorrow.

adam: Two comments shift efficiency for governance. Cap gains thing- As soon as new revenue gets discussed, earmarks will start happening.

Vera: Special and departmental allocation processes are online.
Chris: Do you have geography department request from last year?
Vera: There are several outstanding requests from last year.
Kristen: Is there a process for funding RSOs? Because we found that we don’t have money
Vera: Eddie and Colin and I have talked about priorities for funding and spread it out more evenly. Last year it sounded like the committee funded things in fall that they didn’t fund in spring. We have two new staff members. Lauren and Larissa. I have first staff meeting on friday. Joseph sent excited email where he found 4500$ in our budget. We’ve had some conversations regarding what we should do with that money. Maybe give it to committee
Melanie: Is there a process to move money?
Vera: According to bylaws that money should be appointed to finance committee. I would like to purchase computer for event coordinator. General fund-intention to have Lincoln come and discuss
it. We had the social, so many people. 400-500 people. I want to get your feedback. major holes and finer details. Put in binder or submit.

Secretary

Kristen: Science and policy marijuana panel. I have everything lined up except we don’t know if it will happen because of funding. I have been working on website and roster. I’ve been coordinating with Genesis and Trond. Calendar on website. If people give me info with links I could add more information. My next step would be to have senator info like a directory with senator headshots. Similar to our staff pages with their committee and link to committee. Down the line I’m working on. I went to GO-MAP event on Friday and got a couple people to join diversity committee. Communication and Outreach meeting tomorrow at cafe solstice. Diversity meeting next week. I attended the University Bookstore meeting and asked them to change our website. That brings me to issue that has come up. I’ve heard a lot of different ideas on how this transit station should go down. It has come up in multiple committees. This is something we should keep in mind. What should we do with air rights over the future transit station. Faculty housing, public space... I’m also working on survey with Moroni with grad students for pilot survey Monday maybe in office at 4pm. Thats pretty much it.

ASUW

Michael: Events going on- pacific island student commision oceania week. Cabo ceremony. Alumni event. Advocacy stuff- Evan and I have had meetings to expand career services. Good services in some departments are good but others are not. We want to expand services. Engineering dean finalist coming in. Back to back tomorrow. Trying to get as many students asking questions about differential tuition. Need more people to leave impression. We sent out all campus email on differential tuition. We got 50 responses. Mostly negative comments on differential tuition. Mostly harsh criticism on differential tuition. We had our first diversity requirement meeting. That was good. Good feedback on proposal. We have a lot to work on to get real faculty senate resolution out. We sent out election survey, got 200 responses about asuw elections. Pacs update- getting a lot of info from different sources. Last week we talked about degree completion initiative.

President

Adam: Great conversation with Eric Godfrey and Lincoln about fees. We talked about we should have them not pay all their fees right during the fall. Having the fees spread out. And tuition statements- having it cleared up and link it to fees page. I’ve been working with people on fee based programs. There are a lot of pressure on people to do new and interesting things and the solution is fee based. I’m getting people in grad school council to be excited about this. We are making progress on fee based programs. Uaw resolution has been sucking at my soul. I’ve been
grumpy and negative on it. This is a sign that I care. It's important to me that the senate is a place the union can come. Tri campus meeting on Saturday. Overall it is going well. They are creating subcommittees. One thing—greater understanding of vendor discounts. They want unified program between Tacoma and Bothell. Higher ed summit update. I sent the date out to on campus community. Who in business community can we reach out to? We are getting close to solidifying our panel. Enrique, Ross Reynolds. We will have a balanced array of perspectives. We are anticipating 100 people. I think we’ve done a good job of bringing in recognizable names. All the faculty should know this year.

Kristen: Wow is the format?
Adam: Summit from 2-6, 7-9 legislative reception. Within our event we have three panels—online ed and higher ed, state budget issues and one dealing with shared governance.

10) Announcements
Kristen: Three events: marijuana panel, survey pizza event, trivia night—Tuesday night at Wing Central

11) Adjourn
Chris: move
Kristen: seconds