In Attendance:
Adam Sherman (GPSS President)
Vera Giampietro (GPSS Treasurer)
Kristen Hosey (GPSS Secretary)
Michael Kutz (ASUW)
Chris Lizotte (Exec Senator, Geography)
Evan Firth (Exec Senator, Oceanography)
Trond Nielsen (Exec Senator, Industrial Engineering)
Larry Huang (Exec Senator, Health Services)
Melanie Mayock (GPSS VP) via phone
Rene Singleton (SAO)
Alice Popejoy (Guest, Senator: PH Genetics)

1) Call to Order
Adam: Start meeting at 5:32pm.

2) Approve the agenda
Adam: Moves to move David Eaton to later in the agenda and remove Healthcare/ACA update
Kutz: seconded

3) Approve Minutes
Trond: Moves
Vera: Seconds

4) Professional Development Update
Alice Popejoy: Missed cut-off for an sending email, but will work on language to Senators to talk to constituents about professional development and how to advocate for them. As well as proper policy to show to professors. I want to work on resolution about GPSS position on professional development. The Graduate School is interested in collaboration with us, beginning with the Science and Policy Summit. We’d like to frame as professional development opportunity for science students to hear from panelists in other fields and built communication skills. Overall as a systemic support of professional development by GPSS. Do you want to talk about taskforce situation?

Adam: This may come up later, but we have no set Academic Affairs Committee. Issues being taken on by individual students, but idea is that even if we can’t get people involved, we could make a taskforce to address the concerns related.
Alice: The Academic Committee is a sub-committee of UAC. We had talked about having a group on professional development being a taskforce of the Academic sub-committee, but if there is no membership in the subcommittee.

Adam: Just as with travel grants, we can have a group of interested Senators look into an issue.

Alice: Would we be members of the sub-committee?

Adam: Mostly semantic.

Alice: You had expressed interest in getting people involved in the committee and bring together disparate work. I guess that is for all of you, Exec, to decide

Adam: It’s independent if it is just about this issue, but people can become involved in the Academic Affairs Committee in the long-term. The idea is to let people know there are two or three next steps planned.

Kristen: I would worry more about getting a group of people to meet.

Trond: Moves to suspend rules to discuss bylaws.

Evan: Seconds

5) Bylaws

Kristen: In your binders, there is survey information on committee members. We do have a tight deadline for getting this stuff done, we want to present any changes at the first Senate meeting next quarter. Judicial would like to not be overloaded all at once, and requested we send less controversial items like tasks, to first meeting and spread out changes over several senate meetings. We have started talking to committees about possible changes. UAC met on Monday and discussed possible changes. Moving forward, we are going to have an informal meeting of officers next week to draft and discuss changes. We want to get information to Exec before its first meeting next quarter, need to have things to bring to the first Senate meeting. For committees we are looking at committees that are working and not working, combining, adding because of the restructure of last year, we need to reevaluate now. We are also thinking about getting committee chairs to have more specific responsibilities in the bylaws, as well as altering committee chair structure, eg vice-chair

Chris: A vice-chair to the officer who is the chair.

Melanie: My preference is for committee to vote on vice-chair and have no chairs who are not officers. This makes sure the vice-chair is a member of committee and will show up, participate. Officers are more accountable, big hassle if a volunteer fails to fulfill duties. Makes more efficient, often officers need to carry out.

(David Eaton enters 5:45)

Trond: Moves to pause discussion.
6) New Dean of the Graduate School: David Eaton

Adam: Hoping we could all go around to introduce ourselves and you could introduce yourself, talk about how you see role of Dean of Graduate School and future of grad education, major initiatives you want to do.

Kristen, Evan, Melanie, Vera, Chris, Adam, Larry introduce positions, program and year.

Adam: Four executive senators and four officers. Exec senators are at-large representatives.

David: I moved into the office today, very excited to take it on. I’ve been a professor here for 34 years. I have a degree in pharmacology and toxicology from Kansas. Initially came here on a naive joint appointment between Institute for Environmental Studies, predecessor to COE – small, interdisciplinary. Challenge for new professor to balance two very different worlds, one in health sciences and another in upper campus. Institute struggled with heavy oversight, but good experience. I came here because I believe in value of interdisciplinary research and that’s why I’m excited to be Dean of the Graduate School. Expands horizons, not to say that the purpose of graduate education is not to specialize. First time I’ve stepped deeply into the administrative end of things, I’ve always been faculty. Associate Vice Provost for Research for past years, but still taught throughout as main appointment. I still do research, for the past 15 years I run center on genome and health. I was actually founding member of Institute for Public Health Genetics, real name is the Public Health Genetics in the Context of Law, Health and Policy. Distinguishes from genetics. How do we use information for social good? Strong humanist, social science and ethics aspect. That’s where I come from, its been a while since a dean in the Grad School has been from Health Sciences, or if there was ever one. Marshall Landell from Oceanography, who is now deceased, was amazing in the past. Now has award for mentoring named after her. Inspiring to see how hard our faculty work being good mentors. Glad the Grad School recognizes that. I want to continue to impart the importance of good mentoring to faculty. Everyone gets busy, and students often pay the price. Make sure that faculty put mentoring at top of list. Can’t do a whole lot, but can encourage it. Initiatives I have, I’m concerned as you are about rising cost of tuition. Not a whole lot of choice we’ve had in last few years. Hopefully we won’t have many more increases, but likely will have some. Need more opportunities for fellowships and financial aid. Making sure we have support for students of color and uphold diversity. Old word fundraising is important. Last night, recognition event for Arts Foundation fellowships, which mostly go to sciences. Bouncing around idea, I talked to incoming President of Foundation, I would like to see if we can develop a model of Arts Foundation-like organization for arts and humanities. I think a lot of people out there would be willing to support grad students. One of the arguments I make to donors is that it is not just about education, but also about building leadership. Often those with graduate degrees go on to leadership positions and have big impact on undergrads. We will try to deal with the tuition issue. There will be an increase in graduate tuition, but question is how much. It is a uniformity question. Currently colleges have the ability to set forth their own programs, and I am still wrapping head around this complex system. Still thinking, but hope to get somewhat simplified. In terms of role of Grad School, you all are our primary constituency. You need an advocate on campus, collectively. The Grad School can do virtually nothing on its own in terms of education,
so all about partnering with deans that actually run the programs. Building partnerships, whether its funding or program reviews, that they see value in Grad School and not just another administrative unit.

Adam: Can you explain position relative to Central Administration, academic units?

David: The Dean and Vice Provost are an official position. We have no faculty belong to Grad School, but at same time virtually all faculty belong to Grad School, but not as direct appointment. Elected by faculty peers to be part of Grad School, which enables to be mentor and serve on committees. Mostly, it’s an administrative unit that is there to ensure quality of graduate education across the board. Tenure review, evaluate new programs, opportunities for grad students and faculty in terms of mentoring that are unlikely to be provided by any college or department. Modest, but increasing. NIH and other grants now mandate ethics training. Large part of role of Grad School is advocate for graduate education. This makes fundraising and fellowships important. Center for Teaching and Learning is an important project, shared with Libraries and Academic Affairs. Helps disperse new ways of teaching, useful to grad students and faculty. Otherwise, administrative aspects like admission process, graduation, immigration visas, that don’t fit anywhere else. Frankly, several years ago we seriously looked at Grad School, including question of if it was needed. Arthur Knowle, Dean Fisheries, chaired. Report does a pretty good job of laying out why we need a Grad School. I really look at our constituencies are grad students, mentors, and everyone out there that is interested in graduate education.

Melanie: Thanks for coming. This might be premature since you haven’t started, but to throw out an issue. As VP, my job is to lobby in Olympia during session. One thing that has come up this year—I’m there to represent grad and professional students, which are diverse in terms of funding, etc – question is when University is doing lobbying, ABB. Makes sense that UW in asks to legislature prioritize undergrads, at expense of graduate students, like a proposal for tuition freeze if $225 million materializes. I’m not sure if the University is looking at the issue the way I am, I think its fine to prioritize undergrads, just like we prioritize K-12. This is something that has come up for me: can we get University in leg process to do more around graduate education.

David: A challenge I have is to educate legislature about the importance of graduate education. They are very focused on number of undergraduate degrees, I don’t think they appreciate importance of graduate education at this kind of T-1 Research University to economy. Great grad students attract great faculty, great faculty attract great grad students and both attract funding. The impact on the economy is very big. Starting to get it with recent economic analysis. Don’t understand the importance of graduate students to the funding. Provide a lot of the ingenuity and labor. Great faculty come here because they want to work with these students. I want to work with Margaret Shepard and Randy to help legislators connect dots on importance. Showing how using dollars to support graduate education are equally important. Tough sell, all the legislature wants to hear about is undergraduate.
Melanie: This can be circular, not wanting to hear about undergraduates vs. UW not talking about graduates. I think the health education, which is very expensive, has own track in legislature, lots of potential to reach out.

Vera: Not in sciences, or arts and humanities. In between as professional program, my peers are not looking at federal or state funding, but college-level assistantships from endowed funds. In addition to seeking out at state level, if that were matched by efforts from Grad School to get money from former students, professors, corporations, etc. This would show legislature the engagement of the professional community.

David: Have office just focused on fellowships. I told Ana Mari I wanted to make sure graduate fellowships across the board were priority for next capital campaign. Finding appropriate targets, like companies and successful alumni, all part of fundraising effort.

Adam: Really important to attract best and brightest from around world and country. Is there something we can do to help folks that have needs but are not necessarily top flight?

David: Need-based programs based on diversity provide another angle that we include best and brightest, including from underrepresented groups. Often but not always the most financially strapped. Need-based is fine as well, but frankly harder sell. Something that will be done at school and departmental level, interested in working with them but not creating situation that Grad School looks like it is competing for credit or control of Grad School. Does not matter where it goes. Some may chose to have need-based, as is common in undergrad.

Adam: Thanks for coming.

David: Look forward to meet again. Keep me in the loop about what is on your agenda. I want to be one of your biggest advocates. Might not always agree, but want to know what is on your mind and figure out how to work together, which we can do 99% of the time.

Melanie: Election for officers in early May. That would be good time to transition.

(David leaves)

5) Bylaws (continued)

Adam: Continue previous discussion? We have 5 minutes

Chris: I think that there is merit in committee chair proposal, but my concern is with judicial. Should not have officer chair.

Melanie: Not what I meant, only refer to new committees.

Trond: Not sold on idea of officer always being chair. Good argument for members of Senate to take on leadership roles. Challenges, but should talk about other methods of addressing before not having senator chairs.
Vera: Should not penalize situation over bad examples, but there has been – I don’t know if I can speak for everyone but there has been a loss of authority to make decisions when officers are not chairs. Officers wind up working for committees instead of guiding them. Some committees working well, others are not. If the officer is the chair and there is an elected vice-chair, function better.

Trond: Maybe have explicit that chairs report to officer?

Adam: Don’t have to flesh out all the details here, we will be meeting next week.

Melanie: Process-wise, we need to have as much of a conversation here as we can before going to Senate. Should try to hash it out at the next week, or over email? Another topic: Couple of proposals on elections. Hoping to hold election earlier. I’m hearing that other schools are doing schools right now.

Trond: Completely agree.

Kristen: There was also talk of taking personnel out of the bylaws. Suggestions over summer

Adam: On personnel, leave something in about personnel policy being established by Senate. At time.

7) PACS Update

Michael: Last week we took a close look at the budget and operating budget of UW as a whole. We had a student meeting, without guests, and are preparing for a larger conversation about rationalizing where state funding actually goes. Many of you know, the College of A&S receives negative subsidy, money pulled from there and moved elsewhere. Ana Mari supportive of cross-subsidization. Cumulative of lots of small decisions, not overall policy on cross-subsidization. She asked us for opinions on subsidies, where money goes. Idea is not to change current allocation system, but how we distribute new money from the State that comes in. Created excel sheet and talked a lot. Main thing we did last week. Gearing up to receive College Council recommendations by April 10th. Recommendation by May Regents meeting on tuition. Support for broad recommendation.

Adam: It’s the purview of PACS to make recommendations on undergraduate tuition. In grad tuition, College Councils help to identify where they may be discrepancies.

Melanie: How does state funding plug into either? There is not yet a proposal for undergraduate tuition because level of state funding is unclear. I can only assume that College Councils are making decision without this information.

Michael: Don’t have capacity for College Councils to make specific percentage proposals - more on an allocation of Provost money.

Melanie: Some sort of assumption that new money from State, if it did arise, would not go toward graduate education.
Adam: I think, as a long-term project cross-subsidization can speak to that.

Vera: Move to extend 3 min.

No objections

Vera: Assuming that budget every year is cumulative of lots of small decision over time. Does Ana Mari have approach in mind, larger philosophy on approaching budget from another end?

Michael: More brought as project she is interested in, could take 5-10 years to get us where we want to be in that area. Could be awhile before principles outlined. In terms of series of historical decisions, lots of turnover on who sets budgets. Lots of small, incremental decisions.

Adam: To clarify, to rationalize we will need to dig into what all the colleges are taking on, and if college doing another activity should subsidize. Years to dig into each program.

Vera: People refer to that fact, that A&S subsidizes other on regular basis without knowing about context or why it is that way. Need communication.

Michael: Partial reason is that A&S costs are lower.

Chris: Don’t have differential tuition

Melanie: Didn’t have ABB before, that is part of history

Chris: Not sure why this is so complicated. There would be no subsidization if there were differential tuition.

Adam: Not just where things are now, but how much should something like A&S subsidize high-cost Dental that provides a lot of care.

Chris: Moot point, we’ll subsidize them until...

Adam: I don’t think its moot.

Kristen: Are you saying for both undergrad and grads, A&S is subsidizing?

Chris: No, all comes from undergrad.

Kristen: When discussing health sciences, I don’t understand the subsidy.

Adam: Even Law School is subsidized.

Evan: In reference to Dentistry?

Adam: Some schools mix undergrad and grad, others not. In most cases, grad programs begin subsidized.

Michael: As an example, if every college got the money they were generating, and it was only method, that would be not subsidizing. That is different from differential.
Melanie: Big argument is where state money goes, for example Evans. Some tuition dollars that come in stay in, others go out. Two streams.

Adam: More than willing to have bigger discussion, but want to stick to agenda.

Trond: In general, PACS updates need more material to read.

8) Legislative Update
Melanie: Fee-based bill passed House, I expect to pass Senate. Need to look at implementation, how GPSS will have role. Main sponsors of GPSS resolution all graduating. Good bill, have to be happy about small things. Health Prof Loan Repayment Program, for those that practice in mostly rural underserved areas get money to pay back loans has been de-funded over the last few years. Frockt has bill passed in Senate to try to get in money from. Hearing in which Dentistry Association, Nursing Association, useful to bring as issue. Funding is big thing. Might be special session. March 20th, revenue forecast will come out. March 27th Senate will release budget, should have response. Speaking with a rep on higher education, he guessed that more money will be provided but not enough to offset tuition increases. Recommend we go strongly against such a budget. Will be sending out open house legislators are holding. Be strategic, but loud. Week of March 18th, should have student debt hearings. SLSC talked about mini-lobby days early April, open to other ideas. Childcare will be through budget process, need to talk to Riccelli. I mentioned at Senate that King Co. Metro is losing temporary funding in 2014, would have to cut bus service 17%. Bills in both chambers struggling that would give new tax authority. Even rolling in with other transportation is problematic. Pierce is in similar situation.

Adam: 2/3rds?

Melanie: Supreme Court ruled 2/3 rule unconstitutional. Senate has bill that would make 2/3rd part of constitution. Inslee told Democratic caucus he wants to fund education through closing tax breaks. No way that he can find the $1 billion he claimed. Not going to get capital gains tax, but might be able to keep beer tax, B&O, others that are not new taxes.

9) Executive Officer Reports
Chris: Proposed fee coming out of Baldasty’s office that would levy $45 per quarter fee on all international students. In Student Life committee, formulating recommendation for PACS and resolution for Senate. Cannot say which way we will lean, committee is somewhat divided. Many stakeholders like FIUTS have come out in support fee, I’m personally reluctant to ask graduate students to pay additional fee in addition to $450 in mandatory fees.

Melanie: Are you going to bring back to Exec? What will fee be used for?

Chris: What fee would be used for is very well documented.

Kristen: Does it have to come to Exec to make official opinion?
Trond: Exec can only make official opinion of Exec. What are main arguments against?

Chris: Some feel that international students don’t use services enumerated in proposal.

Trond: Data?

Chris: Typically, when lots of international students, usage of FIUTS, etc is lower because community exists. Small cohorts have higher usage.

Trond: Currently, $80 upfront fee, so some people would pay twice. Probably ways around it. More issues around FIUTS than Intl Student Services

Adam: What I want to know more about is if another group was disproportionately using a service, would we target them for a fee?

Chris: From what I’ve been reading, a lot of services are specific to international students. Not about heavy usage of resources that are.

Adam: We have to think about how socialized, with smalls, do we want University to be. Balancing usage and community.

Chris: Fee is much easier to track from fee to usage than tuition that goes in general fund.

Trond: Office Intl Students and Scholars often gets money from matching money, has been cut deeply. Handles visa, so less functionality creates very big

Adam: University budget is like Universe- bounded but can have holes and seem infinite.

Chris: More updates in future.

10) Officer Reports

Vera: Latest news is in F&B, which has become one of few funds available to RSOs as Wells Fargo and ASUW have closed funds. Only have spent a little under half of our special allocation funds. Three times the normal requests, if not six. Various strategies, like potential cap on undergrad events.

Trond: Do we fund undergrad events?

Vera: Fund events that mix attendance of undergrad and grad. Try to fund grad events at higher level.
Kristen: Diversity funds also still open. About $3,000 of original $4,000 available, have over $12,000 in requests.

Rene: Started off year slowly because of move. Total numbers about the same, we’re spending $2,000 less than last year. Wells Fargo replaced fund from SAO. No net gain, only $5,000 additional. ECC has problem because base groups were left out of funding. Going back for next year, with a few increases should be fine. Not sure why fall quarter was so low. Typically, run out of money first part of Spring quarter.

Vera: Requests are mostly for spring.

Rene: Desperation from groups that didn’t receive ECC funding

Adam: Understanding cyclical.

Rene: Have meeting to discuss would be good.

Vera: Notifying Exec that we will be transferring from Dept to Special Allocation fund.

Kristen: Thoughts, since we reduced amount of Allocations this year because of Wells Fargo, and now this issue?

Vera: Not our role to figure out what is going on with other funds. Decrease was partly because we were funding undergrad events. Recommending we fund graduate events heavier, have better documentation.

Rene: My observation is that it is ok for GPSS because you only serve on constituency group. Make play at beginning of year to ‘graduate RSOs’ that are now cataloged in SAO directory.

Adam: Sponsorship by grad student, they have to make proposal.

Rene: This was case in past.

Vera: New forms that are the same for GPSS and ASUW encourage people to apply for both. Will have different forms next year.

Kristen: Is there a way to not direct students towards us?

Rene: Groups are not receiving traditional funding sources, meeting of different funders would be good. ASUW has lower fund than in past years, lots of people made small decreases because of move. Factor of move, ECC and HUB, has affected almost everything.

Adam: Welcome opportunities to support grad students.
Vera: Last update, student-parent lunch. Three people, not huge turnout. People leading might step back, could transfer funds elsewhere.

Kristen: Will probably run out of Diversity funding next week. Tabling at prospective student event at GO-MAP tomorrow. Budget meeting next week for ASUW. Next quarter I have class during ASUW Board Meetings, trying to figure out what to do. What Is Diversity on Friday. You all should come. I mentioned bylaws, judicial already, election packet with correct dates will be on website.

Melanie: Need to widely publicize elections. Worried about having enough people, and VP.

Kristen: Other committees. Communication Outreach, DRAC will be meeting with chairs and thinking about bylaw changes.

Michael: Focused on budget changes, two six hour meetings likely. At Faculty Council on Academic Standards on Friday, should have legislation on Diversity Credit. Moving forward, that will be fantastic. ASUW Working Group on TA Support met first time, no grad students. Hoping that one tomorrow will have grad students. Will maybe be in GPSS office. Would be helpful to have outreach. Drag Show and Everybody, Every Body had big attendance.

Adam: Was hoping to have advancement strategy update. Meeting with Elise, Leo and Grad School. Good plan in terms of newsletters. March 25th will have contacted five big potential donors. No guaranteed success, but is goal. Major donors and annual giving, as well as newsletter are goal. Thinking about 50-50 raffle at next social to fundraise a bit. Launch gift fund. Conversation about if we have capacity to do another alumni event Spring. Advancement keeps progressing, will have more formal draft by next meeting. On endowment, last minute plea to V’ella Warren and Treasury to see if exception to rule on student fees on endowment. Not optimistic, but looking into. HFS have said they would like to give special tour of new building, said I would talk to Exec. Straw poll [interest]. Hiccups about space here and how it is reserved. Lot of people trying to figure out new system, resources lacking. Paul Zuchowski heading up. Setting up meeting to get people together and figure out solution, in mean time please be patient and maintain working relationship. Everyone is working hard. Plan in place to diplomatically resolve. There was a meeting within Grad School about improving programming for grad student professional development. Everyone should think about what that would look like. Quarterly meeting.

Kristen: Is this the how to write a thesis, etc? GO-MAP does something similar.

Trond: One of key ways is through Career Center. Info on academia, and getting jobs but nothing on entrepreneurial ventures.

Adam: Send thoughts to me. College Council update. Had meeting last night, about 20 people from College Councils or interested in starting one. 8 different colleges, Student Regent Jordan, Michael Kutz. Good learning from each other about process, especially on attitudes taken by
deans. Helped us put each College Council into context for them about PACS at central level. Draft webpage to be central source of information, will share when posted. Will probably have all College Council.

11) Announcements
Melanie: Can we put together agenda early, think about PACS.

Trond: Do people prefer splitting meetings or one really long meeting. Additional meetings mean more travel, set-up.

Melanie: One long meeting best for me. Bylaws could be very long. Longer conversations on alumni, longer on PACS, lots to get to.

Adam: Other announcement

12) Adjourn

Evan: Motion to approve.
Chris: Seconds
Meeting adjourns at 7:13pm.