Attendees:
Chris Lizotte, President
Chris Erickson, Vice President
Alice Popejoy, Executive Senator
Elisa Law, Secretary
Genesis Gavino, Treasurer
Evelina Vaivilaite, ASUW representative
Rene Singleton, SAO Advisor
Larry Huang, Executive Senator
Kimberly Schertz, Executive Senator
Evan Firth, Executive Senator

1. Call to Order

Chris L: Calls to order at 5:35pm.

2. Approval of the agenda

Chris L: I would like to amend the agenda slightly to add in a discussion item for 10 minutes to talk about advertising for social events.

Chris E: Motion.

Elisa: Seconds.

Chris L: Any opposed. None. Motion carries.

Rene has requested that we take some time to talk about the way we advertise for our social events, particularly our upcoming Tailgating event.

Rene: What I forgot to do is bring up a copy of the University and State of Washington’s policy from the liquor control board saying we can’t advertise having alcohol there. You can have the events and that’s the good news, but the way we advertise needs to change. You can give alcohol to the people who come to the event, but they have to be invited guests. That means not the general public. So when you put fliers up around campus and you write ‘beer’, that’s what we can’t do. We need to find another way to advertise. We need to figure out a way to have a guest list. Your invited guests are graduate students and there are a lot of them. I can send you all of the statutes that go with it. Typically you send a formal
invitation saying ‘you are invited to this event’ and then you bring that invitation. This (poster) is seen by anyone but how do we invite only grads? We can send an invite and have them bring that in or can individually invite all 9,000 grad students. Undergrads like to hang out with grads and lots of them are not over 21. Sometimes the ID cards are not clear between grads and undergrads. I know you’re not supplying a ton of alcohol, but you have to think about how to comply with these policies. Everyone was in a rush but we are resetting for the rest of the year. So we need to come up with a new protocol for the rest of the social during the year. I don’t want GPSS to incur the wrath of any authorities.

Larry: How would you do it?

Rene: There has to be a way for people sign up ahead of time. I don’t have particular knowledge of how to do this.

Alice: Is the guest list a mandatory part of the invited guest stipulation?

Rene: In order for you to be on the guest list you have to be approved to be there.

Alice: But do you have to have a guest list to qualify as a guest? Does an email count? What if we have Senators send out a mass email to grads and each of us (Senators) are required to compile that list and then have the lists at the events. It’s hard to check people off lists, maybe make it electronic.

Genesis: Chris mentioned having QR codes to posters and that’s a way to RSVP and say I’m coming to this event and that way we can have an invite only.

Alice: But that’s still open to the public.

Rene: You can advertise this, but you have to require an RSVP and get rid of the “Beer” and once you advertise to the public, it’s open to the public.

Larry: Can’t they RSVP online with student ID?

Chris L: RSVP element is not difficult either through Catalyst or some other way. Ironically we put beer on there to discourage people from bringing their own beer.

Alice: Why discourage that?

Chris L: They’re not allowed to.

Rene: The state of WA liquor control board makes these rules.

Chris L: We want to be able to pull in passersby and with this system we would not be able to do that.

Alice: Wasn’t part of the point of the Tailgating to mingle with undergrads?

Chris L: More for alumni. We have a facebook invite for this and have a small RSVP list.

Rene: You should not put beer on the advertising and the invited people have something to bring to the event. It means you’re a grad student and you can come in.

Chris E: Can we put on the poster that invitees are grads, alumni and friends? Then you can look them up by department or online? So each guest would have to be with at least one grad student with them.

Rene: One grad student at the event that is invited.
Chris E: I would personally take it on their word. Are people really trying to game the system?

Rene: You’d be surprised. We need a reasonable protocol for how to do this, and if someone who is not ok comes through and the liquor board is monitoring, we’re in trouble. We need a plan to be compliant.

Elisa: Alice mentioned having the senators come up with a list of their students, if we do that and just say that all grads are invited on the poster, they just need to be on the list.

Chris L: What if they want a guest?

Alice: Guest just needs a government ID.

Elisa: I think that a list would be better than QR codes and RSVPing, that would discourage people from coming because its too much trouble.

Chris E: We can send an email with the invite and people could either show it to us on their phone or print it out.

Elisa: That’s more difficult than just a list.

Chris E: The list could be a backup and it covers us as far as having sent an invite.

Alice: It’ll be more economical to have it be all electronic. Make sure you bring 21+ ID and the name should be on the list.

Chris L: Sounds like we’ve got a basic solution. We send out a mass email to grads and/or make a list and we can figure out the details later.

Genesis: How about privacy issues?

Rene: If you send an invitation and I respond and want to be there, there’s no problem. We’re not releasing their name and info or anything.

Chris L: If there’s a motion to extend time.

Chris E: I would like to make a motion that by Friday we make a list as good as we can and make an all-campus email and tell them that we’ll be checking the list at the tailgating.

Genesis: Some people can request not to be listed anywhere.

Chris E: The motion is to, as best we can, make a list and send an email so that we can comply for the upcoming Tailgating event.

Alice: Procedurally can I motion to extend for 5 minutes?

Genesis: Second

Alice: We’ve already messed up and we’ve already advertised. What’s more important is making the protocol for the future.

Elisa: If we announce that we’ll have a list at the Tailgating. I don’t think we have enough time to put together the list and invite by Saturday. But we can make an announcement on Saturday.
Chris: I’m planning on advertising through the all-graduate email that I’ve requested and I can add in the ‘show us your invite’ piece.

Rene: For this particular one, just have the graduate student ID and the 21+ ID.

Alice: People freak out when they have to print things out.

Rene: What we don’t want is uninvited guests who are not grads and who are not 21 who make trouble.

Chris L: Hopefully we can avoid this by having the two IDs.

Chris E: Liking our FB page would solve this problem somewhat.

Chris L: We have quite a few RSVPed on FB as well. It might not even be a problem. For this event, we’ll do everything in our power to control the people that come and based on that we will know what we have to do moving forward. Does that sound reasonable? Any comments?

Larry: What’s the next event?

Chris L: We’ll do it again on October 12th if this goes well. Ok, moving along.

**Planning Senate Meeting**

Chris L: Apologies for not being in the Board Room as we can’t project this plan, but we’ll work with it. Right now, all we have is the budget presentation. Genesis?

Genesis: It’s probably just going over what was approved last time at Senate and then detailing all the changes from last year.

Chris L: Are we required to do this?

Genesis: Yes. Vera recommended breaking it up between meetings. Doing Administrative and Committee funds one time and others next time so people can digest it better. We’re not asking for input, just orienting people to the budget. Showing them where we took money away and where we put it, like Science and Policy got bigger and the Fall and Spring Social events got smaller, we have a new staff position and the new advancement efforts line item. Just telling them those things, it’s not a discussion.

Chris L: The budget that was already approved last year right? Per our bylaws we must populate the Judicial Committee the first Senate meeting.

Chris E: Fully?

Chris L: At least to achieve quorum.

Chris E: Is the chair Hutchins again?

Chris L: Good question.

Genesis: In general, the Judicial Committee must be formed.

Chris L: It’s the only one that has to be formed at the first meeting.
Genesis: So anyone gets approved?

Chris L: People volunteer and if there are more people than spaces we do a quick election. I can’t think of the last time that has happened. We need to see who wants to continue from Judicial last year. The number of open spaces depends on that. Any thoughts for the next Senate meeting?

Kimberly: Discussing committee and putting up posters and flyers to give them more information…

Alice: This is the 9th right? Are we talking about the mixer at all?

Chris L: We need to briefly present all the committees and do it as painlessly as possible. Maybe after that there could be a break out session for people to go around to speak to the Chairs at each station.

Genesis: So we’ll have the open house next week and have the sign up sheets and at Senate meeting have the current or former chairs talk about their committees and have sign up sheets available for after the meetings. We don’t want people leaving during the break out session.

Kimberly: Schedule the break out early in the meeting. It’s easier to rope people in with 1 on 1 discussion.

Evan: That’s how I was convinced to join.

Chris L: Is it useful to put up the organigram, the structure chart up, really quick and then have people go around and check out the stations.

Chris E: That gives a chance for people who are still on committees to speak on both the 2nd and the 9th.

Alice: Would it be better to call it a ‘mixer’ rather than an ‘open house’, to attract more people. Is there alcohol? We can invite all grads via email or something like that.

Chris E: Maybe ‘happy hour’?

Chris L: One of the aims of having the pre-Senate event is to give departments more a chance to appoint someone. By the 9th hopefully we have as full a Senate as we’ll have. And it’s really for people who want to find out if they want to do it or not.

Alice: Are we pushing people to have elections?

Elisa: I sent out pamphlets and a letter encouraging them to appoint Senators and was going to send out an email as well before the open house but as far as outreach, that’s all I’ve got.

Genesis: I asked them to hold elections after the first Senate meeting so that the people can come and find out if they want to do it and then have the elections.

Alice: We were frustrated in our program to not have someone elected by the first Senate meeting. We should do a really big push this week to encourage Senators to come to the mixer. Please hold your elections as soon as possible for the two upcoming meetings.

Chris L: They’re both open to all grads, they just can’t vote.

Genesis: I’ve made a point to say that at the orientations. That any grad student can come, regardless of being a Senator, they just can’t vote.
Chris E: Stress that they can participate as well.

Chris L: I’m trying to send out that information to the all-student email.

Chris E: Also, almost all the orientations I went to magically never got a Powerpoint, and I know Elisa sent them. If they’re not the right person to get the information to (the GPA) then we need a new contact.

Elisa: A GPA audit needs to be done. I’ve been trying and it’s been hard.

Chris L: So far we have the call to order, committee poster session...

Kimberly: Is 10 minutes enough? Or should we do 15?

Chris L: We could put 15 and we can stop before then. Then we have the budget presentation, Judicial appointments and a summer update?

Elisa: I think so.

Rene: Are students going to be expecting to get information about Travel Grants early?

Genesis: I could do a separate thing about Travel Grants...

Elisa: It could be a part of your update.

Chris L: It has to be done by the second meeting.

Elisa: Are we doing an introduction of our staff and executive committee members as well?

Rene: We’ve changed administrations, student life has a new VP for example. Students might find that interesting.

Chris L: Maybe after introductions, we can include that. Then we include a brief Senator primer.

Genesis: That’s included in the packets.

Elisa: Right. Along with parli pro.

Chris E: Should we do this later, when we have a full Senate? Maybe it would best to do it after?

Chris L: That’s a great idea. We could do mini orientation sessions for new Senators?

Genesis: Would it be too much for the Senators?

Chris E: They should be expecting to have some requirements.

Chris L: Just briefly, 15-20 minutes. And do it before or after the Senate meetings.

Elisa: Agreed.

Chris E: We’re already in a time crunch for the first two meetings. I’ve got to do the transportation thing.

Chris L: Do you want time in the first meeting?
Elisa: You could do it in your update.

Chris L: I’ll give 20 minutes for updates.

Chris E: Yeah, we were going to bring in some people for the transportation talk, so the second meeting would be better.

Chris L: So, I met with Michael Kutz, Kiana Scott and Elise Randall Chair of PACS this year and they brought up something interesting, constituent-based caucausing. We did that last year a little but this would be like a GPSS Women’s caucus or...

Genesis: LGBTQ caucus.

Chris L: How can we do it without it feeling contrived

Rene: Ask the Senators what kind of caucauses would they be interested in. They might surprise you.

Chris L: After the update we can crowd source priorities for the year and write them up. Last year we couldn’t decide...we wanted to have some pre-fab priorities in case they were indecisive. There is some merit to ask people to think about it, talk to their constituents, and come back.

Elisa: I think if we did a break-out session it would be nice to have the room split up and have an officer or an exec in each session. Then present what they find. The smaller the group, the easier those ideas will come. Plus it gives a chance for the officers to meet people one on one.

Chris L: Sure.

Chris E: How are we ensuring that we are hearing everyone’s opinion? Those small groups are a great idea because it would force them to voice their view, but also maybe requiring a member of each caucus to sit on a committee? I found it striking that last year during exec elections someone said “my main focus is LGBTQ” and someone said “what else?” and what is wrong with only being passionate about one thing?

Chris L: There’s nothing wrong with that. That’s enough.

Chris E: We could ask at least one of those caucaus members sit on the committees, if we do end up with the caucaus.

Chris L: I agree. We’ll think more about it and introduce it as a possibility but we’re not going to force them. We can give ideas but giving them the reign might let some new groups emerge. So, introductions, budget, judicial, committees, update, brainstorming, and that puts us at...

Kimberly: An hour and 18 minutes.

Chris L: Do we want to leave it at that? And have homework for them to bring back to their constituents.

Chris E: It’s good to have a lot of things to think about, but at what point does it become too much for people. Is there a portal only for Senators, a page on the internet or on the email. Someone said last year that they didn’t open up an email because it was GPSS. We’ll fall into that unless we do something

Chris L: We tried to send out the details before the Senate meetings and that worked out alright, and the forum which didn't work well. The less information-y stuff in the meetings, the better. I like time for
people to be able to mingle. And I like the idea of people being able to break into smaller groups and mingle. In terms of time, we’re just over an hour and that’s good.

Elisa: What if we kept the 15-minute before the meeting thing going? If discussion wants to continue we can have an actual forum before meetings. It gives them an opportunity to get together and also keeps time down.

Chris L: Yeah. Anything else to add.

Chris E: I would move to approve it as amendable.

Chris L: It can always be amended. Motion is to approve the agenda as written.

Genesis: Second.

Chris L: Any objections? No. Excellent. This was an important conversation and I’m glad we had it. We have a strong base and good ideas and it will work well. Executive Senator reports?

Executive Senator Reports

Larry: So, over the summer we have internships and I was in a community health organization in Seattle and they offered me a position through the school year and that requires me to be available from 5-7 from Tuesday through Thursday and unfortunately not available for GPSS.

Genesis: Sorry to lose you, thank you for your contributions.

Chris L: We are grateful, thank you.

Larry: If you have any suggestions for other members, there may be some people in my program who are interested.

Chris L: That would be great, thank you. We will have a small token of appreciation for you, should have had it.

Larry: Is it cash?

Rene: Will you be able to come to the next meeting?

Larry: I want to say yes, but schedule might not allow.

Rene: Just so we can recognize you.

Chris L: If you are able to make it, you can give a brief explanation of your post as an exec officer.

Kimberly: I have class until 5:30, but I’ll be late for meetings. Over the summer, I’ve been on the sexual assault prevention task force and we’re finalizing our report. It should be submitted and on one of the Provost’s desk by the beginning of October. There are some good recommendations and the task force has met with several focus groups over the summer and we’ve met once or twice a month to narrow down the huge list of ideas on improving campus policies as well as actions in addressing this issue.

Alice: I don’t have any updates. Glad to be back. I was all over this summer, glad to be here.

Evan: Just doing the orientation thing, someone’s interested in joining both Senate and otherwise.
Officer Reports

Chris E: I closed interviews and need to make decisions for the policy analyst and organizing director. Initially I was swayed by someone with social media background, but I’ve found someone with a good mix. She’s got event planning, social media campaigns. Policy analyst is actually a senior undergrad who is the only person with legislative office experience and the job requires google search experience and ask the right questions. Of the candidates we had, I think we have the right people who will work together well with everyone. Transportation will be a big thing. We need Senate to pass a resolution for funding not to be cut. A 1.5% motor vehicle excise tax which needs first a transportation package is passed, which we will lobby for in November. We need to free up the east side people and Eastern WA folks to assess local fees for transit. They’re opposed to it right now, but I think they’re afraid of taxes in any form. Another form will be a letter that supports students in relation to transportation and we can partner with ASUW with that, maybe talk to some bigger funders to see if they would support it. Some of these higher power people might turn heads in Olympia. We’re working with Melanie, who’s up in Olympia. An Evan’s student was chosen to work in the outreach coordinator for the King County Metro position. There’s a forum on the 14th of October so we can get students out at, we can take written testimony as well. People seemed really interested in the Science and Policy committee so it’s important to hammer those people for committee appointments.

Alice: You should talk to me about that, since I could help.

Genesis: And Keolo Fox.

Alice: He’s enthusiastic and very focused on genetics. He has a lot of experience in science, because I’m coming in science and policy side and have worked in DC for a while, the committee stuff is familiar to me.

Chris E: Definitely. And we have a ton of appointments, like SAGE too that we have had interest in and we need to get that information out.

Genesis: Funding applications go live on the 30th. I’m planning on holding the F&B meeting to approve the first wave of applications. Travel grants wont meet until next month, since we only get two meetings per quarter. Applications need to come through their advisor not from the RSOs, they check first and make sure the application is complete.

Alice: Is this for tuition?

Genesis: It’s for special allocations, events and things.

Alice: How is that fair if we do that before having all the Senators or before the first meeting?

Genesis: It will be out there and it will be advertised to everyone in the UW. We have a line item to advertise for this. The people who apply first are people who know our system who know how to fill out the applications, so we want to draw in small or new RSOs that haven’t been funded in the past. So that’s what we’re trying to do. We’re kind of already trying to look for facilities for the Fall social but we’re having trouble. The HUB is kind of booked and depending on what the Communications and Outreach Committee decides, we’ll try to find something. The events coordinator is trying to find other options. At orientations there were a lot of people interested in Science and Policy and there was interest in the committees as well.

Alice: How are you handling interest in the Science and Policy committee members?
Genesis: Most aren’t interested in being on the committee, just interested in general. But I have a list.

Alice: For chairs of the committees, how are we doing that?

Chris L: The chairs are being elected by the committees and those are overseen by the officer that oversees those committees.

Chris E: I’m open to executive senators weighing in on applications I get for my committees.

Chris L: Sure, but in terms of the committees themselves...

Alice: Do we get a chance to weigh in on hiring of staff for policy analyst or...

Chris E: I had some people sit in, but I’m sorry I didn’t include executive committee

Alice: What’s the process for hiring?

Chris E: It’s up to the Senator, right Rene?

Chris L: Maybe it’s a bigger procedural issue that we should look into. Some committee appointments need to be looked into further.

Elisa: Orientations were successful, our first partnership with UWPD to do safety orientations were successful and we could continue the partnership. I sent out some cards to the Senators who participated, including you Evan. I’m still working on the NFT guide, if I could send out some of the sections to you all to edit, that would be really helpful. Chris has the coffee section, I took the dating section.

Alice: You used an acronym...

Elisa: Not for Tourist guide, it was a partnership with Not for Tourists and we made a book, but instead of that which was not cost effective, we’re just publishing an updated pdf version that will be available on the website and that people could update. There’s also undergraduate information that’s in there that I’ll be sending out to ASUW. The welcome packets and Senator handbook I’m working on that and getting my committees together. I also am hiring for Communications Specialist and Claire is applying for that job (taking minutes). I have a schedule conflict with the ASUW Board meetings this quarter so I need to find someone to proxy for me, maybe the University Affairs Director? It could be anyone, is that right?

Chris L: We may nominate anyone, it could be any graduate student.

Alice: To do what?

Elisa: To act as a voting member on the ASUW Board every other Thursday from 5:30-7:30.

Rene: Every week.

Elisa: Oh, every week. Do we usually go to every meeting? Ok, that’s going to be a challenge.

Evelina: Topics we discussed at the summer meetings, we’re doing Husky Leadership Retreat to bring RSO leaders together and collaborate their programing on November 23rd. Burgess has been reevaluating the Husky Pride Fund and forming a new committee in Fall quarter. We approved a
Communications, Financial and Employee evaluation policy and we’ll be working on a volunteer policy as well.

Chris L: Ok, tailgating. I’m crossing all my fingers that it will be a success. I think it will be and we have several ‘yes’s on facebook. If it’s a small crowd the first time, that’s ok, it will be casual and if you’re serving beer you shouldn’t be drinking. We’ll be renting a U-Car. We need lawn games and if you have them, please bring them.

Kimberly: Where did we get the cornhole from last year?

Chris L: We rented it.

Chris E: There’s a crappy one floating around Evans, we can get one for sure.

Chris L: We also need a boombox, ideally with MP3 input. I’ll send another email.

Kimberly: Which parking lot?

Genesis: No, Sylvan Grove.

Chris L: It turns out all the parking lots, like E1, are managed by Athletics. You have to be a season pass holder. So there was an option to do W-28 over by Portage Bay near the Transportation Center. People do tailgate there but it would be even further away, we would have to go through the whole thing of having people there early to get us a spot and it was looking more and more like trying out Sylvan Grove. We’ll see how it goes. The Sylvan Theater and Commons is a really beautiful space and close to the stadium.

Larry: What if it rains?

Chris L: We have two canopies, and the weather is looking slightly rainy. We have provision for that and hopefully it will be enough. I’d like to thank Genesis and Sana to help out with the food and the beer and general things, so thank you. Following up on the sexual assault task force, it will be a top priority for us.

Kimberly: We’re still talking about how to keep involved after it’s submitted.

Chris L: I have to make a decision by tomorrow on the University Affairs Director. I went to Convocation on Saturday and wore a robe and sat up on stage with the president et al. There is something about the pomp and circumstance of that ceremony that makes you feel connected to the University. It would be nice to have a ceremony like that for grads to feel more connected. Alumni, I’ve been laying groundwork with Joey our Development director. One we’ll be looking at the general alumni population, events, and we’ll look at capacity rated individuals, alumni who have money to throw around. There are several in the area and we’re figuring out how to get them involved. I have a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship and was on a panel with other graduate research fellows and we talked about our research, the future of science and policy, the other seven people are doing really cool work and are great about talking about it. They’d be great for Science and Policy this year.

Alice: I’m a fellow too, and would like to get involved in getting the science and policy workshops going. Some of those workshops are focused specifically on legislative things, I’d be happy to get the ball rolling with Genesis and connect the dots. Science communication is one, science and policy is another. I want to get FOSEP, Kelly Edwards Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, other science comm and science policy people on campus together and be the point person connecting them on campus.
Chris L: We have that communication from a Professor from one of the new courses.

Alice: Forward the science and policy stuff to me and I’ll go through it.

Chris L: I’d like to say that I’m looking forward to a good year, that the officers have come together and have a good relationship. We’re all on board now and we’ll do great with a lot of energy and ideas. I’m taking my general exams the week of October 21st and obviously GPSS will be a top priority but if I seem frazzled that’s why. Afterward, I will be free at last. Any announcements?

Chris E: I’d like to continue to do the informal after Senate meetings, like karaoke and such. It’s nice to meet everyone on an informal level.

Elisa: Speaking of which…

Chris L: We’re going to Kate’s for karaoke after, it starts at 9.

Alice: Is it 21+? I have a friend who’s twenty.

Chris L: I think so.

Rene: We have a new staff member in SAO her name is Jessie Larson, she’s our officer support supervisor and we’re going through transition so thanks for your patience.

Kimberly: She’s replacing?

Rene: Patrick Emrocks.

Chris L: I’ll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Genesis: Seconds.

Chris L: Any opposed?

Meeting adjourns at 7:02pm.