Attendees:
Chris Lizotte – GPSS President
Chris Erickson – GPSS Vice President
Genesis Gavino – GPSS Treasurer
Evan Firth – Executive Senator
Kimberly Schertz – Executive Senator

Minutes called to order: 5:31

Chris L: Entertain motion to amend Agenda. It should say information not action.

Chris E: So moved

Chris L: Any opposed?

- None Opposed

Chris L: Entertain motion to approve minutes?

Kimberly: Move to approve

Genesis: Second

Chris L: Entertain motion to approve minutes from August 7,

Kimberly: Move to approve

Genesis: Second

Chris L: Entertain motion to approve minutes from August 21

Kimberly: Move to approve

Genesis: Second

Chris L: So this is the official travel grant application?

Genesis: Yep

Chris L: so the reason that we are talking about this is because we had one request, so for now I think we are completely legitimate in exercising the power of evaluating the application. But we’ll do that next meeting because I thought it would be best if we just figure out if anyone has any questions

Kimberly: I have a question out of curiosity, how was it decided that the applicants need a 3.2 GPA?

Genesis: It wasn’t us, so like the whole first page that F&B changed was the domestic and international amount awarded, and otherwise it was just from the committee and their report
Chris L: I don't know why that GPA

Genesis: there is a rubric that goes with this, and asked on the answers that the applicants take, and then we go by the score. You review it before they come, and then the applicants come and present to the exec committee

Chris L: Genesis do you know when Louis is hoping to travel?

Genesis: all I know is that it’s in October

Chris E: Could a school apply for one? Say this is the actual thing and we don’t know who the students name is, but we do know we’ll be sending someone

Evan: well that will be difficult in the long run

Genesis: and you can’t cover a group, it has to be one specific person

Chris E: well it will be one specific person; they might not have the name yet. So, another question is that it says once every 3 years with a maximum of 2?

Evan: I think it’s mainly like a onetime deal, so I think the whole idea is to give one person (PHD STUDENT) a travel grant

Kimberly: is there a way to change the wording for “conference” in case a student is going to a competition, or paid internship?

Chris L: So I know this came up last year, because there are a lot of professional advancing events that are not quote on quote conference, so I’m actually surprised to see this language of “conference” because it was discussed. So this is something that this year’s travel grant committee can improve on

Evan: Well a lot of these are still open, even if you are applying to the event

Chris L: The only thing I can see is that when will we get to process this on a short timeline

Genesis: let’s say we’re looking for winter quarter approval for them to travel on the winter quarter, and we’re not sure whose going but that they are going to the conference, and so we cut someone else out who could use that funding in order to save those 300 dollars for a student whose name we don’t know.

Chris E: So it’s probably easier if we say that there is a limited amount of funds and you have to fit these criteria; that you have to go to a conference and you have to make sure that you are going.

Chris L: We have to make the case that it’s staying for the long term, and this could mean opening up to more people or more kinds of things. So I think all of these things are worth considering and making a decision on either yes or no, and maybe even have a modified application, all these things are possible but I think they all have to be considered. I believe our bylaws say that the travel grant committee needs to be formed by the end of October or something? I don’t know exactly what it says, but you can look it up. This is a good discussion that we are having because we need to direct the travel grant committee because they also have to think about the process

Evan: I think overall, generalizing isn’t going to be an issue for this application; I don’t think any of these questions are exclusionary. The only thing that we should exclude is the timing, “if you can’t make the deadline than I’m sorry”
Kimberly: so when we talk about the timing, do you mean a deadline for an application?

Genesis: I think the travel grants... we’d meet each quarter, we did think about the rolling basis, because let’s say someone needs to travel to a conference over the summer, what we mean basically is just get it in by the end of the quarter, to get reviewed by

Evan: So for now, might as well make it as smooth as possible

Chris L: so we’ll just have to evaluate the ones that we get, so for our purposes right now , next time we’ll have the rubric, and did you say that the person needs to come?

Genesis: We wouldn’t need her to come

Evan: we did try to limit it so that they wouldn’t have to do too much

Genesis: so we’ll send it out this week, because we need to have it approved before the 25th, before our next meeting. So she needs to get this all done in the next two weeks if she wants to travel in October.

Chris L: Any questions on the application itself?

Genesis: so our plan is to send it out this week, for her to fill it out and turn it in by the 25, and for the September 25th meeting we’ll make a decision

Chris L: so that’s kind of our action step

Kimberly: can I just add, if we want to open it up to people who are traveling for internships as well, we should specify that they are paid internships

Chris L: so anything else on that? So next up, I’d like to think of our first senate meeting. First we’ll be having our open house mixer for current senators and those who want to be a senator, and the real goal is for those who are thinking of becoming senators to kind of get a feel for it, and just really being around as many of us as can be there to talk to people, and make it pretty informal. Now the first senate meeting itself, is critical because it sets the tone, its peoples first impression, and last year one of the things that we did in exec over the summer was that we worked really hard to settle the complaints : too passive, too much talking. We’ve thought really hard on how we can minimize that as much as possible. So one way is to put out as much background information before the senate meeting, so that people come with as much information as possible, so that we don’t have to go through that in the senate meeting. Also, pacing and when to do different kind of activities, with that in mind, there are a few things that we absolutely must do during our first meeting, one is forming the judicial committee, and the other is give a brief intro to GPSS an what it is that we’re doing.

Kimberly: so I felt like I didn’t become really involved until I got involved in the committee. So is there a capacity for every member to become part of the committee?

Evan: well, we’ve never had problem meeting the maximum, only meeting the minimum

Kimberly: so I’m totally just throwing this out, what if we required every senate member to be on a committee, I know it adds responsibility but I mean, you’re supposed to be involved as a senator either way

Evan: that would be a good question to ask Renee, I’m sure this was brought up before, and it either worked or didn’t work
Chris L: I think it has merit for sure

Kimberly: I think it might be too idealistic, but I don’t know how successful mixers are to draw people in

Chris L: you bring up a good point because one thing we also have to do is somehow present the committees before making it intolerably long

Kimberly: what about brochures for each committee?

Chris L: that could be a good idea, and recruiting people who have been it, to kind of speak of the subject

Chris E: so the main thing is getting people involved. But here’s the other problem, just because they are in a committee doesn’t mean that they will show up to the meetings. But what is something that we can take away or give them as an incentive?

Genesis: but I know that if they miss more than 2 meetings, you get kicked off and you won’t be on the roster

Chris L: I think that’s a secretarial issue

Genesis: Shaming is also something that was talked about

Chris E: I think I would go for the incentives first before the shaming, I see the point, but I don’t think that’s the kind of people we want to be

Chris L: so I think one side is enforcing, and I think the incentives is a good idea

Kimberly: a drawing at the end to win, for a prize for those who have shown up to meetings?

Genesis: nope, we can’t do that. We can’t purchase anything with our money and give it away. Unless it’s donated

Chris E: Also making students aware that their senator isn’t showing up for their program

Kimberly: yea, I think that’s better than kicking people off

Chris E: I really feel that there is a whole system that if you’re dropped, someone is going to replace you, because they will think even if you replace me, no one in the program is going to know. So I think it’s a good idea to let those in the program be aware

Chris L: I think Elisa is pretty in tune with all the sanctions that have to do with not attending and not participating

Chris E: I think that those positions are competitive; at least in Evans and Law, people want that position

Evan: I think enforcing the knowledge that you guys can enforce resolutions and that this is what you’re here for. Usually what we were doing with the resolutions and this is what we are enforcing. Encouraging asking for what was going wrong, so we can learn how to deal with that

Chris E: so that can even be a push too, and I’m not opposed to sending an extra email, to talk about things that are a little more important

Genesis: also we can use our FaceBook page to get that out there, because if people are sick of emails, we use FaceBook
Evan: if we encourage and ask them, “what have you been asking your senator?”

Chris L: that brings me to another thing that is potentially good for the first meeting, and we did this last year, where we asked people what their priorities are, at the same time we didn’t want it to seem like we were totally unprepared so we came with some of our priorities

Evan: they can do breakup groups like we did the first time, and it worked well in the first meeting. People didn’t ditch and we started using it at 90 minutes

Chris L: Sometimes the purpose was not very clear, so I think that they would work if they add a specific purpose. If there are things that we know because we have been exposed to it over the summer, and we know issues that we think we might want addressed in the senate that could work. I like to think it in 3 categories; I think GPSS is advocacy, service, and community. That seemed like a recently comprehensive division of our function, and then obviously between those buckets, we can put all the different stuff. I think there should be a very brief presentation of the structure and the way we do things, also if we want to bring up things that we came up with in the summer and that we can add so we can present those things and address them

Chris E: one of the things that I will say, I really like that idea, but if we can send them a pre-email, that would be good

Evan: yea, that’s a good way to do it

Chris L: yea, I think that will work well and also to know who our senators are before the first meeting

Chris E: it takes a while right? So maybe we can send a second one as well?

Evan: the meetings are open, and they can attend it and if they are interested at all, they can come to the official meetings even if they are not a senator

Chris L: “if you’re curious come to our info session”, I have to talk to Elisa about this too, but this is where orientations will be crucial, if you’re interested in being a senator

Evan: during the orientation I would also stress that “you are welcome in the meetings”, because for me when I went to the first meeting I felt like an outsider

Chris L: so I’m going to propose, since we are eventually going to need a list, between now and the 25th, when we have to say that this will be our agenda, we’ll do some type of Google doc, where we can collaborate and construct an agenda so that when we come back on the 25th, we’ll have things a bit more clear. Anyone want to keep plugging away at ideas?

Kimberly: when are the orientations set up?

Chris L: I think that it’s on Google drive, and Elisa is pleading for people to sign up

Kimberly: what’s the name of the document?

Genesis: I think “orientation” something

Chris E: I think also people should do their homework before coming to the meeting

Chris L: so I know in Roberts rules people are limited to speaking twice
Chris E: do we know how hard line was being held last year?

Evan: so last year, so that didn’t happen, the president would say “we have 5 more minutes and we have to move on” or “sorry, you got to read it”

Chris L: I don’t know if we can officially limit

Chris E: Limit the times that people can talk

Chris L: I don’t think we can actually limit, but we can definitely look and see, and I think there is a time limit. We can look into that for sure

Evan: then you also have to consider, is that contradictory to making meetings more active

Chris E: I’m not worried about debates but I’m worried about circular conversations

Kimberly: I think that’s part of the reason why we created forms

Evan: Yea and we never were able to do it

Chris L: People will just go on resistance, which is not going to the form

Evan: so I think there should be someone on top of the parliamentarian rules

Chris L: I will look at the rules and see if there is a limit on the times that someone can speak, but looking at bylaws, I don’t think there is going to be something like that

Chris E: We are just as accountable as what we want them to do

Chris L: anything else on that? Great. So I will take responsibility of setting up. Is Google docs, an ok source for everyone?

Chris E: yea, as long as you share it

Kimberly: I have nothing, but I don’t have access to that orientation Google docs

Chris L: ok, so I’ll make sure everyone has access to the orientation Google doc

Chris E: so things are moving along here, there is federal: so Sage, Chris and I are signed up to go to conference in November. So there is a person from the law school, who was provost or something earlier, Alex is the name, and he sounds interested, wants to do it. But I’m holding back a little bit before making an announcement, so Matt will work with whoever that person is so we can do a succession thing. On the other hand Kianna said something about listening in on calls, and if she has more information to go on the Regents, so I’ll be working with Matt on that as we get in line with Sage. On state side things have been kind of quiet, and there will be an ASUW joint effort in Bellevue. Also a thing called the 24 coroners, that’s on the 16th, I think I will be going with ASUW or getting a u-car to go down there and do that. The senate majority coalition, the only thing that we really want in that bill, is the 20 dollar car tabs that helps restore funding for transit, not to say that they couldn’t find it somewhere else, but id sleep better knowing that’s settled. WSA is this weekend. We’ll be hosting WSA this weekend, and other than that I think that is it
Chris L: Secretary Elisa, says to please sign up for orientations, so I will make that available. I know she will have materials and a script on what she wants everyone to say.

Chris E: and I’m working on that as well.

Genesis: event coordinator will be coming on board the week before school starts, and I will be going on mainly how you cannot spend our money, also we will have a meeting with all of the committee chairs on spending the money and how to.

Chris L: committee chair handle?

Genesis: that would just be in the bylaws.

Chris L: So yea, the WSA meeting will be here at the UW Seattle campus, it was supposed to be at UW Bothell but they had a little meltdown because Bothell is closed on that day, so I said yes to having it here at Seattle, and we have catering and a location.

Genesis: Do we have any news on tailgating?

Chris L: Yes, so I have reserved the sylvan theatre for the dates (up to 3 dates)

Chris E: where is that located?

Kimberly: is that by the pillars?

Chris L: yes, it’s by the pillars. But I’m also thinking of honest tailgating.

Kimberly: we’d have to camp out.

Chris L: Well yea.

Kimberly: I can volunteer for one day. Or we can make a real big banner, very visible.

Chris L: well yes, it’s very visible. So, if we can get people with vehicles to take the spot, then it is a possibility. What we have now is the outdoor space reserved, and my thought was we could get a net, and people could bring food, people could bring grills. Alcohol is where it gets tricky, people can’t bring their own alcohol if we buy our own alcohol and sell it, then that works. So if we can get people to get spots with their vehicles then that’s what we would need, also if we could guarantee adjacent spaces.

Chris E: what’s the pricing?

Chris L: well the sylvan theatre is free.

Chris E: this I like, my problem is where it is.

Kimberly: well it’s close. But that purpose is to draw people to GPSS.

Genesis: So I think the first thing is to light a fire under Law and Evans to see if we can get help, because we need the money.

Chris E: I just worry about liability stuff. So if it is close enough.
Chris L: it’s like 200 yards away

Chris E: so if it’s outdoor, and not that far away, it could work

Chris L: so I plan to put an invitation, an open invitation in every grad student’s email

Chris E: I think if its close enough, and we have the availability to do booze, and if we have sponsors to do food

Kimberly: I’m still on my point that I made earlier, it’s not the same atmosphere.

Genesis: and also, one of the goals is to get alumni, and they are not going to leave the tailgating section to go to the theatre

Chris L: there are a lot of considerations going along

Kimberly: I’ll get in touch with the law school, but we have a retreat going on the 22, so I doubt we’ll be able to help for the first game, but we can I think for the others

Chris L: I do appreciate the argument of the atmosphere in the tailgating. So once you get these responses, shoot them out to me and I’ll tell you guys what’s going on

Genesis: keep in mind that it’s only 500 that is going out to this

Chris L: yea, and I’m putting 500 in as well. I’m hiring University Affairs director, and interviews start next week. Still meeting vice provosts of various stripes, I think I’ve met every vice provost, so I’m pretty well traveled around campus at this point

Chris E: can you send out a list of the appointments that need to be made?

Chris L: yes because Laura and I compiled it last week, and we’ll put it on the website as well. One thing I learned this week is that I have the mentality of “I’ll just do it myself” but I apologize

Chris E: when in doubt, shoot out an email

Chris L: and that’s not me being possessive

Chris E: I’ll be posting the two new positions soon

Chris L: I will entertain motion to adjourn

Evan: Motion

Kimberly: second

- None

Opposed

Meeting adjourned 6:45