Title: RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING GPSS TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING ITS FUNDING FOR 2013–2014 [TGPRC DRAFT]

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Resolution Number: 03.12-13

WHEREAS the assembled Senate elected on 4 April 2012 to terminate its travel grants program indefinitely from the 2012–2013 academic year; and

WHEREAS the assembled Senate passed Resolution 02.11-12 (“A Resolution Directing the Senate to Establish an Autumn 2012 Ad Hoc Committee on Travel Grants”) on 30 May 2012; and

WHEREAS the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee, thus established, has conducted a thorough review of the former travel grants program over the course of the autumn 2012 and winter 2013 terms; and

WHEREAS the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee has concluded that the provision of GPSS travel grant funding to qualified graduate and professional students can be a valuable contributor to the GPSS mission to “in every way possible, attempt to improve all aspects of graduate and professional student life at the University of Washington” (GPSS Constitution, Art. II Sec. A); and

WHEREAS the Final Report of the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee has been received by the Senate on 20 February 2013; and

WHEREAS the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee Final Report concludes with a recommendation that the GPSS travel grants program be reinstated with substantially reformed operational guidelines at the previously established level of funding for a two-year pilot period,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate reinstate its travel grants program in the autumn of 2013; and

THAT the Senate assembled directs appropriate GPSS officers and staff to make the arrangements necessary for the reestablishment of a reformed travel grants program; and
THAT the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee Final Report be used as a guideline for the establishment and operation of the renewed travel grants program; and

THAT a standing GPSS Travel Grants Program Committee be reestablished no later than autumn 2013 to administer the distribution of awards under the supervision of the Treasurer; and

THAT the program’s efficacy, efficiency, and mission be fully reviewed following a two-year probationary period by appropriate GPSS officers and staff no later than spring term 2015; and

THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate amends its bylaws by inserting “Travel Grants Committee” to Article V “Officers of the GPSS,” Section E “Duties of the Treasurer,” Clause 2C “Serve on the following committees…”; and

THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate amends its standing bylaws by reinserting “Travel Grants Committee” into Article VI by replicating the previously used language from Article VI, Section F from the GPSS Bylaws dated 26 May 2010, with the sole exception that Section F, Clause 2, section A be changed to “the Travel Grants Committee shall be formed during the first Senate meeting of the year…”; and

THAT substantial change or termination of the program, if deemed appropriate at that time, must be presented to the full Senate and sufficiently debated before subject to the vote of the Senate; and

THAT the GPSS budget for 2013–2014 approved on 13 February 2013 be amended to allocate $20,000 from the GPSS General Fund for dispensation in travel grants during the 2013–2014 academic year and summer of 2014; and

THAT funding for year two of the pilot program may be allocated in the budget for 2014–2015 as is deemed appropriate at that time following a review of year one’s process and results.

Presented to GPSS for approval on 27 February 2013
Approved on