University of Washington
Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS)

5th Annual Higher Education Summit
Friday, November 4, 2011

Location: University of Washington, Kane Hall, Walker-Ames Room

This event will provide space for key policymakers, academics, university presidents, members of the University of Washington administration, and student leadership to discuss the critical issues facing the funding of graduate and professional education.

This year’s summit focuses on the ability of Washington residents to attain an advanced degree at a public institution given the ever-increasing student debt burden. This summit will examine the ground lost in terms of funding for higher education since the ongoing recession began and highlight how various groups have advocated, and continue to advocate, for continued state support to higher education. The summit will also discuss how the loss of state and federal funding is forcing the privatization of public higher education through the shift to fee-based programs. This summit will ask those in attendance to provide their insights and opinions as to how we can collectively address these challenges and help provide people the opportunity to become the skilled workers, researchers, and entrepreneurs needed to ensure Washington state’s economic stability. Please come and help us work toward that goal.

Details on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/UWGPSS#!/event.php?eid=243932658987928), the GPSS Website (http://depts.washington.edu/gpss/node/83), by e-mailing gpsspa@uw.edu or calling the main GPSS line (206) 543-8576.

**Finalized Schedule**

8:30 AM Breakfast/Registration

9:00 AM **GPSS Summit Begins with Welcoming Remarks:** University of Washington President Michael K. Young
9:15 AM **Panel 1: Where are we presently in terms of state and federal assistance for advanced degree production at Washington’s public universities?**

*Abstract:* The purpose of this panel is to identify the problem by contextualizing how much higher education has been cut since the beginning of the ongoing recession at the state and federal level.

**Panelists:** State Rep. Reuven Carlyle (D, Vice-Chair, House Higher Education Committee); Etheldra Burke (Chair, Higher Education Coordinating Board); Paul Jenny (Vice Provost, Planning and Budgeting, University of Washington)

**Moderator:** Courtney Acitelli (UW Impact Director)

10:00 AM **Break time between panels**

10:10 AM **Panel 2: What is the future for Washington’s public research universities in an era of shrinking state assistance?**

*Abstract:* The purpose of this panel is to discuss various aspects of sustainable funding models for public universities and how institutions can move toward those models.

**Panelists:** Washington State University President Elson Floyd, Kellye Testy (Dean of the University of Washington Law School), Doug Wadden (Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Office of the Provost, University of Washington)

**Moderator:** Aaron Naumann (GPSS President)

11:10 AM **Panel 3: Attaining an Advanced Degree: Has Student Indebtedness Reached the Tipping Point?**

*Abstract:* The purpose of this panel is to focus on the financial burden being shifted onto graduate and professional students, and in particular economically challenged students.

**Panelists:** Kay Lewis (Financial Aid Director, University of Washington); Susan Terry (Career Center Director, University of Washington), and Julia Carlson (Director, Graduate Enrollment Management Services, The Graduate School, University of Washington), Aaron Naumann (GPSS President)

**Moderator:** Gerald Baldasty (Vice Provost and Dean, The Graduate School)

12:00 AM **Break time between panels**

12:05 PM **Comments in Memory of Senator Scott White:** Adam Sherman (GPSS Vice President) and Margaret Shepherd (Director of State Relations, University of Washington)

12:15 PM **Closing Remarks:** State Senator Derek Kilmer (D; Vice Chair, Ways & Means Committee; Economic Development, Trade & Innovation Committee; Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee)

12:30 PM **Lunch & Open Discussion w/ Student** Led by Adam Sherman (GPSS Vice President)