GPSS Senate Meeting
December 1st, 2010

1. Call to Order
   a. Boyan (FIUTS) moves to call the meeting to order at 5:45pm
   b. Charles (ESS) seconds.
   c. Motion passes

2. Approval of the Agenda
   a. James (IS) moves to approve the agenda
   b. Rick (Psychology) seconds
   c. Motion passes

3. Approval of the minutes
   a. Trond (Engineering) motions to approve the minutes
   b. Minutes amended to reflect majority vote approving and not numerical outcome of vote for the Universal U-PASS resolution.
   c. Trond (Engineering) motions to approve amended minutes
   d. Jean (Medicinal Chemistry) seconds
   e. Motion passes

4. Legislative Agenda
   a. Ben (VP) gives overview of the legislative agenda that he is allowed to lobby for in Olympia. What do the budget cuts mean for UW students? Because of the situation UW is facing, GPSS has to be conservative with advocacy goals. Top priorities are funding and quality. GPSS is asking for:
      i. No new cuts
      ii. Financial Aid: state has divested in financial aid for graduate and professional students
         1. asking for expansion of financial aid spending
      iii. Tuition: asking legislators to adopt an income base tuition model.
         1. predictable and stable tuition - ensures access to the university and equality and advancement to degree completion
      iv. Three Main Points:
         1. Funding and Quality
            a. GPSS urges the Legislature to make no new cuts to higher education. If cuts are necessary to higher education they should be proportional to cuts to other discretionary state programs.
         2. Financial Aid
            a. GPSS urges the Legislature to expand financial aid funding and to support policies that ensure access for low- and middle-income students.
         3. Affordability
a. Current “ask”: GPSS urges the Legislature to adopt an income-based tuition model to mitigate barriers to entry for students who cannot afford to pay increasingly higher tuition rates.

b. Entertain motion to change to: *GPSS urges legislators to support a tuition policy that takes students’ ability to pay into account.*

b. Federal Agenda
   i. Pledge to America plan- proposed cuts to research funding

c. Charles (ESS) moves to amend the tuition section on page 2 bullet point 1 of the legislative agenda to reflect the language (see revised language on slide)

d. POI: Trond (Engineering) asks if there are any other different versions. Answer is no.

e. Karl (JSIS-REECAS) seconds.

f. All in favor.

g. Paul (Health Services) motions to move for 5 minutes of questions
   i. Boyan seconds.

h. Question List
   i. Ashley (Classics): Given this document is an opinion tool, I feel that page 3 feels a lot more dense. I’m concerned that if we use this as a communication tool our priorities will get lost.
      1. Ben: page 3 is largely unchanged from last year. I used this setup where the first pages are for general lobbying use and the later pages are position statements that will be used less in general lobbying efforts.
   ii. Jean (Med. Chemistry): Who consists of the Higher Education Coordination Board?
      1. Ben (VP) - they can be anywhere from business leaders to university students.
      2. Sarah (Pres.)- they make decisions on higher education policy issues and recommendations.
   iii. Jennifer (Fisheries): Are we referring to tuition to all students or just for graduate students?
      1. Ben (VP): The legislature sets tuition for undergrads, Regents sets tuition for graduate students. As it appears on the agenda, the “tuition” refers to our tuition. But the language is vague so I can have flexibility.
      2. Sarah (Pres.): we want to keep this as an adaptable document
   i. James (IS) moves to add 5 more minutes to questions
      i. Boyan (FIUTS) seconds

j. Question List continues
   i. Paul (Law): if legislature had tuition setting what would that mean?
1. Sarah (Pres): undergraduate tuition has been capped at around 7%. From a policy perspective we would know that graduate tuition would increase by a finite percent.

2. Ben (VP): tuition policy is going to be a big topic this session, especially for undergraduates.

ii. James (IS): No cuts is optimistic highpoint, is the implication that are we accepting cuts in other areas?
   1. Ben (VP): we are acknowledging that there will be cuts and we are mitigating that as much as we can. Financial aid funding is one of our top priorities

iii. Nathaniel (Electrical Engineering): Question pertaining to language on protecting quality of education.
   1. Sarah (Pres): protecting faculty salaries, this language speaks to preserving quality

k. Trond (Engineering) motions to approve the legislative agenda
   i. Paul (Health Services) seconds.
   ii. All in favor.
   iii. motion passes.

5. STF
   a. Charles (ESS) reviews the STF oversight proposal that he presented on first meeting. Passing and amending by-laws for STF committee. STF has been a little problematic and last spring we came up with recommendations for new oversight plan.
   b. Major Changes
      i. Annual approval of Spending Plan by GPSS and ASUW
      ii. Required to submit to student body Annual Report
      iii. Must communicate large shifts in approved funding to ASUW and GPSS (10% rule)
      iv. Two new positions: Financial and Compliance Officer
      v. .5% increase in administrative costs (up to 1.5%)
   c. Boyan (FIUTS) motions to fix typographical error in document pertaining to administrative costs from the stated 1 to 1.5
      i. Karl (JSIS-RECAS) seconds.
      ii. motion passes
   d. Questions
      i. Matt (Physics): mechanism to look at overall level of funding?
         1. Charles (ESS): for a given window every year we can change that. No historical data to decide if overall tech fee was at an appropriate level. If there is a problem with the feel level we can bring it up with ASUW.
   e. Edward (Astronomy) motions to approve STF by-laws
      i. Eric (Social Work) seconds.
      ii. all in favor.
      iii. motion passes.
   f. Amending GPSS by-laws
i. Questions
   1. Paul (Law): Who currently in GPSS acts as oversight in STF?
      a. Charles (ESS)- no one
   ii. Meghan (Oceanography) motion to amend GPSS bylaws
      1. Lauren Berg (Biology) seconds.
      2. all in favor
      3. motion passes

6. Summit
   a. Sarah (Pres) introduces GPSS Summit which will take place on Friday December 3, 2010.
   b. Issues about dual importance of state funding with a panel discussion.
   c. Second panel will focus on federal funding. University of Washington is second only to Johns Hopkins in research funding. There will be a conversation on federal grants and aids.
   d. Meghan (Oceanography) POI: UW is number one in the nation and have surpassed Johns Hopkins in research funding
   e. Shawn (Sec) encourages Senators to invite their constituency to the event

7. Non-Resident Tuition Waiver
   a. Sarah (Pres) gives an update on the tuition waiver.
   b. Recap:
      i. **GPSS Supports Graduate/Professional Student Financial Aid:**
         Financial aid tools such as the non-resident tuition waiver are essential for attracting quality students and ensuring that UW graduate and professional education remains competitive in the global economy
      ii. **GPSS Goal:** Attain a compromise solution to ensure that foregone revenues for the waiver program remain committed to student financial aid
   c. While the waiver will be repealed in 2012 GPSS worked with the UW administration in tight budget times to keep student aid money in student hands by successfully:
      i. –Partnering in the creation of a fellowship program to serve 50 students
      ii. –Working with Deans to secure promises that they will dedicate “foregone revenue” from shift to fund student scholarships
   d. **The proposed fellowship program would include:**
      i. •Provost will create 50 fellowships (at $4500 each) for use in recruiting quality graduate and professional students. This funding level triggers a non-resident waiver (the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition)
      ii. •Fellowships targeted at students committed to serving under-represented populations.
      iii. •Streamlined eligibility requirements:
1. Reduces the number of students who are eligible for and who would receive this award
2. Fellowship program will allow for focused but valuable recruitment.

e. Next Steps:
   i. •GPSS will be working with Graduate School Dean Baldasty to design and implement the fellowship proposal
   ii. •GPSS will be working with individual Deans to ensure that they dedicate foregone revenue to financial aid; please talk to your Dean about the importance of graduate student financial aid!

f. Questions
   i. Ben (VP): This is a huge win for GPSS and shows the impact we can have on the university. If not for our intervention, these future 50 students would not be getting aid

g. Sarah (Pres) will get in touch with Senate to create an advisory committee

8. Announcements
   a. Charles (ESS)- involvement of south campus in policy issues. In January start working on committee
      i. Shawn (Sec) - great opportunity for interdisciplinary work
   b. Melanie (GPSS)- Lobby Day
      i. brainstorm ideas for getting constituents involved ex: panel discussion with schools and how state legislature might impact specific schools
   c. Marc (Tres) - F&B. Getting some departmental allocation requests in.
      Starbucks will be sponsoring the coffee for GPSS for the rest of the year
   d. Shawn (Sec) - Day of Service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. 10 person volunteer program/opportunity for GPSS at Phinney Community Center for construction of a rain garden for run-off abatement program.

9. Adjourn
   a. Trond (Engineering) motions to adjourn.
   b. Charles (ESS) seconds.
   c. Meeting adjourned at 6:48pm.