

GPSS Senate Meeting
December 5, 2007 - 4:30 p.m. - HUB 310
Approved January 23, 2008

Officers Present:

Dave Brown (President)
Sarah Reyneveld (Vice President)
Krislyn McWilliams (Treasurer)
Yutaka Jono (Secretary)

Staff Present:

Savannah Baltera (Special Asst. to the President)
Danielle Magnusson (Exec. Asst. to the President)
Matthew York (Webmaster)
Rob Muilenberg (Legislative Assistant)
Jamie Andrus (Resources Assistant)
Kelley Merrick (Policy Assistant)

1. Call to Order

Dave Brown called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

John Liston (Communications) motioned to approve the agenda.

Anna Batie (Sociology) seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Kara Main (Microbiology) motioned to approve the minutes.

Mike Vannatta (Chemistry) seconded.

Motion passed unanimously

4. Resolution 3.07-08

Mark Zelinka (Atmospheric Sciences) and Rehana Lanewala (a student in the School of Marine Affairs)

Rehana said the nation wide symposia would culminate on January 31st. She said the UW and GPSS would host the event and help was needed.

She said the science of climate change was going to be discussed and that lots of speakers were would be coming. She said she wanted faculty to be encouraged to bring students. Mark Zelinka read the resolution in support of the UW's Focus the Nation Event.

Yutaka Jono moved to amend the sponsor section to include Sarah Reyneveld and himself.

The motion was seconded.

Anna Batie (Sociology) asked if anybody representing the opposing side of the climate changing argument would be present.

Rehana said not that she knew of, but they could show up.

Emily Spahn (Civil Engineering) said there was a similar resolution in ASUW.

Dave Brown called the question.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Bylaws

Dave Iseminger said that the Bylaws have been divided up between the next few meetings. He reminded the Senate that last week he had shown a preview of a proposal but it had not been put on the floor. He said that the Executive committee felt it was appropriate to have another ad-hoc committee to bring a proposal to the Judicial Committee.

Dave Iseminger moved to have an ad hoc committee be established during the Winter 2008 quarter comprised of 4-6 Senators, chaired by David Iseminger, to review concerns raised about the tentative Representative Recognition Bylaw amendment, to revise the proposed amendment as it sees fit, and to resubmit the amendment for review by the Judicial Committee, to revise and resubmit the findings to the Senate.

Jonathan Tomhave (Communications) seconded.

One abstention

Majority approved.

Motion passed.

Dave Iseminger then asked for volunteers for the committee.

Denise Rodriguez (Jackson School), **Kara Main** (Microbiology), **Aaron Panzer** (Business Administration), **Matthew James Vechinski** (English) and **Anna Batie** (Sociology) all volunteered for the committee.

Dave Iseminger read the minor amendments that were to be discussed.

Article 2, selection of GPSS Senators:

If someone in your program wanted to challenge your running as a Senator, GPSS has power to look into it which seemed controversial.

Amendment 3 discussed the duties of the Senators. **Dave** said there was a problem if someone wanted to resign because there was no process for that. He thought it would be good to add that in.

Article 6, Committees of the Senate: Executive Committee and its quorum.

He said that quorum stated was the majority of voting Executive members.

A question had arose whether the president was a voting member or not. He said it needed to be clarified that the president would count towards quorum.

Dave Iseminger moved to pass all amendments as written.

Kristin Broms (Quantitative Ecology and Resource Management) seconded.

Andy Morabito (Electrical Engineering) said in regard to the third point that it seemed better to address the issue separately somewhere, where voting members would be defined.

Dave Iseminger said that the Bylaws officially say the Secretary cannot vote in the Judicial Committee.

Yutaka Jono said that the Secretary does not necessarily chair the Judicial Committee.

Andy Morabito (Electrical Engineering) asked if they do not chair committees if they do not vote either.

Yutaka Jono said it had been fixed.

Anna Batie (Sociology) asked what measures were present to prevent charges of favoritism. She said if there was a recall for a position she could see where a point of favoritism could arise.

Dave Brown said the Senate does not involve itself in the way the department does in electing Senators. He said the Senate could be asked to take a position if a recall needed to be taken. He said the Senate was already being charged with a certain level of involvement and that he did not see it as a concern.

Krislyn McWilliams thought the entire section needed to be removed. She said she was not comfortable with the fact that the Senate steps over this line. She thought it would be better if the issue stay with in the department and the Senate should not get involved.

Stephen Friedman (Computer Sciences) said the phrasing of Senators being responsible for things received by e-mail did not seem right.

Yutaka Jono said it would not be a problem as long as the Senator made sure not to blind CC the e-mail, there would be proof the e-mail had been sent.

Dave Brown said he saw no reason why material sent could not be posted on an area of the website reserved for Senators. He said that would be done.

Dave Iseminger wanted to propose to change the word 'sent' to 'posted'.

The proposal was taken as friendly and **Stephen Friedman (Computer Sciences)** moved to strike the word 'sent' and change it to 'posted' in Article 3 Section E.

Amy Underkofler (Jackson School) said she knew how elections worked in her department but she did not understand some other details.

Dave Brown said that the conversation needed to happen outside of the Senate meeting. He asked the Senate to adopt the language presented because it does not influence how it is being viewed within the Senate. He recommended looking at them outside of the meeting to get a more in depth look at the issues.

Amy Underkofler (Jackson School) said she did not see the point in changing a few words if the entire thing would eventually be changed.

Kara Main (Microbiology) asked how someone challenged Senator positions right now. And then asked if that was why it was trying to be made accessible as an e-mail record.

Dave Iseminger said that was what was being done.

Anna Batie (Sociology) asked when the movement should be made in order for it to go to the Judicial Committee.

Dave Iseminger said after the Executive Committee.

Lee Beaudoen (Museology) asked if this was something that would be looked at by the ad-hoc committee.

Dave Iseminger called for a point of order. He said it was not proper to throw more work to the volunteers of the ad-hoc committee. He asked if all were in favor of adopting the slate.

There were three abstentions

Majority approved.

Motion passed.

Anna Batie (Sociology) moved to refer article 2 to the Judicial Committee.

Richard Nobles (Psychology) called for a point of order to make sure she did not mean the entire article.

Anna Batie (Sociology) said she was referring to Article 2 Section C.

Amy Underkolfer (Jackson School) seconded.
Then **Amy** asked what was being looked for specifically.

Dave Brown said a developed set of standards, if they were going to be set in.

Karen Capuder (Native American Studies) added whether the Judicial Committee could make changes after the ad-hoc committee or not. Nobody stated that they could not.

The majority was in favor of referring.

6. Committees

Yutaka Jono said an ASUW Senate liaison was still needed.

Sarah Reyneveld said there were openings in faculty councils and IRB (Institutional Review Board).

Richard Nobles (Psychology) made an appeal to join IRB because people really rely on them in order for dissertations to get done, so he asked again for people to please help out.

Theresa Barker (Industrial Engineering) asked if an e-mail for these committees could be sent out.

Sarah Reyneveld said yes.

Yutaka Jono motioned to open up ASUW Senate seats to all of GPSS.

Jonathan Tomhave (Communications) seconded.

Andy Van Eck (Biology) asked what the motion meant if it was already possible to do that.

Yutaka Jono said that the idea of opening up the seat to the general public had not been discussed yet this year and said because there had been no volunteers he thought opening it up would be a good idea.

Rachell Copeland (School of Nursing) said that it was supposed to be GPSS Senate liaison and she asked if they were not GPSS Senators how could they be a liaison.

Sarah Reyneveld said she preferred it to be kept within the Senate.

Yutaka Jono said as an example that proxy was used in the Senate seats and he thought it was similar to that as long as that person that was not a GPSS Senator kept a good contact.

Anna Batie (Sociology) asked if a GPSS liaison could be made a non-voting member from the body.

Amy Underkofler (Jackson School) said if you had a proxy you would still have to show up, she said she did not see the point of someone outside of the Senate going to the meetings and not going back and reporting.

The motion was put to a vote.

The majority opposed, with a minority in favor of the motion.

The motion failed.

7. Announcements

Dave Brown said the Summit was meeting on Friday. The Executive Senators were going to attend, and he said that it would be broadcast on UW TV. He would give a full report in January.

Krislyn McWilliams showed an example of Jorge Cham's comic strip. She said he was coming in January. At the moment he was booked for the 29th but now the 31st seemed better. She said if it was done on the 31st the bigger lecture hall would not be available so two rooms would have to be used instead. She said that the Jackson School Speaker Club was contributing \$800 to the event.

Anna Batie (Sociology) informed the group that a study abroad session for graduate students was being looked into and if anyone had questions to talk to her or Yutaka.

Dave Iseminger said last year there were seven major problematic areas surrounding elections. He said more information about what would be discussed at the next meeting would be sent out over break. He said they needed to be done before March so everyone needed to go over them over break.

Krislyn McWilliams said that at some point during winter quarter the HUB master plan for the remodel would be looked at.

Sarah Reyneveld gave an update on the legislative agenda. She said childcare had been moving forward because a lot of legislators had shown interest. She said that she was

trying to match current SAF funding that currently is supporting childcare. She said the bill should be done and filed shortly.

Dave Brown said SAF currently funds the childcare program at \$818, so almost all of the students on the waiting list would be taken off.

Sarah Reyneveld said they were not going to double it, but the number would still be significant.

Dave Brown said that he and Sarah met with Ed Murray and discussed mental health care.

He said he really wanted to push this bill.

He mentioned another issue concerning the health insurance. He said that the health insurance would be presenting their report and he and Eric Godfrey would be proposing changes to the health care plans.

Sarah Reyneveld said childcare was going to be the priority because the bill had already been filed. She said the mental health legislation would not be full, but would be in the near future.

Yutaka Jono asked how many people had plans for Martin Luther King Junior Day in January because GPSS wanted to make it a day of service. He asked anyone interested to let him know.

Krislyn McWilliams said only one request for department and RSO funding had been received.

Elizabeth Scarborough (Philosophy) asked about state funding.

Sarah Reyneveld said it was something that would be included in the budget and that it was being worked on.

Andrew Overton (Business School) asked what else was being done for GPSS for improving insurance and other care for graduate students.

Dave Brown said the goal of the review process was to identify holes as they existed in the health plans for students that do not have RA/TA plans. He said that an additional plan seemed to be the best.

Andrew Overton (Business School) asked if there was a time frame.

Dave Brown said the goal was to have recommendations done so the negotiations could be done in January.

Sarah Reyneveld said the elements of the 10% richer plan would be preventative to prescription drugs, among other things. She said that was definitely the focus.

Ching-Ping Lin (Medical Education and Biomedical Informatics) asked for more information to be sent out about conference grants.

Krislyn McWilliams said the information could be found on the website and that anyone could apply online. She said everything was up to date.

Yutaka Jono said that while departmental funding and special allocations do not have a set deadline, there could be one set before going in on the whole yearly budget around April. He said it was on a first come first serve basis whether a person is approved or not.

8. Adjournment

Mike Vannatta (Chemistry) moved to adjourn at 5:32 p.m.

Motion seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.