GPSS Senate Meeting Minutes
January 14th, 2009
Approved February 4, 2009

Quorum Present

1. President Jake Faleschini called the meeting to order at 4:37 PM.

2. Approval of the Agenda
Jake Faleschini (President) entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) moved to amend the agenda to add 3.5 as an update about the Washington State Lobby drive, and item 8.5 to add a discussion about The Daily.
Mike Vanatta (Chemistry) seconded.
Noah Benson (GBLTC) moved to approve the agenda as amended
Nick Nasrallah (Psychology) seconded.
Agenda approved as amended. No oppositions or abstentions.

3. Approval of the minutes
Jake Faleschini (President) entertained a motion to approve the November minutes.
Nick Nasrallah (Psychology) moved.
Brad Osborn (Music) seconded.
Motion passes with no oppositions or abstentions.

Approval of December minutes
Shawn Mincer (Social Work) moved.
Trond Nilsen (Industrial Engineering) seconded.
Motion passes with no oppositions or abstentions.

3.5 Introduction on the Washington Student Lobby.
Dave Iseminger (Vice President) noted that many people got an invite from Dave regarding this on Facebook today. There is currently a petition drive going on starting today, and hopefully it will be finished quickly. The petition needs 6000 student signatures, as it needs to be fifteen percent of the student body. Dave explained the point of the petition drive by beginning at the end and working backwards. He explained that when we register for classes there are opt-in fees to ask if you want to be a member of WASHPIRG and ASUW. Currently, there is an extra spot not being filled and Dave is trying to get that spot to raise more funds in order to pay for Washington Student Lobby (WSL) membership fees to be able to be part of the organization. WSL is important because that’s how Dave gets more access to more legislators in Olympia. Without being a part of WSL, it is harder for Dave to reach out to people outside of the Greater Puget Sound area. The fees are based on the number of full-time equivalent students. For the UW, this means that we pay $25,000 to be part of the organization. If ASUW and GPSS don’t have a sustainable fund to pay the dues, we will have trouble being part of that
organization which has been an effective lobbying group for the past twenty-five years. Without UW participation, the group could cease to exist. Dave explained that in order to get on the opt-in fee system, we have to have a vote of student body at the ASUW May general election, and that we need 15% of student body to say that we are okay voting on this. The petition is to have a vote to have the option to pay a voluntary fee. Sarah Cody (GPSS Legislative Assistant) is leading effort from GPSS. There will be petitions to pick up in the GPSS office. Anyone who wants to volunteer to get signatures can talk to Sarah.

Jake Faleschini (President) asked if the third opt-in button is new, and whether or not we have had one in the past.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) said that there has been a button in the past to use for an opt-in fee to use for the purposes of lobbying, but it hasn’t existed for the past couple of years.

Ben Golden (proxy - Law) explained the brief history behind this. The money went to Affordable Tuition Now (ATN), which was UW centered and went to fund Lobby Day. When ATN folded and the idea to create a petition came up, the idea was that the money wouldn’t go entirely to WSL. He is wondering where funding for UW-only events should go, as there was some debate a few years ago about WSL.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) explained the history behind the UW and WSL. He explained that a few years ago, some UW students felt that they would be more effective lobbying in Olympia if the organization was more UW-centric and raised funds for their own lobbying efforts, but this proved to be harder for legislators to comprehend because they want to hear from all students, not just from the UW. There were tense relationships between the UW and other institutions on lobbying because of this. Part of the negotiations regarding the UW’s rejoining of the WSL involved negotiations on restructuring voting within WSL and this became a discussion of the fee system. The organization running petition drive is officially the University of Washington student lobby, UW chapter. Dave is currently the chair of this organization. The fees generated from this will most likely generate more than required for WSL dues, and Dave hopes that the organization will use funds for more than just WSL lobby dues.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) made a point of information. He mentioned that because this is done through a Registered Student Organization, we cannot do petitions inside the HUB as this is not a GPSS effort.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) explained that volunteers would be helping UW WSL.

Shawn Mincer (Social Work) asked about the signature deadline.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) said that this would be in early March, so he is setting the deadline as March 1. He reiterated that the important thing to know is that the petition drive is going on, and that we need help getting 6000 signatures.
Sarah Cody (GPSS Legislative Assistant) is co-coordinating this with Bryce McKibbon. If you sign up with Sarah to volunteer, you will be contacted tomorrow with training times so you have talking points that are concise and will give you petitions then as well. She explained that more information will be given to volunteers within the next day.

Lindsay Morse (Classics) asked what would happen if we don’t get the signatures.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) responded that we’d have to ask SAF for an allocation or to ask GPSS for help from the surplus, but we wouldn’t be able to sustain $25,000 for multiple years. Without the petition and the opt-in fee, we won’t be able to sustain multiple years of funding.

Jake Faleschini (President) pointed out that ASUW President Anttimio Bennett is here.

4. Guest Speaker Mary Pat Wenderoth

Jake Faleschini (President) introduced Professor Wenderoth. She is a professor in Biology, a member of the Faculty Senate, and on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. She is presenting an idea in the Biology department for creating class lists with face names attached to each member of the class, and thought this would be a great idea, especially for teaching assistants. Being able to have this class list would be valuable for TAs to connect with their classes. This is also a good way for professors to get to know students. He mentioned that there are safety issues that we have to be careful about, so these lists have limited access. Only faculty teaching the classes have access to the pictures for students who are in their own class.

Mary Pat Wenderoth explained that the program started in Biology, and she wants to scale it up to the whole university. Because we have ID cards, our picture already exists on a computer. She mentioned that it is very important for students to feel comfortable in a classroom. She used to use a digital camera to do this in her classroom, but this took a lot of work. In the Biology Department, her smallest class is 100 students, and her biggest class is 250, and it is easy to feel like a number in the class. She came up with the idea of building a community of scholars in the Biology undergrad program. She spoke with FIG leaders and asked them what makes difference between a mediocre and a great teacher, and the FIG leaders responded that they liked professors who were organized, had a passion for the subject, and if the teacher learns the students’ names. Research supports that faculty-student interaction and student-student interaction get students involved in the undergraduate experience. In a big university, to foster that, we learn student names by student photo list. She tried to find out if other universities do this, and discovered that the University of Minnesota, and that the University of Texas both do this. Five Pac-10 schools already do this, including UCLA, Cal and Stanford. The Biology Department uses built in web-cams on all of its computers, and the IT guy in Biology wrote a program that the department uses to generate these class photo lists. Professors tell students to go to the Biology study area to get their picture taken, which takes ten seconds. The student takes his/her own picture and gives the name s/he likes to be called if it is different from his or her official name. The student then selects one of the three pictures, which goes into the Biology database, which then generates a list of names and
faces for Mary Pat. It also sends her a list of emails for students whose pictures are missing so she can ask them to do this. Only Mary Pat gets this because she is the faculty member. Security is an issue, but TAs have access to student numbers, and this is equally sensitive information, so we need to treat the photo-class lists with the same level of confidentiality as you would treat any sensitive student information. Mary Pat feels that we should learn names to create a sense of belonging, as a sign of respect, to encourage participation and to promote learning. Mary Pat asked whether or not GPSS would support efforts to encourage the UW to supply a photo class list to the instructor of record for the classes. She said that the UW wants to make sure that students are behind this, and would like students to support his as well. She opened the issue up for discussion.

Jonathan Cheng (Bioengineering) asked what the cost of maintaining the program would be.

Mary Pat Wenderoth explained that the university is already putting money into taking students’ pictures and putting them on ID cards. Once they write the code that would put the pictures together with the class list, her understanding is that this won’t cost anything more than asking for a class list. She explained how teaching assistants get their class list, and also said that whether or not students are behind this is important.

Tom White (Molecular and Cellular Biology) added that he had been a teaching assistant for two Biology classes that were on this system, and that it was very helpful and improved TA rapport with the students.

Doug McIntyre (Urban Design and Planning – Masters) asked if Professor Wenderoth assumes that faculty will learn the names of all 250 students in their classes.

Mary Pat Wenderoth said that this is up to the faculty member, and she wanted to provide the opportunity for faculty members to do this. She said that out of 250 students, she learns the names of 50 or 60 students each quarter.

Jake VanderPlas (Astronomy) wanted to share that there are many faculty and TAs in the Astronomy department who are already doing this on their own, and this would save them time.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) asked if there was any pushback from the administration on this.

Mary Pat Wenderoth responded that budget crisis makes it hard to get this project to up to the top of the administration’s list of things to do. She has been working on this for a year. She has the Faculty Council on Instructional Quality behind the project, and is looking to get more groups behind it. She said that they’ve run a story in The Daily about this, and also in University Week about it.

Mark Zelinka (Atmospheric Science) asked if this system could be made available to other departments now.
Mary Pat Wenderoth said that this would be a burden on the Biology server, so this cannot be made available to other departments right now. She suggested that the IT guys from Biology and Atmospheric Sciences could talk to each other about the software, but that Biology could not maintain it.

Benjamin Hannowell (Anthropology) said that if this doesn’t get to the top of the UW administration’s list, each department could individually maintain this by using the STF funds which are extensive and easy to get if you can generate enough support.

Mary Pat Wenderoth noted that smaller departments may take a hit, as would departments without good IT guys.

Kylee Peterson (Biology) noted that when she used the system, it was really helpful, but she felt that the students who were most at risk for not doing well were the ones who didn’t get their picture taken, even when they were offered extra credit. She said that using the ID for pictures would eliminate this issue.

Mary Pat Wenderoth uses two or three points of extra credit to motivate students to do this.

Shawn Mincer (Social Work) asked about access and security. He wanted specific protocols on what happens to the information – would it be downloaded to the TA’s desktop or laptop? He wanted to know what restrictions would be placed on the class lists, and how security could be built into this.

Mary Pat Wenderoth responded that on the TA’s MyUW page, this would be attached to the section TAs would be responsible for. When the TAs download the class list, they have student names, student numbers, and email addresses. Student numbers are extremely confidential information, and these photo class lists would be treated as sensitively as student numbers. The Biology Department reminds its TAs to be careful with this information on their computers, and to delete the information at the end of the quarter.

Shannon Marsh (Public Affairs) said that this system works in other places, and that she knows of other colleges where student pictures are made available via a booklet.

Mary Pat Wenderoth added that the School of Medicine publishes student pictures and hangs them in a hallway.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) noted that these books are called Facebooks [sic], and said that there are systems for downloading pictures if you are in the same community.

Mary Pat Wenderoth replied that students consider Facebook their social life, and this is part of their academic life. She’s finding that students want her to stay out of their social lives. She wasn’t sure if these two areas could or would be cross-fertilized.
Mike Vannatta (Chemistry) wanted to know who in the administration would pull the trigger on this.

Mary Pat Wenderoth responded that the Provost and the President want to hear that students approve of this in order to raise it to the top of the list of things to do.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) asked if students would have the option of opting out of this if they didn’t want to have their picture taken.

Mary Pat Wenderoth said that she had called UCLA to talk about all the legalities that they’d gone through to make sure this was okay to do, and that there was no way of opting out. It’s a student-teacher confidentiality thing, and teachers have already seen students’ faces to figure out who they are. UCLA has decided that this was something that students would be expected to do.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) pointed out that this could be problematic for some students. Students who have experienced domestic violence or rape in the past, and have security issues about how their face is used may not want to do this.

Mary Pat Wenderoth reminded the Senate that she has these pictures, and that this is not going to the web. Students are already trusting her as an instructor to deal with a lot of sensitive material. She pointed out that putting up one’s name on the web could also be damaging, and she has to make sure that this never happens.

Derya Baykent (Education: Educational Psychology) noted that they are using this system in the College of Education with digital cameras and nametags to build a community. She said that students are welcome to use this to create profiles within the College of Education, and that they have found it helpful.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that we will be drafting legislation in support of this. The Senate will have the opportunity to accept it or decline it within the next couple of months, and that if anyone wanted to take the lead on crafting the legislation, s/he should contact Yutaka.

5. Committee Appointments
   a. Ad-hoc
   Jake Faleschini (President) said that we have five ad-hoc committees that we think will be really important for dealing with issues through the next few years and to set up strategic planning for our organization. These committees are institutionally fundamental. The first is Noah Benson’s (GBLTQ) and Nick Nasrallah’s (Psychology) committee. They have been working with the University of Texas’ student government to create an organization to represent the public ivies, which are the top thirty-six to forty public institutions in the country. The name of that organization is SAGE -- Student Advocates for Graduate Education. The UW has one of the lead roles in the organization now. The four colleges that have taken a lead on this are: Texas, UW, Michigan State and
Minnesota. We want to get a group of senators together to talk about the organization, and also about how we incorporate it structurally into our own bylaws.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) discussed his trip to Texas with **Noah Benson** (GLBTQ) last November. He said that the trip was very productive, and that they laid down the structural foundation for how the alliance would function. The alliance will be a two part system. One part is a governance clearinghouse where we would share information, strategies, and problems that other universities have and see how others have dealt with these issues. We share common interests, and this is why Texas wanted to set this up. They discussed who we compare ourselves to, and who are peer institutions are. This was why they came up with the idea of creating an organization of the top public ivy institutions. There are ten right now in the organization, and invitations are going out to twenty-two more. The alliance will be capped at thirty-two, and this was based on AAU standards for public research institutions. The thirty-two institutions are all classified as Carnegie One Research institutions.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) added that the second part of the alliance would take part in federal advocacy on an annual basis, which will start this year in April. They will be lobbying the 111th Congress. There are ten member institutions for this year, and once the invitations have gone out, they will set the agenda for the following year. This allows us to have a presence in DC in addition to a presence at the state level. It allows us to amplify our voice. When invitations are sent out, SAGE will be representing 350,000 of the country’s future leaders. He thought that this would have a powerful resonating echo in Washington DC when we talk about the issues and challenges we are facing with graduate education. The UW is the co-chair of governance in SAGE and we are doing weekly conference calls to make sure everything is going according to plan. The organization is basically creating a lot of structure on the fly, which has put strain on the co-chairs.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) went on to discuss the topics SAGE is working on. He said that they have narrowed the advocacy agenda to two main issues. The first point deals with a loan repayment program that is federally mandated for any graduate or professional student who takes up public interest work. SAGE is trying to structure it so public interest work includes employment at a public institution. This could make public institutions competitive with private institutions. The second issue is still being researched, and there are committees researching the multiple issues that SAGE could support. These issues could include appropriations the Higher Education Act which was reauthorized last year, or for the America Competes Act. Both of these acts have authorization, but don’t have appropriations yet. He discussed some of the work that has gone into this, and some of the things that still need to be done. SAGE is also organizing a Day on the Hill, including hotels and coordinating with federal relations officers. He said that there will be training on how to lobby once we get to DC, how to set up appointments, and with whom should we set up appointments. There are a lot of details that have to be worked out. The GPSS committee Nick and Noah will head will be multifaceted. Nick wants to make this a permanent fixture in our student government. For this to last beyond the initial summit and initial members, it needs to be made a part of our
member institutions. This also fills a gap at the federal level to represent us at federal level. This could be the beginning of a federal relations committee for us. This would be a great opportunity for senators who are interested in this type of work.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) asked how many people Nick is looking for as volunteers for this ad-hoc committee.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) responded that he is looking for five people. He said that the committee would tentatively meet once a month during the winter and spring, and that it would be more sporadic during other quarters.

**Yutaka Jono** (Secretary) asked how this group will be better than NAGPS (National Association of Graduate and Professional Students), in which we have taken part in the past.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) said that other institutions such as NAGPS have a bad reputation, as they have become big, bloated bureaucratic organizations that cannot get a solid agenda across. This is not an adequate structure to deal with issues. SAGE will be a smaller, more intimate group that we will use to get our issues across.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) called for volunteers for Nick’s committee. **Brad Osborn** (Music) **Shannon Marsh** (Evans School), **Rich Nobles** (Psychology), **Kris Anderson** (Art History) and **Chris Howard** (Business Administration) all volunteered.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) said that the SAGE committee will feed into a second ad-hoc committee, as part of the issue is governance. He described a second ad-hoc committee that will look at how other public institutions’ graduate student government and executive committees work, their staff, and how much they spend next year. We need to look at our own organization to figure out if it is adequate. How can we improve our structure to deal with these issues? We are creating another sub-committee to take a look at our own structure. Jake noted that it took him five months to learn this job, and he thought he would have benefited from a year as a president-elect, and maybe this is something we need. He asked for four or five senators to take a look at our internal structure and tell us how we can improve.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) said that this committee will look at the internal structure of HUB 300 with its eight staff members and four officers. He suggested that there may need to be a second vice-president.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) asked for volunteers. **Noah Benson** (GLBTQ), **Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology), **Trond Nilsen** (Industrial Engineering), **Charles Plummer** (Earth and Space Sciences) and **Shawn Mincer** (Social Work) all volunteered.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) introduced the Budget Guiding Principles committee. He explained that we are probably looking at hundreds of RA/TA positions being lost over a couple of years. Potential tuition increases may be proposed, and we are being asked to
make some tough choices. The administration and legislature are being asked to make
tough calls, and Jake wants student input to make these calls. This will be a fast-moving
process over the next four to five months, and we need a clear set of priorities for making
these choices. The Finance and Budget Committee is not the right place for this, as F&B
guides the office’s spending patterns. He asked for four to five volunteers for this
committee. Noah Benson (GLBTQ), Mark Jaffrey (Earth and Space Sciences), Lindsay
Morse (Classics), Theresa Hastert (Public Health and Community Medicine –
Epidemiology), Mark Frymoyer (Civil and Environmental Engineering), Marzieh Nabi
Abdolyousefi (Aeronautics and Astronautics), Matthew Drooyan (Aeronautics and
Astronautics) and Shane Mikes (Business Administration) all volunteered.

Jake Faleschini (President) discussed the impact of the Summit, and said that he wanted
to start planning for next year’s Summit. He wants to form a committee of senators who
will likely be here next year. The time commitment will happen mostly in spring,
summer, and fall.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) asked how often the committee will meet.

Jake Faleschini (President) replied that the committee will not meet very often. It will
meet once in spring, two or three times in the summer, and the majority of work will
happen in the fall.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) asked why the committee needed to start meeting now.

Jake Faleschini (President) replied that we need to make “save the dates” now, set the
topic, and reserve building space for it. It is important to do pre-planning, as there wasn’t
much of that this year.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) said that if this is an ongoing committee, and if your
department elects senators, being on this committee would allow you to make a good
case to run for re-election next year.

Jake Faleschini (President) asked for three volunteers. Trond Nilsen (Industrial
Engineering) and Anna Batie (Jackson School) both volunteered.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) said that a topic involving the health industry might be
timely. He encouraged South Campus senators to get involved with this.

Jake Faleschini introduced the Guide to Life committee as the last ad hoc committee.
We are revamping Guide to Life, which has been sold in past. We need to update it to
make it funnier and better. We are teaming up with The Graduate School to send it out to
everyone who is admitted to the UW for Graduate School.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) introduced herself as the committee chair. She explained
that there wouldn’t be much time commitment, and that the Guide to Life needs to be
done by March. She has two people, and is looking for three more. We will look at what
needs to be revised and what needs to be kept. The meetings will be once or twice within the next month. Benjamin Hanowell (Anthropology), Brad Osborn (Music) and Hande Ayan (Evans School) all volunteered.

b. GPSS/University Committees

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) discussed the Elections Committee. Election packets need to go out in March. This committee needed four people who shouldn’t be intending to run for office, and cannot be on the Judicial Committee. The election rules were codified in the bylaws last year. The general packet needs to be updated with basic information.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) mentioned that the bulk of the work would consist of running the election meeting and making sure that strict protocol were followed.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) said that knowing the rules, following the rules, and being able to answer questions is important. Trond Nilsen (Industrial Engineering) and Marzieh Nabi Abdolyousefi (Aeronautics and Astronautics) both volunteered for this committee.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) reminded people that Executive Committee members cannot be on the committee.

Alva Robinson (Near Eastern Languages and Civilization) volunteered.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) added that officers also cannot serve on this committee.

Benjamin Hanowell (Anthropology) also volunteered.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) mentioned that he had sent out a call to action to the student body to recruit more people for committees. There had been a problem with people applying on website, so he is going through this slowly. He has twenty applications left to go through, and ten of these are for people who are interested in the Hall Health committee. We will be close to filling every committee at the university level by the end of the month.

Jake Faleschini (President) pointed out that this is the first time that we have been close to filling every committee at the university level.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) told people to apply for committees now via the website.

6. GPRC/Bylaws

Jake Faleschini (President) noted that the Graduate Program Review Committee is currently operating without bylaws, even though it had been formed last quarter. The
Judicial Committee reviewed this last month and is now recommending bylaws to govern this committee.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) entertained a motion not to read the bylaws.

**Noah Benson** (GLBTQ) moved and **Benjamin Hanowell** (Anthropology) seconded.

The motion passed without any objections or abstention.

**Nick Nasrallah** (Psychology) entertained a motion to vote on the bylaws unless there was discussion.

**Shawn Mincer** (Social Work) moved, **Noah Benson** (GLBTQ) seconded. The motion passed without any objections

7. Tuition/TA information

**Jake Faleschini** (President) said that he thought we’d have more to talk about and that there was a rumor that the College of Arts and Sciences was going to cut teaching assistantships by twenty percent. He spoke with Ana Mari Cauce about this, going over the budget, the budget cuts that Arts and Sciences had been asked to model, and how she figured the college would deal with that. The meeting that had been planned for tonight was cancelled. The governor’s budget that was released on Dec 19th called for a fourteen percent cut to the university’s operating budget that comes from state funds.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) pointed out that the fourteen percent number is specifically for the University of Washington, as the UW is expected to take a higher cut than other institutions.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) said that we’ve been asked to take a $160 million cut over the next two years. This figure is roughly equivalent to the budget for the College of Arts and Sciences. The last time we’ve had a cut this big was in the 1940s. The governor’s budget will not necessarily be the one adopted by the state. There is a discussion of a tax increase that will go to voters just for higher education. We might get a bailout from the federal government. We have no idea what this will look like in May or June.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) explained that a seven percent tuition increase raises $10 million. On top of this, the governor’s budget mandates no raises for any state employees. This gets rid of the two percent staff raises, saving $10 million, and not raising faculty salaries saves $10 million. This leaves $26 million left to raise. Academic units are modeling eight, ten, and twelve percent decreases to their budgets. Administrative units are being asked to model fifteen, twenty, and twenty-five percent decreases in funding over the next two years. The Graduate School is considered an administrative unit, and provides a huge number of research and teaching assistantships. The Graduate School is looking at decreasing funding for students by seventeen percent. They are also getting rid of two assistant deanships in order to save money. Everyone is assuming that the twenty percent cut to budget will be adopted and academic units are assuming a ten percent cut.
The College of Arts and Sciences has said that they will probably reduce teaching assistantships by twenty percent next year. This would mean cuts to a lot of positions, and Jake was trying to figure out ways to deal with it and mitigate damages to grad students, including more affordable housing for grads, making sure that there are jobs still available for students, and that there are options for loans available as well despite the credit market drying up. Graduate students are the least powerful group at the university, so we will end up taking a big hit. He is trying to mitigate damage as much as possible, but it could be a pretty difficult next couple of years. He was not sure where tuition will be set right now. He wants to hold the line for tuition increases at seven percent, and he was not quite sure where we’re going to come out. He is having a hard time with the news that we have to cut jobs and raise tuition and finds this unacceptable.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) discussed this from the perspective of the Legislature. He asked if the governor’s budget had any power, and answered that it is just a proposal, and has no actual force. The governor may set the stage, but the legislature creates budget. They could start from square one and do nothing that the governor wants. Others want to start with her proposed budget and go from there. Cuts to higher education are not firm. People are assuming that a thirteen percent cut is a starting point, and that this figure could go up or down. The biggest hits in the governor’s budget are in the Department of Natural Resources and DSHS. It is time to talk to legislators and discuss how these cuts will impact us. We grad students need to make the best case for higher education right now. The cuts are not as deep as people thought they could be, and financial aid is fully funded at same level as in the past with slight increases. Regarding undergrad tuition, there is talk that the Legislature would not go beyond a seven percent increase because of the commitment they made to the students of Washington.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) said that he will be treating the GPSS online discussion board as a blog, and that this will be the best way to get information from him. On the blog, he will post information about important bills and deadlines for contacting legislators. People should get Dave information about their home district legislators. He wants to know whom to target so we can be effective advocates with those people.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) mentioned that Lobby Days are coming up. Lobby Days will be reconstructed -- one is next Friday, Jan 23rd and the other is Feb 19th. We are trying to train people to talk about issues and have more one-on-one interactions. Senators who would like to attend either Lobby Day should contact Sarah at gpssleg@u.washington.edu

**Yutaka Jono** (Secretary) urged students from Washington to contact their legislators, and asked what out-of-state students should do.

**Dave Iseminger** (Vice President) replied that students should contact the legislators for the district they vote in as many legislators assume that we vote in the 43rd. Also, students should contact the leadership in the different houses, and said that the Speaker of the House is from the 43rd Legislative District.
Jake Faleschini (President) said that we will be sending out more information to the Senate about this.

Shawn Mincer (Social Work) asked Dave to send out an email explaining why we need to get information to our legislators and a link to blog to send out to our constituents.

8. Programming
Tim Hulet (Treasurer) said that Speed Dating is back by popular demand! The event is on February 3rd; it will start at 6 PM and go until 8:30. Students should register on the GPSS website. Students must pre-register to attend the event as there are a limited number of seats. There will be a waiting list, and senators should pick up flyers on their way out.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) asked about gender balancing and GBLT tables.

Tim Hulet (Treasurer) said there will be a male seeking male, a female seeking female, and options to switch between tables. We will find out by preregistration whether or not gender balance will be a problem.

Shawn Mincer (Social Work) said that this was a popular event last year. Students really enjoy these kinds of things, and the opportunity to meet other grads is important.

Tim Hulet (Treasurer) said that the second event will take place in the spring. He is still looking for people to make suggestions for this event, so it can appeal to many in the student body. We have the funds to make this a good-sized event, so think big!

8.5 The Daily resolution update.
Jake Faleschini (President) pointed out Sarah from The Daily’s “non apology apology” in today’s paper. It gave information on the code of ethics, information on how we can get involved in the process, and also expressed her openness in working with the GBLT community to get their presence in paper. Part of her demonstration of this was her willingness to do a center spread on Kyle, the protest organizer, on Tuesday. Jake had an hour-long meeting with her and The Daily’s administration, and felt that they came out of this meeting in a good place, but Sarah still doesn’t understand the harm she caused. She was strongly opposed to giving an apology, because she felt backed into a corner and that an apology would be seen as a response to our threat to fire her. He is okay with accepting this if the paper was moving to a better place. Part of this step is safe zone training with the Q Center for the entire editorial staff. This was her idea, and she came into the office with this. He was in dialogue with her about sexual harassment training. Jennifer Self at the Q Center felt this was in a positive place right now. Jake said that although the apology was not a full apology, he still found our call to The Daily to be fulfilled. He thought that The Daily responded, that we made an impact, and that there would be a long way to go and a lot of work to do. The paper was starting to become more aware of issues and how hate speech and sexual harassment affects the community.
Noah Benson (GLBTQ) said that he was completely unhappy with the article because it started with the attitude that “GPSS is trying to censor us.” All of The Daily’s standards were broken in the article, and Sarah will not apologize because she feels it is a free speech issue. Noah felt like the point of article she wrote was to get us to concede and made us look bad. Noah wanted to call for a vote of no confidence in Sarah.

Ian Cairns (Law) asked if senators reflected after reading it, and asked what our options would be if we decided that the article was inadequate.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that the option is to call a vote of no confidence, and that if we call on her again to formally apologize, she won’t. We should not expect more than a backhanded non-apology apology. We have one voting member out of nine on the Student Publications Board. ASUW has a piece of legislation submitted by Yutaka that mirrors the one we passed. If this goes through, ASUW can call on their members on the publications board to vote with us. Jake doesn’t think that they will.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) discussed other options. We could always change our position and create another resolution accepting that progress has been made, but that we are not too happy with other things. We should acknowledge that this has been done and commend the effort, but we want to see other measures taken or we will go to the Student Publications Board.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) said that she spoke with a friend in her department who writes for The Daily who said that the ACLU was with The Daily. She initially got a “come and get me” feeling from reading the article. This is not enough. The Daily needs to publish an acknowledgement discussing the training they are receiving.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) said that we look ineffective if we back down from this. He wanted to see something more from The Daily.

Jared Nance (Physics) said that we should not drop it now when we have the chance to say something else. We need to make a concerted effort, otherwise we will not back down.

Lindsay Morse (Classics) thought that it was unfair for Sarah to pin this on Jake.

Jake Faleschini (President) noted that Sarah had a week and a half.

Lindsay Morse (Classics) noted that Sarah is in charge of making the poor decisions and that she did not take responsibility for them.

Trond Nilsen (Industrial Engineering) said that we need to be asking her to publicly acknowledge the steps that The Daily is taking. That is what Sarah should do. He agreed with Anna about this.
Patricia Lopez (Geography) asked about the faculty and administration in charge of The Daily and of Sarah.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that there is one faculty member and one administrator who responded to this. He met with the administrator overseeing The Daily and with Sarah, who is a hardcore First Amendment person. She didn’t believe that Jake had read Supreme Court cases suggesting that student governments aren’t state actors for the purposes of the First Amendment, and she hasn’t read law on this issue. It was clear in the meeting that the administrator has confidence in Sarah. Legally, as an administrator, she would have to recuse herself so she does not have a First Amendment case against her. The ASUW process won’t happen for at least a month because of the complicated process. It will not be until the February board meeting that we’d be able to call a vote of no confidence. He suggested that any of us who think this is an issue should go to the Student Publications Board meeting and explain why this isn’t a censorship issue. It is about journalistic standards and sexual harassment.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) noted that meeting would take place in the Communications Building, room 65.

Nick Nasrallah (Psychology) asked about the sentiment of other student members of the committee.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) said that the ASUW hasn’t defined its position because ASUW has to define the position first. Yutaka submitted a resolution to ASUW similar to the one here. One senator from ASUW was interested in co-sponsoring, and that’s it.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that he thought that we need an ASUW resolution passed in order to call for a vote of no confidence in Sarah.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) thought that we could do one of three things. We could: 1. Entertain a motion to table discussion to the next meeting to go back to our constituents; 2. Follow up on our resolution as it stands and request a vote of no confidence at the meeting tomorrow. This will show how frustrated we are with situation. 3. Table and have a motion for alternative language to come up with a middle ground.

Jake Faleschini (President) entertained a motion to write a letter in response to the points that Sarah made in her article and suggest what she needed to do. He hoped that Noah and others would work on this.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) moved to table discussion until next month as opposed to the other two options.

Lindsay Morse (Classics) seconded.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) and Noah Benson (GLBTQ) were opposed.
Mike Vannatta (Chemistry) wanted to know why we put this off until now when we could have put it on the agenda right away.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that we still have quorum and mentioned that we had guests earlier and could not discuss The Daily right away.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) preferred that we table calling a vote of no confidence and go ahead with something else. He thought that we need to make the decision with ASUW.

Shawn Mincer (Social Work) said that he thought we should move towards the third option to maintain the possibility of doing something different. He doesn’t want to table a future discussion about what we could do. Option Three is a compromise position that would take a vote of no confidence off the table.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) called for a point of information. He said that the first and third options he proposed can happen at once.

Brad Osborn (Music) asked what we stand to lose by calling for a vote of no confidence tomorrow.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that if we call it and lose, we look a little silly.

Brad Osborn (Music) noted that it would be our representative who would do this, not GPSS.

Jake Faleschini (President) said that we need to have more of a dialogue before we call for a vote of no confidence.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) moved to amend the motion to postpone calling for a vote of no confidence until the next meeting, and to send communication to Sarah saying that we know she hasn’t apologized and want her to do things in meantime.

Anna Batie (Jackson School) seconded.

Dave Iseminger (Vice President) objected. He said that it was important to table the discussion because we discussed original resolution in December at the end of the meeting. There were people who didn’t want to talk about it. He thought that we should make sure that people are aware of what we are discussing. He wanted to protect the minority view within the organization.

Nick Nasrallah (Psychology) wanted to know if we could call a special meeting of senate to address this in one or two weeks’ time.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) wanted to amend the motion to send Sarah a message that she needed to do more.
The motion to table discussion to the next month passed with the amendment to send Sarah the message that she needed to do more. The motion passed with one opposed.

**Yutaka Jono** (Secretary) said that Brad had asked what we stand to lose by calling for a vote of no confidence tomorrow, and that it depends on what we want to accomplish. If we want to show that GPSS is mad, we can do it. If we want to call for a vote of no confidence to remove her, we won’t win. If psychological shock is what we’re going for, it is worth considering.

**Douglas McIntyre** (Urban Design and Planning – Masters) asked about the form the note to Sarah should take.

**Noah Benson** (GLBTQ) agreed with Yutaka and would like to see vote of no confidence called at the Student Publications Board meeting.

**Brad Osborn** (Music) said that he suggested this so we can show our fangs.

**Theresa Hastert** (Public Health and Community Medicine – Epidemiology) said that we need to have teeth to back this up.

**Ian Cairns** (Law) said that we may undercut ourselves by calling for a vote of no confidence tomorrow if we want to do it for real later.

**Shawn Mincer** (Social Work) said that as a strategic move, he was in favor of calling this vote, but that it was better to have people on board for this.

**Mike Vannatta** (Chemistry) asked how many people sit on the committee.

**Jake Faleschini** (President) said that there are nine voting members on the committee and that we have one of them. There are two from ASUW, one journalist from the community at large, one faculty member, and one administrator and three from the Daily. The committee has not supplied its bylaws.

**Shannon Marsh** (Public Affairs) urged many people to show up to the meeting tomorrow.

**Anna Batie** (Jackson School) suggested that we table the discussion because the meeting was currently running 30 minutes over.

**Trond Nilsen** (Industrial Engineering) said that we need to add in our response why this isn’t a free speech issue.

**Kris Anderson** (Art History) moved to close debate and vote. **Anna Batie** seconded. The motion passed with no abstentions or oppositions.
Jake Faleschini (President) explained that there was a motion on the table that more action should be taken.
The motion passed with one opposed and three abstentions.
Those interested in crafting the letter should talk to Doug McManaway, GPSS Executive Assistant.

9. Announcements

Becky Bartlein (Global Health) mentioned that the 7th annual health conference will take place April 3-5 here in the HUB. The conference will showcase speakers from all over world, including Harriett Fulbright. It is an opportunity for the UW community to showcase its resources. The topic covers global health education and training. Registration is now open.

Benjamin Hanowell (Anthropology) introduced himself as a new senator from the Anthropology department.

Yutaka Jono (Secretary) announced the joint FIUTS/GPSS Happy Hour at Big Time on the 30th. Time TBA. Monday is the MLK Jr Day of Service, and one more spot on the GPSS team is open.

Noah Benson (GLBTQ) moved to adjourn. Mike Vannatta (Chemistry) seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.