GPSS Executive Committee Meeting
May 23, 2012

Members Present:
Charles Plummer (President)
Adam Sherman (Vice President)
Colin Goldfinch (Treasurer)
Melanie Mayock (Secretary)
Amy Winter (Executive Senator)
Rene Singleton (SAO Advisor)

Guests Present:
Erik Rose
John Kurpierz
Alex Krakow (incoming Law Senator)

1. Call to Order
Charles calls meeting to order at 5:47pm

2. Approval of the Agenda
Colin moves to modify agenda by moving 5a between 4a and 4b and to approve the modified agenda. (5a is now 4b1, 4a is now 4b2)
Adam seconds
Modification of agenda is approved

3. Approval of Minutes
Adam moves to approve minutes from 5/9/12 Executive Committee meeting.
Melanie seconds.
Minutes approved.

4a. Guest: Erik Rose and John Kurpierz
In fall Erik proposed a project to look at ways to reduce costs of tuition and other opportunities to lower costs of living for graduate students. Adam supported this project and GPSS acted as sponsoring client for this class project.

Cost of living is focus since it is a large portion of expenses for students.
Why GPSS? Is this the proper entity to be looking at? “Grad students taking care of grad students,” current generation supporting next generation.
GPSS is equal to $31 per student per year.
Four options were looked at:

1) Housing Co-op
GPSS buys a house and rents it out to student. Can run without a profit motive. Any profit goes back in to expanding program.
Pros: Has market effect that impacts more than just the students living there. Example: Berkeley has 1,300 students in its Co-op. University of Oregon
Cons: cost to initiate is expensive, slow to grow.

2) Bulk Buying Group
Pros: expand to allow grad students to access wholesale prices. Ethical control- sustainable, local and organic
Cons: Find space and staff. Not feasible to put it on campus proper.

Charles: Time has expired for this item. Will entertain a motion to extend time. Adam moves to extend agenda item by 10 minutes. Melanie seconds. Motion approved, time extended by 10 minutes.

3) Graduate Residency Positions
Issue: most grad students not in medical training, don’t have residency. Can’t buy equity/invest in private market.

4) Student Endowment
Might be a feasible way to aggregate money over time Issues: inter-generational equity problem

Housing Co-op is best option to ameliorate cost of living for students. With institutional support might be able to help all grad students

Potential next steps:
1) create a capital reserve fund
2) create a capital budgeting committee and start this next year. They would provide a vision and explain why this money is being saved
3) Committee given authority to initiate a project

Erik and John would like to keep at this and start such a committee
Endowment- would be managed under consolidated endowment. Endowment can raise a lot of ethical questions

4b1. Student Technology Fee
Two major issues: reallocating funds and appointment of committee chair.

\textbf{Reallocation of funds from one category to another}
$366,000$ approx deficit- giant chunk was to Microsoft Option-
$320,000$ surplus from Computer Labs

GPSS approves percentages in all these categories and we need to give them the STF Committee permission to move things around to balance the books.
Taking best guest for what apps are out there and what preferred ratio of investments should be.

Charles: STF has been charged with driving tech spending and do that through these allocations. We told them that we wanted to spend less on computing and it is good to see that that is what happened (as reflected by surplus)

Josh: Pretty successful in driving people where we want to go

Adam: In order to help digest numbers, how far off were we in what types of proposals we were getting?

Josh: we were pretty spot on for most of the categories.

Colin: shift into collaborative came from Computer labs?

Adam: what is collaborative category exactly?

Josh: we didn't want to put it into software because we wanted to save that for…?

Definition of collaborative is portable tech…and licensing services

Melanie: suggests an orientation in STF for exec members in summer or fall.

Adam moves to approve moving funds.
Colin seconds
No objections, motion passes.

Approval of Chair of STF Committee
Curtis Howell- would be new chair of STF

Melanie moves to approve appointment of Curtis to Chair STF Committee.
Adam seconds
Curtis is approved as chair of committee next year, pending approval

STF Bylaw change proposal. Josh will send summary.
Article V- need definition of RFP

4b2. University Budget Update
Charles: not much has happened to budget, but PACS (Provost Advisory Committee for Students) finally received fee program increase information for programs in Educational Outreach.
**4c. Senate Meeting Agenda for May 30th**

Proposed Agenda:
1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Election for Treasurer (40 min)
   (will require suspension of bylaws & bylaw amendment for Special Elections)
4. Coal Amendment (10 min)
5. Executive Senator Election (15 min)
6. Legislative Agenda Amendment (10 min)
7. Committee Chair Elections (15 min)
8. Bylaw Amendment (5 min)
9. Travel Grant (10 min)
10. University Budget Update (10 min)
11. State of the GPSS (5 min)
12. Announcements (2 min)
13. Adjourn (1)

Colin moves to approve the agenda for Senate meeting on 5/30/12
Adam seconds
No objections. Agenda is approved.

**4d. Resolution and Bylaw Amendments**
Melanie: There will be two resolutions for the meeting- Travel Grants to create ad-hoc committee and Coal Terminal in Bellingham. Also the proposal to amend the bylaws.

**4e. GPA of the Year Award**
Melanie: We can either vote on this tonight or wait until the June 6th Exec meeting.

Charles entertains a motion to table this discussion.
Melanie moves to table.
Adam seconds.
No objections, motion passes to table until June 6th.

Charles: When considering this award in the past we have focused on GPAs who have gone beyond the ‘call of duty’ not just the person who responds quickly to emails.

Melanie: For the future we might consider having only Senators nominate candidates. The process can be looked at.

**5b. U-PASS Name Change**
Charles: Does not see this happening any time soon. Apparently there is another RCW that governs transportation fees at universities. This RCW mandates that the Board of Regents has to apply a transportation fee to all faculty and staff. If we change the name
(to “Student Transportation Fee”) then someone could bring suit that we should be following another RCW.

Melanie: I’m not sure this is worth changing. While it would be better to have a name that is more reflective of the program, it’s not worth all of the new issues.

Adam moves to make this an action item.
Melanie seconds.
Item changed from information to action.

Charles entertains a motions to retain current U-PASS program name and rescind Executive Committee authorization to allow President to enact a name change.
Adam moves.
Melanie seconds.
No objections, motion passed.

5c. Officer Tuition Waivers
Charles suggests that if David Parsons from UAW can’t come to next Exec Committee meeting then this issue will be passed off to Adam for next year.

5d. Legislative Update
Adam: Both State and Legislative Steering Committees have met- looked over agenda items from this year and recommend actions to next year Legislative Steering Committee. Hoping to have a legislator come to a meeting and give feedback in preparation for next year.

Sequestration: won’t take place until January, after elections. Make people informed of what is going on and get graduate students involved in contacting Congress.

Melanie: Good time to start working on this issue and would be more effective in bringing in other universities in WA state. If we want to make a difference, getting ASUW and WSA interested.

6. Officer Reports

a) Vice President (Adam)
Marketing plan for GPSS to re-introduce ourselves to graduate students

b) Treasurer (Colin)
Move to HUB, what to do with old computers. Working out how necessary that is- to destroy hard drives of old computers.

Archiving paper records and sending them to archive.
Any officers or staff should back up work to server.

Producing transition reports.
Finishing up the financial books.

Melanie: Members of social committee shall be appointed by Treasurer. Colin needs to appoint 7-9 Senators.

c) Secretary (Melanie)
Senator survey like last year- designed for everyone, not just those that were leaving.
Meeting to hear from those that have not been as active- such as Humanities
Wanted to make more progress on DRAC.
Recruit for Communications and Outreach Committee.
In urban planning- asked professionals taking on issue of higher education in their agenda
Asked department about CBE Lobby Day cluster-having that community and going with people you know
Going over idea of a student council tomorrow at CBE- that might be a way to get students to go to lobby day

d) ASUW
Evan Smith is not present.

e) President (Charles)
Graduate Program Review: Quality of work senators did this year was outstanding. How much does Graduate School care? Rudy developed a survey for external reviewers to see if they were

Melanie: Do you have a recommendation on what should be done?

Student Fee: Leo has written up an extensive review of student fees history at UW.

SCPB has met twice since we last met. Next capital campaign is next big thing on president’s docket. Last time raised 2.5 billion in last campaign. New goal is around 4 billion. We have moved up to #4 in fundraising among all public research universities.

Sequestration- While state cuts may not be a big issue next year our federal research funding is in trouble. If there is no deal made in congress the UW could see major cuts in 2014 as a result of cuts to federal appropriations. This should be monitored next year.

2Y2D- With almost no staff these initiatives are still under way and producing actionable results. Mary Lidstrom is heading this initiative now.

Foster School: Major issue involving PhD funding, and now the dean is aware and will figure out a way to ameliorate this problem
ASUW Senate: Talked about PACS as requested. Updated the Senate on the Provost’s reinvestment priorities and her budget philosophy.

WSA Board Meeting this past weekend. Enacted a budget that is in deficit, keeping in mind that WSU will likely be joining next year

UW Alumni Association- talked about their success with UW impact, looking forward to expanding that impact

Graduate Program Review: Think about how those senators have proven themselves very effective at getting this data

Melanie: can we integrate that with new university affairs committee

Charles: Would be good to utilize the work of the senators more fully

Colin: question about PCE tuition increase

Charles: they tell vice provost what they want, and then he says yes and they agree, the provost does not have veto power day to day as it is delegated authority. It is an external entity, so we have outsourced decision making on these degrees

Colin: reason for asking is that we are stuck with 10-15%. Unless these programs are in debt, then they are using students as revenue.

Charles: Public Health is one school that will not be able to make up temporary funds that they have, they are using EOs to raise money

Colin: Discrepancy between in-state and out-of-state students tuition is smaller so that it seems that our program is more competitive against state-based programs. More of students are out of state, international is 2 out of 36.

7. Announcements
No announcements

8. Adjourn
Adam motions to adjourn meeting
Colin seconds
Meeting is adjourned at 7:57pm