1. Call To Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Special Election
5. Approval of Legislative Agenda
6. Student Engagement
   Small Group Brainstorm
   Report Back
7. GPSS Financial Update
8. Announcements
9. Adjourn

Call to Order

Mall Santas Anonymous Meeting

"Holidays are always the hardest – especially Christmas."
# Approval of Agenda

**GPSS Senate Meeting Agenda**  
*Wednesday, November 30, 2011, 5:30pm*  
*Condon Hall Room 109, 1100 NE Campus Parkway*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Info/Action</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>Aaron Naumann</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of the Agenda</td>
<td>Aaron Naumann</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>5:31pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of the Minutes</td>
<td>Aaron Naumann</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>5:32pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Election</td>
<td>Trond Nilsen, Megan Gambs, Mateo Banegas, Amy Winter</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>5:37pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of Legislative Agenda</td>
<td>Adam Sherman</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>6:22pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Engagement:</td>
<td>Adam Sherman</td>
<td>Information</td>
<td>6:42pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Group Brainstorm Report Back</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GPSS Financial Update</td>
<td>Colin Goldfinch</td>
<td>Information</td>
<td>7:12pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcements/Election Results</td>
<td>Trond Nilsen, Megan Gambs, Mateo Banegas, Amy Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:22pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjourn</td>
<td>Aaron Naumann</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>7:27pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Special Election

- Introduction
- Nominations
- Candidate introductions (6 mins each)
- Second nominations
- Candidate questions
- Vote!

Candidates

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Approval of Legislative Agenda

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2012 State Legislative Agenda

Why should the state invest in higher education? Jobs. Innovation. A stronger economy. A better society. The University of Washington’s Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS), which represents more than 12,000 graduate and professional students, urges the Legislature to preserve all funding to higher education in the 2012 session. In this difficult economic climate, we want to express our support for employing creative means of finding funding, especially through eliminating unnecessary tax loopholes and a variety of revenue packages. New revenue must be a part of any budget deal.

Preserving higher education is the best way to for the state to reach its goal to increase degree attainment and put people back to work in much needed areas of the economy! The alternative is to cut funding to the University of Washington, which will block degree attainment and take almost $2 billion out of the state economy¹ – something we simply cannot afford to do. Short-term cuts will have serious long-term consequences on our citizens and our economy. Higher education is not just a private decision. It is fundamental service from which everyone benefits. Funding higher education is not only an obligation; it is our way out of this recession.
2012 State Legislative Agenda

GPSS POSITION STATEMENTS FOR THE 2012 SESSION:

An investment in a quality graduate education system is an investment in jobs and innovation.

Washington is experiencing one of the most significant budget crises in the state’s history. Investments in higher education results in more jobs, a reduced strain on human services, reduced crime rates, and increased civic engagement. Funding higher education will lead to more revenue the state can put toward providing the services that ensure basic human dignity for all of Washington state’s citizens. Funding higher education supports the faculty and students who are making our society greener, who are finding the cure for cancer, and who are improving public health. We cannot cut our way out of our economic difficulties. We must invest. And there is no better return on investment than an investment in the University of Washington.

Preserving financial aid ensures a world-class education and prepares more students who are ready to contribute to our economy today.

Students are ready to work and desperate to contribute to the economy. But over the last two years the Legislature has eliminated three of the four financial aid programs that benefit graduate students and slashed the one that remains. Now, even the state work-study program is at risk of being cut. There are hundreds of employers trying to fill thousands of jobs. If this state’s work-study program is cut and more students are unable to afford the increasing cost of higher education, these jobs will go to other state’s citizens. We need to create incentives for students to pursue advanced degrees and for businesses to stay in Washington, not create barriers.
2012 State Legislative Agenda

GPSS 2012 Priorities

State Funding. GPSS Supports:

- **No additional cuts to higher education in the 2011-2013 biennial budget.**
- Funding that supports an expansion of graduate and professional degree production by 40 percent by 2018.
- Increased graduate and professional degree production in high-demand fields to better meet the needs of Washington employers and to stimulate economic growth.
- Exploring alternative higher education funding models that encourage pursuit of advanced degrees and significantly reduce the barriers to degree attainment.
- **Bold revenue packages** that create dedicated funding streams for higher education.
- Funding that helps keep UW competitive in attracting and retaining world-class faculty.
Financial Aid. GPSS Supports:

- An expansion of financial aid funding and policies that ensure access for low- and middle-income students.
- Restoration of programs that have been cut or eliminated in recent years, especially:
  - Washington State Work Study Program
  - Child Care Matching Grant
  - Future Teachers Conditional Scholarship and Loan Repayment
  - Health Professions Scholarship
  - Graduate Fellowship Trust Account.
- A loan forgiveness program for students who commit to staying in Washington State after they graduate and contributing to our economy.

Improved Efficiency. GPSS Supports:

- Finding ways to reduce administrative costs for higher education institutions resulting in more of the state’s funding going toward instruction, research, and financial aid.
- Reducing the time it takes to complete certain advanced degrees so students do not have to take on as much debt and can fill important job vacancies at a faster rate.
2012 *Federal* Legislative Agenda

**Why should Congress invest in higher education?** Jobs. Innovation. A stronger economy. A better society. The University of Washington’s Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS), which represents more than 12,000 graduate and professional students, urges Congress to **preserve all funding that impacts higher education**. In this difficult economic climate we want to express our support for employing creative means of finding funding, especially through **eliminating unnecessary tax loopholes** and a **variety of revenue packages**. New revenue must be part of any budget package.

Preserving higher education is the best way for Congress to put people back to work in much needed areas of the economy! The alternative is to cut the funding on which higher education institutions rely. But these short-term cuts will have serious long-term consequences on our citizens and our economy. Fully funding programs that support the University of Washington is a prudent investment. Cutting funding for federal research and other programs will only deepen the recession and force Congress to make even more difficult choices in the future. **Funding higher education is not only an obligation, it is our way out of this recession.**
2012 Federal Legislative Agenda

GPSS POSITION STATEMENTS FOR THE 2012 SESSION:

An investment in a quality graduate education system is an investment in jobs and innovation.

The United States is experiencing one of the most significant budget crises in recent history. But there is a way out! Investments in higher education result in more jobs, a reduced strain on human services, reduced crime rates, and increased civic engagement. Funding higher education will lead to more revenue for Congress can put toward providing the services that ensure basic human dignity for all of our country’s citizens. Funding higher education supports the faculty and students who are making our society greener, who are finding the cures for numerous forms of cancer, and who are improving public health. We cannot cut our way out of our economic difficulties. We must invest. And there is no better return on investment than an investment in the programs that support the University of Washington.

Preserving financial aid ensured a world-class education and prepares more students who are ready to contribute to our economy today.

Students are ready to work and desperate to contribute to the economy. But last year subsidized loans for graduate and professional students were eliminated. There are thousands of employers trying to fill hundreds of thousands of jobs. These jobs could go unfilled if the financial aid programs are cut again because students will not be able to afford the increasing cost of higher education. We need to create incentives for students to pursue advanced degrees and for businesses to come to America, not create barriers.
2012 *Federal* Legislative Agenda

**GPSS 2012 Priorities**

**Funding.** *GPSS Supports:*

- Continued funding support for federal research projects connected to the University of Washington.
- Maintaining and increasing federal loans and loan forgiveness programs.
- Increased graduate and professional degree production in high-demand fields to better meet the needs of employers and to stimulate economic growth.
- Federal support for childcare and other services for student parents.
- **Bold revenue packages** that create dedicated funding streams for higher education.
- Exploring alternative higher education funding models that encourage the pursuit of advanced degrees and significantly reduce the barriers to degree attainment.
2012 *Federal* Legislative Agenda

**Financial Aid and Access. GPSS Supports:**

- An expansion of federal financial aid funding and policies that ensure access for low- and middle-income students.
- Increased tuition waivers, fellowships, and grants for both domestic and international graduate and professional students.
- Visa reform aimed at increasing access to foreign students seeking to complete their degrees and obtain employment in the U.S. including provisions for part-time employment while attending school to decrease the financial burden on foreign students.
- A loan forgiveness program for students who commit to staying in Washington State after they graduate and contributing to our economy.

**Improved Efficiency. GPSS Supports:**

- Finding ways to **reduce administrative costs** for higher education institutions so more state funding goes toward instruction, research, and financial aid.
- **Reducing the time it takes to complete certain advanced degrees** so students do not have to take on as much debt and can fill important job vacancies at a faster rate.

**Academic Excellence. GPSS Supports:**

- The Consideration of the Federal Research and Public Access Act (or similar act) as a means to increased public access to information. Any bill must preserve essential protections to the peer review process and academic integrity.
- Federal policies that promote increased diversity in graduate school programs.
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Year-to-date Spending

Å Revenue
   • SAF allocation is incremental
   • Fundraising is on track

Å Events
   • Fall Social and Higher Ed Summit each ~$1,000 under budget

Å Personnel
   • Currently under budget

Å General Fund
   • Needs to be confirmed by audit
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Happy Holidays!

Next Meeting: