Title: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UNIVERSITY COMPLIANCE WITH ASE
EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

Sponsored by: Adam Goch (Political Science), Esra Bakkalbasioglu (Jackson School of
International Studies), Durmus Ugur Karatay (Physics), Alicia Intriago (Philosophy), James
Harmon (Political Science), JD Ross Leahy (School of Marine and Environmental Affairs),
Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy and Astrobiology)

Written by: Adam Goch (Political Science)

Resolution Number 01.12-13

WHEREAS UAW Local 4121 represents approximately 4,500 graduate and undergraduate
Academic Student Employees (ASEs) at the University of Washington (UW), many of whom
are constituents of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS); and

WHEREAS ASEs (Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants, Tutors, Graders and others
performing similar work) are responsible for much of the critical frontline work that makes
the UW an internationally recognized institution of higher education; and

WHEREAS ASEs conduct research that is critical to $1.5 billion in grants and contracts
revenue at the University; make the curriculum more accessible by providing over half of
the instructional contact hours to the 36,555 undergraduates who attend UW; and help to
make the UW competitive in attracting first-rate students and faculty from all over the
world; and

WHEREAS investment in ASE positions helps the UW achieve its core missions and helps
thousands of students improve their time-to-degree; and

WHEREAS tuition and fee increases have uniquely affected this critical workforce; and

WHEREAS RCW 28B.15.160 enacted by the Washington State Legislature granted the
authority for students to levy fees upon themselves; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that ASEs, in their capacity as students, have an obligation to
pay certain fees, at the level set during collective bargaining; and

WHEREAS ASEs, in their capacity as employees represented by a collective bargaining
unit, have reached a contract agreement with the University that designated fee waivers at
an agreed level; and

WHEREAS said contract designates a neutral, third-party arbitrator to mediate any and all
contractual disputes and the decision of this arbitrator is legally binding and final on both
parties; and
WHEREAS in a decision filed April 13, 2012 an arbitrator ruled that the UW was in violation of its obligation to provide compensation as outlined in the decision for two fees imposed beginning in the fall quarter 2011; and

WHEREAS, as of November 7, 2012 the UW remains in violation of the arbitrator’s decision;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT GPSS urges the University of Washington to swiftly resolve the dispute with UAW Local 4121 as outlined in the contract; and

THAT GPSS reaffirms the student governments’ authority to levy fees upon themselves as granted in RCW 28B.15.610; and

THAT the GPSS urges the University, when implementing the terms of compliance in agreement with UAW 4121, keep its existing or promised commitments to student support services and to work with GPSS and ASUW to minimize any negative impact on students; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to UW President Michael Young; UW Provost Ana Mari Cauce; the UW Board of Regents; Mindy Kornberg, Vice President for Human Resources; Peter Denis, Assistant Vice President of Labor Relations; and David Parsons, UAW Local 4121 President.

Presented to the GPSS for approval on November 7th, 2012
Passed on November 7th, 2012
Title: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING TRANSPARENCY IN DECISION MAKING AROUND FEE-BASED DEGREE PROGRAMS

Sponsored by: Michelle Dillon (Library and Information Science), Patricia Atwater (Health Services), Alicia Lindeke (Family and Child Nursing), Larry Huang (Health Services), Melanie Mayock (GPSS Vice President), Trond Nilsen (Industrial Systems Engineering), Kristen Hosey (GPSS Secretary), Adam Sherman (GPSS President), Emily Hilderman (Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Systems)

Written by: Michelle Dillon (Library and Information Science) and Patricia Atwater (Health Services)

Resolution Number: 02.12-13

WHEREAS the fee-based model, which funds graduate and undergraduate programs through student fees alone, has previously been applied primarily to programs in which graduates have high earning potentials¹; and

WHEREAS responding to drastic cuts in state funding for higher education, the University of Washington has expanded the number of fee-based programs to include programs from which graduates do not typically have high earning potential; and

WHEREAS undergraduate, graduate and professional education at public universities like the UW has traditionally been supported in part by public investment, as a way to help meet workforce needs and promote economic growth; and

WHEREAS UW has seen a large increase in fee-based programs in the past ten years, with the proportion of entering graduate students in fee-based programs rising from 17% in 2003 to 41% in 2012² and by comparison, only 8.3% of graduate students in the University of California system are enrolled in a fee-based program³; and

WHEREAS many graduate programs moved to the fee-based model are in fields that serve the public and non-profit sectors, including public health, library science, and nursing; and

WHEREAS moving to a fee-based model has resulted in massive tuition hikes for many graduate students; such as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School/degree</th>
<th>Year of transition</th>
<th>Change in residential tuition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School of Nursing--Nurse-Midwifery (DNP)</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Rose from $14,000 a year in 2008-2009 to between $25,000 and $30,000 a year in 2012-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information School--Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS)</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Tuition to complete degree for 2011-2013 would have been $29,056 with state support but increased to $43,155 to complete degree as a fee-based program, an increase of nearly 50 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Public Health--Master of Public Health in Community-Oriented Public Health Practice</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Tuition to complete the two-year program increased from $20,421 for the class of 2009 to $34,845 for the class of 2013, an increase of nearly 60 percent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEREAS, students enrolled in fee-based programs are ineligible for full tuition reimbursement for most on-campus employment; and

WHEREAS students enrolled in fee-based programs no longer qualify for certain scholarships or fellowships containing a tuition reimbursement component, such as GO-MAP funding, the Huckabay Teaching Fellowship, and the UWRA Graduate Student Fellowship in Aging, which are unable to cover the higher costs of fee-based tuition; and

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4 School of Nursing UW. Nursing Program Costs. nursing.uw.edu. Available at: [http://nursing.uw.edu/node/769](http://nursing.uw.edu/node/769). Accessed January 14, 2013.
8 Personal communication with Donna Porter, Department of Health Services Associate Director of Academic Program Operations, November 26, 2012.
10 Fee Based Programs and Financial Aid. washington.edu. Available at: [https://www.washington.edu/students/osfa/graduate/fee.based.html](https://www.washington.edu/students/osfa/graduate/fee.based.html). Accessed January 15, 2013.
13 Personal communication with Marilyn Gray, Assistant Director of Fellowships and Awards at the Graduate School, December 12, 2012.
WHEREAS graduate and professional students are ineligible for subsidized Stafford loans, the Pell Grant, the Washington State Need Grant, and most other need-based financial aid programs; and

WHEREAS the higher debt burden associated with fee-based degree program tuition can make it more difficult for graduates to pursue their chosen career paths and staff vital professions in Washington State; and

WHEREAS the higher expense of a graduate degree in a fee-based program may make it more difficult for students from low-income backgrounds to begin graduate programs, restricting the diversity of the graduate student body, leading to a workforce that is not representative of Washington State’s population, and creating deficits in the number of qualified workers in low-income communities, in which graduates from low-income backgrounds are more likely to practice14; and

WHEREAS despite the negative impact on students, the implications of the transition from state-sponsorship to student-support have not been well-publicized to these students; and

WHEREAS in at least three departments that have undergone the transition, students were not notified of increased tuition until after acceptance of admission offers, those being the Master of Library and Information Science, the Community Oriented Public Health Practice Master of Public Health program and the Master in Health Administration program; and

WHEREAS the Graduate School Council has undertaken a study on UW’s fee-based programs; and

WHEREAS the UW has instituted a moratorium on moving programs from state support to fee-based through July 1, 2015; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS’ SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT GPSS encourages UW administration to continue to honor its moratorium on moving degree programs from state-supported to the fee-based model until at least 2015; and

THAT GPSS requests that UW administration develop, in concert with an advisory body composed of students, faculty and other stakeholders, and informed by the results of the report to be produced by the Graduate School Council on fee-based programs, a set of criteria with which to evaluate whether new and existing degree programs should be eligible for state funding in the tradition of public education or should be supported by student dollars alone under the fee-based model; and

THAT this advisory body consider as potential criteria whether a degree program serves the public interest and median earnings in the field served by that degree; and

THAT this advisory body continue as an oversight and guidance committee on this issue; and

THAT the advisory body establish a process for moving degree programs that do not meet the
new criteria back to the state-supported category; and

THAT GPSS encourages the Graduate School Council to include in its report an evaluation of the
effects of moving programs off of state support including the impact on students, disadvantaged
groups, and the workforce the degree feeds into; and

THAT in the case of a decision to establish a new fee-based program, notification must be
provided to all current students at least six months prior to any implementation and to all
prospective students at least one month before the application deadline, with an estimation of
tuition costs, and that these estimates should be honored; and

THAT GPSS supports a policy in which prior to any decision to increase tuition or fees within an
existing fee-based program, the proposed tuition or fee increase along with an analysis stating
what the additional revenue would be used for and why it is believed to be necessary should be
well-publicized among the affected student body; and

THAT GPSS supports further that following the publishing of the proposed tuition or fee
increase, a comment period should be used to solicit feedback from the affected student body
regarding the impacts of and appropriateness of the proposed tuition increase, and that comments
from students should be reviewed and considered; and

THAT GPSS supports further that any final decision regarding the proposed tuition increase
should respond to every issue raised during the comment period; and

THAT GPSS urges the UW Administration to lobby the state legislature to restore funding for
higher education, including support for graduate programs and, if needed, funding to restore state
support to any degree programs not meeting the new criteria; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to UW President Michael Young, UW Provost Ann Mari
Cauce, the UW Board of Regents, and the UW Graduate School Council.

Presented to GPSS Senate and approved on February 13, 2013.
Title: RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING GPSS TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING ITS FUNDING FOR 2013–2014 [TGPRC DRAFT]

Sponsored by: Stephanie Cruz (Anthropology), Onyinye Edeh (Global Health), Bjorn Hubert-Wallander (Psychology), Rita Ismail (Nursing), Amber Trout (Built Environments) and Daniel Coslett (Built Environments)

Written by: Daniel Coslett (Built Environments)

Resolution Number: 03.12-13

WHEREAS the assembled Senate elected on 4 April 2012 to terminate its travel grants program indefinitely from the 2012–2013 academic year; and

WHEREAS the assembled Senate passed Resolution 02.11-12 (“A Resolution Directing the Senate to Establish an Autumn 2012 Ad Hoc Committee on Travel Grants”) on 30 May 2012; and

WHEREAS the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee, thus established, has conducted a thorough review of the former travel grants program over the course of the autumn 2012 and winter 2013 terms; and

WHEREAS the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee has concluded that the provision of GPSS travel grant funding to qualified graduate and professional students can be a valuable contributor to the GPSS mission to “in every way possible, attempt to improve all aspects of graduate and professional student life at the University of Washington” (GPSS Constitution, Art. II Sec. A); and

WHEREAS the Final Report of the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee has been received by the Senate on 20 February 2013; and

WHEREAS the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee Final Report concludes with a recommendation that the GPSS travel grants program be reinstated with substantially reformed operational guidelines at the previously established level of funding for a two-year pilot period,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate reinstate its travel grants program in the autumn of 2013; and

THAT the Senate assembled directs appropriate GPSS officers and staff to make the arrangements necessary for the reestablishment of a reformed travel grants program; and
THAT the GPSS Travel Grants Program Review Committee Final Report be used as a
guideline for the establishment and operation of the renewed travel grants program; and
THAT a standing GPSS Travel Grants Program Committee be reestablished no later than
autumn 2013 to administer the distribution of awards under the supervision of the
Treasurer; and
THAT the program’s efficacy, efficiency, and mission be fully reviewed following a two-
year probationary period by appropriate GPSS officers and staff no later than spring term
2015; and
THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate amends its bylaws by inserting
“Travel Grants Committee” to Article V “Officers of the GPSS,” Section E “Duties of the
Treasurer,” Clause 2C “Serve on the following committees…”; and
THAT the Graduate and Professional Student Senate amends its standing bylaws by
reinserting “Travel Grants Committee” into Article VI by replicating the previously used
language from Article VI, Section F from the GPSS Bylaws dated 26 May 2010, with the
sole exception that Section F, Clause 2, section A be changed to “the Travel Grants
Committee shall be formed during the first Senate meeting of the year…”; and
THAT substantial change or termination of the program, if deemed appropriate at that
time, must be presented to the full Senate and sufficiently debated before subject to the
vote of the Senate; and
THAT the GPSS budget for 2013–2014 approved on 13 February 2013 be amended to
allocate $20,000 from the GPSS General Fund for dispensation in travel grants during the
2013–2014 academic year and summer of 2014; and
THAT funding for year two of the pilot program may be allocated in the budget for
2014–2015 as is deemed appropriate at that time following a review of year one’s process
and results.

Presented to GPSS for approval on 27 February 2013
Approved on
Title: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING UNDERGRADUATE DIVERSITY REQUIREMENT

Sponsored by: Kristen Hosey, GPSS Secretary; Moroni Benally, Native American Students; Sam Li, Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Systems; Adam Sherman, GPSS President; Melanie Mayock, GPSS VP; Vera Giampietro, GPSS Treasurer; Christopher Lizotte, Geography; Trond Nilsen, Industrial Engineering; Kimberly Shertz, Law; Alexandra Kaufman, Nutritional Sciences.

Written by: Kristen Hosey, GPSS Secretary

Resolution Number: 04.12-13

WHEREAS, the University of Washington claims “valuing and honoring diversity” as one of its core values; and

WHEREAS, a goal of the University of Washington is to produce respectful educated global citizens ready to address, “the world’s most pressing challenges” [University of Washington]; and

WHEREAS, many of the world’s most pressing challenges involve people of vastly different perspectives, powers, and privilege; and

WHEREAS, a central value of the University of Washington is to enable students to “expand their world views to better understand their responsibilities as members of an increasingly interconnected and global society” and

WHEREAS, professional workplaces increasingly require employees to have or gain diversity competencies, including both knowledge of and commitment to diversity and skills such as communicating respect for others who are different [Diversity]; and

WHEREAS, a diversity credit requirement is an established curriculum approach to achieving essential student learning goals at educational institutions across the State of Washington and the nation, including many of University of Washington’s peer institutions [Contreras]; and

WHEREAS, the academic study of diversity fosters critical and analytic thinking, challenges students to evaluate assumptions and behaviors, and encourages a vibrant intellectual community free of bias and prejudice; and

WHEREAS, a diversity credit requirement will assist students to develop the skills they need to interact effectively and engage diverse perspectives and backgrounds both in the workplace and in day-to-day life and assume responsibilities associated with global citizenship; and

WHEREAS a diversity credit requirement will assist students to graduate with a better understanding of diverse cultures and perspectives on global society; and
WHEREAS, the ASUW Student Senate already passed R-18-7: A Resolution in Support of a Diversity Credit Requirement during Session 18 with a vast majority approval; and

WHEREAS, the resolution passed by ASUW Senate has merely been revised in conjunction with members of the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS), the Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs (FCMA), the ASUW Board of Directors, and the UW Students for Diversity Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the most substantive of these revisions are in the form of rewording in order to address implementation concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT, the GPSS reaffirms its support of a diversity credit requirement for all undergraduate students; and

THAT, specifically, the GPSS supports the principles and intents of the student-initiated and FCMA-sponsored proposal as follows:

“As part of the General Education Requirements, undergraduate students at the University of Washington will be required to take one course (3 to 5 credits) focused on diversity from a list of approved courses, all of which already satisfy other Area of Knowledge Requirements. No additional credits will be added to those needed for graduation with a bachelor’s degree. Five credit courses would have at least 60% of the content focused on one or more aspects of US and/or global diversity.

‘Diversity’ is a general term used here to cover a wide variety of courses across the disciplines: courses that focus on race, class, gender, gender identity, nationality, sexuality, ethnicity, ability, religion, and age. UW documents, such as the diversity minors at UW Bothell and UW Seattle, provide examples of such courses. Courses in various departments cover topics such as the histories, cultures, and experiences of people of diverse backgrounds; social justice and global issues related to diversity; the effects of institutions—government, education, science, politics—on diverse individuals and groups; thinking critically about power, inequality, marginality, and social movements; and communicating effectively across differences. The definition of diversity aligns with those definitions used for requirements at other State of Washington higher education institutions.”; and

THAT, a copy of this resolution be forwarded to George Dillon the FCAS chair, Angela Ginorio the FCMA chair, Provost Ana Mari Cauce, the co-chairs of the Task Force on Diversity in Undergraduate Learning Betty Schmitz and Ed Taylor, James Gregory the Student Diversity Coalition and Faculty, MEChA, BSU, First Nations, Filipino American Student Association, and the Polynesian Student Alliance
Presented to GPSS for approval on May 22, 2013

Approved on May 22, 2013

Sources:


Title: RESOLUTION TO REVIEW ARTS AND CULTURE SPENDING

Sponsored by: Joseph Burton, GPSS Senator (Near Eastern Languages and Civilization)
Written by: Josef Burton, GPSS Senator (Near Eastern Languages and Civilization)
Resolution Number: 05.12-13

WHEREAS The GPSS has contributed a sum of $10,000 to the ASUW Spring Show 2013, featuring T-Pain and People under the stairs; and
WHEREAS This event was not steered by or directed for the benefit of the graduate student population; and
WHEREAS The nature of this event was not specifically delineated in the 2013 budget; and
WHEREAS assumed further contributions to the ASUW Spring Show event were not laid out as a specific line item in the 2013-14 budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT The nature of future arts and culture spending be specifically enumerated in future budgets; and
THAT no later than the end of fall term 2013, an ad hoc exploratory committee shall be formed to make recommendations for how the Arts & Entertainment Funds shall be used. It shall be comprised of 4-6 people, to include GPSS senators, and may include one officer and Executive Senator. The committee shall make recommendations to the Senate, Finance & Budget Committee, and Communications & Outreach Committee by the end of Winter quarter. Keeping in mind the history of the Arts & Entertainment gift fund, the Committee shall consult with the ASUW director of programming, the VP for Student Life, the GPSS Executive Committee, and shall survey GPSS senators about how best to allocate these funds. The Senate shall vote on recommendations for guiding these funds in the future; and
THAT major arts and culture spending take into account some form of feedback from the general GPSS membership.

Presented to GPSS for approval on May 22, 2013
Approved on May 22, 2013
Title: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TRANSFER FROM THE RESERVE FUND TO THE
GPSS ENDOWMENT IN THE EVENT OF ADDITIONAL SAFC FUNDING

Sponsored by: Adam Sherman, GPSS President, Chris Lizotte, GPSS Executive Senator

Written by: Adam Sherman, GPSS President

Resolution Number: 06.12-13

WHEREAS the Senate passed Resolution 04.12-13, “A Resolution Supporting the Establishment of
the GPSS Endowment Fund,” authorizing a $50,000 investment into an endowment; and

WHEREAS the UW Administration has identified up to $100,000 in unrestricted funds it can use to
support the establishment of the GPSS endowment; and

WHEREAS the Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAFC) created an Innovation Fund and
solicited inventive proposals related to student programming and services; and

WHEREAS GPSS submitted three proposals totaling $36,326 for a Development Coordinator, an
Information Management Specialist, and the Travel Grants program; and

WHEREAS GPSS approved the use of money in the reserve fund to implement the three proposals if
they were not funded in full by SAFC; and

WHEREAS it is currently not certain whether the SAFC will make its final decision after the last
Senate meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year; and

WHEREAS the money kept in the reserve fund is above a necessary level and would continue at this
level if any or all of the three proposals are funded by the SAFC; and

WHEREAS the return on money in the endowment will be higher than the return on the reserve fund1; and

WHEREAS the transfer of up to $100,000 authorized by the Administration is a one-time offer; and

WHEREAS taking full advantage of the offer will exponentially benefit the ability of the GPSS to
provide direct student support for years to come

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT
SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT in the event of funding from the SAFC Innovation Fund, the Senate authorizes the Executive
Committee to transfer the money in the reserve fund earmarked for the three proposals to the
endowment; and

THAT the amount of reserve fund dollars invested in the endowment will be commensurate with the
funding from the SAFC Innovation Fund.

1 Please refer to Resolution 04.12-13 for a detailed explanation of endowment and reserve fund returns