



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Senate Meeting Minutes

February 07, 2018 / HUB 334

1. Call to Order 5:35 PM

2. Approval of Agenda 5:35 PM

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Moves to approve the Agenda

Caitlin Parke (Chemical Engineering): Seconds

3. Approval of Minutes 5:35 PM

Lawrence Koster (Political Science): Moves to approve the Minutes

Noelle Symanski (Law): Seconds

4. Guest: U-PASS Advisory Board 5:36 PM

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Introduces the guests. Handouts available for those who missed to collect earlier. Shares that the U-PASS Advisory Board consists of all students. U-PASS Advisory Board serves as a student-run oversight committee for the Universal Student U-PASS program. The U-PASS Advisory Board is comprised of six representatives appointed by the ASUW and three representatives appointed by the GPSS. Working in conjunction with advisers from UW Transportation Services and UW Student Life, the U-PASS Advisory Board represents the UW student population's interests in the U-PASS program and works to ensure its long-term health and effectiveness. U-PASS Advisory Board has both graduate and undergraduate student representatives. Done a few surveys in the past about why there is U-PASS and how much

is the cost and why it costs that much. There are lot of cars and there is not much space in the campus. U-PASS is environmentally friendly. Also done a survey about how students get to campus.

Bucoda Warren (U-PASS Chair): Shares the survey results. 42% of the students use Transit to get to campus and this is helpful with U-PASS having a subsidized cost. 41% of the students walk to the campus and that's mainly the undergrad students who live close to campus. 5.8% drive alone to campus and 4.5% and 4.4% of the students use Vanpool and bike. Biking has increased a bit. U-PASS is funded by the Student Fees and whole other sources. 10% of the funding come from the university directly. 22% comes from the parking and rest of the money comes from student fees. 97% (\$16.71M) of the cost is towards Transit expenses. A small percentage 1% (\$0.22M) is paid as wages. Another 1% (\$0.13M) is towards shared services. Another 1% (\$0.24M) is towards shuttles and vanpools.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Shares that many times they are asked where the money that's paid for U-PASS goes. U-PASS is \$84 a quarter. 96 cents of the dollar go to transit costs for all the rides that students use on Transit. 1 cent goes to shared services, 1 cent to salaries/wages, and 1 cent to shuttles and vanpools that also includes night rides. 1 cent goes to reserves as it is required by law to have reserves. Invites questions. Explains Slido to new Senators.

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics & Astronautics): For graduate students who are required to be on campus during the summer, but who are not considered employees, are there reduced cost summer options?

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): States if you are required to be on campus, registered for classes, then you will receive U-PASS benefits. But if you are not registered for classes but working on campus, one will pay a reduced fee for transportation services. So, it depends if you are a student or an employee for the Summer.

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics & Astronautics): Specifically wants to know about parking options.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Directs the question to Transportation services.

Jacob Turpin (ASUW Rep for Transportation Services): States they don't change the parking rates for Summer. If there are challenges to find parking, they offer individual assistance through their office. Might match with carpool or vanpool, or identify transit options that exist. It is a challenge if one is not formally affiliated with the university to find the substitute benefits to use.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out the question posted on Slido: The website states that student quarterly Single Occupancy Vehicle Permits are less expensive than employee, but no cost is provided. How much are they?

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): States the employee permits are \$500 per quarter and student permit for parking on campus are around \$300 per quarter because they reduce the cost of U-PASS in that permit. They are on the website.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out the question posted on Slido:
What are the shared services?

Noah An (ASUW Rep for Transportation Services): States shared services are the communications group. So, the facilities services comm or ally group because all of finance work associated with that are the two biggest costs associated with that. That would include things like fixing the building, or pipes etc. those that are associated with the administrative offering.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out the question posted on Slido:
What is the rate for keeping U-PASS activated during the summer, if you are neither enrolled nor an employee of UW?

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): States, in that case, U-PASS would not be active since you won't be registered as a student and will not be paying Student Activities Fees. If you are not an employee, one would have an employee subsidization.

Bucoda Warren (U-PASS Chair): Adds that something that the Board is looking at since the last couple of years is the county subsidized pass for the King County region. That's an option to registered students who are just graduating and needs the pass just during the summer. To update as they make progress.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out the question posted on Slido:
Only 40ish percent of students use transit. Where does the U-PASS money go from the students who don't use transit?

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): States, that although there are number for the ways for students get to campus, there is also fluctuations in the numbers projected. A lot of students especially undergrads also use Transit during weekends. So, it is used more than 40%. But where the money goes from the students who don't use Transit is it's important to note that U-PASS is a universal fee that's common for everyone. Otherwise, one will have to pay 3 times the amount just to have the option of using Transit. While one may not use Transit every day, that fee also goes to other students who also use Transit especially if they are using Light rail as it is very expensive.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out the question posted on Slido:
Are there any plans to compensate out of state students or allow them to opt out of the quarterly fee?

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Says no. This is also an argument that the Board has been having over the year. It's a complicated situation.

Bucoda Warren (U-PASS Chair): Adds it's a universal fee and brings down the costs for everyone. Student Life is having a meeting next Friday at 2.30pm. If someone wants to talk to the entire board directly on U-PASS or on what they discuss on a bi-weekly basis, they are invited.

5. Huskies on the Hill Report

5:46 PM

Elloise Kim (President): Reports that Huskies on the Hill happened last Monday and Kelsey will share the updates.

Kelsey Hood (Policy Director): Thanks everyone who were present to support Huskies on the Hill. It was a success. It was a record-breaking number of grad students and overall student attendance. A memo has been drafted for suggestions for next year. A couple of bigger highlights is that there is a need to have more meetings that are just for grad students. That will give a better chance to get the message across. That way the undergrads will also have their time as well. So, no students will have to fight for attention. If anybody is interested in seeing the rest of the suggestions, or has anything to add, they are welcome. Encourages people who didn't go this year to attend next year.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Asks what were their opinions and experiences on including the alumni association.

Kelsey Hood (Policy Director): States this was the first year they included the alumni association and the feedback that she heard from the students and the alumni association is that it had a very positive effect. It gave the alumni association a chance to network with students to figure what their needs were and what they wanted to get out of the event. That was a productive combination. Invites people to talk to her if they had any different opinion.

Elloise Kim (President): Appreciates Kelsey's good work on the event.

6. Setting up the Elections Committee

5:50 PM

Elloise Kim (President): Shares that the Elections Committee for the elections in Spring has to be set up. Executive Senator, Laura Taylor will be the Ex-Officio to the committee. Invites to explain the role of the committee.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Shares that the Elections Committee is essentially supposed to act as an unbiased, non-partisan board that oversees the elections process. They will be in charge of creating the elections packet and defining the rules (what is acceptable for elections, what isn't, etc.) that each person going through the elections can do. The committee also sets dates and timelines for the elections process. Another integral role for the Elections Committee is during the elections at times when there are disputes. They act as the judicial board to address those disputes in a timely manner for a smooth completion of the election process. If one is on the Elections Committee, they cannot run for the Executive position. That doesn't mean that they cannot run for an Executive Senator's position should that open up afterwards. But they cannot run for President, VP or Secretary positions. The Elections Committee needs 5 members. It requires

a very minimal time commitment. The Elections Committee will meet just once before the elections to check in. Invites self-nominations or nominate others.

Noelle Symanski (Law): Nominates Elliott Okantey from Law School.

Elliott Okantey (Law): Accepts the nomination (via email to Noelle)

Corey Campbell (College of Education): Self-nominates

Morgan Conley (Jackson School): Self-nominates

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Self-nominates

Unidentified: Nominates Caitlin Parke from Chemical Engineering

Vanna Song (Jackson School): Self-nominates

Elloise Kim (President): States there are 6 individuals that are nominated. But the committee needs just 5. So, asks if someone wants to drop off.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): States it's up to the Senate Body to have 6 members or just 5.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Moves to approve the Elections Committee to have 6 members

Nyssa Baechler (Marine & Environmental Affairs): Seconds

7. Resolution in support of UAW 4121 Bargaining Demands 2018

6.00 PM

Elloise Kim (President): Highlights this is a way to express a collective voice on behalf of all graduate and professional students. When the resolution passes at the Senate, the Officers, especially the President is responsible to bring it to the recipient designated in the resolution and advocate it on behalf of GPSS. Today's resolution is about Unions bargaining. Invites the writers to take over.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Reports that they wanted to write a resolution in support of graduate students that are advocating for graduate students in this bargaining year with the Union.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Asks what are the main things they are going to bargain this year?

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): States those are fluctuating as they go into the meetings. The first meeting is tomorrow.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Adds they have listed bargaining demands and an email with a survey has been sent out from UAW to all active student employees. Encourages to take the survey so that the Union can make progress to have a good graduate student experience.

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Adds, along with the survey a list of demands was created and that was sent out and asked everyone to vote on those demands. Encourages everyone to take the survey. Says she could read out the items.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Says its substantially very similar to what the Legislative Agenda is. The Legislative Agenda is a good point of reference. One could read out the list but that wouldn't be a great use of time this evening as they are subject to change eventually.

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Adds that the demands are vague statements and will get detailed soon.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): The general purpose of this was to support graduate students like Monica who are working really hard outside their academics to meet and discuss strategies and go into these meetings and be active in support of other graduate students to either have them to participate in a similar way or aren't involved at that level. So, this resolution is in support of people like Monica who are out spending the time doing this in our way of saying that we trust their decisions and trust them to represent us. And we would like to support them so that when they go into these meetings, they can also say "these are the things we want, we have a resolution on behalf of GPSS which shows that graduate students are really in support of these matters that we are bringing to the table to you". That way, as they go through the process, they have the graduate students support.

Elloise Kim (President): Asks to explain what first reading is?

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Says its intended to go through the resolution to discuss it as a Senate Body and there will be a second reading where they will actually vote on the resolution.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Adds that after the meeting, there will be edits based on the conversation now and she will post it online. That's where the Senators will go into the resolution online, discuss it and make recommendations and then the second edit is brought to the next Senate meeting at which point it will be voted on.

Unidentified: Asks if all the members of UAW are 412 grad students?

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): States they are not. Majority are but they are not undergraduate TAs specially in computer science and engineering and undergraduate teachers are also covered in their contract. It's called Academic Student Employees as that covers all grad students who are employees as well as undergrad.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Asks if there are any big questions apart from the small technical adjustments.

Elloise Kim (President): Highlights this is the first reading to say what the resolution is about and obtain feedback. Suggests reading the list of bargaining demands, communicate with union etc. Encourages Senators to participate online as that is the part they are struggling with currently.

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Asks what the parliamentary procedure is for this?

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): States it's not an action item. So, doesn't have any today.

Elloise Kim (President): Encourages those interested in becoming additional writers to communicate with Grant and Giuliana.

8. Good of the Order

6.10 PM

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Says would like to ask, "what would the Senate meetings more effective especially with respect to Senator's time"? Looks forward to an open discussion and doesn't need parliamentary procedure at this time.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Likes to know people's opinion about the Officer Reports if it should be at the beginning or at the end.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): States that some of the Officer Reports have action items where some of them are upcoming. Suggests having the action worthy items in the beginning after the guests probably so that people don't miss that out if they have to leave early as some of them need to leave at 6.30pm regularly.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Suggests splitting up the Officer Reports where the action items go before and the other Officer Reports in the end. Also suggests Officer Reports to be shared on emails.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Asks what about the time? Is 2 hours too long for the meeting?

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Shares it's important to have the guests earlier to respect their time but a meeting cannot be cut off early especially if there's a discussion going on or people have questions about something.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Clarifies that they are not intending to cut down the meetings. But they are looking at people's thoughts on the length of the meetings.

Elloise Kim (President): Rephrases the question, how many hours they plan to spend when they come to the Senate meeting? One hour or 75 minutes or 1.5 hours or up to 2 hours. Takes hand votes. Confirms that people are willing to spend 1.5 hours. Highlights that it was only once that the meeting went over 1.5 hours. Says they will re-look at the order of the meeting etc.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Asks a clarifying question to Michael on his suggestion of splitting up the Officer Reports, asks if he means Socials or the committee meetings and when those are and then the officer reports; how he envisions this.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): States sometime in the beginning, they can talk about events coming up or reports that have action items. But if a committee for instance the Diversity Committee has a meeting with no actions, that can be highlighted in the end.

Noelle Symanski (Law): States that two weeks ago she presented on Mental Health and some of them expressed interest in doing a resolution. Set up a meeting and met last evening. Discussed to keep the discussion going on the issue. Therefore, likes to establish an Ad-hoc Committee on graduate student mental health. The committee will meet once in every two weeks. The committee will wrap by end of Spring quarter although the action items might take longer.

Elloise Kim (President): Asks if she is only entertaining an Adhoc committee or if she is looking at a working group.

Noelle Symanski (Law): States it could be a working group too. Asks what exactly is the difference?

Elloise Kim (President): States if it's an Ad-hoc Committee, the Senate is devoted to establishing it. There is a memo on how the Ad-hoc Committee should work. There should be a regular report coming to the Senate and there should be a certain level of frequency of meetings whereas a working group is more free form.

Noelle Symanski (Law): States they will be writing reports and meet frequently. Moves to create the Ad-hoc Committee.

Morgan Conley (Jackson School): Seconds

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics & Astronautics): Suggests allocating time in the beginning of the second hour for Announcements.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Shares that they will be able to send a copy of the slides after the meetings.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Adds that one of things about announcements is that she waits for people in the Senate Body as well which is what takes some time. If anyone ever has announcements, email them to GPSS so that she can put it on the announcements emails.

Elloise Kim (President): Emphasizes that the Senate survey will be sent by the end of the quarter. Encourages everyone to take part and provide feedback on the structure and the way the meetings go.

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Suggests webcasting the meetings or make dialing in an option for people who cannot make it to the meetings in person.

Nathan Dreesman (School of Nursing): States Zoom is a great resource for that.

Emma Reilly (Museology): Suggests having atleast one meeting on any other days other than Wednesdays.

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Adds to that saying not everyone can attend on Wednesdays especially if they have a fixed schedule of classes etc. So, offering flexibility would be great.

Elloise Kim (President): States that room reservations for the meetings used to happen 2 years earlier. Now it has to happen 3 years earlier. Securing the room is challenging. Being student government, they get the privilege of reserving the room from HUB earlier than the others. Part of the reason for having a steady schedule is the reservation system.

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Suggests letting people know in advance if the meeting has a packed agenda and if it might go on for more than the stipulated time. That will help people to plan better.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Agrees and highlights that they have started mentioning the total time for the meeting in the agenda so that people know the total duration to anticipate. It will give a rough estimate and idea.

Elloise Kim (President): Makes a motion to extend time.

Corey Campbell (College of Education): Approves to extend time by 5 minutes

Emma Reilly (Museology): Seconds

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Shares that international students received an email from the Director of ISS that they will be having to pay a sum of \$100 to \$200 on the actual service for OPT/CPT authorizations post study. This decision was made without consulting graduate and professional students bodies or any other organized body of students on campus. So, working on a resolution from GPSS asking for an indefinite postponement until they redo the process of this which is supposed to be instituted this spring. They need to be transparent and inclusive of student

voices. The purpose is to know why this has been implemented. If interested in writing the resolution, people can contact him.

Elloise Kim (President): Points that since she is an international herself, she received the email from ISS and also being the President of GPSS, she wasn't aware of anyone from ISS contacting her or checking about this with her earlier. When she checked with ASUW Board of Directors, they weren't contacted either. So, she wrote an email to the Provost that student voice was not involved in the whole process and the reason they came up with introducing the fees was not very trustful—which is that the peer institutions are already doing it. The peer institute listed were all private and left out all the public institutes who are not charging anything of this sort. The issue is with the communication that did not happen by ISS with student government bodies. She is also trying for a meeting with the Vice Provost for academic and Student Life Services and also sent an email to the ISS Director. Hoping to have more information about the reasoning for this decision and who was involved in making the decision so that, that information can be included in the resolution. Says everyone's support is encouraged because fees for international students was suspended after a few years of controversial practice with the decision of Provost, beginning of last summer. This has now reversed the inclusive efforts and its alarming that international students are always targeted to pay more when the school needs more money. Hopes that Senators become an ally for this issue.

9. Officer Reports

6:30 PM

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Reports that she has been working with Grad School Council to create a new guideline for reviewing new class curriculums within graduate programs. Created a working committee for that. Working on what a graduate program syllabi should look like vs. the undergraduate one. First-Gen Grad Advisory Board is having a Social on Valentine's Day. Featuring guest talk by Ricardo Hidalgo, who is a certified counsellor at Hall Health and he is also a First-gen grad student and the theme is "Not Hating Yourself for Hating Yourself". It's on Wed. Feb. 14, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm, Simpson Center (Comms Bldg). Hosting a Graduate Student Experience Committee meeting on Friday, Feb. 9th at 2:00 pm in HUB 307. Will be talking about Graduate Student Experience on campus and also the survey. Winter Social Thursday, Feb. 22nd, 7:00 - 10:00 pm, HUB Games Area, family members are invited. No child care will be provided. Sydney to share print out of the poster in the next meeting that can be shared with your constituents. Invites volunteers for the events.

Kelsey Hood (Policy Director) for Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Thanks all who attended Huskies on the Hill. Still pushing our federal advocacy on immigration - the deadline for the DACA fix is tomorrow, but it's not looking like that will be included in the next spending bill; keep up the pressure. Matt to send out few documents on SAGE after the meeting. It is informational. People can recommend suggestions. Gearing up for the annual SAGE Day on the Hill Conference. Final call for white paper group participants (Campus Climate, Campus Wellness, Research Funding, Finance, Immigration). Now past fiscal cut-off in the state legislature in all of the bills. Matt has been lobbying and has made it quite far on decoupling, the Student Loan Bill of Rights, the child care task force, and vet's mental health are still in play, among others.

There has been a lot of talk about graduate student mental health awareness and wellness. It's a big issue and appreciates everyone's involvement. Matt, herself and couple of them met with Counseling Center and Hall Health last week to figure out what they need to better serve students given the long wait times. Students feel they are not heard regularly. Its due to lack of funding and lack of staff. This is something that will need to improve for students. Invites ideas.

Regarding resolutions, insists on taking positions on statements not on bills specifically. That distinction needs to be clear whenever doing resolutions.

Morgan Conley (Jackson School): Asks if SAGE is open to Non-Senators.

Elloise Kim (President): Says SAGE Lobby Day involves money to send the delegate. So, there are limited seats that are taken by President, VP and couple of other GPSS people. This has become a very essential part of GPSS where they can allocate more money, they can include more people.

Kelsey Hood (Policy Director): States if there is an interest, to send her and Matt an email and see if they can fit them in based on funding and seat availability.

Noelle Symanski (Law): Hopes that Matt and Kelsey would attend the Ad-hoc Committee for Mental Health meetings too.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Reports that they had a great Resolution workshop. 4 different resolutions were there. One is all ready for its first reading. 3 others are in research and writing stage. It was a helpful and productive session. In the last email that she sent out, there were topics for resolution in the Slido. Encourages people to refer to that email with bulleted list if interested in participating or helping in writing the resolution. Next one is on Feb 21st from 3 to 5pm in GPSS office.

Diversity Committee is planning a symposium on March 5th at 5.30pm for campus diversity organization especially that are being run or hosted by graduate students. Email if there are any interests in writing resolutions and they will be matched with someone who is also interested in similar topic. Regarding Senate attendance, last quarter averaged about 53 to 54%. This quarter, its lower - around 44%. Encourages everyone to attend the meetings since its helpful to vote on resolutions, contributing to ideas etc. Want to make sure that there is quorum.

Elloise Kim (President): Talked about the new OPT fee (\$100/\$200 for STEM extension) by ISS beginning 2018 Spring. Encourage respective constituents to write to UWISS@uw.edu & Provost (BALDASTY@uw.edu). HFS met with her to discuss the 2018-2019 Rate Proposal for housing and dining plan. Asked Giuliana to send a PDF that includes all the information that can be read and studied. They are very transparent about the rate increase and the reasons for that. They have also been meeting with all student unions who could be affected by this. The resident halls, single student apartments, family housing rates to increase by 5.21% except Stevens Court which will be 10%. Had an interesting meeting with Student Financial Aid. Students are having communication issues with the office even though they are struggling with very limited resource and budget they have. They can totally do better in being diligent and disseminating information and letting students know about the available funding options they can provide. Last meeting on 2018-2019 was about

the cost of attendance. That will be published on their website for the prospective students. But there was a great concern about the low number they put upon the survey they conducted last spring. They sorted those cost based upon the survey. In case of text book, they mentioned \$825 for grad and undergrad students. It's natural that undergrad students tend to spend more on their textbooks. So, its misleading. The categories are traditional and non-traditional students. Communicating with them to change the language to be reflective about the actual cost of living. Board of Regents meeting is happening tomorrow. Race & Equity Initiative is being evaluated. They try to be more action item oriented. Any feedback on this initiative is welcome.

10. Announcements

6:45 PM

Sarah: Working on a resolution to decrease summer permit parking cost for grad students particularly. Invites help.

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Tomorrow is the first day of bargaining and are bargaining for next three years. The more people they can get, the better. Invites more people to join for the first meeting. It is at the Roosevelt Commons.

11. Adjournment

6:47 PM

John Metz (Atmospheric Sciences): Moves to adjourn

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Seconds
