

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Executive Meeting Minutes Session 8

January 04, 2017 | HUB 303

Members Present:

GPSS President Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim
GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs Sarah Loeffler
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs James Moschella
GPSS Treasurer Michaella Rogers
GPSS Secretary Randy Siebert
GPSS Executive Senator Monica Cortes Viharo
GPSS Executive Senator Michelle Brault
GPSS Executive Senator Laura Taylor
GPSS Executive Senator Erin Firth
ASUW Director of Internal Policy Taylor Beardall

Call to Order 5:32 pm

Approval of Agenda

5:32 pm

Randy Siebert: Move to amend the agenda by moving Officer Report of Vice President of External Affairs after approval of the Minutes and give him 3 minutes.

Michelle Brault: Seconds.

Randy Siebert Moves to amend the agenda and add *Resolution Scheduling* after the Officer Report of Vice President of External Affairs for 5 minutes.

Michelle Brault: Seconds.

Sarah Loeffler: Moves to approve the amended agenda.

Randy Siebert: Seconds.

Approval of Minutes

5:32 pm

Randy Siebert: Moves to approve the Minutes.

Resolution Scheduling

5:54 pm

Randy Siebert: In the beginning of the year we passed a memorandum saying we wanted to keep it to two Resolutions per Senate meeting to encourage more involvement in Senate meetings. Right now she has been emailed three different Resolutions one written by Monica Cortes Viharo against the DAPL, asking for President Cauce and the Regents to recognize the effort. The second Resolution is from Grand Williamson and is about supporting a letter by the Science Informed Leadership about asking legislators to continue being thoughtful in their approach to Sciences, in concern of the new [presidential] administration. The letter wants to be sent out by the end of January. The third resolution is on the Yacht club, they are comprised of some students and some alumni and have a verbal agreement with the IMA to use Dock space and now the IMA wants to kick them out. The Yacht club offered to pay for space, but right now there is no agreement in the works.

Laura Taylor: Knows that the Yacht Club is a private entity. There is also a higher rate of Alumni that participate than students.

Rene Singleton: Would recommend everyone to do some research on the issue before taking a stance. Yacht club is a registered student association and has a long history. The Resolution is meant to pull GPSS into it, and she isn't sure if that is a good thing yet.

Laura Taylor: Yacht club is largely Undergraduates and Alumni. There is a very small proportion of Graduate students.

Elloise Kim: Right now, are the focus is more on trying to figure out how we should prioritize Resolutions when multiple Resolutions are presented at once. It would be nice to have a Memorandum to give to authors on how we prioritize Resolutions.

Michelle Brault: Thinks it should be first come first serve basis but we should reserve the right to prioritize based on time urgency.

Randy Siebert: The order she received them was Yacht club, no DAPL, and the Science-Informed Leadership Resolution.

Elloise Kim: She is ambivalent about the first come first serve because there are more time sensitive issues some time that may take precedence above the first Resolutions submitted.

Rene Singleton: Asked Taylor if the if the Undergrads also have a Resolution for the Yacht club issue, and because the Yacht club is primarily registered as an Undergraduate group it may be good to let undergraduates take the reins first or to set the Resolution for the Undergraduates and Graduates up at the same time.

Elloise Kim: Resolution author for the Yacht Club Resolution is a former GPSS member who understands the rules of Resolution making. Also, we need to be careful about using bias to judge Resolutions on importance.

Taylor Beardall: Something that works nice with ASUW is everything is Resolutions are on a first come first serve basis but there are special orders of the day and the only time something is bumped up is if something it is time sensitive and needs to be bumped up on the Agenda. This is because you can't judge the importance of a Resolution but you can judge the time sensitivity of the Resolution.

Elloise Kim: Does one of the current three Resolutions seem more urgent?

Randy Siebert: The only one that has expressed time sensitivity to me is Grant Williamson's letter from the Science Informed Leadership because this is an outside organization sending a letter to Congressional leadership.

Michelle Brault: Also, thinks that if there is a Resolution that we see as not having as much merit we can table it at the Senate meeting, we can let Senators handle that.

Elloise Kim: There needs to be two readings of a Resolution so a Resolution's passing can be pushed pretty far back if it is not acted on immediately. So, the third Resolution would have to wait until February which is pretty late.

Michelle Brault: Can the Resolution be tabled at the first reading? (Yes.)

Laura Taylor: Can you vote during the first readings?

Randy Siebert: People can but it would need 2/3 of the votes.

Elloise Kim: We made an agreement that we shouldn't hasten voting after the first reading, unless it is very time sensitive.

Monica Cortes Viharo: We don't need to encourage it [voting after first reading] but if someone brings it up we can't stop them.

Elloise Kim: Next week we have many things on the Agenda, and many are important. So it's impossible for us to have three Resolutions, we have to pick two.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Army corps of Engineers have denied the request to build the end of the pipeline through the Sioux Reservation but once the new administration comes in they can choose to disregard that. I would very much like to go forward with this so as the new administration comes in we have it on record that there is politics at play with this.

Erin Firth: Despite the denial of the permit, can't they still continue on with the project and just pay a fine?

Monica Cortes Viharo: Yes, but they would have to physically remove the people there, which they haven't. The CEO of Energy Partners which is funding the pipeline did contribute to the Trump Campaign. She has good reason to believe the new administration [Trump administration] would ignore the Army Corps of Engineers decision.

Sarah Loeffler: They have the drill date set in early February, they have not made any move to change with the hold. Seems like they will just go.

Michelle Brault: Thinks DAPL is just as time sensitive. Can see both DAPL and Science letter Resolutions being bumped up due to their time sensitivity.

Laura Taylor: Might be worth contacting the author of the Yacht Club Resolution and tell them that we appreciate the Resolution but we may put the Resolution on hold due to the nature of things. Maybe refer them to ASUW.

Taylor Beardall: The Yacht club has sent the Resolution to ASUW. Also, agrees about the time sensitive nature of both Resolutions but warns that we need to think about the precedent that this decision makes. Who says the Yacht club issue isn't time sensitive to that group of people.

Monica Cortes Viharo: If we went that way we would have the Yacht club and Standing Rock Resolution first and the Science letter Resolution will be tabled until a month later.

Michaella Rogers: If we do table a Resolution is the third party going to be prepared at that meeting? If we table the third party wouldn't know that they will present.

Elloise Kim: If one of the Resolution authors is willing to table to the third meeting of the quarter that would be good.

Sarah Loeffler: Would it be worth contacting the authors of the Resolutions and explaining the situation?

Elloise Kim: Everyone agrees on importance of each Resolution and the different scale of the issue, but we need to be cautious about taking on the role as the Executive committee on deciding if something is more important.

Michelle Brault: Can you contact authors of the Resolutions and explain the situation? There is no harm in asking.

Monica Cortes Viharo: We can give them a date when it will happen. Also, for the Science letter she knows they want to send it to Congress, but Congressional hearings will be ongoing.

Sarah Loeffler: With that there is an outside organization sending the letter anyway and we want to join letter. Also, a bunch of other Universities of also supported the letter.

Monica Cortes Viharo: She is willing to move her Resolution [DAPL] to another time, while she does believe it is time sensitive but it may help.

Sarah Loeffler: We may want to talk to the Yacht club and ask if they mind tabling their Resolution this time.

Monica Cortes Viharo: We could give them a firm date of when something will happen for their Resolution.

Elloise Kim: Randy has to contact all the Resolution Author's tonight to be able to send all the Resolutions and Agenda to Senator's by the end of tonight as required by the Bylaws.

Taylor Beardall: Are you asking or telling? If you are asking people could say they are not okay with moving their Resolution's time, then what will happen?

Sarah Loeffler: We are asking, we don't not want to set precedent of Senator's values dictating things.

Taylor Beardall: So, if they are not okay with moving their Resolution's time you would put them first. (Yes.)

Rene Singleton: Didn't everyone change the Bylaws and figure out how to handle Resolutions Last Summer?

Elloise Kim: We decided to have no more than two Resolutions per meeting.

Rene Singleton: You aren't doing First readings and Second readings, are you? (We are.) Technically, first readings mean you read the Resolution, people can ask questions for a small amount of time, then it goes to the next reading. If that is all that happens, and you only have a few questions for any of the Resolutions you may not have a problem at all.

Monica Cortes Viharo: So, you are saying we should read all three but only vote on two of them and vote on the third Resolution the next meeting.

Elloise Kim: Is afraid that Senators are very discouraged to be excited by meetings when they see so many Resolutions.

Sarah Loeffler: Each resolution takes two meetings thus two Resolutions will take an entire month.

Monica Cortes Viharo: If she is willing to move her Resolution back, how do people feel about that?

Elloise Kim: If you are okay with that, that would be easiest. Also, there is a possibility that another Resolution will be tabled then you Resolution [DAPL] can go in for its first reading during the following meeting.

Monica Cortes Viharo: So the earliest the DAPL resolution will be brought in for the first reading is the January 25th? (Yes.)

Michelle Brault: Still thinks it's worth asking the Yacht club about their Resolution.

Elloise Kim: Monica is willing to change the time for her Resolution if things don't work out in the way we wish. So, lets contact the Author of the Yacht club Resolution and see what they say. Based on that conversation we can leave the Resolutions part of the agenda for Randy to fill out later today. The Resolution process has always been first come first serve but we have tried to limit number of Resolutions that were sent out to the Senate at once. The Executive committee can talk to authors and work out scheduling. If it is necessary, we may add language to the Bylaws or make another Memorandum specifying the prioritization method for Resolutions.

Michelle Brault: As long as we communicate with Authors it should be good.

Campus Events Update

5:58 pm

Elloise Kim: About Milo Yiannopoulos. Tomorrow the University and the UW Facilities committee will be meeting. She got lots of emails from the University Facilities committee about stopping Milo Yiannopoulos from coming to campus. Beyond what he has already done during a recent talk at a University in Madison, Wisconsin he targeted a transgender student specifically. Lots of people were concerned that he would do this on our campus as well. However, President Cauce's explanation for not stopping him from coming to UW is for free speech rights. One of the counter examples to make us cautionary, in University of Tennessee last year the BLM movement was almost stopped because lots of people there didn't want them to be active about that. Due to free speech right, that effort wasn't intervened. A decision to not let him come, may set a bad precedent. Personally, she feels it really isn't right to let hate speech on campus, regardless of whatever happens when he comes. Do we have a vote in the committee tomorrow Renee? (No idea.) She wants to get Consulted by the Executive Senators on how they think she should vote on the matter.

Michelle Brault: What would the vote be about? It would be about denying the use of the facilities. (Yes.)

Laura Taylor: Michelle and I's constituents are outraged that he is allowed to come to campus so on behalf of the people they represent she would vote no that he shouldn't be allowed to come.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Agrees with Laura's vote, her constituents feel similar sentiments. However, she personally feels the only way to combat hate speech is with more speech. If the college Republicans have done their due diligence and this person is coming she would rather see people choosing not to go there and going to other events happening on campus at that time. Free speech is messy, but it needs to happen at this time.

Elloise Kim: Current position of the University is having lots of other events on the UW campus. So, people can attend other events.

Monica Cortes Viharo: That day is inauguration day so there will be a lot of feelings.

Laura Taylor: Recognizes that free speech is important but we have the opportunity to stop something that is making waves on campus. If we can vote to make a stand to say we are not okay with this would be best. If he ends up coming, then agrees we should advertise other events to go to.

Elloise Kim: There have been many private universities that have stopped his appearances. However, there are no public universities that have been able to stop his presence due to free speech rights.

Michelle Brault: See both sides clearly but the same arguments that you just said [Laura Taylor] are the same things that racist white people say when they don't want ethnic people to come to campus. Also, thinks it's a slippery slope argument. Thinks its hypocritical to not allow things to happen if you don't personally agree with them.

Monica Cortes Viharo: If, Milo was doing a rally it would be different than a closed room where people can choose to go there. Those who choose not to do that, can do other things that are very dynamic that show opposition to this event.

Erin Firth: Thinks that is narrow minded. Thinks effects of that type of harassment don't stop that meeting, thinks that people who don't attend the meeting may be subject to that type of harassment by their peers. The UW has far as she knows there is a definition of discriminatory harassment for students, while it is meant to apply to students there is certainly grounds to say why can't we expect this from our speakers. There is no way, the BLM movements would have went against this code. If President Cauce did say what she said, it is incredibly disrespectful and hurtful. There is a big difference between an unpopular opinion and discriminatory harassment that incites violence. People should read definition for discriminatory language in the Student Conduct Code.

Rene Singleton: That policy does not apply to guest speakers but the UW has language written up for students.

Sarah Loeffler: The recent incident that spurred a lot of people to take action is that he targeted specific students by name in the audience. She doesn't know what the right answer is, but personally she doesn't want him here.

Randy Siebert: She would remove the free speech element and vote no. Saying GPSS promotes diversity and leave it at that.

Erin Firth: She votes no based-on history of discriminatory harassment.

Laura Taylor Maybe we should just do a quick hand vote.

Taylor Beardall: The Board of Directors of ASUW, got an email saying the UUWF committee is content neutral so doesn't know if this would matter. She has a quote saying they wouldn't turn people away based on subject matter.

Elloise Kim: Thinks that is not different from what President Cauce said early on but due to substantial increase in concern for Milo's appearance a vote has been commenced in an urgent meeting of the committee. Unfortunately, she expects that the University's decision will not change unless there is a good reason to differ. However, she at least wants to share GPSS's views.

Randy Siebert: She doesn't know how we could guarantee the safety of the room [destruction wise] due to the nature of the speaker.

Sarah Loeffler: Just to be clear the event is sponsored by the College of Republicans? (Yes.) So, an RSO is sponsoring it.

Elloise Kim: Yes, the RSO is responsible for paying for place, damages, and security.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Agrees that harassment doesn't just happen in the room. She hopes that the other events that they are encouraging people to go to will arm people with knowledge on how to deal with harassment. After this guy leaves that is not the only time that people may have to deal with harassment.

Michelle Brault: Is it an evening event? (Yes)

Erin Firth: It is beyond sold out, they are now offering guaranteed entry if people pledge \$100 dollars.

Elloise Kim: Please encourage people not to go to the event, so they are not targeted in that area, and tell people there are many other events at the campus.

Erin Firth: There is nothing to protect people regardless of whether they go to the event. In the U Madison case he had done preliminary research on a specific student, and was going to preform that regardless.

Elloise Kim: Regardless thinks we should communicate cautionary measures we can take. Will also communicate what will happen at UUF meeting. She will share all opinions of the Executive Board.

Erin Firth: Thinks this is beyond protecting free speech, rather it is protecting our community.

Michelle Brault: If this is a public event it could be held elsewhere.

Next Week's Senate Meeting Agenda

6:20 pm

Call to order

Approval of agenda

Approval of minutes

Program reviews/guest (20 min)

Population health facility + Q&A/guest (10 min)

Executive Senator Election (15 min)

Resolution 1/reading 1 + Q&A(10 min)

Resolution 2/reading 1 + Q&A (10 min)

Good of Order (15 min)

Officer Reports (10 min)

Announcements (5 min)

Adjournment (1 min)

Michelle Brault Moves to approve agenda as presented.

Sarah Loeffler Seconds.

Executive Senator Reports

6:25 pm

Laura Taylor: Sits on research advisory board, and the meeting was right after the last Executive Senate meeting so this news is months old. However, they are watching the climate in Washington in terms of the climate on research funding. They feel positive about the way it's going to go, because a lot of funding for the next year or two will be funded no matter what. They used evidence from that last research scare to show that private donations increased to make up for lack of public donations. Also, she finally got ahold of the UW safety committee and will serve on that, the first meeting of the quarter is tomorrow.

Monica Cortes Viharo: She is working with Randy and Noise (Native American club on campus) around activism for DAPL, also met with Christine about CARE it's a way to add companion animals to the hardship policy at UW. This amendment to the hardship policy would make it so that if a dog or cat died then there would also be eligibility for the hardship policy, people would need the same documentation. Will be the next Resolution Monica will be working on. UAW4121 has reserved intellectual house from 9am to 9pm on Inauguration day and will have people come in to talk for two hour segments. There are two immigration lawyers that will come in and talk they can talk about what to do if you are supervising anyone on campus you could be asked about a student's immigration status. Since, you can choose not to comply. Milo talk is at 8 pm so we want to have the 8-9 hour of their event to be really great. She is thinking about getting the Science and Policy committee to come in, in order to show people how to take academic ability and turn it into political power. Also, looking to bring in arts groups to perform.

Elloise Kim: Non-compliance with Federal and State immigration status sharing is the UW's official stance.

Michelle Brault: Maybe have a free paint time during the event.

Michelle Brault: She is on the faculty council for research and they are moving quickly on the Post Doc resolution. They Really want a strong Post-Doctoral affairs group because they have little representation now.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Are you talking about representation in Unions as well? Knows right now that Post-Docs are represented.

Michelle Brault: Doesn't think that is part of the Resolution but she will have to look back in her notes because it has been a while. Also, there will also be large federal overhaul of the administration duties/cost so that is also being discussed.

Erin Firth: Nothing to report.

Officer Reports

6:34 pm

ASUW: On Jan 7th, there will be the AISC POW WOW. Next week SARVA has consent week they are screening a documentary about consent. On Jan 13th is the Q ball. Jan 14th is the RSO leadership retreat. So, if you know of any Graduate RSOs invite them. On a personal note, today she met with the IMA about the UW mindfulness program, seems like they are going on a more positive route.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Is RSO leadership retreat for current RSOs or people interested in being in making an RSO?

Vice President of Internal Affairs: Thinking about doing quarterly surveys with the Senate as a whole. Sam will put that together for the Senate next week. The Survey will be about the overall experience and what the Senators are doing.

Elloise Kim: They are trying to understand the Senate “meeting experience” in the Senators opinion. What they need help with, and their practices.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Would be helpful to have best practices for disseminating information to the departments.

Vice President of Internal Affairs: It’s another way to understand how things are going in the Senate.

Elloise Kim: Have never done a user survey experience before so it will be interesting to see how this goes.

Vice President of Internal Affairs: Sam has been working with other universities in SAGE to compile information on how their governments have done professional development. They are currently compiling more information on their end. On the subject of Program Reviews they had a great meeting with Becky and Wesley and they gave them a few ideas that they were very responsive to. Sam and Sarah will be writing a proposal in order to integrate GPSS in a more hands-on way with students in the department. She will assign Senators to follow the whole Program Review process. Wants a student there from start to finish to illicit and facilitate student interaction and also so they can also get students to come to actual meetings. Currently, that is the only opportunity for students to have voice. Right now, it is up to the departments to tell students about reviews. Whether students or GPSS delegate they will promote Student participation. Will also try to get a single survey that they can send out the year before, trying to combine all these methods and Programs Review is very responsive, right now they are writing a proposal. Currently, they want to meet with any Senators that have experience with Program Reviews. If we can contact Senators to get an understanding on how it went in the past that would be good.

Elloise Kim: Program reviews are an 18-month long process and site visits are only 2 days long, and only 1 hour is given for student input on program reviews. The graduate school is receptive to seeing areas that could be improved.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Wants to congratulate them both [Sarah and Sam]. Turned tragedy into opportunity.

Vice President of Internal Affairs: This quarter she is also creating a GPSS video about what GPSS does. She wants to get shots of meetings, travel grants, committees etc. Sam, Alexi, and Sarah will work on that this quarter. Sam is the new communications guy, he will update the stuff more frequently about more Officer based stuff/and general things. Tori has stuff for the Winter social coming up. Also, Sarah wants to host an open house, 2 hours in the afternoon in the Office. It will be another opportunity for students to meet Officers more.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Hopes our video shows diversity in our body. The more Senators we can get in it the better.

Vice President of External Affairs (5:34 pm): A lot of the beginning of being in Olympia has been training. He met with the Secretary of State policy team today and had some meetings with people who run higher education policy in the Senate and House. Had some separate meetings with Legislators got traction on fee based programs, which means flat disclosure, minimum requirements on each website for any department that runs the fee based program. Lobby day may get changed to the February 7th because there is a State Need Grant Advocacy day with WSA that is happening and they want that to have them on separate days so they can have as many students down as much as possible. Also, working on Graduate student lobby day that will be joined with OGR....will follow up as soon as the plan gets more clear, no tentative day for that yet.

Secretary: Is doing Polar Plunge community outreach, getting that set up, email will be sent tonight. MLK day coming up & will do volunteering for that.

Elloise Kim: She [Randy] will be the person that will compile updated versions of officer descriptions for Bylaws.

Secretary: Over break she got a request by a professor to read articles on the first week of class, she felt that was unfair. She is thinking of writing a Resolution to give Graduate students an actual break during Winter break and not just continual homework and work.

Rene Singleton: It is a University policy that students have that break that professors need to follow.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Didn't know its University's policy to not do work.

Treasurer: Has done lots of work on Services and Activities fee stuff. Met with Student Veterans life and meeting with Health and Wellness tomorrow about SAF goals and what they have done and what challenges they have met. Met with Erin from SAF committee today to talk about how GPSS is doing with all that. She had some really good questions and brought up some goals they had last year, she will try to capitalize on some of those. ASUW has strong sponsorship program and that's something she wants to work on this quarter for GPSS. May reach out to ASUW contacts. Also, brought up the endowment and how to capitalize on that, how to grow it and how to use it. Early Winter quarter travel grants are due tonight, will be getting those graded. The have a lot of applications both departmental and special allocations for the Finance and Budget committee so it will be a busy couple week. Is going through all of the budget because she is making the fiscal year budget for 2017-2018 and getting it passed. If anyone has any ideas about where to increase/decrease, or put more emphasis let her know.

Monica Cortes Viharo: So, this is the deadline for the early cycle? Starting tomorrow people can apply for winter cycle Jan 5th to March 1st? (yes)

President: Had good break in Korea. Conference she has planned is set to be on May 6th and they will have the keynote session on May 5th, Friday afternoon. They still need to find a keynote speaker because Gov. Gregoire can't come. Title is "Our work now: The Critical Role of Graduates and Professional Students in Post-Election America". After the election of current president elect the local, national, and global political climate has changed and what does it mean to be a Graduate student doing research and more. They wanted to make the theme really broad. They wanted to have multiple formats of presentations including poster boards, and traditional presentations. Will finalize details by the beginning of next week, and hope to publish applications to speak by next week.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Pramila Jayapal to talk to the Union last year. And she has a lot of interesting things to say about coming to the US as a Graduate student.

Elloise Kim: Hopes to have good person for the Keynote speaker so the event will be well promoted. Many program and board members suggested using the GPSS website for speaker applications to increase traffic. Also, Tent city 3 is going on, next to fisheries, they are having a good start.

Announcements

6:55pm

Michelle Brault: UW is doing an all-day dance marathon for charity. So, if you want to be on my team let me know. It is on Jan. 21st, for the Children's Miracle Network.

Randy Siebert: New York times says access to all Canadian national parks is free this year.

Monica Cortes Viharo: GO map has some interesting service projects for MLK day.

Adjournment

6:57 pm

Michelle Brault: Moves to adjourn the meeting.

Sarah Loeffler: Seconds.