



Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Senate Meeting Minutes Session 6

JAN 27, 2016 | HUB 334

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:37 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alex Bolton (President) entertains a motion to move Brian Taubeneck and Kerstin Hudon’s Officer Reports to directly following approval of the minutes.

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer) moves.

Brian Taubeneck (Vice President of External Affairs) seconds.

Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs) moves to approve the amended agenda.

Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering) seconds.

Seeing no objections, the amended agenda is approved.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES 5:38 pm

John Lurie (Astronomy) corrects a point he made at the previous Senate Meeting. Under the current union contract, the U-PASS and the SAF are mandatory fees and cannot be waived, but the building fee can now be waived. Since the building fee is significantly more than the SAF fee, the total amount of fees is less.

Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs) moves to approve the minutes.

Ted Chen (Bioengineering) seconds.

Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

4. OFFICER REPORTS 5:39 pm

Brian Taubeneck (Vice President of External Affairs) shares that he has been down in Olympia lobbying and writing bills all quarter. He is trying to get the state to do a study on a State Loan Program for graduate students that would be at a lower interest rate than Graduate Plus Loans. They have a sponsor in both the House (Republican) and the Senate (Democrat). Marco Liias (Senate Sponsor) will be holding a Media Day on February 2nd at 9:00 am. He invites anyone with a stance on loans and the government’s role in paying them back to come down to Olympia on that day. February 8th is Lobby Day: HUSKIES ON THE HILL. He encourages everyone to attend. Transit and lunch are provided. Brian offers himself as speaker or

to submit written testimony on behalf of students who want their voice heard but are unable to make it down to Olympia.

- **Joseph Telegen (English)** asks what the transit schedule will be on that day.
- **James Moschella (Policy Analyst)** shares that buses will be leaving at 8:30 am and coming back as late as 4:00 pm but leaving as early as 1:15 pm. There will also be a training beforehand starting at 7:30 am that lobbyists are expected to attend.

**Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer)** reports that the budget will be voted on during the February 24<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting. Senators will receive the budget a week before the meeting, and are welcome to direct any questions that arise to Kerstin. They are hoping to submit the budget without needing an extension, so she has been adhering to rigid deadlines.

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## 5. GPSS SPOTLIGHT: UW POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF VINSON 5:46 pm

### **Presenter John N. Vinson, Chief of the UW Police Dept.**

One major issue they have been focusing on is Active Shooter Training. They have heard from students, that the UW Police Department could do a better job of preparing the UW community for these kinds of incidents. In response, they have organized 30-40 Active Duty Training sessions on campus. While not mandatory, it is highly encouraged that all students attend. They are also interested in forming a Student Advisory Committee to partner with the UW Police Department and help drive some of these efforts to standardize an Active Shooter Response Protocol. Shares his cell phone (206-406-7995) and invites the Senate to call anytime regarding police department questions.

### **Q&A (Answered by Chief Vinson)**

- **Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology):** There used to be the UW Safety Advisory Board but they either have not been meeting or are not publicly sharing when they are meeting. Does the UWPD have a plan to re-implement this committee?
- **A:** Vinson believes that the committee is still active and meeting every other month. Their board consists of faculty, students, and police officers, which has been helpful on keeping the UWPD informed on what is happening around campus. He will share the date/time of those meetings with Alex Bolton, President, to share with the Senate.
- **Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs)** asks how the Active Shooter Training has been going.
- **A:** It has been a mix. It would be nice to make it mandatory. People can be reluctant to attend a training because they do not believe this is something that can happen to them. They have seen an increase in individual requests that are the result of word of mouth recommendations.
- **Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** recommends integrating the UWPD active shooter training presentation into graduate student orientations. Since every department has one of these orientations, this would be a good way to reach a lot of students.
- **A:** He likes that idea. He encourages others to share their ideas as well.

- **Joseph Marino (Asian Language & Literature)** asks what the active shooter protocol is, and whether these procedures will be practiced regularly like fire drills.
- **A:** None of these activities are mandated at this time. However, there are several mechanisms in place for these kinds of situations; UWPD has been working with students to help push these initiatives.
- **Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs):** Does the training address how to differentiate between a drill and an actual event?
- **A:** The UWPD's job is to train students, faculty, and staff about what to do should an active shooter come onto campus. It will take a group effort to spread the word regarding training.

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## 6. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

6:04 pm

**Elloise Kim (Secretary)** shares that the Judicial Committee is supposed to have six members, and two of the members recently resigned. They will need two new members to take their place. She reminds everyone that a member of the Judicial Committee cannot serve on any other GPSS committee.

**Jason Eckard (School of Drama)** gives an overview on what the Judicial Committee has been up since last quarter. They are currently reviewing the Bylaws to ensure they make grammatical sense and are referring to the proper sections. They are also changing some of the language to be less gender specific. He shares that the committee is not a huge time commitment, but does important and lasting work.

**Norma Kaminsky (Comparative Literature, Cinema, & Media)** adds that one of the main functions of the committee is to investigate and try to resolve complaints that have to do with the Bylaws of the institutions, procedures, and Senate members.

**Joseph Telegen (English)** nominates Caleb Knapp (English) – **Caleb Knapp** accepts the nomination.

**Alex Bolton (President):** The GPSS will come back later in the meeting, once people have had time to think it over, to vote on the second position. He asks all those in favor of electing Caleb to the Judicial Committee to say Aye. There was no one opposed, and no one abstained. Caleb Knapp is officially elected as a Judicial Committee member.

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## 7. MEMORANDUM ON ATTENDANCE AND PROXY

6:13 pm

**Elloise Kim (Secretary):** The current Bylaws do not fully address the attendance policy besides that Senators have to attend a Senate meeting at least twice per quarter, one of which can be by a proxy. Therefore, there seems to be a wide range of understandings regarding attendance requirements. She has created a memo to address these issues and is recommending the following policies:

- Senators must attend the meeting for at least 45 minutes to fulfill the attendance requirement.

- Sitting senator cannot serve as a proxy for another sitting senator.
  - Senators who cannot attend meetings due to inevitable schedule conflicts can designate a quarter long proxy or retire temporarily for the quarter until they are able to attend meetings again by communicating to Secretary.
- In short, these policies clarifies what the current Bylaws do not address, and give more options to Senators not to lose their seats when they cannot make to the meetings.

#### Q&A

- **Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** asks what happens when a Senator has the opportunity to travel abroad and takes it.
- **Elloise Kim:** The Senator would try to encourage someone to attend in her place as a proxy. If not possible, the Senator has to communicate with the Secretary about the issue so that the Secretary can help to figure out what the best option for the Senator. The Secretary can use her discretion to understand special circumstances. So, the communication is the key.
- **Yasmeen Hussain (Biology)** recommends that in those instances where a fieldwork comes up and the Senator cannot turn it down, the best thing is for the Senator to be proactive and find someone to take their place as a new Senator instead of silently disappearing. Such a case happened in her department. This process will actually assists Senate members in keeping their positions rather than getting removed for poor attendance.
- **Elloise Kim** clarifies that while each program can hold up to two seats, a Senator’s resignation won’t make a seat lost for good. It will remain vacant until it is claimed again.

### 8. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON HONOR STATE HOLIDAYS 6:21 pm

**Alex Bolton (President)** shares that the purpose of the first reading of a resolution is to ask questions about intent, propose amendments, and give feedback to an author. This resolution came about when a professor attempted to reschedule a class on MLK day. There is no official University wide policy on this, but there should be.

#### Q& A (Answered by Alex Bolton)

- **Erin Dunnington (Nursing-PCH)** asks how he feels about online work being assigned rather than an actual class session and having the work due the next day.
- **A:** He has mixed feelings about it. This is what his professor ended up doing, which is better than pressuring students into coming to campus on a holiday. He is open to conversations about how this would be worded in the resolution.
- **Laura Koehn (Aquatic & Fishery Sciences)** suggests expanding the language to include breaks. She has had professors schedule classes to start a week early during a break and students are expected to attend.
- **A:** He agrees, wondering what the point of the University publishing an academic calendar is if they are not going to follow it.
- **Elliot Koontz (QUERM)** asks what happens after a resolution is approved.
- **A:** The resolution gives the GPSS’s opinion regarding the topic it addresses. The ASUW has expressed its interest in creating a similar resolution. If both the GPSS and ASUW approach

administration to negotiate their terms, there is a higher likelihood of a policy change.

- **Adam Bell (Education – Learning Sciences and Human Development)** asks whether there could come a point in time where the UW would not want to support a certain holiday. For example, Columbus Day.

- **A:** The current academic calendar does not include Columbus Day. If the state were to decide to acknowledge this holiday, this could change.

- **Nicole Arroyo (Immunology)** shares that she looked up the definition of Washington state holiday and Columbus Day is not recognized as such.

- **Kristen Garofali (Astronomy)** points out if advisors are making their students work on a holiday it is in violation of the collective bargaining agreement made through the union. This does not necessarily include attending class, so this is something the GPSS could look into.

- **Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering)** shares it might be helpful to clarify that class will not be mandatory on these days. If a teacher decides to hold class, but does not require attendance, these learning opportunities should not be affected.

- **Jason Eckard (Drama)** shares that a large part of his constituency is FMA actors who are getting their degree. They may be required to attend rehearsals on a day they do not have class. While these rehearsals are not technically classes, they are at least partially graded. He asks how the resolution will affect these students.

- **A:** He wanted to be very specific with the language of the resolution, and only deal with classes at this time. However, he is open to wording it in a way that is most beneficial to all students.

- **Alicia Taff (Nursing ABSN):** One of the big issues students in the medical professions deal with is clinical hours. These are required hours, that often get fulfilled on atypical days because they need the hours. These students want their holidays, but also need to fulfill their clinical hours. She asks if language around this could be added.

- **A:** He can look into adding a clause excluding this type of work. This resolution should act as more of a protection for students rather than a constraint.

- **Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** wonders about including languages for research assistants including meetings. She has seen those meetings scheduled during state holidays in the past.

- **A:** Since graduate students working as a RA's are already covered under the union contract, this might be difficult to include. The GPSS may not want to step on the union's toes by offering additional protections.

- **Vincent Jobin (Aquatic & Fishery Sciences)** asks whether these days could be transferred after the quarter has ended.

- **A:** Transferring these days would run into break, which would not work. What might work better is professors providing students with alternative prearranged dates at the beginning of the quarter.

- **Jason Young (Geography)** suggests altering the language to read a less accusatory toward the University; the same point could be made without pointing fingers.

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## 9. A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON HOSTING TENT CITY III

6:39 pm

**Alex Bolton (President):** For your information, the GPSS in 2009 passed a resolution in support of Tent City coming to campus; the GPSS remains in favor of Tent City. The administration is also currently working with students to ensure that Tent City does come to campus. Justin Bare is the sponsor of this resolution.

**Justin Bare (Computer Science):** Homelessness is a huge problem in Seattle. Expensive, privately owned housing results in a lot of houses without people and people without houses. This is a fixable problem, but this is a long way off. This resolution will provide a temporary fix for the homeless population in Seattle. Tent City III is a safe, stable place where these individuals can go. He introduces Zach Sanders and Olivia Reed who are members of the Tent City Collective.

**Zach Sanders:** The mayor has declared a state of emergency regarding homelessness, and is willing to do whatever it takes to combat it. The Tent City Collective is a group of UW students, alumni, and Tent City III residents who are joining in this mission to combat homelessness. Tent City III is an encampment of about 100 homeless individuals who reside in a location for a period of three months before moving to an alternate location. Since Tent City III has been active, they have moved over 90 times.

**Olivia Reed:** The Tent City Collective is committed to finding sustainable solutions to ending homelessness. Both Seattle University and Seattle Pacific University have successfully hosted Tent City III, and they hope that the University of Washington will as well.

### Q&A (Answered by Zack Sanders, Olivia Reed, and Justin Bare)

· **Yasmeen Hussain (Biology)** asks if there are any concrete steps that the GPSS could take in support of the homeless community; this could be in addition to Tent City.

· **A:** Allowing Tent City III to be hosted on the UW campus will be a huge step. In 2009 the administration ignored the resolution that was asking UW to host Tent City III, but the political climate has changed since then.

· **Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs)** asks what the educational component of having Tent City on campus will be. She also shares that in honor of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the School of Drama; they will be partnering with Pearl Demure to focus on community-based theater around homelessness.

· **A:** In the past students have done weekly foot care clinics, created various interactive art projects, and led a resume-building workshop for Tent City residents. They are currently working with faculty and staff to see what this educational component could look like.

· **Jason Eckard (Drama)** asks about the logistics of Tent City III. Where would it be located? How will the presence of these extra people on campus affect campus operations?

· **A:** The location will be decided with significant input from students. They have potential spots that they are looking into: archery field, red square, HUB lawn, Law Library lawn, and Rainer Vista. All of these locations have access to utilities and water. While Tent City provides their own portable toilets, showers, and kitchens they need a power source for these utilities.

· **Norma Kaminsky (Comparative Literature, Cinema, & Media)** asks why Tent City changes location every 90 days.

· **A:** Changing location every three months allows these tenants to fulfill their mission of educating and reducing stigmas surrounding homelessness in various communities.

· **Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** asks how has the political climate changed on UW's campus since the last time this resolution was proposed

· **A:** The University now has a new president, Ana Mari Cauce, who is in support of Tent City coming to UW. Also, since the mayor declared a state of emergency on homelessness, it has been getting more traction.

· **August Longino (Medicine MD)** shares the Medical Student Association is excited about the possibility of hosting Tent City III. How will the Tent City Collective gather student feedback?

· **A:** It will be a joint effort between Tent City Collective, Tent City III, and the UW administration to ensure that meetings are accessible for students who wish to share feedback.

· **Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering)** asks for more details about Tent City, and whether they serve the homeless population in the U District.

· **A:** Tent City III is part of a larger community in Seattle called Share a Meal. Their code of conduct is completely self-governed, and prohibits the use violence, alcohol, and drugs while living with the encampment. While Tent City gets a large overflow of food and clothing they share with the community they are in, the encampment itself does not will not necessarily be open for the U District homeless population.

**Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs)** moves to extend by 7 minutes.

**Elliot Koontz (QERM)** seconds.

· **Kristen Garofali (Astronomy)** asks what percentage of Tent City residents have families.

· **A:** You cannot be an unaccompanied minor within the encampment. There are currently two families, and four children living in Tent City, but this number is constantly changing.

· **Patrick Lozer (History):** Since the UW would not be hosting Tent City III until a year from now, he wonders if the residents of Tent City III know where they will be locating up until they come here.

· **A:** Residents do not know where they will be relocating until about a month before the move. They move within one day and set it back up again with the help of volunteers.

· **Ted Chen (Bioengineering)** asks what some of the downsides to hosting Tent City III would be.

· **A:** Some potential downsides are the grass where the encampment is located will be destroyed.

It might also make some people uncomfortable.

· **Meixi Ng (Education)** asks if the tenants of Tent City were asked their opinion regarding relocating to UW. Is this something they even want?

· **A:** Residents input is welcome. They want to come to the UW because they love being on campus and working with students.

· **Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering):** Tent City III is self-governing and has discipline policies in place for violations. Can you speak to that?

· **A:** Let's see the example of alcohol. If a resident is found to have alcohol in one's tent or come back to camp drunk, the resident will be asked to leave that night. If it happens again the person will be asked to pack bags, and be escorted to a bus stop by security.

· **Alicia Taff (Nursing ABSN)** asks whether there are ways to start engaging with Tent City III members and building positive relationships before they come to campus.

· **A:** Yes, people can get in touch with the Tent City Collective or go to *share.org* to get directly in contact with them.

· **Lauren Drakopulou (Geography)** shares that the Campus Sustainability Fund voted to endorse hosting Tent City III last week.

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## 10. U-PASS TRANSPORTATION FEE FORUM

7:09 pm

**Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs)** invites Senators to continue the conversation that started at the last Senate meeting regarding the U-PASS Transportation Fee. Anna Witow, GPSS liaison to U-PASS Advisory Board, will be bringing any questions, suggestions, and concerns back to the Board.

**Laura Koehn (Aquatic & Fishery Sciences)** shares that her bus is often late and will pass her if it is full. She asks if this is something the U-PASS Advisory Board could help resolve.

**Alicia Taff (Nursing ABSN)** asks if there is the possibility of including the ferry system with the U-PASS.

**Elliot Koontz (QERM):** It was mentioned that the U-PASS fee goes toward the maintenance of the Burke Gillman Trail. Does this include the section of the trail not located on campus?

**Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs):** No, it is only for the maintenance of the trail within campus.

**Nicole Arroyo (immunology)** shares that there have been problems with break ins in the bike lockers in the South Lake Union area. She wonders if U-PASS fees could be directed to address this issue by providing additional security.

**Yasmeen Hussain (Biology)** suggest the U-PASS budget be available to students, so they are aware of what they are paying for.

**Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** heard a rumor that that he U-PASS fund may pay for new bike cages. If this is true, she wonders where they are located.



**Devin Bedard (Earth & Space Sciences)** asks where students with a dissenting opinion about the U-PASS Transportation Fee can voice their opinion.

**Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs)** shares the U-PASS Advisory Board meets every Friday from 12:30-1:30 pm in HUB 337. Students are encouraged to attend and express their opinion. All perspectives are welcome.

**Joe Telegen (English)** adds that a lot of individuals are being encouraged to vent their concerns to the people who are creating these fees. There should be an outlet for those individuals who are fundamentally opposed to the U-PASS Transportation Fee.

**Kristen Garofali (Astronomy):** The U-PASS became mandatory during this round of contract bargaining. Those people who would like to advocate against the imposition of a universal U-PASS fee should voice their opinions during the next round of contract bargaining.

**Kirby Conrad (Linguistics)** expresses concern about that if union negotiations lead to the U-PASS no longer being universal, this expense would get dumped onto other students.

**Anna Witow** has collected all these concerns and questions and plans to deliver it to the Board.

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## 11. GOOD OF THE ORDER

7:31 pm

**Alex Bolton (President)** moves to strike Good of the Order for it is already getting very late. Does anyone want to volunteer for Judicial Committee?

**John Lurie (Astronomy)** nominates Adam Bell (Education–Learning Sciences and Human Development) as the second member of the Judicial Committee. – **Adam Bell** accepts the nomination.

**Alex Bolton (President)** asks all those in favor of electing Adam to the Judicial Committee to say *aye*. There was no one opposed and no one abstained. Adam is officially elected as a Judicial Committee member.

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## 12. OFFICER REPORTS

7:32 pm

**Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs):** The final workshop for Husky 100 was on January 26, 2016. The application is due February 2, 2016. Please apply! They have completed program review surveys for Material Science department and College of Education. They are working on Nursing and Math next, so any input from these departments on the survey would be helpful. On February 18 the GPSS will be hosting a social event in the HUB bowling alley. The theme is “Throw Back to your Alma Mater”. They will be asking for volunteers for set up and clean up.

**Elloise Kim (Secretary):** She volunteered at the Hearing Speech and Deafness center on MLK Day of Service along with Monica and other graduate and professional students. Check out the GPSS Facebook for pictures! On February 4<sup>th</sup> Diversity Committee and MEDEX together are

planning a forum on homelessness. On February 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a workshop for international graduate students on communicating with professors, so spread the word to your cohorts. The Race and Equality Initiative is looking for student leadership. A link to these positions will be sent out via email. The due date for signing up is Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Alex Bolton (President):** Huskies on the Hill is February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This is a great chance to advocate on behalf of something that effects graduate students. He will be sending out an email next week to all graduate students, pushing the lobby day and the GPSS winter social.

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### **13. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**7:37 pm**

Senators who have made announcements may send information including a link and a flyer if available to Elloise Kim at [gppssec@uw.edu](mailto:gppssec@uw.edu) by tomorrow at noon.

### **14. MEETING ADJOURNED: 7: 43 pm**

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## ADDENDUM: Announcements

### Communication with Faculty: Workshop for International Graduate Student

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> (Thu), 11:45 am-1:15 pm

HUB 334

The Core Programs, the GPSS, and FIUTS host a workshop for international graduate student for communications skills that are important in all aspects of graduate school life. This workshop features a panel of faculty members and international students from a variety of disciplines who are going to share experiences and techniques for communicating, which will help international graduate students learn multiple perspectives to develop their own communication strategies for classroom participation as well as 1-on-1 meetings. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Ziyang Bai, [baiziyang@uw.edu](mailto:baiziyang@uw.edu). Please RSVP at its Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/148482642196285/>



### Are You Interested in Using Your Scientific/Technical Background Beyond the Bench?

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> (Thu), 5:30-7:30 pm

UW Career Center LOBBY, MGH 134

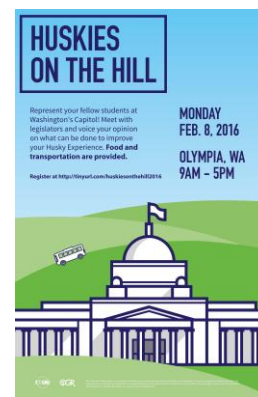
Morrison & Foerster ([www.mofo.com](http://www.mofo.com)) is an international law firm with one of the strongest Patent & IP groups in the nation. A law degree is not required. If you are a grad student or post-doc in the life sciences, or an undergraduate/grad student or post-doc in engineering, please join us for a panel presentation featuring [Dr. Michael R. Ward](#), head of our Patent Practice and co-Chair of our Intellectual Property Group, to learn about this exciting career. A networking session will follow the panel.

### Huskies on the Hill (Lobby Day)

February 8<sup>th</sup> (Mon) 7:30 am - 4:00pm

Olympia, WA

Join students in Olympia for Huskies on the Hill (Lobby Day)! Both undergraduates and graduates will be meeting with elected officials to push issues related to student issues and to raise constituent concerns. Students will also be advocating for is a bill, [HB 2887](#), which creates a study on a possible state loan program for graduate students. Transportation and food will be provided. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/huskiesonthehill2016>. All students are encouraged to apply!



### Race & Equity Initiative: Call for Participation

Deadline: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> (Mon), 5pm

The UW Race & Equity Initiative has several leadership opportunities and would appreciate and welcome your participation. Please complete the [survey](#) to indicate your interest. Positions open are Student Advisory Committee, Steering Committee, and Facilitation Team.

### Minds Matter Seattle 5K Race

Feb. 13<sup>h</sup> (Sat)

Magnuson Park

Minds Matter Seattle is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization that provides mentoring and tutoring support to high-achieving Seattle area high school students from low-income/disadvantaged backgrounds. We are hosting a 5K race in conjunction with the Magnuson Series. In order for Minds

Matter to benefit from your registration funds, please register [here](#). For more information on the organization, please check our [website](#) and the Facebook event [page](#). Specific questions about the organization or the use of funds may be directed to [Nicole Arroyo \(enarroyo@uw.edu\)](mailto:enarroyo@uw.edu).

### **An Intro & Advanced Training in Kingian Nonviolence**

**Feb 12<sup>th</sup> (Fri) - 15<sup>th</sup> (Mon), 10:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**University Congregational Church**

Free Registration for students

Kingian Nonviolence is a multidiscipline body of knowledge derived from the nonviolence philosophy and methodology of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., from which individuals and communities learn how to address the issue of conflict without resorting to violence. Register at:

<http://bit.ly/knvadvfeb2016>