



Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Senate Meeting Minutes Session 8

FEB 24, 2016 | HUB 334

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:35 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ted Chen (Bioengineering) moves to approve the agenda.

Steven Tran (Chinese Studies) seconds.

Seeing no objections, the agenda is approved.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:35 pm

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology) moves to approve the minutes.

Kiran Jassal (Law) seconds.

Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

4. GPSS SPOTLIGHT: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

5:36 pm

Elloise Kim (Secretary) invites the Judicial Committee members to introduce themselves: John Lurie (Astronomy), Adam Bell (Education), Caleb Knapp (English), Brandon Ray (Atmospheric Sciences), and Jay Eckard (Drama).

The Judicial Committee presents several multiple-choice questions pertaining to the Bylaws for Senate members to answer as a warm up activity. They provide a Bylaws Overview and list the various articles within it. They also discuss some changes, which they will present in greater depth during the first meeting spring quarter. The most notable change is that the committees will be downsized. The Executive, Judicial, Elections, Finance and Budget, Ad Hoc, and Special Committees will remain within Article VI for they are essential to the structure and function of the GPSS, and the rest will be extracted into a memorandum respectively. This will allow the duties/responsibilities of each committee to be amended more easily to suit student needs. They have also fixed any grammatical errors and amended the gendered pronouns.

Q&A

· **Yasmeen Hussain (Biology)** asks whether the committees will automatically be converted into memorandums or if this is something the officers will have to do every year. She expresses concern that moving things to the policy memorandum that can be approved without the Senate, will result in those committees not being taken seriously.

· **Alex Bolton (President):** They can be reviewed every year, but it is up to each officer's discretion if they would like to keep them or make changes when they run the committees under their supervision. If the Senate decides they do not like the changes, they will have the opportunity to vote on it. Additionally, the duties to maintain and run the committee would still be within the Bylaws, but the memorandum will regulate how they are implemented.

· **Jason Young (Geography)** asks what the justification was for extracting the Travel Grants Committee into a memorandum. He adds that since the Travel Grants Committee deals with money and stays relatively consistent it seems as though they would remain with the bylaws.

· **Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer):** Since the rubric, guidelines, and committee for Travel Grants changes every year, it is more flexible and useful to have it in a memoranda format. These changes would be easier to implement if they were contained within the memorandum.

5. GPSS BUDGET

5:52 pm

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer) presents the GPSS FY17 Budget for the Senate's approval. She shares that there were almost \$26,000 in budget cuts. These are line items that have not been spent over the course of two fiscal years. They have added approximately \$27,000 in programming with new staff positions, increased staff hours, more money for travel grants reflecting its high popularity and demand, increased support of ASUW Arts & Entertainment Programming, office technology upgrades, and the travel budget for VP of Internal Affairs. With these additions the total budget is \$524,258, which means they will request \$482,258 from SAF. The GPSS is responsible for providing their own food and beverage for events, which accounts for the difference between the budget and what they are requesting from SAF. Overall, there was a total SAF budget increase of \$1,024, which is only a 0.21% increase from last year's budget.

Q&A (Answered by **Kerstin Hudon**)

· **Elliot Koontz (QERM)** asks what SAF is.

· **A:** SAF is the Services and Activities Fee. Every student pays this fee as a part of their tuition and it goes toward funding 17 different units.

· **Ted Chen (Bioengineering):** What is the likelihood that SAF will fund the full budget, and what line items would be affected if they decided not to fund in full?

· **A:** There is a 99% chance that the budget will be funded in full. SAF has a budget of \$17 million, and the GPSS is a relatively small portion of it. If something needed to be cut, it would most likely be Travel Grants for it impacts a single student, as opposed to other line items which impact many such as special and departmental allocations.

6. GPSS BUDGET VOTE

6:01 pm

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology) moves to approve the budget.

Dan Herb (Education) seconds.

The GPSS FY17 Budget is approved unanimously by the Senate.

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer): Elloise will share the .pdf of the line item budget with this week's announcement. The budget will be available on the website once SAF has made its decision on the

7. RESOLUTION TO PROTECT LGBT RIGHTS UNDER LAWS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

6:02 pm

Kirby Conrod (Linguistics) introduces the resolution to protect the rights of transgender individuals specifically, and LGBT students more generally. It also supports the state legislation that protects those rights.

Erin Adam (guest, Political Science) provides a brief history of gender discrimination and the legislation that has been passed to combat it. In 2006 WA passed the Anderson-Murray Anti-Discrimination Act, which prohibits discrimination in public accommodations and places of employment based on “sexual orientation”. In 2015, the WA Human Rights Commission adopted a new rule clarifying the Anderson-Murray Anti-Discrimination Act. Transgender people are now allowed to use public facilities consistent with their gender identity. Since it was passing in December, there have been six anti-trans bills, two of which have moved forward to Senate. While these bills ultimately missed the deadline there is still support in Washington State for these bills, which is why this resolution has been proposed.

Kirby Conrod (Linguistics): The resolution does three things: (1) it denounces the anti-trans bills and momentum around the exclusion of transgender people from human rights protections in WA state; (2) it supports anti-discrimination legislations, and current laws, that protect the rights and dignity of LGBT people; and (3) it supports the work of the SAFE Alliance.

Q&A (Answered by Kirby Conrod, Erin Adam, and Adam Bell)

·Dan Herb (Education): The House Representative is on board in stopping these bills. Where does the Senate Representative stand?

·A: He is on board; there are no political issues.

·Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) asks whether they could conceive of this resolution without calling out the groups that support it. It is possible that the SAFE Alliance may have a goal that does not align with the GPSS in the future. She suggests including everything as it is, but less the support of the SAFE Alliance.

·A: The existence of the SAFE Alliance is primarily in response to these bills. Joining them in this sends a powerful message, but they encourage other thoughts.

·Joseph Telegen (English) suggests using more general language in regards to the GPSS support of the SAFE Alliance to avoid saying they are in support of everything. He also asks where he could find a research on the legal definition of transgender.

·A: The Revised Codes of Washington, which are the laws of the state. They are also linked within the resolution in the footnotes.

·Dan Herb (Education) adds the language of the resolution is clear in that the GPSS supports the organization, rather than joining in its mission.

·John Lurie (Astronomy): Would it distract from the focus of the resolution to ask the University to reaffirm its commitment to protecting the rights of transgender students on campus?

·A: They agree that is a great idea.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology): Since the Human Rights Commission is described within the resolution, she suggests also including a description of the SAFE Alliance.

A: There is a link within the resolution, but point taken. It would be good to have this information more visible for readers.

·**Erin Firth (Oceanography)** shares that she has sent a link to Elloise to a *Stranger* article dealing with these issue. Elloise will send out the link with this week’s announcements.

·**Ted Chen (Bioengineering):** Since the language states that they oppose any attempts to alter these rules, does this include additional protections?

·A: They can suggest removing the word “alter”, because they do not want alterations that increase protections to be rejected.

·**Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs)** moves to extend time by seven minutes.

·**John Lurie (Astronomy)** seconds.

·**Joe Marino (Asian Languages & Literature)** asks whether the GPSS would be the only organization in support of the SAFE Alliance.

·A: No. There are other UW organizations that have joined, for example the Washington Outlaws. The GPSS would be the first student government that supports.

·**Jason Young (Geography)** asks why the acronym LGBT is used rather than LGBTQ or LGBTQI.

·A: They could change it to LGBTQI. Part of reason behind the use of LGBT is because the resolution was modeled after the resolution passed by the Human Rights Commission, and that is the acronym they used.

·**Esri Camsi (Oral Health Sciences)** asks if the sponsors would be willing to add WA in front of Human Rights Commission.

·A: They are amenable to this change.

8. U-PASS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

6:24 pm

Elloise Kim (Secretary) shares that Anna Wittow has returned to report back on the concerns and questions she received from the Senate regarding U-PASS in the previous meeting.

Anna Wittow (GPSS Executive Liaison to the U-PASS Advisory Committee) reports that the U-PASS Advisory Committee does have pull with the Metro Transit. Every summer they participate in contract negotiations with them. They have not had much student input in the past because this meeting had always been in the summer when the advisory board was not on campus, but Anna has been invited to this meeting to provide input. She announces that the Light Rail will begin running on March 26th, and this will affect many bus routes. She asks the Senate to share with their constituents which routes need more buses, bigger buses, or more frequent buses starting on March 26th. She will share this

information with the Metro Transit this summer.

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER

6:27 pm

Joseph Telegen (English) calls attention to an open letter to Senator Patty Murray concerning the Syrian refugees crisis. Eloise will share a link to the letter in the announcements.

Erin Firth (Oceanography): The GPSS and ASUW have submitted a joint proposal to Student Tech Fee (STF) for software development and electronic clickers. This is a \$10,500 request, and would make the software available for both bodies. She asks that the Senate go to uwstf.org, select proposal 103, and share a reason why they are in support of this request. They need more support from the GPSS members.

10. OFFICER REPORTS

6:31 pm

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs) via Sarah Loeffler (Director of Events): The annual winter social was last Thursday (2/18) and it was a huge success; there were over 100 graduate students in attendance. If there are any suggestions for a next year, feel free to let them know. Program reviews are in full swing. This week they are doing the reviews for the School of Nursing and the Department of Mathematics. They have begun planning for Husky Sunset which will take place on June 2nd from 5:00-8:00 pm. There will be lots of food and drinks, music, and a photo booth. She invites anyone with suggestions to send them to her. G3 (Grads mentoring Grads) will host its first brown bag training session this week. Please contact Monica for more information.

Brian Taubeneck (VP of External Affairs) via James Moschella (Policy Analyst): The House legislative budget came out Monday and the Senate budget came out Wednesday. Unfortunately, the student loan refinancing program was not admitted as a budget proviso, and therefore will not be happening this year. From April 9th to 13th several of the GPSS officers and he will be heading to D.C. as part of SAGE (Students Advocates for Graduate Education). Interim work has begun; he welcomes any student with issues they want to push for next year to come speak with him.

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer): They have spent about \$10,000 on Travel Grants as of this winter quarter, which is about 50% of their budget. Since the start of last summer, they have had over 100 applicants. There has also been an uptick in departmental and special allocation requests this quarter. The Finance and Budget Committee is seeking new members. They are currently so small that if someone does not show up they do not have enough members to vote on things. SAF starts its budget presentations next week. The GPSS received new computers, and they have all been installed.

Eloise Kim (Secretary): There is still about \$4000 of Diversity Funds that is available, so please apply if any RSO and department does any diversity related programing. She attended the Diversity Council meeting recently, and there was a lot of conversations around the lack of communication between the various organizations striving to increase diversity on the UW campus. She offers herself and Brian Tracey as a point of contact if they have any ideas to help increase communication and student participation. The Judicial Committee has almost finalized the Bylaw revisions, and the Executive Committee will review the changes. She is working with the Creative Director and Officer Manager on new GPSS logos. They are hoping to create several logos for promotional use

Alex Bolton (President) thanks everyone who attended the winter social, and commends them for spreading the word to other graduate students for the future events as well; it was a huge success. The Student Regent Selection Committee has formed; he invites anyone interested in being a Student Regent to contact him. He also encourages everyone to endorse the Student Tech Fee proposal. Lastly, the University of Washington Medical School program has partnered with Gonzaga.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

6:43 pm

See the addendum for a full list of announcements. Announcements are collected after a Senate meeting. Senators who have made announcements may send information including a link, a contact information, and a flyer if available to Elloise Kim at gpssec@uw.edu by tomorrow noon.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:49 pm

ADDENDUM: Announcements

Endorse STF proposal for An Enhanced Cooperative Vote Tracking Environment (ecVOTE) in the GPSS and ASUW senate

In order to increase efficiency and transparency, ASUW transitioned to electronic voting in 2010, with STF assistance in 2010 and 2012. Custom software currently allows for voting results to be displayed in real-time and easily archived. This software is reaching the limits of its functionality, and modifications to it are not possible. Given the success of this electronic voting system, we request funds for the creation of new sustainable software that will be utilized by both ASUW and GPSS. For more information, visit <https://uwstf.org/proposals/103>. For questions, contact Erin Firth at pontus@uw.edu.

Join the Peer Health Educators

Due date: Feb. 26th(Fri)

The Peer Health Educators seek to bridge the gap between college health issues and campus resources. Under the Office of Health and Wellness, they facilitate workshops about these topics to different student groups and plan events to promote healthy living. They aim to make UW a safer, healthier place. This opportunity is available to all students on campus, undergraduate and graduate, for the 2016-2017 year. For more information about the application process and PHE's role on campus, visit tinyurl.com/joinPHE or email the volunteer coordinator, Cat Traylor, at phehwvc@uw.edu. [Apply Now!](#)

Dr. Mario L. Small

"Heterogeneity and American Ghettos"

Feb. 25th(Thu), 6 -7:30 pm

CMU 120

Dr. Mario L. Small, an award-winning author on urban poverty presents on how to transform how social scientists use newly available forms of data to understand urban poverty, and how actors mobilize their networks when seeking social support. Find more information at

<http://urban.uw.edu/index.php/events?trumbaEmbed=eventid%3D115734865%26view%3Devent%26-childview%3D>.

Conversation with Dr. Small

Feb. 26th(Fri) 10:30 -11:30 pm

CMU 202

Urban@UW and GO-MAP sponsor a conversation with Dr. Small focused on social support networks and their importance in academic career trajectories. The conversation will focus on his research and insights into professional and social support networks and their importance in academic career trajectories. RSVP to UrbanUW@uw.edu.

"Beyond Tough Talk: Reflection and Action as an Activist Scholar"

Mar. 4th(Fri), 6 -7:30 pm

Kane Hall 225 (Walker Ames)

Dr. Small will give a talk centered on how youth movements like Black Lives Matter, among others, operate with a context of community resistance to systems of radicalized oppression and violence, ultimately urging educators and community leaders to go beyond tough talk.

Evans School Talent Show and Silent Auction

Feb. 26th(Fri) 6 -10 pm

Mary Gates Hall Commons



Evans School hosts a talent show and a silent auction this Friday. Your significant others, kids, and friends are welcome and snacks and beverages will be provided. **The Silent Auction** begins at **6:00 pm** and **the Talent Show** begins at **7:00 pm**. An intermission will occur at 7:45 pm and bidding will continue. Winning bidders will be posted at 9:15 pm. We have over 100 items to bid on and approximately 200 chances to be a winning bidder! Make sure you check the descriptions and limitations of your favorite auction items! Pre-registration is still open! Get to the bidding floor faster by registering at <http://goo.gl/forms/x4E6RXK7Yj>. More details schedule, please contact Seth Bergeson at bergeson@uw.edu.

FIUTS Distillery Tour

Feb. 27th (Sat)

Get in high spirits behind the scenes at a local distillery! FIUTS hosts a Distillery tour in which you can learn about the process of making whiskey at Westland Distillery. The tour will end with a guided tasting of their products with a distiller and plenty of time to ask questions. Note that this event is available only for people who are older than 21.

Advance sign up required in FIUTS office, HUB 206.

Meet-up Time/Location: Meet at the Burke Museum Cafe at 12:45 PM

Cost: \$25 - covers entrance fee to Westland Distillery, tour and tasting

What to bring: Passport or Washington state ID, money for food and drinks.

<http://www.fiuts.org/events/calendar/distillery-tour-ages-21-1>

UW World Series present Martha Redbone

Feb. 29th (Mon), 12:00 pm

UW Intellectual House

After a week of school visits and workshops around Seattle, the UW World Series will be hosting a performance and talk by Martha Redbone and her band about art, equity, education. It will be on Monday the 29th at noon in the intellectual/long house. Their music is a fusion of her heritages including blues, Appalachian folk, gospel and music of the Choctaw and Cherokee tribes. Find more information at <https://uwworldseries.org/events-tickets/calendar/martha-redbone-community-concert>.

UWPD Student Safety Advisory Board Kickoff Meeting

Mar. 1st (Tue) 7:30 – 8:30 pm

HUB 303

Are you a student interested in partnering with UW Police? Interested in having a voice on issues of safety? Join other UW students and UW Police on Tuesday! Find more information on its FB event page at

<https://www.facebook.com/events/179390162436269/>.

“Inclusive Mentorship. What is it, how do we get it, and why do we want it?”

Mar. 2nd (Wed) 3 – 5 pm

College of the Environment presents Conversation of Defining Diversity “Inclusive Mentorship. What is it, how do we get it, and why do we want it?”. It is a workshop-style conversation to encourage the discussion of the challenges both to mentors and mentees experience, and to develop tips/tools for successful inclusive mentorship.

Grad Student Symposium

Interested in what your fellow grads are up to? Visit a Grad Student Symposium! Please stop by a good conversation and food.

Biology Department

Mar. 4th (Fri), 9 am - 4 pm
Physics-Astronomy Tower C520

The Biology Department is hosting a [Graduate Student Research Symposium](#). Full schedule and abstracts are on the [website!](#)

School of Environmental and Forest Sciences

Mar. 4th (Fri), 9 am – 5:30 pm
Anderson Hall 207

The School of Environmental and Forest Sciences is also hosting a [Graduate Student Symposium](#) on the same Friday!

“Beyond Tough Talk: Reflection and Action as an Activist Scholar”

Mar. 4th (Fri), 1 – 2:30 pm
Kane Hall 225 (Walker Ames)

The Graduate School and the Office of the Dean of Diversity and Student Affairs would like to cordially invite you to a provocative conversation with Dr. David Stovall. His talk will center on how contemporary youth movements (such as Black Lives Matter, Black Youth Project 100, Dream Defenders, Love and Protect, Immigrant Youth Justice League, etc.), operate within a context of community resistance to systems of racialized oppression and violence, ultimately urge educators and community leaders alike to move beyond tough talk. Dr. Stovall is Professor of Educational Policy Studies and African-American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Please click [here](#) to learn more about Dr. Stovall and his work. Please RSVP [here](#) to by Thursday March 3rd by 12pm.



Justice Scalia, His Legacy, and the Future of the Supreme Court

Mar. 4th (Fri), 1 – 2:30 pm
William H. Gates Hall 127

Please join us for a panel discussion about Justice Scalia, his impact on the Supreme Court and the Country, and where the Court goes from here. Named to the Court by President Reagan in 1986, Justice Scalia quickly became a leading voice on the bench. A leading proponent of originalism, Justice Scalia's opinions, oftentimes equally scathing and humorous, are featured prominently in legal textbooks across subjects. Our panel, featuring former Supreme Court law clerks, practitioners that regularly argue in front of the Court, and subject matter experts, will begin by offering personal anecdotes and an overview of what Justice Scalia meant to the Court. Food will be served.



The Open Letter to Senator Patty Murray to Support Syrian Refugees

If you are interested in participating in this letter to support Syrian Refugees written by Americans for Refugees and Immigrants, you can sign on in the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/18HaxFE4i47tdEwbGUIVd-6WgsjTLKRhO-OTsUdkSYQ0/edit>