



Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Executive Meeting Minutes Session 16

MARCH 2, 2016 / HUB 303

Members Present:

GPSS President Alex Bolton
GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs Monica Cortes Viharo
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs Brian Taubeneck
GPSS Treasurer Kerstin Hudon
GPSS Secretary Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim
GPSS Executive Senator Erin Firth (via phone)
GPSS Executive Senator Yasmeen Hussain
GPSS Executive Senator Brian Tracey
GPSS Executive Senator Joseph Telegen
GPSS Executive Senator Jenn Kirk
Graduate School Associate Dean Kelly Edwards
ASUW Director of Internal Policy Noe Merfeld

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:35 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Elloise Kim moves to approve the agenda.
Brian Tracey seconds.
Seeing no objections, the agenda is approved.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:35 pm

Joseph Telegen moves to approve the minutes.
Monica Cortes Viharo seconds.
Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

4. EXECUTIVE BILL 01-2016: AN ACT TO CONFIRM BRYCE KOLTON AS THE NEW STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE COMMITTEE CHAIR

5:36 pm

Kerstin Hudon shares that on Monday the former STFC chair announced his resignation, according to the STFC Bylaws this results in the appointment of the vice chair until the committee has the opportunity to hold a formal election. She introduces the bill, and reads it in its entirety. She opens the room for discussion.

Brian Tracey asks if they can hear more about Bryce Kolton.

Kerstin Hudon: He is the current STFC vice chair and currently holds an appointment with the

ASUW Experimental College and built the current STF website.

Yasmeen Hussain shares that the STFC bylaws indicate the STFC chair will be elected at the following meeting and the vice chair is temporarily the chair until voting can take place. She asks whether this resolution conflicts with the bylaws.

Kerstin Hudon: This first resolution will appoint Bryce Kolton as STFC chair temporarily until the committee elects a new chair. The second resolution suspends that portion of the bylaws and amends them.

Yasmeen Hussain asks whether the language is clear in the part saying that the STFC vice-chair is temporarily appointed to the position of chair.

Kerstin Hudon responds yes. It says in the event the chair resigns, the vice-chair assumes this role until a formal election is held among the STFC members.

Yasmeen Hussain: Does the second resolution preclude the election?

Kerstin Hudon: Yes.

Joseph Telegen moves to approve the bill as currently written.

Brian Tracey seconds.

Alex Bolton calls for a vote. 11 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention (Yasmeen Hussain)

5. EXECUTIVE BILL 02-2016: AN ACT TO RESTRUCTURE THE STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE COMMITTEE

5:50 pm

Kerstin Hudon: Several committee appointees have questioned the current funding model used by the STFC, and its ability to appropriately address the technological needs of students. She introduces the bill which will restructure the STFC. In order to cause minimal interruptions to this year's funding cycle they propose having two co-chairs: Bryce Kolton and A. Kiehl Sundt. They would work together to propose new bylaws and policy documents to the Executive Committee before the end of spring quarter. She reads the bill in its entirety and opens the room for discussion.

Yasmeen Hussain asks why this resolution has not been shared with the STFC.

Kerstin Hudon: It has not been shared because she has experienced significant resistance to change from some of the members of the STFC. Those individuals who are resistant to change have overpowered individuals seeking change on several occasions.

Yasmeen Hussain asks if the Executive Committee could attempt to bring it to the STFC before restructuring from outside.

Kerstin Hudon: They thought having a new set of eyes would be beneficial for the STFC. This person will provide a fresh perspective and collaborate with the current members to put forth a new proposal.

Brian Taubeneck asks what the objections to the proposal might be.

Kerstin Hudon: The primary objection she is expecting is a resistance to changing a process the STFC has become used to.

Yasmeen Hussain does not believe that all of the WHEREAS clauses are backed up by evidence. She points specifically to clauses 2, 3, 5, 6.

Alex Bolton suggests incorporating language that indicates it is more opinion based than fact, such as “may” or “in our observation”.

Yasmeen Hussain agrees. She suggests replacing “funding model” with “committee operations” in both the 5th and 6th WHEREAS clauses.

Kerstin Hudon accepts those amendments as friendly.

Alex Bolton suggests changing the 3rd WHEREAS clause to state, “The current grant based proposal method may not be the most effective way to fund technology on campus.”

Kerstin Hudon accepts that as friendly.

Joseph Telegen asks why the bill makes a point of acknowledging A. Kiehl Sundt but not Bryce Kolton. He suggests either removing the WHEREAS clause with A. Kiehl’s credentials or adding a WHEREAS clause for Bryce.

Kerstin Hudon did not originally include A. Kiehl’s credentials because he does not presently have any contacts with the STF, and Bryce’s credentials were spoken to in the previous bill.

Yasmeen Hussain asks the rationale behind the 4th THAT clause stating, “*the current Chair or other current committee member* will serve as one Co-Chair to minimize disruptions to this year’s proposal cycle.” She adds that Alton’s last name is misspelled.

Kerstin Hudon: When this was originally drafted they were not sure whether Bryce would be interested in the position. She apologizes for the misspelling.

Elloise Kim suggests removing the word “current” from in front of the position titles. She also offers to edit the bills stylistically to make them more consistent with other GPSS documents.

Kerstin Hudon accepts this as a friendly amendment.

Joseph Telegen moves to approve the bill with the accepted friendly amendments.

Elloise Kim seconds.

Alex Bolton calls for a vote. 10 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention (Yasmeen Hussain). The Executive Bill 02-2016 is approved.

Yasmeen Hussain moves to reconsider the first bill.

Elloise Kim seconds.

Yasmeen Hussain suggests changing the language of the 1st THAT clause to reflect that the position is temporary and contingent upon an election.

Kerstin Hudon accepts this as friendly amendment.

Monica Cortes Viharo moves to approve the bill with the accepted friendly amendments.

Joseph Telegen seconds.

Alex Bolton calls for a vote. 10 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention (Yasmeen Hussain). The Executive Bill 01-2016 is approved.

Alex Bolton invites the STFC members to speak.

Alton Lu: He believes these bills have been made in good faith, but he also thinks there has been consistent effort to change the funding model. He contends some of the reasoning behind the bills is a little weak and lack historical understanding. Also, none of the committee members were aware these bills was being considered, so it blindsided a lot of the members.

Jeremy Coshi agrees that he felt blindsided by the bills. He does not disagree with the reasoning behind restructuring the committee, but does think the manner in which it came about was poor.

Alex Bolton informs the STFC that their work is appreciated. He agrees that the situation could have been handled better, and hopes if a similar situation arises it is handled more smoothly.

6. HUSKY SUNSET PLANNING

6:06 pm

Monica Cortes Viharo: Husky Sunset will take place on Thursday, June 2nd at the Sylvan Grove Theater from 5 to 8 pm. There will be food, music, and entertainment. They met with Bay Laurel to review the menu, and are being sensitive to vegan/vegetarian and gluten intolerant needs, which will be available upon request. They will also have burgers, green salad, potato salad, potato chips, Rice Krispy squares, and watermelon. They have asked to be quoted for bar tenders rather than having the GPSS members volunteer. She ask for thoughts regarding the menu and bartenders.

Brian Taubeneck shares there were 464 attendees last year.

Brian Tracey: Last the GPSS members worked security to ensure outsiders did not get in. He asks whether there will be volunteers stationed around the perimeter.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Yes, there will be security.

Rene Singleton shares that there are temporary services that provide security and are not too expensive. Using them would allow the GPSS members to enjoy the event rather than worrying about security.

Brian Tracey: If the quote for security is too expensive, he is happy to act as security again this year.

Yasmeen Hussain comments that the menu looks great. She stresses the importance of labeling the food. Oftentimes vegans and people with gluten allergies will not choose a food item because they are unaware that it meets their dietary needs.

Elloise Kim recommends to include menu information in the Facebook invite. Also, she suggest to increase the food, because last year they ran out early.

Joseph Telegen suggests indicating on the invite that there is a limited amount of food, so if they plan to eat they should come early. This way people are not disappointed if they show up late and there is not any food left.

Yasmeen Hussain: Last year there was an issue with power cords and a lack of outlets for the popcorn machine. She suggests the use of extension cords.

Monica Cortes Viharo & Alex Bolton: The columns in the Sylvan Grove Theater are now equipped with electricity.

Austin Kinney asks what the crowd difference is between Husky Sunrise and Husky Sunset.

Monica Cortes Viharo guesses there will be fewer people at Husky Sunset. There were over 700 attendees at Husky Sunrise this year, and 464 attendees at Husky Sunset last year.

7. INTRODUCTON OF POTENTIAL BYLAW CHANGES

6:22 pm

Elloise Kim will send out the most updated version of the Bylaws after the Executive Meeting with revised job description she got from Officers. She asks the Executive Committee to read the current version of the Bylaws before it is presented to the Senate for approval in Spring. Some of the major changes are fewer committees in Bylaws, removal of gender pronouns, and a more flexible timeline for officer elections. The current Bylaws state that the elections must take place at the second meeting of spring quarter and the Elections Committee has to be form by Feb. 1st, for example; the Judicial Committee has adjusted this language more flexible. She encourages the Executive Committee to provide feedback to Brandon Ray, Judicial Committee and herself by March 16th.

Joseph Telegen asks Elloise to flag the committees that were extracted into policy memorandums when she sends out the most recent version of the Bylaws.

Elloise Kim agrees. The Judicial Committee will present all the changes next quarter. She is debating whether the committee memorandums will be presented during that meeting or the following.

Yasmeen Hussain: It would be best to be done at the same meeting, so people are aware of where the sections are going.

8. MARCH 9TH, 2016 SENATE MEETING AGENDA

6:27 pm

Alex Bolton shares a link to the agenda with the Executive Committee. He asks whether there is a Spotlight Presentation.

Elloise Kim: Yes, FIUTS will present. She asks whether President Ana Mari Cuace will also be coming.

Alex Bolton has not received a response from her office yet, but they can put a placeholder temporarily.

Joseph Telegen will present a resolution entitled “A Resolution Advocating for Greater Coordination among Mental Health Professionals of Differing Specialties at the University of Washington.”

Yasmeen Hussain asks whether this resolution has been proposed because the ASUW had one. She comments that it seems vague.

Joseph Telegen disagrees with the characterization. The ASUW proposed a resolution geared toward the Counseling Center and staffing, whereas this resolution will address some of the areas that the ASUW agenda does not cover.

Jenn Kirk shares the Elections Committee would like to present the Elections Guide. They will need five minutes to present and five minutes for questions. They will clarify the timeline and solidify due dates.

Brian Tracey would like to have ten minutes before “Good of the Order” to provide an update on the Diversity Blueprint. He suggests ten minutes as well.

Yasmeen Hussain moves to approve the agenda.

Jenn Kirk seconds.

The agenda for the next Senate meeting is approved.

9. EXECUTIVE SENATOR REPORTS

6:35 pm

Erin Firth has been interacting with the Trans Equity Working Group for the Union. They have been in contact with the University on a number of issues. She had a good meeting with the STF, and is looking forward to electronic clickers.

Joseph Telegen invites everyone to provide feedback on the resolutions he sent out. The kick off meeting for the Student Safety Advisory Board was held last night (3/1) and hosted by Chief Vinson. Both ASUW and GPSS members were in attendance. They discussed the following action items: (1) looking into technology advances for campus police [i.e. app and an increase in campus cameras]; (2) creation of an advisory board so that the work done this year will be followed up on in the future; (3) making the UW campus police website more user friendly. The next meeting is on March 29th at 7:00 pm.

Jenn Kirk shares that she took her general exam on Monday and passed! The Elections Committee has sent the updated Elections Guide to Elloise and they plan to present at the next Senate meeting.

Yasmeen Hussain does not have much to report today, but asks whether there will be special food at the last Senate Meeting of this quarter.

Sarah Loeffler: Yes, there will be. She asks for suggestions. She misunderstood the amount she could spend per meeting, so there are quite a bit of funds remaining.

Brian Tracey co-facilitated a Learning Communities workshop on microaggressions through CTL. He will be meeting with their advisors to discuss how it went and he is working on making it more campus wide. The School of Environmental Affairs want to have open discussions on cultural issues, but people may be scared to have these discussions. On March 17th the dean of the College of Environment meeting with Ed Taylor about the Race and Equity Initiative. The draft of the diversity blueprint came out; accountability and student participation continue to be issues.

10. OFFICER REPORTS

6:43 pm

Monica Cortes Viharo shared the GPSS resolutions around Tent City and Honoring State

Holidays. They reviewed the online application for UW Graduate School; overall, the process for applying is rated higher than average, but the size limit for uploading files and appearance are drawbacks. There were 108 attendees at Winter Social: Throw Back to Your Alma Mater. They have tentatively planned to attend the Mariners Game on April 9th, and have reserved 50 tickets for \$12/ticket. They will reserve 25 tickets for Kinky Boots on May 5th.

Brian Taubeneck is still in the middle of budget restructuring. The College Bound budget was cut from \$18 million to \$14 million. If this does not get fix, about 1000 students will lose their funding next year. The Senate also cut \$1 million from the Health Professional Loan Repayment Program, which provides loan assistance to new doctors if they agree to practice in a low income or rural area. Since only one party is raising these issues, it is unlikely these cuts will make it out of the congress.

Elloise Kim: The website is being redesigned and is on its way. The Officers took a photo for the website last Friday, and those will be uploaded soon. She shares the various logos with the committee; they will be transferred onto a table cloth, a retractable and horizontal banner, stickers (3 kinds), and a senate meeting sign. These items will be available by the beginning of spring quarter.

Monica Cortes Viharo suggests adding the website to the logos for branding purposes.

Noe Merfeld: The ASUW is planning programming for Mental Health Awareness and Sexual Assault Awareness. They are hoping to partner with the GPSS on this. The ASUW elections are coming up. There will be an amendment to its constitution on the ballot this year, which she will read at the next meeting. The Everybody, Every Body Fashion show is next Monday (3/7).

Alex Bolton: The ASUW Senate is sponsoring a similar resolution to our resolution Honoring State Holidays. He met with Tyler Wu regarding the Student Regent Selection Committee. Those Officers traveling to SAGE will be gone from April 8th -13th. This means that there will be three Officers that will not be able to attend the Executive Committee. He asks for thoughts and suggestions.

Brian Tracey suggests canceling the meeting and planning the following weeks agenda the week before.

Alex Bolton: For now the meeting is cancelled, but we can consider it again if opinion changes.

11. ANNOUCENMENTS

6:52 pm

Brian Tracey shares that the Diversity Committee for the College of the Environment is meeting on March 11th. It will be a panel discussion from 2:40-3:40 pm in the Ocean Sciences building.

Joseph Telegen announces his ChesSolutions that will be at the usual time at the usual place.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:54 pm
