



## Graduate and Professional Student Senate

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### Senate Meeting Minutes Session 9

MARCH 9, 2016 | HUB 334

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#### 1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:41 pm

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**Elloise Kim (secretary)** motions to strike “Remarks from President Cauce” from the agenda because she cannot make the meeting.

**Erin Firth (Oceanography)** seconds.

**Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology)** moves to approve the agenda as amended.

**Ted Chen (Bioengineering)** seconds.

Seeing no objections, the agenda is approved as amended.

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#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:42 pm

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

**Asad Haris (Biostatistics)** seconds.

Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

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#### 4. GPSS SPOTLIGHT: FIUTS

5:42 pm

**Elloise Kim (Secretary)** introduces the FIUTS presenters: Joey Liao (FIUTS Student Board VP) and Aloe Yan (FIUTS Liaison to the GPSS).

**Joey Liao (FIUTS Student Board VP)** provides an overview of the Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS). Their office is located in HUB 206. FIUTS helps international students make a smooth transition into the university community. They produce programs to promote a global community on the UW campus, such as their homestay program. For more information regarding FIUTS programming visit: <http://www.fiuts.org/events/calendar>.

**Aloe Yan (FIUTS Liaison to the GPSS)** shares that over 30% of participants in FIUTS are graduate students. While FIUTS is a nonprofit organization, the FIUTS Student Board is a registered student organization, and they are currently recruiting. The application is due April 4<sup>th</sup>, and a GPSS Liaison position is open.

## Q&A

- **Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs)** asks the presenters to speak about the FIUTS Conversation Groups.
- **A:** They meet about twice per week, and are primarily geared toward students wanting to improve their English conversation skills. There is typically a topic that gets discussed, such as American Pop Culture.
- **Kelly Edwards (Graduate School Associate Dean)** encourages everyone to apply to the FIUTS Student Advisory Board. A greater number of graduate students on the board will result in more events aimed toward graduate students.

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## 5. 2016-2017 ELECTIONS GUIDE

5:57 pm

The Elections Committee is invited to explain the elections process.

**Max Showalter (Oceanography)** explains how to run for an officer position. You must *qualify* (a full time student that has attended at least three GPSS Senate, Executive, or standing Committee meetings), *announce* (sending application, 1 page resume, and 1-2 page statement of purpose to Michelle Brault, Elections Committee Chair, by April 25th), and *campaign* (2-5 minute speech on Elections Day, May 4th).

**Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology)** explains the voting process. Ballots will be sent out after April 25<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to attend the May 4<sup>th</sup> election, you may submit an absentee ballot. Only Senators are able to vote: proxies cannot vote. The results of the elections will be announced before the end of the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology)** explains how votes are tallied. All candidates will be ranked. The Elections Committee will tally the first place rankings for each position. She explains the process for dealing with a tie. *See the Elections Guide.*

## Q&A

- **Yasmeen Hussain (Biology):** The Elections Guide language reads as though proxies are not allowed to attend the elections. She suggests to clarify that those proxies can attend but they just cannot vote. She also asks why in case of a tie, subsequent revote absentee ballots are not counted.
- **Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology)** shares that in the event of a revote they would be handed out paper ballots to all members present at the Elections. If someone had submitted an absentee ballot they would not physically be present to revote.
- **Elloise Kim (Secretary)** adds that if there is serious concern, the Judicial Committee could study the bylaws regarding a revote and absentee ballots and take an action.
- **Norma Kaminsky (Comparative Literature)** asks whether the instant run off precludes the possibility of a revote because of a tie.
- **Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology):** Technically, there is a small chance that a revote would be necessary even with the instant run off system.
- **Ted Chen (Bioengineering)** adds that if a revote happens and it is someone who has run from the floor, the absentee ballots would not matter.

- **Norma Kaminsky (Comparative Literature)** asks whether they amend the Bylaws to conform to the Elections Committee, or if the elections committee has to abide by the Bylaws.
- **Elliot Koontz (QERM)** explains that the Elections Committee should always abide by the current Bylaws.
- **Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs):** We will approve the Elections Guide at the next meeting, but if the Bylaws are amended the Elections Guide will need to be adjusted to reflect the change.

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## 6. A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT LGBTQI RIGHTS UNDER LAWS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

6:10 pm

**Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs):** This is a second reading of a “Resolution to Protect LGBTQI Rights Under Laws Against Discrimination.” She invites Kirby Conrod (Linguistics), Adam Bell (Education), and Erin Adam (guest) to present.

**Kirby Conrod (Linguistics)** shares the amendments that have been made since the last meeting. The majority of changes involved adding ‘QI’ to the LGBT acronym, and they have also made the language more consistent throughout.

### Q&A

- **Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** asks what the ‘I’ stands for in LGBTQI.
- **Kirby Conrod (Linguistics):** Intersex.
- **Erin Firth (Oceanography)** shares that line 72 does not include queer and intersex.
- **Kirby Conrod (Linguistics)** accepts this amendment as friendly.
- **Viviana Garza (Proxy Evans School)** asks the reason for using ‘I’ rather than ‘A’.
- **Kirby Conrod (Linguistics):** No particular reason for excluding A. The LBTQI acronym is trying to be as inclusive as possible, but the focus of the resolution on transgender and non-gender conforming people that are being banned or excluded from using the restroom of their choice.
- **Kelsey Larson (Atmospheric Sciences)** asks whether the use of the word queer is referring to gender non-conforming people, and if not should gender non-conforming be added behind the acronym.
- **Erin Adam:** They meant for the acronym to include gender non-conforming individuals.
- **Erin Firth (Oceanography)** suggests including + to the end of the acronym to be the most inclusive.
- **Kirby Conrod (Linguistics)** accepts this as a friendly amendment.

**Erin Firth (Oceanography)** moves to vote on the resolution.  
**John Lurie (Astronomy)** seconds.

The resolution is passed unanimously. There were no abstentions or objections.

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**7. A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING FOR GREATER COORDINATION AMONG MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS OF DIFFERING SPECIALITIES**

**6:18 pm**

Joseph Telegen (English) and Matthew Childs (Germanics) are invited to share their proposed resolution.

**Matthew Childs (Germanics):** This resolution aims to create greater coordination and communication amongst mental health groups on campus.

**Joseph Telegen (English):** Shares that Hall Health is a designated place for people who have been diagnosed with mental health disorders to go, but they are currently not sharing any additional mental health resources with students, such as UW Wellness. It is time to get serious about mental health reform on campus.

**Q&A**

·**Kirby Conrod (Linguistics)** asks what the periodic meetings mentioned in Line 37 are meant to accomplish.

·**Joseph Telegen (English):** These conversations would be informal discussions on ways to coordinate care and support UW students.

·**Kirby Conrod (Linguistics)** clarifies that these meetings are meant to publicize the services that are offered on campus, rather than a trade of private information amongst professionals. He suggests clarifying the language around this.

·**Matthew Childs (Germanics)** agrees the language could be clearer.

·**Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology)** shares that she has had difficulty scheduling appointments with Hall Health. She wonders if the resolution could be expanded to urge the University to expand hours and provide better care. She suggests including data on the average turn-around time for appointments.

·**Matthew Childs (Germanics)** is not sure if this would fit well with this resolution, but believes it is worth proposing a separate resolution pushing for an increase in staff and other resources.

·**Seth Bergeson (Evans)** shares that he and several other Senators are working on a resolution calling for a greater resources to be allocated to mental health services. There are currently 27 clinical health coordinators for a population of roughly 43,000 students. He believes the intent of this resolution is excellent, but line 12 seems a bit pointed, and lines 34 and 35 are verbose.

·**Esra Camci (Oral Health Sciences)** moves to extend time by five minutes.

·**Seth Bergeson (Evans)** seconds.

·**Kirby Conrod (Linguistics):** The two resolutions while similar do very different things. One is advocating for a greater coordination of care, while the other an increase in care. Merging the two resolutions into one may be too much for a single resolution.

·**Erin Firth (Oceanography)** shares that the Counseling Center's ten-session limit is flexible. The goal is to meet with students within two weeks, and the national average is three weeks.

·**John Lurie (Astronomy)** supports any resolution that will increase access to mental health care on

campus. He wonders who the audience of the resolution is beyond the GPSS. The resolution could address the University at large to streamline the process for accessing care.

·**Elloise Kim (Secretary)** adds that the THAT clause on line 41 makes the GPSS Secretary the primary coordinator of information gathered from mental health service entities. She is not sure if such a role was intended for the GPSS.

·**Joseph Telegen (English)** will consider the forwarding clause that commits the Secretary to coordinate this information.

·**Erin Firth (Oceanography)**: Students are entitled to one free visit to Hall Health per quarter, but this does not include mental health services. This may be something that could be included.

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## 8. DIVERSITY COUNCIL BLUEPRINT

6:37 pm

**Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs)**: The Diversity Council has released a draft of their blueprint; they are attempting to make the campus more equitable and inclusive. Some of the criticism of the draft is that it is very faculty/staff focused. The blueprint has the following six goals: (1) recruit diverse faculty (2) recruit diverse Staff (3) create welcoming climate for diverse students (4) increase tri-campus diversity efforts (5) best practices to be disseminated and applied (6) faculty/staff accountability. The Diversity Council wants to release a report addressing these goals by 2020.

### Q&A

·**Kathryn Cogert (Civil & Environmental Engineering)** asks whether a demerit can be enforced against non-tenured faculty. She also asks him to expand on the issues that are affecting each of the three UW campuses.

·**Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs)**: Absolutely! However, the biggest issue is the tenured professors. As far as different issues affecting the separate campuses—UWT, for example, is dealing with a methane plant that is trying to come to Tacoma.

**Shelby Lenderman (guest)** shares that tenured professors still have to go up for pay raises. This may be one way of holding these individuals accountable.

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## 9. GOOD OF THE ORDER

6:46 pm

**Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology)**: They are working on getting a shuttle from the UW to the VA hospital for students involved in medical program with rotations at the VA hospital. There was a shuttle that was offered previously, but it was discontinued. If you know your program is going to be affected by this, let her know, so she knows whom to add to the list. They are trying to resurrect the shuttle, but they need to know exactly how many students have been affected.

**Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs)** shares that last week there have been two sexual assaults in the area, both against women. He reminds everyone to be aware.

**John Lurie (Astronomy)** adds that Night Walk and Night Ride are services that will walk/drive you home if you are not feeling comfortable.

**Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology)** shares that she is being sent to a meeting on

revitalizing graduate education in the Biomedical Sciences. She asks anyone in these programs to share what is working well and/or what is missing from their programs.

**Noe Merfeld (ASUW Director of Internal Policy)** shares that the Everybody Every Body Fashion Show was a huge success. There was a lot of diversity amongst the models, and everyone seemed to have a great time.

**Yasmeen Hussain (Biology)** moves to close Good of the Order.

**Elliot Koontz (QERM)** seconds.

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## 10. OFFICER REPORTS

6:55 pm

**Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs):** Grads Guiding Grads (G3) had their first brown bag meeting. Their goal is to have a brown bag meeting once a month to support current mentors and bring more people on. They finished the program reviews for Pathobiology and Political Science; Music is up next.

**Kelly Edwards (Graduate School Associate Dean)** encourages everyone to spread the word about G3. If you are interested in a being a mentor or being mentored, visit the GPSS website.

**Sarah Loeffler (Director of Events):** She has been working on the GPSS Out in the City Events next quarter. There will be a Mariners game on April 9<sup>th</sup> and Kinky Boots in May. The GPSS 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be on May 19<sup>th</sup>. She is trying to track down past GPSS members, and encourages anyone with contacts to share. Husky Sunset will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Brian Taubeneck (VP of External Affairs) via James Moschella (Policy Analyst):** Supplemental budgets through the House and Senate have passed, and they are currently in reconciliation. It is likely that they will go to a special session in Olympia. The SAGE is April 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> — if there is anything anyone would like brought up to the Washington DC delegation, it should be forwarded to either Brian or James. They are working to install a ballot box on campus, and to ensure that Seattle City taxes would not affect U-PASS prices in the coming years.

**Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer) via Mac Zelle (Budget Specialist):** This will be the last meeting Kerstin misses; she is excited to back next quarter.

**Alex Bolton (President) via Austin Kinney (Director of University Affairs):** Both the Faculty Council on Student Affairs (FCSA) and the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS) positions have been vacant all year. The faculty wants graduate student opinion; he encourages anyone interested to apply. Construction on the Burke Museum begins on May 1<sup>st</sup>. They are currently working on the Provost selection. They also are working on a Fee Based Advisory Committee for Graduate Students and with the committee they want to tackle some concrete issues. The Student Regent application that is due April 11<sup>th</sup> will open soon. Tomorrow is the Regents Meeting in Bothell. Unfortunately, Alex, the President, won't be able to attend it due to the knee injury.

**Elloise Kim (Secretary):** She is on the search committee for Vice President of Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity. They will finalize the candidates that will be invited for an interview soon. The Library Master Plan Steering Committee that she is also serving is looking for student input; if you have an opinion about the library's use and function, please feel free to contact her. Diversity Funds are going well with many applications coming in. They will have less than \$2,500 left to allocate after the next

meeting. She shows the new GPSS items such as a Senate meeting sign, a table cloth, a horizontal banner, a retractable banner, and new logos. Some of those logos will be made into stickers.

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**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**7:08 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 flyer if available to Elloise Kim at [gppssec@uw.edu](mailto:gppssec@uw.edu) by tomorrow at noon.

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**12. MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:18 pm**

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## ADDENDUM: Announcements

### UAW 4121 Trans Equity Action

Mar. 10 (Thu), 6 pm

Condon 109

<https://www.facebook.com/events/552793894882180/>

The purpose of the action is to draw attention to the lack of reasonable access to gender neutral restrooms in Condon Hall (which UAW 4121 argues is in violation of our collective bargaining agreement), to call on the university to adopt the city of Seattle's new all-gender bathroom ordinance, to call on the university to adopt a "preferred name system," and to demand inclusive trans healthcare for academic student employees. The university is supportive of adopting the all gender bathroom ordinance, but has been slow to do so. We are hoping the action will help pressure the university to act more quickly. We will have a short rally, affix a gender neutral restroom sign to a restroom in Condon Hall, and time how long it takes to walk between Condon Hall and the main campus.

### Apply for Grads Guiding Grads (G3)

G3 is excited to announce that Spring mentor and mentee applications are open for UW graduate and professional students on UW Bothell, Seattle, & Tacoma! Interested in being a peer mentor to a fellow graduate or professional student? Need a peer who can provide an empathic ear to your interpersonal, intellectual, and professional experiences? G3 strives to be inclusive and welcoming to all communities represented in the diverse UW graduate student body. The program matches students across disciplines and communities, and provides an opportunity to get advice from a fresh perspective. Participation in G3 is confidential. G3 is supported by the GPSS, in consultation with the Graduate School and Counseling Center. Please contact Bryan Namba, GPSS Director of Graduate Partnership, at [gpsspart@uw.edu](mailto:gpsspart@uw.edu) for questions.

Apply to be a mentor here: <http://depts.washington.edu/gpss/content/become-mentor>

Request mentoring services: <http://depts.washington.edu/gpss/content/get-mentor>

### Apply for Graduate Community Assistant (CA) positions

Are you interested in being a CA in Mercer next year! APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE! Check out more information on the [CA Recruitment website](#). The priority deadline for applications is **April 1, 2016, 8 a.m.**

### Apply for the Husky Seed Fund

**Deadline: April 11<sup>th</sup> (Mon), 2016, 5pm**

The brand-new Husky Seed Fund, created by students for students, is accepting proposals for innovative projects that will enhance the student experience for all. Your idea could become reality with a seed funding award of up to \$5000, with average awards in the \$1,000 to \$3,000 range. Projects will be awarded seed funding this academic year and must be completed by **May 12, 2017** after submitting an initial application by **5 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2016**. **Apply here:** <https://catalyst.uw.edu/webq/survey/seedfund/297310> More information is available at <https://www.facebook.com/huskyseedfund/> and contact HESAC members at [seedfund@uw.edu](mailto:seedfund@uw.edu) for questions.

### Apply for the FIUTS Student Board

Want to hone your leadership skills? Want the company of student leaders? Want to have fun and food with FIUTS while advocating and promoting cross-cultural understanding on campus and in the community? The application is **due April 4<sup>th</sup>**. Find more information at <http://www.fiuts.org>.

### Be Part of the University Beyond Bars



Founded in 2005 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, University Beyond Bars (UBB) provides higher education to people behind bars. The UBB is currently recruiting instructors who can create a cooperative learning community inside Washington State prisons where all experience is valued and the benefits of higher education are made available to all who desire them. More about UBB and how you can help can be found at [www.universitybeyondbars.org](http://www.universitybeyondbars.org). Or email to [info@universitybeyondbars.org](mailto:info@universitybeyondbars.org) for more information.

Senator Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology) is going to attend, as she shared last night during Good of the Order, **the NIGMS Symposium on Catalyzing the Modernization of Graduate Education** that is held at the Natcher Conference Center, Bethesda, Maryland on April 11 (<https://meetings.nigms.nih.gov/Home/General/20509>). She'd like to get feedback on what graduate students in biomedical graduate programs think is working and what could be improved. Contact her to [mrb318@uw.edu](mailto:mrb318@uw.edu).