



Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Executive Meeting Minutes Session 18

APRIL 27, 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 Joseph Telegen
GPSS Executive Senator Jennifer Kirk
GPSS Executive Senator Brian Tracy
GPSS Executive Senator Yasmeen Hussain
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.
Kerstin Hudon seconds.
The agenda is approved.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:36 pm

Kerstin Hudon moves to approve the minutes.
Yasmeen Hussain seconds.
Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

4. TRAVEL GRANTS BUDGET

5:36 pm

Kerstin Hudon: They received a record number of travel grants for this application cycle. In light of the popularity she asks that the Executive Committee approve the reallocation of the Copy Duplicating budget of \$1000 to the Travel Grants budget, so they can award three additional grants.

Elloise Kim asks if this is for a spring cycle or summer.

Kerstin Hudon: It would be for the spring cycle. The summer funding would be taken from the FY 16

budget.

Brian Taubeneck asks what is copy duplicating and why it is no longer needed.

Kerstin Hudon: This is money to pay for printing, but since we now have a monthly lease rather than paying per page these funds are no longer needed.

5. APPROVAL OF TRAVEL GRANTS BUDGET INCREASE

5:38 pm

Yasmeen Hussain moves to approve the reallocation of funds from the Copy Duplicating budget to the Travel Grants budget.

Noe Merfeld seconds.

\$1,000 is reallocated to the Travel Grants budget with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Kerstin Hudon shares that a member dropped of the Travel Grants Committee, but they now have a number of travel grant applications that need to be read and graded. She asks if anyone is interested in helping out. She nominates Brian Taubeneck, and he accepts.

6. GPSS COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

5:40 pm

Elloise Kim: Since last quarter the Judicial Committee and officers have worked on taking the committees out of the Bylaws and into separate policy memoranda. Last week the amended Bylaws, which did not include the memoranda of six committees, were passed, and now it is time for the Executive Committee to approve the memoranda. She has included the memoranda for these committees in the information section of everyone's binders.

Yasmeen Hussain asks if these memoranda use the same language as the Bylaws.

Elloise Kim: There have been a few changes. If there is a question regarding specific committees each officer supervising those committees would be happy to ask the officers what the changes are. But, the most substantial changes include moving Graduate Student Experience Committee from President to VP of Internal Affairs, each committee's meeting frequency, name changes such as SLAB and FLAB. In addition, for example, Diversity Committee now has more reduced and achievable goals. In general, these memos are much less prescriptive than the language of the previous Bylaws.

Kerstin Hudon adds that she has made an additional change to the Travel Grants Committee.

Previously to be on the Travel Grants Committee members had to be GPSS Senators or Officers. She thought that this left out a lot of graduate students, so she has changed it to say that a member can be either a Senator or a graduate/professional student appointed by the Treasurer.

Yasmeen Hussain asks whether the committee memoranda will need to be renewed every year or if they will stay the same until changes are necessary.

Elloise Kim: It will stay the same until further changes are needed. In that case, having them in a form of a memo would be much easier in adjusting the goals of each committee since it needs to be approved by the Executive Committee, instead of going to the Senate.

7. APPROVAL OF GPSS COMMITTEE MEMORANDA

5:44pm

Brian Taubeneck moves to approve the memoranda.

Jenn Kirk seconds.

Memorandum 03 through 08 are approved.

8. SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH RACE AND EQUITY REPORT

5:45 pm

Jenn Kirk: On April 15th the School of Public Health held a race and equity forum. This arose out of an incident that Brian Tracey previously discussed regarding a black staff member within the Global Health Department. The purpose of the forum was to review the demands that were presented during the Black Lives Matter rally and discuss them in small groups, and then come back as a group to discuss what could be done to go forward. There were 250 people in attendance, and the School were not expecting that large of a turnout. The Dean addressed personal work on bringing up his competency. He shares details of the incident that took place on March 16th from the staff member's perspective. On this date a black staff member within the Global Health Department, was walking with several black friends also affiliated with UW, when they were stopped by UWPD. Their car was searched; guns and UW dogs were involved. Allegedly this was the result of them smoking in a non-smoking area. This same staff member was stopped by UWPD earlier on March 12th while he was walking with a white faculty member. These events are particularly difficult for this individual because he had an incident as an undergraduate at UW where he was mistaken for an individual who had committed a robbery because they shared the same name. As a result of the forum, a faculty member expressed the need for the School of Public Health to hire someone external and independent from the University to assess the problem and develop solutions to fix it. The administration did not take a stance on this suggestion. Groups of students were invited to participate in working groups on each of the demands—it seems that the School of Public Health is trying to make changes.

Q&A

Elloise Kim she agrees that someone needs to be hired to work toward improving diversity, but she does not think that hiring one person will be sufficient to address the needs of all faculty, staff, and students. She asks what the plan for that individual's role would be.

Jenn Kirk: Faculty and students within the School of Public Health have been volunteering their time to sift through emails and read demand letters, volunteering as much as twenty hour a week. The new person, if hired, can help alleviate some of these burdens.

Brian Taubeneck asks whether there are students sitting on the School of Public Health budget committee. It seems that the only way to raise the money for the position people are envisioning is by raising tuition and fees.

Jenn Kirk: She believes there are funds within the School of Public Health designated specifically for diversity, so that this would not be an issue.

Yasmeen Hussain asks whether someone else within the administration could take on this position. There are full offices on this campus, such as the OMAD, dedicated to these issues. Is it necessary to have someone from the outside come in?

Jenn Kirk: So long as the individual is outside of the administration in the School of Public Health, it should be fine.

Elloise Kim adds that the OMAD is focused mostly on undergraduates, whereas GO-MAP works with graduate students.

Joseph Telegen asks whether these are the demands of the School of Public Health, or from the Black Lives Matter rally.

Jenn Kirk: They compiled their demands to create a joint list. She reads off the demands.

Brian Taubeneck: At the last Senate meeting, Ana Mari Cauce brought up I-200. He asks whether this is still being talked about during these meetings.

Alex Bolton: There are legal restrictions because of I-200 as to what can be done for hiring, admissions, and scholarships.

Rene Singleton encourages everyone to check out the various student groups across campus addressing the issue of diversity on UW campus. I-200 is not going to solve all the issues surrounding diversity. There are alternative actions that the University is taking to address issues of diversity; while slow, these initiatives may be more effective in the long run. For example, the work that Chadwick Allen is doing could be duplicated in other departments. The push for this one initiative will not solve the problem. The system is broken and cannot change overnight.

Joseph Telegen asks whether Rene believes pushing I-200 is counterproductive to other measures or that it is not sufficient by itself.

Rene Singleton: The reality is that this is an issue that will take time to address. Graduation rates for high school and undergraduate for students of color are not high enough—this feeds into the issue of diversity on our campus.

Jenn Kirk: President Cauce mentioned at the last Senate meeting that there are many students of color being offered admission but they are choosing not to enroll. It is important to determine why these students are not accepting.

Monica Cortes Viharo shares that there was a GO-MAP event for graduate students who had been accepted but had not chosen UW yet last month. Anecdotally she heard some students' fear of isolation and being the only person of color in the classroom. This is the reality, but GO-MAP creates a community to support these students.

Jenn Kirk asks what the statistics are for diverse graduate students at other universities.

Monica Cortes Viharo: It seems like public institutions are losing a lot of diversity to the private schools that do not have to adhere to the same guidelines regarding diversity.

Brian Tracy agrees there is a huge fear of isolation. The Seattle Times recently published an article about being black on campus, which sent the message that if you are not part of the majority group, you will be alone. Nobody wants to be alone.

Alex Bolton adds that Chadwick Allen came to the Regents meeting and spoke. He shared that there are nine African Americans graduating with the degree in radiology this year nationally, and they were able to recruit three of them. The School of Public Health might want to model their process after this.

Monica Cortes Viharo: The UW is better off than most because we do have GO-MAP—this was a big reason of why she chose to come to UW. She suggests looking to partner with them to promote diversity.

Elloise Kim: As one of students of color, she truly appreciates the work of GO-MAP, but much more

work should be done to make students feel more home on our campus. GO-MAP has its own target underrepresented students and for example, international students of colors are not their priority at this moment. Also, since GO-MAP provides a limited number of fellowships, it might be nice to partner with other organizations as well.

9. 5/4 SENATE MEETING AGENDA

6:12 pm

Alex Bolton moves to strike the GPSS Executive Liaison Appointments from the agenda.

Joseph Telegen: seconds.

Elloise Kim suggests having the Spotlight presentation with ASUW Presidential candidates after elections. That way the Elections Committee will have enough time to count the votes.

Kerstin Hudon shares what the agenda looks like so far. Election Speeches (40 min), Elections Voting (10 min), Black Lives Matter Resolution (15 min), Spotlight on ASUW Candidates (15 min), Good of the Order (10 min), Officer Reports, and Announcements. She asks if there is anything else.

Joseph Telegen asks whether it would be Good of the order be stricken next week.

Elloise Kim: We may want to have it as a buffer in case the counting portion takes long.

Alex Bolton shares what is coming up for the May 18th agenda: Chad Allen, King County Executive, and two resolutions.

Joseph Telegen moves to approve the agenda.

Yasmeen Hussain seconds.

The May 4th Senate Meeting agenda is approved.

10. EXECUTIVE SENATOR REPORTS

6:17 pm

Yasmeen Hussain: After the Faculty Council of Student Affairs meeting, some executive reports came in from the Title IX committee about changing the affirmative action policy and sexual violence policy. They wanted to update the definitions of protected classes at UW. She felt that some of the protective classes added were less inclusive than intended; for example, they added pregnancy as a protected class, whereas parenthood status might be more inclusive. It seems that policies are being set at the administrative level, but the GPSS is not hearing about it. She offers to reach out to them if the Executive Committee is interested. She also expresses concern for the advertisement of GPSS events, specifically Kinky Boots. The poster does not look professional and the date of the event was not included. She asks if the GPSS has changed their logo. She would like to advertise the GPSS events, but sometimes does not want when advertisement materials are not solid.

Monica Cortes Viharo will fix the posters with Tabi, if needed.

Elloise Kim: They have not decided if they will replace the old GPSS logo with one of the new logos wholly or will keep using multiple of them for different purposes. She understands the confusion with having multiple new logos, but they have been received very well by far by most people. They will figure out how to use those logs better soon.

Brian Tracey: He is loosely affiliated with Black Lives Matter committee, acting in an advisory

capacity. He met with several people on the committee, and they want to carry on the momentum they had from the event. He wants to make sure that as things move forward, they are doing so professionally and respectfully.

Joseph Telegen: On May 18th they plan to have a second reading for the mental health resolution discussed at the last Senate meeting. He is a second sponsor on the Black Lives Matter resolution. Chess Solutions is on Friday, Café Allegro at 3:00 pm. He is also interested in discussing the nature of his involvement with ASUW elections with anyone interested.

Jennifer Kirk: The first draft of the report she writing on the census is almost finished. Hopes to talk about the report before the year ends. The Elections committee is gearing up for next meeting, and the joys of counting ballots.

11. OFFICER REPORTS

6:28 pm

Monica Cortes Viharo: On May 12th, Alex, Kelly, and she will go to UW Bothell to present to graduate students about how the GPSS was formed, discuss their needs, and help them decide what the GPSS might look like on their campus. The Husky Sunset is June 2nd. Kerstin was able to secure a room for the Union meeting this week. Their elections committee needed a neutral territory to count their balance, so she took them up to the GPSS office. She will be meeting with Kathy McCarthy from the Office of VP of Student Life to talk about food insecurity and the UW food pantry. There are more mentors than mentees in G3. They are working on a new G3 logo to try and push for more mentees. She is finishing up the last of the program reviews for Econ and Geography.

Brian Taubeneck: The SAGE was in April. They are hoping to bring them to the GPSS to host the SAGE Fall Summit. It would be a good opportunity to promote the GPSS and save money, as our people would not need to be sent elsewhere. He has been developing more creative ways to maximize impact outside of the SAGE. He will be spending the next month creating a good transition memorandum for the incoming VP of External Affairs.

Kerstin Hudon: The last cycle of travel grants closed. There is about \$4000 left in the Special Allocations budget, because a unit had to return their funds after it was discovered its event was a department-sponsored event. There is about \$2000 left in Departmental Allocations. She did an intense audit of all the accounts, and everything looks good other than one duplicative charge, which she is investigating. She has been writing a transition document.

Elloise Kim: She has been contacting with the ASUW President candidates to invite them to the next Senate meeting. Since each ticket presents very different attributes, it will be great for the Senate to hear from them. There will less than \$100 left in the Diversity Funds after the final funding interview in a couple of weeks. OMAD Vice President candidates have been visiting since last week; the search Committee will meet in two weeks to review. The HUB Director Search Committee met this week and selected about a dozen of candidates for a skype interview. She attended the prison divestment meeting this morning, a part of the Black Lives Matter demands. They are doing a research to learn more details about the University's investment.

Noe Merfeld: She attended one of the committee meetings on the Black Lives Matter demands, which

was about the center for the critical study of race. ASUW Elections are happening, and there are five tickets this year and all are addressing fairly hot topic issues. The SAB forum is on May 2nd in the ECT at 4:00 pm. On April 30th there will be a tri-campus meeting at UW-T. ASUW is also working on the Mental Health Awareness month and SARVA month.

Alex Bolton: All three Student Regent candidates have ties to the GPSS. He thanks Michaella for her help. The Athletic Director Search Committee is getting started. The Provost search is winding down. He was a parliamentarian at the Union meeting. Things went well once Eddie Schwieterman took over as chair. He has been preparing for graduation, and working on committee appointments. A number of committees have come to him asking for people to gear up for next year.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

6:54 pm

Yasmeen Hussain: The Student Tech Fee has finished hearing from proposal offer, and will be voting soon. After voting, they will be looking to reconfigure the committee. The three GPSS representatives are all graduating, so they need to find new people.

Kerstin Hudon will be meeting with the Student Tech Fee on April 28th to discuss their progress on the action items.

13. MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:56 pm
