



Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Senate Meeting Minutes Session 12

MAY 4, 2016 | HUB 334

1. *CALL TO ORDER: 5:40 pm*

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Elloise Kim (Secretary) moves to switch the order of the “Black Lives Matter Resolution” and “Spotlight: ASUW Candidates”.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology) seconds.

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

Jenn Kirk (Biostatistics) seconds.

Seeing no objections. the amended agenda is approved.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

5:41pm

Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering) moves to approve the minutes.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology) seconds.

The minutes are approved.

4. **ELECTION SPEECHES**

5:42 pm

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology, Elections Committee Chair) explains the procedure for voting. Each candidate will have four minutes, with 2-3 minutes for the speech and one minute for questions. She asks that everyone who votes include their name and department on their ballot, so the Elections Committee can verify if the individual is a current registered member of the GPSS.

Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering) asks whether the votes will be anonymous to the candidates.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology) Yes, the names will be physically removed once they have verified the individual is a GPSS Senator.

President

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs) introduces herself. While she feels uniquely

qualified for this position of President, after having served as VP of Internal Affairs this past year, she will be withdrawing her candidacy for President. She was offered an opportunity to teach Drama 101 next year, and would not be able to perform both roles. She thanks everyone—it has been an honor to serve in her current position.

Elloise Kim (Secretary) has built great relationships with many campus partners across campus through her roles as English Senator, Executive Senator, and currently Secretary of the GPSS. Through each of these roles she has developed a deep understanding of the university system, and solid understanding of current campus issues. As an international student and woman of color she has a unique voice and believes she can make a meaningful contribution to the community.

- **John Lurie (Astronomy)** asks what she would see as the top priority next year.
- **Elloise Kim (Secretary)** believes that the GPSS has the opportunity to play a critical role in the Race and Equity Initiative. There is a disconnect between administration and students on this issue; she hopes to eliminate this divide through the use of her connections across campus. Besides, she hears many people's concern about issues such as fee base programs, for example.

Vice President of Internal Affairs

Sarah Loeffler (Director of Events) believes the opportunities that graduate students receive outside of the class are important. The GPSS can do a better job of promoting these opportunities to all graduate students. As the VP of Internal Affairs she hopes to improve communication and diversity, as well as increase program outreach for graduate students.

Vice President of External Affairs

James Moschella (Policy Analyst): One of the largest aspects of the role of the VP of External Affairs is working in Olympia to support and push graduate student efforts. He has had some exposure to this through his role as Policy Analyst this year, but would like to continue this work next year. His platform includes addressing student debt, veteran affairs, and mental health, among many.

· **Joseph Telegen (English):** One of the aspects of the Black Lives Matter resolution discusses I-200. There has been a lot of lobbying against its continuation. He asks whether he believes I-200 will be a part of the conversation in the GPSS next year.

· **James Moschella (Policy Analyst):** If this is something the Senate wants to push, then he would work close with the State Legislature's Advisory Board to help push it.

Treasurer

Peder Digre (Global Health) has a wealth of experience that would allow him to be analytical, efficient, and organized in the role of treasurer. He has spent the last few months working closely with the GPSS Finance and Budget Committee and has gotten a good sense of the importance of the budget. He has also worked on the budget for the Evans School Budget Counsel.

· **Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering)** asks how he has been involved with the GPSS specifically.

·**Peder Digre (Global Health)** shares that he joined the GPSS as a Senator for the Global Health Department, after the previous senator could no longer attend meetings. One of the first things he did once he got involved in the GPSS was to join the Finance and Budget Committee, as it immediately interested him.

·**Michaella Rogers (Special Assistant to the President)**: In the role of, Special Assistant to the President this year, she has gained a lot exposure to the different aspects of the GPSS. She previously worked as the general manager for a small business, where she was responsible for maintaining the company budget—this gives her a solid foundation for the Treasurer position. As Treasurer she hopes to perform efficient and timely review of the budget, and make the GPSS’s financial information as transparent as possible. She also aims to make herself, and the GPSS as accessible as possible.

·**Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering)** asks why she chose to run for the position of Treasurer rather than VP of Internal Affairs, if her platform seems focused on outreach and promotion.

·**Michaella Rogers (Special Assistant to the President)** believes that the budget is a huge portion of the GPSS, and many people find out about us because of travel grants and funding.

Secretary

Randy Siebert (Jackson School) is a student in the Jackson School of International Studies and has been a Senator since October. As an undergrad she was a Residence Hall Assistant and chaired the Diversity Committee within her department. As Secretary/Chair of the Diversity Committee she would continue to push for diversity. Not a lot of people know about the GPSS, and she hopes to gain exposure for the GPSS.

·**Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs)**: As Secretary one of your roles is to be the head of the Diversity Committee. Do you have any plans to expand the committee so it is not just a place that people come for money?

·**Randy Siebert (Jackson School)**: Yes. She believes that putting on bigger events and partnering with other Diversity Committees, such as Black Lives Matter, would be some ways for it. There needs to be a safe space created, where people feel free to promote diversity across campus.

·**Brian Tracey** asks a follow-up. How do you plan on increase graduate student involvement within the Diversity Committee?

·**Randy Siebert (Jackson School)** believes the GPSS can increase graduate student involvement by partnering with various Graduate Schools and Register Student Organizations. One of the biggest hurdles she sees is that people do not know about the GPSS—so really bringing awareness of the GPSS.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology) asks whether there are any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she invites the candidates back up and opens the room for questions.

Q&A for all candidates

·**Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) to Treasurer candidates**: There has been a lot of discussion around student fees this year. She asks what the candidates plan would be moving forward if they were selected for the position.

·**Michaella Rogers (Special Assistant to the President)**: She believes that the GPSS needs to evaluate where they have stood in the past, and where they would like to go in the future. For example, the GPSS has traditionally been in favor of the childcare voucher program, but now they have been reconsidering whether it should continue to be funded as it comes from SAF dollars. It is important to gather information from the Senate, and determine whether it is a beneficial service for graduate students. It will require as many voices as possible.

·**Peder Digre (Global Health)**: There are three very important committees in this regard: SAF, ABB, and STF. He would like student dollars to be distributed across campus rather than focused on a single event that may not be beneficial to the most people, in particular, graduate students.

·**Elloise Kim (Secretary)**: She does not believe that the final number of people running is indicative of interest in the position. For being the officer, she had a privilege to have a conversation with many people who had shown the interest in running. Executive Senator and liaison positions are a great way to nurture the future leadership as well. Since there will be a huge turnover of Executive Senators next year, officers already have begun to reach out to people they believe would be good candidates for these positions. Beginning these conversations early on will ensure these positions get filled and hopefully spark more interests.

·**Michaella Rogers (Special Assistant to the President)** adds that the information needs to be available earlier. The requirements for running are not discussed until the winter quarter, which can make it difficult to meet all the requirements to be eligible to run.

·**Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering)** agrees. He asks how many know that the GPSS Officer positions are fully funded. This could be a strong motivator for people to run if they knew they would not need to take an RA or TA position as well.

·**Sarah Loeffler (Director of Events)** shares that a lot of the graduate school programs are segmented, and there is not much communication between departments. She believes these issues should be communicated to the entire graduate community, rather than allowing it to fall on a few individuals.

·**Seth Bergeson (Evans) to Treasurer candidates**: How would assess your success in the Treasurer position this time next year?

·**Peder Digre (Global Health)** would like the budget to be produced early and submitted on time, as it was this year. He thinks the process should be transparent, and there should be more information available on the website.

·**Michaella Rogers (Special Assistant to the President)** seconds timeliness and getting the budget passed early. She would like the person following her as Treasurer to be able to easily step into the position without having hurdles and a ton to learn. Ultimately, she would like all loose ends tied up, so the transition is as seamless as possible.

·**Noel Kim (Aeronautics & Astronautics) to Michaella Rogers**: What was the size of the company you were the general manager of, and how did they do under your leadership?

·**Michaella Rogers (Special Assistant to the President)** was GM for Seltzer Frozen Yogurt—they had between 40-50 employees at their two locations. It was during the height of the frozen yogurt trend, and while they are no longer operating, they were in the black the entire time she ran the company.

·**Matthew Childs (Germanics) to James Moschella**: Given the increased demand for funding

diversity efforts, how do you plan to ask for funds for graduate students with a decreasing budget?

·**James Moschella (Policy Analyst)**: Through his position he will represent the GPSS, Washington Student Association, and ASUW. He plans to bring the most pressing issues of the collective to Olympia, in order to get the funding necessary for higher education. He also hopes to reach out to students, and bring them to Olympia to share their concerns.

5. ELECTION VOTING

6:33 pm

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology, Elections Committee Chair) instructs everyone to fill out their ballots, and the Elections Committee will come around and collect them. They will count the ballots in the GPSS office, while the meeting continues.

6. SPOTLIGHT: ASUW CANDIDATES

6:36 pm

Elloise Kim (Secretary) invites each of the presidential candidates from the five ASUW tickets up to speak. Everyone will get two minutes to speak. They will introduce themselves and share their platforms with the GPSS. She reminds the Senate that graduate students can also vote in the ASUW elections.

Daniele Menez (Husky Progress): Each of the eight members on her ticket chose values that resonate with them personally and professionally. Some of the big issues they hope to tackle are: affordable education, power based violence, racism, and inequity at the UW.

Liz Price (Your Voice UW): Her ticket focuses on the power behind the student story. They believe this is the most impactful way to create change on UW's campus. They hope to focus on: funding, mental health, and ensuring the success of underrepresented communities on campus.

Diana Betancourt (Rise Up UW) is running as the first undocumented ASUW presidential candidate. Every member of her ticket self-identifies as an activist. The issues they want to address are: racism, sexual assault, and the negative effects of corporatization on campus.

Alec Slaney (Unify UW) shares a personal story regarding the difficulty of securing funding for higher education. His ticket is advocating for: student well-being, student safety, and equity on campus.

Alexander Nelson (Dawgs Bite Back) believes that they are the most radical and controversial ticket that has ever run. He shares that over 93% of the student body didn't vote in the last ASUW election, and something needs to be done to change this. Their ticket focuses on: cutting costs, increasing transparency, and focusing on the student employments.

Q&A

Matthew Childs (Germanics): "Dawgs Bite Back" was the only party not to show up the SAB Forum. He wonder if he can explain why.

Alexander Nelson (Dawgs Bite Back) believes that forums are minimally attended, and that those

students that do show up are the same people every time.

7. BLACK LIVES MATTER RESOLUTION

6:52 pm

Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs) opens the room for questions regarding the Black Lives Matter Resolution.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) calls everyone's attention to the section of the resolution that states that the GPSS supports the demands presented by the rally at the Race and Equity Initiative discussion. The link provided is not a detailed set of demands. She points to the demand to fund the Africa Town, but she cannot find anything about this event. She would feel more comfortable supporting this resolution if the demands were clarified and citations were inserted.

Joseph Telegen (English): Africa Town is an event hosted by the African Student Association (ASA), and taking place May 6th from 12:00-3:00 pm.

Mckenzie Barton-Rowledge (guest): There is the Africa Town event hosted by ASA that Joe mentioned, and then there is also an organization in Seattle named Africa Town, which the resolution refers to.

Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs) clarifies Yasmeen's comment. He asks whether she would feel more comfortable supporting this resolution if it were concrete rather than constantly evolving.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): It is okay if it evolves, but she believes that the demands the GPSS is in support of should be clarified.

Matthew Childs (Germanics): He could see requiring white or male privilege classes for students all undergraduate and graduate students as a point of contention. He asks whether this would be an orientation or a quarter long course.

Mckenzie Barton-Rowledge (guest): The motivation behind the demand is that people of color and woman in particular are experiencing micro and macro-aggressions on a regular basis. The course would introduce language and concepts of privilege. That demand is left vague on purpose so the university has as much room for flexibility as possible.

Ted Chen (Bioengineering): There are a lot of demands that this resolution is in support of; he asks whether from this list the GPSS could select specific demands pertaining to graduate student that they could support. He adds that ASUW had a resolution a few years back in support of the Occupy Wall Street Movement. There was a lot of contention over what was being supported, because there were many negative things associated with the movement. The fear was that by supporting the resolution people were associating the UW with this behavior. They remedied this by inserting a clause stating that they support the educational initiatives of this movement. He also suggests changing the title, as it is a little misleading.

Joseph Telegen (English) asks whether there is something they can all get behind and join the conversation constructively. People do not need to be in favor of every demand to be in favor of the purpose.

Matthew Childs (Germanics): It seems that everyone is in agreement on the whole. He suggests separating the contentious portions out, and clarifying which aspects of the Black Lives Matter demands the GPSS finds agreeable. He agrees with the suggestion that the name be changed to

something other than the Black Lives Matter Resolution.

Joseph Telegen (English) suggests making a note of the demands that the GPSS does not stand behind rather than listed out everything they do support.

Joseph Marino (Asian Language & Literature): It might be strange to rewrite this letter as a mostly white body of student leaders—rather, we should let the letter speak for itself and highlight the demands we are in support of.

Kelly Edwards (Graduate School Associate Dean): The three documents named in the resolution are the same ones that the University President and administration are reviewing. They are trying to create a plan to meet these students' needs. As the GPSS it is very powerful to say that we are behind these documents. If there is a specific issue that the GPSS cannot get behind, they can footnote them and say they are not in favor.

Ted Chen (Bioengineering) asks them to discuss the section of the resolution addressing the repeal of I-200.

Mckenzie Barton-Rowledge (guest): Anytime the administration is asked to increase the number of students and faculty of color they say they are unable to because of I-200. This initiative rejects discrimination based on race, which outlawed affirmative action. Therefore, the University is unable to use race as a factor in admissions. With the passing of I-200, the University lost a huge amount of diversity.

Brandon Ray (Atmospheric Science) moves to extend time by five minutes.

Ted Chen (Bioengineering) seconds.

Jason Young (Geography): In terms of the writing of the Race and Equity Initiative, he think the Duwamish be involved in the drafting of the resolution. He is surprised to see them referred to as a Salish tribe. He does not want to support a document that is lumping all indigenous people together, as that could be problematic.

Mckenzie Barton-Rowledge (guest): They were in communication with indigenous folks, but she is unsure whether the Duwamish specifically were on the committee. She notes that it is a typo, which will be fixed.

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs): As a graduate student of color she wholeheartedly supports this resolution. She shares that she was once arrested for peaceful protesting and does not think it is always a bad thing.

8. GOOD OF THE ORDER

7:13 pm

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer) invites everyone to the GPSS 40th Anniversary on May 18th. There will be food, booze, and games. Everyone tied to the GPSS past and present is invited.

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs) reminds everyone to bring out their state/nation issued ID.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) shares that while it has not been officially announced, there will be at least one open seat for Executive Senator next year. If you are interested in being Executive Senator,

it is something to keep in mind.

Brain Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs) adds being an Executive Senator is a great opportunity to get a behind the scenes look at what is going on across campus.

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs): It is not a paid position, but it is a great way to get involved. Executive Senators are present when the Senate agenda is created.

9. OFFICER REPORTS

7:20 pm

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs): Kinky Boots is tomorrow (May 5th) and there are still tickets available in the Lander Hall. The Husky Sunset will be on June 2nd at the Sylvan Grove Theater. All graduate students are invited to attend. UW Bothell and UW Tacoma are interested in starting their own graduate student senate, so she will be headed there next week to lend support and share how the GPSS got started. The Campus Food Pantry will be opened again on May 12th through 16th. Just bring your Husky ID and it is free to student—they want to bring attention to food insecurity.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) asks whether these events are physical impairment accessible.

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs): Yes. In the invitation they asked students to email them if they have specific needs.

Brian Taubeneck (VP of External Affairs): He met with King County, ASUW, and administration to discuss getting a permanent ballot box on campus. It will be on the North side of the Schmitz Hall. The main concern with putting one in either Red Square or the Hub was ADA accessibility. If anyone has specific feedback about that location, please speak to him.

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer): The last round of travel grants is being decided on Monday. They received over 100 applications this cycle. SAF is deep in deliberations—they have been talking about whether to continue or not the childcare voucher program. The Intellectual House will be funded by SAF, and they have been discussing bailing the Daily out of debt. STF is voting on proposals next week. The subcommittee of the ABB committee will be recommending that all graduate and undergraduate tuition be distributed 80% of on credit hours, and 20% on degrees and major enrollment.

Brandon Ray (Atmospheric Science) asks whether the STF vote includes the proposal that the GPSS submitted regarding clickers.

Elloise Kim (Secretary): The OMAD Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer visits ended last week, and the search committee met today to assess the community's response. The Hall Health is doing a survey to learn what services students need; the link will be sent out. The School of Arts and Sciences College Council (ASACS) is looking for members next year. The Diversity Committee will have used all the diversity funds for the first time in its history after the next interview. At the Graduate Student Experience Pillar Oversight meeting today, she learned that fee based program students will be able to register on MyUW and are able to pay online using a credit card like tuition based program students.

Alex Bolton (President) has been working on getting alums to the 40th anniversary. If you know any, please reach out to them. There are a lot of appointments available next year including the Executive Senator position; if you are interested come speak with any of the Exec Senators or officers. They

have been working on a presentation for the Board of Regents. At the next Regents Meeting, they are going to give a presentation on “What does student consultation mean?”

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7:30 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 and a flyer if available to Elloise Kim at gppssec@uw.edu by tomorrow at noon.

11. ELECTION RESULTS

7:38 pm

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology, Elections Committee Chair) shares the elections results.

President: Elloise Kim

VP of External Affairs: James Moschella

VP of Internal Affairs: Sarah Loeffler

Secretary: Randy Siebert

Treasurer: Michaella Rogers

12. MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:41 pm

ADDENDUM: Announcements

American Ethnic Studies symposium, “Toward Transdisciplinary Perspectives”

May 6 (Fri), 9 am - 5 pm

Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center.

In acknowledgment of our 30th anniversary as a department, American Ethnic Studies is sponsoring a day-long symposium. The keynote address—titled “Connecting the Dots: Ethnic Studies *for* the 21st Century”—will be given by Professor YẾN Lê Espiritu, a highly regarded scholar in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California at San Diego. Finally, be sure to join us for **a reception** immediately following the symposium **from 5:30 pm to 7 pm** where we will be celebrating AES’s 30th anniversary as a department and honoring three highly esteemed AES faculty (Professors Tetsu Kashima, Gail Nomura, and Steve Sumida) who are retiring at the end of the current academic year.

Henry Art Gallery’s Annual Grad Student Happy Hour

May 6 (Fri), 4:00-6:00 pm

The Henry Art Gallery would like to extend the attached invitation to your graduate. This is a great opportunity to explore the Henry’s exhibitions after museum hours, socialize with other graduate students, and relax with a beverage. Graduate students from all disciplines and schools are welcome. Attached is a flyer for the event and here is a [link to the event on Facebook](#) to share with your students.

Q & A with Kyle MacLachlan

May 9 (Mon), 1:00-2:00 pm

Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre

As part of the 75th Anniversary Reunion Weekend Celebration, the UW School of Drama is honored to welcome noted alumnus **KyleMacLachlan**, (BFA, Drama/PATP ’82) for a Q&A with students and alumni.

School of Drama 40th Anniversary Display

until May 11 (Wed)

<https://drama.washington.edu/events/2016-04-01/muse-fire-inspired-production-design-university-washington-school-drama>

School of Drama presents:

Force Continuum

May 5 (Wed) to May 8 (Sun)

[Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse](#)

Kia Corthron’s explosive socio-political drama is about three generations of African American police officers torn apart by the very organization to which they have dedicated their loyalty and working lives. For more information, see <https://drama.washington.edu/events/2016-04-27/force-continuum>.

Skies Over Seattle

June 3 (Fri) to June 5 (Sun)

[Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse](#)

Skies Over Seattle examines the nature of the tiny American individual under a vast shared sky-- specifically, the sky over the U-District in Seattle. Three world-premiere, student generated performances will evolve out of a year of collaboration and conversation between UW Drama Department students and three U-District community groups. For more information, see <https://drama.washington.edu/events/2016-06-03/skies-over-seattle>.

Campus Food Pantry is open!

May 12 (Thu) 11 am – 7 pm, HUB 214

May 16 (Mon) 7 – 9 pm, ECC

Please bring your Husky ID card. They also are looking for volunteers on these dates. Go here to sign up : <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044eada723aaf94-uwcampus/>

2016 College of Education Common Book Events

- ***Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates**

Regulating Black Bodies: How the education system marginalizes black and brown children

May 17(Tue), 10:30am – 1:00pm

wəłəb?altxw- Intellectual House | UW Seattle Campus

Please join us for our common book event on best selling book “Between the World and Me.” Pastries and coffee will be provided from 10:30 – 11, followed by a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Joy Williamson Lott from 11 – 12, and round table discussions facilitated by faculty and community members from 12 - 1. This year’s panelists include Dr. Holly Schindler (UW Seattle), Dr. Filiberto Barajas-Lopez (UW Seattle), and Dr. Wayne Au (UW Bothell). <http://www.facebook.com/events/613260128822058/>

Regulating Black Bodies: “Our Perspectives: 4-Us, By-Us”

May 19 (Thu) 7:00 – 8:30pm

Miller Hall 112

UW College of Education Community Panel is co-organized by McERA (Multicultural Education Rights Alliance). This panel will feature community leaders and activists sharing their experiences in the education system and how they are working to address important issues such as the school-to-prison pipeline. Light refreshments will be served. <https://www.facebook.com/events/265516463790135/>

UW Hall Health Center survey

UW Hall Health Center Advisory Committee (Hall Health Center, GPSS, and ASUW) are working on a survey to gather information about student health needs and priorities at Seattle Campus to build a better Hall Health Center towards the need of ALL students. Please participate the survey by the end of May at <https://catalyst.uw.edu/webq/survey/atwaterp/301946>. It will only take like 10 mins to finish. Please feel free to email Wenjie Li (liwenj87@uw.edu) or Panachon Lor (plor@uw.edu), GPSS liaison to Hall Health Center Advisory Committee if you have any questions or suggestion about the survey.

The OWRC’s Dissertation Writing Retreat

June 13-17, 2016, 9 am to 4 pm

The OWRC, Odegaard Library 121

- + A daily consultation with an OWRC writing tutor
 - + Targeted Workshops on topics related to the academic and emotional challenges of the dissertation project
 - + 4-5 hours of focused writing time throughout the day
 - + Subject librarians available for consultations throughout the week
 - + An encouraging environment to make progress on your writing
- Application Materials: In order to apply for a spot, submit your application through our Catalyst

site: <https://catalyst.uw.edu/collectit/dropbox/cyasin/37973>