



Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Executive Meeting Minutes Session

August 14, 2016 / HUB 303

Members Present:

GPSS President Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim
GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs Sarah Loeffler
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs James Moschella
GPSS Treasurer Michaela Rogers (via video call)
GPSS Executive Senator Joseph Telegen
GPSS Executive Senator Erin Firth
GPSS Executive Senator Brian Tracey
GPSS Executive Senator Jennifer Kirk
GPSS Executive Senator Laura Taylor

1. CALL TO ORDER

5:33 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Joseph Telegen moves to approve the agenda.

Erin Firth seconds

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:35 pm

Sarah Loeffler moves to approve the minutes.

Laura Taylor seconds.

Joseph Telegen moves to remove part of Brian Tracey's statement on page 4 of the minutes under officer reports due to lack of clarity: "He also discussed...".

Joseph Telegen moves to approve minutes as edited.

Sarah Loeffler seconds.

The amended minutes are approved.

4. 2016-2017 STUDENT REGENT, AUSTIN WRIGHT-PETTIBONE

5:38 pm

Elloise Kim introduces Austin as the University of Washington Student Regent.

Austin Wright-Pettibone: Explained that his goals are to get the priorities of the GPSS and talk about his thoughts for this upcoming year. He asks everyone to introduce themselves and list their priorities.

Elloise Kim says her priorities come from addressing conversation around Black Lives Matter, Prison Divestment movement, conflict between the Police and African American community, and tensions that may get created from the upcoming election. She explains that as a student leader she wants to facilitate productive conversation to ease challenges that face us this upcoming year. Also as a personal goal she wants diversity as a more prominent element in the work of GPSS. She also wants to do something more for the international students, and particularly international students of color.

Sarah Loeffler lists her priorities as Diversity enhancement especially related to Black Lives Matter and working on getting faculty with more diverse agenda and curriculum as per student request. She also wants to diminish segregation between departments and improve communication between the Graduate School and departments to increase clarity for students about opportunities that they have available to them. Lastly, she wants to increase transparency with students on programs available to them.

Austin Wright-Pettibone agrees with Sarah on increased integration between departments particularly in relation to creating IGERT (Interdisciplinary Graduate Education Research Training Grants) at UW.

Joseph Telegen mentions that Austin was/is a key player in having undergraduate tuition drop. He wants to look into ways that graduates can advocate for themselves to create financial assistance for graduates.

Austin Wright-Pettibone believes that the Grad School has issues with NFS graduate research fellowships and NIH training grants are not covering all costs for supporting graduate students, which limits opportunities grad school has to deploy resources to other areas of need. We need more state support for grads so the UW can focus on helping graduates with more general financial assistance. Also, he believes unfunded Ph.D. programs are problematic. In College of Education their PhD programs are mostly not providing funding for their students and many of them are fee based programs. This issue has been around for a long time and has been exacerbated in last couple of years. Policies about it are unclear.

Erin Firth moves to extend time by 10 minutes.

Sarah Loeffler seconds.

Erin Firth tries to keep finances running smooth in GPSS and to make sure student dollars are spent in the most useful way and in ways that they were originally planned or desired to be used for by students. Specifically, she is thinking of the role of STF and SAF.

Austin Wright-Pettibone: It is important to focus on sustainability of SAF dollars especially as University levels out class sizes. The University needs to figure out what resource constraints are and how sustainable it can be made.

Jennifer Kirk announces that she is stepping down from her position as Executive Senator at the end of the Fall quarter because she will graduate. However, her department (Biostatistics) may replace her in October.

Michaela Rogers wants to use current funding and resources to keep things smooth and wants more follow up on how programs that have been funded through GPSS resources are progressing. She also wants to get the GPSS name out there more and increase its visibility. She also states that she will be back in mid-September to help with the Husky Sunrise.

James Moschella: His biggest issues are student loans. He wants to build a refinancing program with Washington state and will be working heavily with them, although with this being a budget year a substantive action is unlikely. He wants to push for a lot of graduate hearings in Olympia and federally to get graduate voices heard more in relation to problems such as career advancement after school and a continued loan program. He also is working on a bill in regards to getting a mental health counselor for veterans on campus at UW.

Jennifer Kirk mentions that there is someone in the Psychology Department she knows that does a lot of work with veterans and may be good for James to talk to. Jen will send James an email.

Laura Taylor also prioritizes mental health as a goal for the upcoming year. She wants to follow up on resolutions already put out there. She states that there is a real lack of mental health help access on campus especially for graduate students. She also prioritizes changing the way we deal with sexual assault on campus. In particular, she wants victims to be heard more - many incidents go unreported because victims don't think there will be a follow-up. She wants to make campus climate around sexual assault friendlier so that it is easier for victims to seek help when they need it.

Austin Wright-Pettibone believes partnership with Jen Cohen in student athletics, Q center, GPSS, and ASUW can be beneficial in goal to increase conversation around mental health and action towards a better climate on campus.

Brian Tracey wants to finish and closeout the Black Lives Matter resolution and he especially wants to focus on diversity. He announces that he will be leaving GPSS at the end of summer.

Austin Wright-Pettibone wants to bridge activist and non-activist communities for shared understanding. He wants to figure out building maintenance funding and how to stay on top of the 1.1 million dollars in deferred maintenance fees as new buildings are made on campus. He suggests making a new policy on how to deal with new maintenance fees so that it would be managed well with new projects. This policy will also help with lack of custodial staff and their overwork. He also believes it is important to promote interdisciplinary education with different departments in order to make students more well-rounded. Overall, his three main goals are: campus climate change, deferred maintenance reduction, and interdisciplinary furthering on campus.

Elloise Kim encouraged everyone to contact Austin with any questions to awrightp@uw.edu. He is really good at keeping timely communication.

5. SUMMER TRAVEL GRANTS

6:01 pm

Erin Firth: Explain that in the past the committee has reviewed grant requests from higher grade grants down.

Elloise Kim: Announced that we should give out money for definite yes requests first then see how much money we have left to give out.

Laura Taylor asks how much we can fund.

Michaella Rogers: We don't know yet. In the past summer grants funding was between \$1,000-3,000 while regular grants cycles were between \$7,000-8,000.

Elloise Kim believes that last summer's precedent of summer travel grants should set a precedent for this summer. In general, domestic conference funding is \$300 and international conference funding is \$500 dollars.

Erin Firth: Rarely do people ask for partial funding. Also we have an additional \$5,000 this year for the Travel Grants so we can permit up to \$7,000 worth of grants for each regular quarter and \$4,000 dollars for summer quarter, totaling to \$25,000 for the entire year for grants.

Michaella Rogers: If a student is no longer enrolled in UW then funding is okay throughout summer but not for fall conferences. She will check up on Kathryn Zyskowski's registration status because she may fall into the no funding zone depending on time of her conference.

Erin Firth moves to fund the agreed upon people \$2800 dollars for 11 (potentially 12 if Katherine can be funded) people.

Jennifer Kirk seconds.

Awardees of Summer Travel Grants:

Emily Tran (Pharmacy/domestic): \$300

Katherine Querna. (Social work/domestic): \$300

Ross Coen (History/domestic): \$300

Stephen Winkler (Political Science/domestic): \$300

Margaret Thompson (CSE/domestic): \$300

William Coon (Global Health/international): \$500

Kathryn Zyskowski (Anthropology/international): \$500

Sean Mikles (Biology/domestic): \$300

Grant Quiller (Occupational health/international): \$500

Evi L. Sutrisno (Anthropology/international): \$500

Michael Young (Epidemiology/international): \$500

Shannon Blajeski (Social Work/international): \$500

6. SAGE COALITION SUMMIT

7:05 pm

James Moschella: SAGE stands for Student Advocates for Graduate Education, a national organization of 15 peer R-1 intuitions. They all send representatives to a fall summit where people schedule do lobbying training and networking and planning for the Day on the Hill in spring. The conference is October 6th-9th at the UW hosting a group of 20 people. Conference is two days a lot is spent in rooms sharing best practices and working out bylaws. Attendance is required for Elloise, Sarah, James. October 7th will be a networking day with graduates from 15 other universities. Everybody coming is a PhD student. If there would be someone good for networking in that environment, give him suggestions. The entire event will include dinners, breakfast, a lobbying training. James asks that people give suggestions for rooms in the HUB to use. (**Erin Firth** suggestes Smith Hall). October 8th is open in terms of programming so that James asks for ideas for what to make that day. There will also be time for smaller sessions.

Elloise Kim: James is running mechanics for making the summit on campus while the board members of SAGE will do big programming.

Erin Firth suggests that it would be good for someone to do a smaller session on micro aggressions/ASE contract.

James Moschella: Networking focuses on policy and legislative side of graduate issues.

7. EXECUTIVE SENATOR REPORTS

7:12 pm

Laura Taylor: None.

Brian Tracey is working on the Black Lives Matter resolution from last spring. They will incorporate many suggestions because currently there are too many loopholes for the Senate. He is also helping with the Husky Sunrise security.

Erin Firth got into a car accident but is fine now. She will serve on Travel Grants committee, STF, SAF, and Finance & Budget committees this year.

Jennifer Kirk will be here through September. She thanks Brian for all his hard work. She is almost done with a report for census. She announces that in late October there will be a free healthcare clinic in downtown Seattle and they really need volunteers, especially those with foreign language skills. She will send an email out with critical languages needed.

Sarah Loeffler will put this event on spotlight on new website.

Joseph Telegen has so far been unsuccessful in getting in contact with Rainy Dawg Radio for Husky sunrise, but will try again. He is going to try and tap into RSOs to promote and encourage funding applications for GPSS and is planning on encouraging incoming members of GPSS who was very active in ASUW last year to tackle a liaison work. He might propose to form an Ad Hoc committee this fall. He wants to create the “Ave dialogue project” bringing stakeholders together to discuss issues with the Ave and how they can be solved.

8. OFFICER REPORTS

7:22 pm

Sarah Loeffler is working on Husky Sunrise and budgets for husky sunrise. is also working on reaching out to different RSOs for tabling. Talked to Brian about security for event. There is a new hire for Director of events, her name is Victoria and she will start next week. There will be a fall workshop with science and policy committee of about 40 people. The event will be about 5 hours, fully catered, and invite only. Workshops like this will be installed throughout the year instead of one large summit so more people can attend. Sarah mentioned she is opened to ideas and additions.

Elloise Kim has been setting a meeting schedule with UW administration people for the rest of the year while meeting many people. She is having an intense talk with Daniele Menez, ASUW President about how to strive for a shared mission between GPSS and ASUW. She is helping out the website work with Aleksei while Randy is absent.

James Moschella: Washington Student Association Board of Directors met and filled out positions. He asks if UW undergrads can be TAs (All: yes). He also asks if it is appropriate to cohost a film viewing that is sponsored and references a State Senator running for an election (All: It will be Okay as long as it doesn't express a partisan opinion). He is working on campaign questionnaire of what candidates will be asked.

Michaella Rogers: All the people awarded during the last spring Travel Grants meeting were not actually paid so that she is figuring out what happened there and dealing with the fallout. She is working on making training equipment for Travel Grants committee and making things to help the committee run smoother. She asks that people let her know if they have any questions.

Elloise Kim: The September EXEC meeting may be cancelled due to that many officers won't be able to attend the meeting. She will send out the information when it is confirmed. So, people who have or will apply for the September conference may not be able to get awarded.

Michaella Rogers: Anyone with a conference through November 4th should have applied for a Summer Grant, so we are fine with it.

Erin Firth suggests doing an informal planning meeting for Husky Sunrise even if the Exec meeting is canceled.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7:29 pm

Elloise Kim is planning to have a 3 hour long team building program with everyone on either Tuesday or Friday of the first week of the school. By everyone she means all officers, staff, and Executive Senators.

Erin Firth: How is the clicker establishment going?

Sarah Loeffler: Aleksei is working on it with the person hired by STF.

Erin Firth: Do we have clickers?

Sarah Loeffler: Not yet. We will purchase.

Brian Tracey: UWPD wants GPSS representative for its advisory board. There is a process in order to be on the board.

Erin Firth is interested on serving on that committee.

Elloise Kim: In September she will decide who is appointed to essential committees. She will contact members individually.

Sarah Loeffler: We need volunteers to do orientations. Talk to Sarah if interested.

9. MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:34 pm
