

GPSS Executive Committee Meeting- 9 Sep 2015

Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m. by meeting chair **Monica** Cortes-Viharo

Members Present:

GPSS Vice President Monica Cortes-Viharo
GPSS Vice President Brian Taubeneck
GPSS Treasurer Kerstin Hudon
GPSS Secretary Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim
Executive Senator Evan Firth
Executive Senator Yasmeen Hussain
Executive Senator Colin Bateson
Executive Senator Joseph Telegen
Executive Senator Brian Tracey
ASUW Director of Internal Policy Noe Merfeld

Approval of Agenda:

Joseph: moved to approve.

Elloise: seconded.

The agenda for September 9th was approved without any objection.

Approval of Minutes:

Joseph: move to approve.

Kerstin: second.

Elloise: I've following the last year's format in the most part, but if you have any suggestions about its format, please let me know. Since we have two Brians, VP Brian has been listed as Brian VP and Brian Tracey as Brian Tr. If you have a different opinion about the way they are put, please tell me.

Evan: We can bold people's names.

Elloise: A great idea. Cynthia and I will do it.

Technology Update:

Kerstin: We have not made a major purchase since 2009. Rene and Coop inform me that they are a bit old though no one complains about it. So we are working toward to make a plan to replace those. I am talking to ASUW's system manager to help us put this in place. We will have to put this in our budget in the next couple of years. They may not need to be replaced right away, but we will start to figure it out

Brian: Doug and Brian might have some technical background to help.

Evan: It helps to have some technical components to it.

Kerstin: We can get a steep discount with Dells. We are also going to go through the monitor recycling. I really don't think we will be looking at total overhaul.

Monica: In this plan, are we taking to account VP of External Affairs? It seems that it would make sense for him to have a laptop since he is out of the office so often.

Kerstin: A quarterly loan from the Student Tech Fee program is what we are considering. I think that it is a really good idea because they are constantly update their equipment.

Evan: What are you going to do with all the old machines?

Kerstin: UW Surplus. My second agenda on the item is: **Monica** does not have a computer now. I looked into getting a fund through SAF. And Rene and Coop suggested we'd fund it through our own fund. We then would like to move a fund from the General Fund to the Treasurer's Fund. The computer, according to my recent search, would cost approximately \$900 including the computer, a monitor, and Microsoft programs.

Elloise: We don't have to pay for the Microsoft office. UW provide those programs for free for its students and so on.

Kerstin: Then, the cost can come down based upon what's available Dell's website about \$150. I would like to motion to transfer \$1,000 from General Fund to the Treasurer's Fund.

Yasmeen: Hold on. Do you mean that it would cost as much as \$1000 for one computer?

Kerstin: I am motioning the options, but right now I suggest that we move that money from there to the Treasurer's Fund so we can move forward with the plan in the future without wanting any more money.

Yasmeen: I've asked because that seems quite a high price.

Kerstin: I don't know well about computers, but I would be happy to spend less money on that if there is a computer that costs less than that.

Joseph: We are not bound to spend all of it.

Kerstin: Whatever fund is left, we will just leave it in there for the future use.

Monica: Check whether there's already a service fee or a warranty included.

Kerstin: OK. If we are agreeing that we can do a more research for a better priced item and thus do not need to use all of \$1,000, once again I would like to motion to transfer \$1,000 from the General Fund to the Treasurer's Fund.

Evan: So moved.

Monica: Seconded.

Kerstin: No objection? Approved.

Clicker for Senate Meetings

Yasmeen: Generally to share ideas we raise our hands in our meeting. But, we will have a better way to read what people are thinking if we can use a clicker. I also think it would be helpful for voting during the meeting. I would like to hear Joseph's opinion on this.

Joseph: Rene and Noe can speak to the effects of clickers in the ASUW meeting.

Yasmeen: I've looked into a text messaging voting option, but for not everyone have a smartphones, it might not be a great idea.

Joseph: At ASUW, people have the opportunity to use their laptops rather than clickers. That was another option I want to mention. I can talk to a ASUW person who is in charge of this technology.

Elloise: I am in favor of using clickers, too: however, I am concerned about the cost. Do we have enough money to purchase clickers for our Senators?

Yasmeen: We may need to buy only a half of the number considering the average attendance.

Kerstin: The ASUW Senate got the money for clickers in the past. So our application might have a high likelihood of going through. But I think using STF might be a great idea.

Evan: I like the idea of clickers, too. I just can't remember whether there are any procedural rules.

Rene: You will have to do it via OPMA. I recommend you going to the ASUW website to see how that goes. I really encourage you to do some more research on the technology. They are quite expensive and they are quite hard to replace.

Elloise: The ASUW website has the record of their senators' voting done with clickers. However, it requires a lot of technology and working hours. I am very sure if it is something we can actually aim to do.

Joseph: I am going to work as the GPSS liaison to the ASUW this year again, so we can transfer some of their technology know-hows to the GPSS. Forest, the guy who had worked on it last year, already said to me that he would help me on it.

Elloise: If we cannot be as fancy as the way the ASUW does, I can consider to collect the information of who vote for and against which agenda and put it into a table chart-like thing.

Yasmeen: I am sorry, I didn't know that we currently have to keep a record of who vote yes or no on our website.

Rene: You could do something differently as far as it matches with your bylaws, but you still have to maintain that record. If you can put in some numbering system, it won't be very difficult to maintain the record.

Yasmeen: Let's ease into it slowly than trying to make it happen right away.

Monica: Do we want to form a group who will do a research and come back on this?

Kerstin: The action items I am going to take from this are me doing some research in STF applications and having Joe do some research on the ASUW side about clickers.

Yasmeen: I actually recommend doing the STF application now.

Joseph: It would be good to put this as an agenda for me for the next meeting.

Resolution Process Change

Yasmeen: Last year we talked about our resolution process and how to make it easier. Because it is currently set up that the person has to turn in the resolution one week before the Senate meeting to the Secretary. The one issue I see with this is that they would give a presentation about their resolution in the Senate but it does not allow enough time for Senators to read the actual resolution ahead of the meeting. I think we could change the resolution timeline so that Senators have the resolution text before being expected to have a discussion.

Evan: I like the idea of having less time with the Secretary. I like the idea of being more transparent.

Joseph: Point of information: Would this be a bylaws change? (Yes.) Would it be good perhaps to ask Yasmeen to come up with this bylaws change in the next meeting?

Kerstin: The way I like our current set up is that people come in and present their resolution idea and people can ask questions about it.

Yasmeen: I agree. I actually do want to keep that part.

Elloise: We might not need any bylaws change to keep the part.

Yasmeen: Possibly. People can't present at that meeting unless they already sent the resolution text to the Secretary. But, we can consider to have an actual text so that people can have a better understanding of the resolution.

Joseph: When we are saying having the text, how literally do we mean with that? Do we mean that we need to have the text distributed to each Senator?

Yasmeen: I am trying to look that up in the bylaws on whether this needs to be bylaws change.

Evan: We should also enforce the online editing part.

Yasmeen: I actually doubt that this needs to be an edit in the bylaws.

Monica: Let me know if you want to report on this in the next meeting.

Yasmeen: O.K.

Campus housing

Monica: Ben had come to present the HFS and I went to visit them. There are two resident halls that are for mainly grad students. One thing we talked about is asking people in Mercer Court D&E to come to the meeting and get our minutes. This will lead us over to the next thing. Maybe we can partner with them on the events - specifically on programming that gives people an access to things that they may not do otherwise such as going to the theater. This is something that the resident groups already are doing. They already get group discount tickets and others.

Evan: Can you draw the distinction between HFS and student housing?

Monica: I can't unfortunately tell you that now. How do people feel about expanding outings?

Joseph: I think that is a great ideas, but I wonder if this is one of the few affiliates that we can have with the HFS.

Yasmeen: I would be curious about the financial side about the collaboration. Also I generally feel uncomfortable with the HFS. I don't think their housing is affordable for grad students.

Kerstin: Motion to extend by 5 minutes

Evan: Second.

Monica: I will find of the answer to the question of how they get cheaper tickets and so on. It seems that they charge student a little bit.

Elloise: That's the way FIUTS run their events. They include the transportation fee in the tickets they sell. The tickets would cover all the cost occurring during the event.

Monica: We can also consider that maybe grad students are not inclined to go on a bus. It would be mitigated if people can use U-PASS.

Joseph: My experience with ASUW says that it was a grind working with the HFS. I do think it is important to make initiative on these sort of thing and then think about cost later.

Kerstin: We should also have a conversation on the institutional overhead tax, because we would start needing to pay for it.

Monica: We can investigate whether we want to do these on our own.

Elloise: The Open House event in the fall quarter will be a great chance to get involved as those buildings that participate in the Open House have many graduate student residents.

Monica: It might be the kind of partnership that will open doors to talk about more things. The last thing about this agenda is: Twelve Month Movement has asked us whether we want to move forward with them. I would be happy to stand there to hand out brochures.

Elloise: How many brochures do you think you may need? I was just going to recycle the last year's ones instead of throwing them away, though we still should print more.

Husky Sunrise

Monica: Alex and I attended a very helpful meeting involving Convocation and Husky Sunrise. I also got the new budget with egg, bacons, fruit, and all compostable, 3 bars set up where people go and show their ID to get Mimosa - that total cost is \$10,890. What we need to add in is just Champagne and juice.

Evan: Is there any reason of why we are having bar tenders?

Monica: Last year there were a lot of concerns that a lot of underage people got access to champagne. It was also a way to spread out the crowd. Comparing to the budget that we had before we are really good now.

Evan: Do we want to provide wine and beer? (Maybe not.)

Kerstin: Alex asked for \$30K, and the Provost gave us the full amount. Also Tylor is asking the ASUW Board if they can volunteer at the Husky Sunrise. Also Coop said she doesn't know if I can do security for sure. She said she would feel more comfortable if we hire someone to do it.

Brian Tr: I can be a security person. I might be able to do it

Monica: Any other question or concern on this?

Exec Senator Report

Joseph: Elloise and I as the members of English Department have been working on increasing transparency in our department and how we select our Senators. That's something that we are trying to increase in general. The second thing is just an idea, but whether or not we want to

have a regular period of time just to have a free conversation. In my reading about parli pro it is new business which is what we currently don't do. I still think that there's room for us to grow in a creative realm. I want to follow the idea to see what people think about it. Does anybody has any thought or response?

Evan: Happy hours in the GPSS office after the meeting?

Joseph: I would seriously be in favor of that idea if that is the time we think workable.

Monica: One thing that I was thinking about - doing exec office hours so that people can come in and talk through ideas that they have. Any of the officers also can just jump in.

Joseph: I know it's not constitutionally expressed that the exec committee should be the spear head.

Yasmeen: Office hours is good. But why don't we just allocate a few minutes before announcements for new business. Just a couple of minutes instead of making people come to the office hours.

Joseph: I really like the idea of that being sort of a kick-starter. It is just at the end of the meeting and the number is thin.

Monica: I am cool with moving it up.

Evan: That would compress our already tight hours.

Elloise: I am going to email to the Public Record office to change the Senate meeting hours to 2 hours from the current 1.5 hours so that Senators can have a more accurate expectation about the meeting duration.

Monica: Why don't we continue this conversation after the meeting?

Brian Tr: I just put together all the notes of Diversity Committee from the last year. Who should I give them to?

Elloise: It's me. But we need help from Information Specialist to put documents into the place. Demi kindly has volunteered to help committees' work, but we still need a technical support to know better.

Brian Tr: Thursday, October 1st, community partnership. It's a fundraising gala. I am given an award. If you can just send it to your constituents, that would be great.

Officer Report

Monica: I have already mentioned about Husky Sunrise. The U-Pass Advisory Board is doing their retreat. I've talked to Sri Harsha and he said he will go but not sure about the third person. Does anyone want to sit on the U-Pass Advisory Board?

Brian VP: Is that the same thing with the transportation group?

Monica: I am confused, too. I had a great conversation on Childcare. She was about to pack up to go to Boston but she sent me a lot of great info. She also has great language that she put on her syllabus about title IX. I would love to share that with people in our meeting and possible have it as our resolution.

Joseph: I like the resolution idea.

Monica: The legislator election committee is asking someone to sit on it. It sounds like a great experience.

Elloise: Do you want to pass that information along with other events?

Monica: Sure. The Core Program's event that I am working on and is sponsored by FIUTS is going well. I will be at the Regent meeting tomorrow. Last thing is Husky 100. It is inaugurated through Student Life. They are going to recognize 100 student on this campus and I am working to make 40 of them would be grad students. Any questions?

Brian Tr: What are the criteria?

Monica: There's going to be two application papers and a portfolio.

Brian VP: I've been doing a lot of coordination with different schools. WSA is starting to plan different meetings in Olympia. Future forums will be with 3 to 4 US representative who are in their 30s and 40s by holding events in cities about student issues. I am talking to someone in Kilmer's office and the event is probably going to take place at UW-Tacoma. The aim of the group is to be partisan and campaign, but no expectation of endorsement. Another piece of news is that Seattle public teachers are on strike now. The Supreme Court just made charter schools unconstitutional again.

Kerstin: The budget specialist starts next week and will start to be in the office once school starts. I currently have two or three people in Finance and Budget Committee. So if you know any Senator who would like to be on F&B please ask them to apply. ASUW Abe and I have been doing a lot of work with Rene to make sure that the system of F&B works very smoothly.

Brian Tr: Can non-senators be on the committee?

Kerstin: No. In case of F&B, they have to be senators.

Evan: Don't forget SAF committee.

Kerstin: Yes, I need someone to sit on SAF as well but they don't need to be senators. Any other question?

Elloise: I have been communicating with the GPAs about orientations. We have 39 programs who have asked us to come if we include Evans School which Brian VP will take care of. The Senator list is being updated with the help of many Senators' prompt emails. By far, I've gotten about 100 emails from both continuing and discontinuing Senators. The Husky Sunrise poster has been made by Cynthia. I will send it to Exec Senators as well. Please give us your feedback about it. The last thing is that we need to discuss about our meeting schedule. Last February when Natalie put the date of this year's meeting, she made Dec. 2 as the last exec meeting date and Dec. 9 as the last Senate meeting of the Fall quarter. Alex and I, the other day, discussed about those dates and we think Dec. 9 is not an ideal day to have the Senate meeting for it is during the finals week.

Yasmeen: December 11th is the last day of instruction, so the finals week is the following week.

Elloise: This year we have an interesting schedule as Veterans Day is Wednesday. So, we won't have one week without having a meeting. That made our schedule unusual. Demi, Office Manager, checked the room availability and HUB 334 is fortunately available and already reserved. So, our idea was if we can move Dec. 9 Senate meeting to Dec. 2 and think of another date for the Exec meeting before Thanksgiving holiday.

Evan: Let's just keep that as is.

Yasmeen: can you give me the exact date?

Elloise: I wish, but my computer died and cannot come up with all those dates. Sorry. There is another meeting schedule we have to discuss. More for cancellation. For now, the exec meeting is scheduled to be Sep. 23, 30, and Oct. 7. So, I suggest to cancel the one on Sep. 30 not to have three meetings in a row. It will make more sense to have a meeting before Husky Sunrise than later.

Joseph: I am going to motion to suspend this meeting so we can have time to review the time.

Elloise: It would be quite late for OPMA.

Monica: Ok, right now we are deciding whether we want to cancel the Sep 30th meeting.

Joseph: So moved.

Brian VP: Second.

Monica: The September 30th meeting has been canceled unless there is an objection. (No objection.) Approved.

Noe: I am your ASUW representative- I won't be here in Fall quarter, but Roy will be coming to the meetings and he's really excited. We are just working on the employee orientation now.

Monica: President left me a note: we received full funding so we are all set for the funding. Regent meeting tomorrow. Continuously meeting with campus leaders.

Announcements:

Rene: Have any of you heard about some student organization who are excited or upset about GPSS? (No.)

Brian Tr: Is UW Smoke-free now?

Yasmeen: No. Alice has brought this up to me because someone brought this issue. This was brought up in PACS as well and both the undergrad and grad students said that this is not a priority.

Elloise: Since we have a retreat next week I suggest that we should use a chance to make a group photo like the way the last year people did and put it on the GPSS website.

Meeting Adjourn:

The meeting is adjourned at 6:38PM.