

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Senate Meeting Minutes Session

October 06, 2016 |HUB 332

Call to Order 5:03PM

1. Approval of Agenda **5:35PM**

Erin Firth (Oceanography): Moves to approve agenda.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Seconds

2. Approval of minutes **5:35PM**

Adam Bell (Learning Science and Human Development): Moves to approve the minutes.

Tim Lee (Marine and Environmental Affairs): Seconds.

3. Student Regent, *Austin Wright-Pettibone* **5:36PM**

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Introduces himself as an undergraduate majoring in Chemical Engineering. Asks that people reach out to him if they have any questions.

How many people know what the board of regents are? (A lot) There are 10 members of the Board of Regents they have 6 year terms and are appointed by the State governor. The exception is that student regents have a term of only 1 year.

Regents serve as the governor's trustees and trustees for the State of Washington in managing finances of the University and making sure the University is healthy in all respects. They also help make policies.

Students can be engaged in what the University does by being involved in the Student Senates because they form the bedrock of the student community. At the undergraduate level the Student Senate push has made diversity a requirement. At the graduate level Student Senate's have ensured students are on hiring committees. Also, learn about issues that interest you. It is important for students to share their stories about their experiences at UW.

The Board of Regents also hires and fires University CEOs. Ana Marie Curie is the Universities CEO right now; she is very excited to engage with students throughout this year. Some of Ana Marie Curie's priorities include promoting academic innovation, creating disciplines and course that drive connectedness between different disciplines.

Are there any questions?

Elloise Kim (President): One of the projects Elloise and Austin work on is academic innovation. They are working on what the higher administration levels could do for the future of our education. Also, Austin is very accessible and can answer a lot of things very well.

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Austin spends a lot of his day learning about the different issues facing campus. He has been working to understand how the Arts and Sciences budget shortfalls happened and are trying to figure out how to mitigate it. How can we shape the university in the best possible way by mitigating future detriments to students.

Dan Herb (Leadership in Higher Education): What are some initiatives at the Regent level that are being used to integrate UW Tacoma and UW Bothell to the campus as a whole?

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Think of each institution as individuals but we are working with new leadership on each campus to grow the University. We are working to figure out the best leadership hierarchy for the remote location campuses. However, there are initiatives like the undergraduate research program which are growing more.

Monica Cortes-Viharo (Drama): Is there any work that Regents do on issues that students face in terms of housing affordability and housing justice?

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Used to be the Office of Government Relations Director and was the lobbyist for ASUW. Housing affordability was very important to ASUW. He worked with HALA (Housing Affordability and Loan-ability Advisory Committee) to make housing affordable for students on campus. UW as a whole works to make housing easier in HFS for students on campus and also thinks more broadly about the role the University plays in influencing the market through buildup. In the master plan that is in the works there is a concern on how to create affordability and support the mayor's initiatives where it is feasible for us to do so. As a board their role is to empower folks within the administration to go out and continue to do their work on a day to day basis and will set the priorities of which Housing Affordability is a concern for graduate and undergraduate students. We can do more work for graduate students.

Amanda Robb (History): Can you continue to talk about the budget problems of the College of Arts & Sciences and how graduate students will fund research? What happened?

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Lots of factors that wouldn't be significant on their own but when put together created a large cut. The College of Arts and Science's general operating fund which funds TAs and professors is funded almost entirely by undergraduate tuition, and some state funding. 95-98% of their goth budget is from Undergraduate tuition. So, when the legislature made the tuition freeze and reduction it led to five years of stagnant revenue while faculty salaries were increasing after freezes after the recession as well as an increasing need for faculty and TAs in certain departments. So, there was a stress to shift resources towards STEM students. Also, there were macro shifts in funding to College of built environments and business school among others. Led to a drop from about 68% of all student credit hours being held by Arts and Sciences to about 62% of all student credit hours being held. That 6% drop led to a several million-dollar shortfall, meant they couldn't meet their short-term spending requirements that they set in motion which put pressure on the budget. However, increases in faculty and 10% raise in TA faculty salary continued as was planned so that by 2019 the College of Arts and Sciences would not be able to fund any of their day to day operations. Which is how the problem came to be. A big issue in the process was that there is a need for the University to let people know of decisions being made with enough time to reroute budgets and find alternatives. This is something that was not done with these recent budget cuts. We need to do more in the University to improve financial forecasting. Ultimately this is a reason that all students need to let the legislature know of the importance of state and tuition funding to Universities operations. We want to make sure students in arts and sciences feel valued.

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Moves to extend time by 5 minutes.

Margaret Hughes (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): Seconds.

Yolanda Valencia (Geography): How do the budget cuts affect the wages Board of Regents or people above if at all?

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Tuition dollars and state support are pooled into the office of planning and budgeting then distributed to academic units. When we are talking about Budget shortfalls in arts and sciences that is from different budget zone than the one that funds the Board or Regents.

Margaret Hughes (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): What are your plans for making financial forecasting better?

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): Can talk after the meeting about that (running out of time) and can help Margaret meet with the treasurer for more information.

Nicholas Graff (Epidemiology): What is the news on Prison Divestment?

Austin Wright-Pettibone (Student Regent): The Board of Regents heard about this recently. The next steps for moving forward revolves around divestment guidelines. University leadership

are interested in hearing student opinion on the guidelines. In the meantime, no direct funds will be invested from the University to companies that support prison divestment.

4. Population Health Initiative, Eric King

5:59PM

Eric King: Population health is looking at factors that affect population health. There are many determinants of population health. The Initiative's purpose is looking at how every department can impact health.

The effect of racism on health is an important part of population health. How can we use the knowledge to increase the health of the population? We spend a lot of money on research and education but it's important to use the education to help our communities.

In king county, there is a life expectancy difference of 15 years depending on where you live. The main areas of focus are climate change, poverty, governance, and urban planning etc. Urban planning is so important. For example, a road without a cross walk can impact someone's ability to get healthy food.

The Three pillars of population health are human health, environmental resiliency, and social and economic equity.

Julius Doyle (Anthropology): Can you define Environmental resiliency?

Eric King: It means climates and sustainability.

Julius Doyle (Anthropology): Would environmental health include environmental Justice? (absolutely)

Eric King: There are 25 of us on the Executive Committee. There are many sub committees to get involved in and we see many students involved in education and capacity building. These students are looking at graduate student funding for initiatives. Implementation science is another sector that is very involved, they take research and implement it. It is a very slow process this is a 25-year project and we are 4 years into it. He asks that students here today give their opinion and voice on their website they're trying to reach everyone. UW is the first University that is focusing on population health and wants to be a world leader in it. If anyone has any questions, feel free to email Eric.

Elloise Kim (President): Eric King is student liaison for the population health committee.

Eric King: If there is something that students want to see he is happy to be a student voice.

5. Executive Senator Nomination

6:07PM

Elloise Kim (President): For new Senator's information. The order of items on the agenda is guest speakers first, action items, then officer reports. Today we will elect two Executive Senators. Executive Senators are members of the Executive Committee that sit with officer's help make the agenda and they are the right-hand men of Officers. They are expected to help in GPSS events, and be liaisons to students. They are another part of the GPSS unit, they are a very important part of our business. We will elect two of them because Jennifer Kirk is graduating, and Brian Tracey stepped down at end of summer.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): How to vote. In a few minutes' ballots and pens will be passed out. If more than two nominations are made then there will be a vote. Rank all candidates in terms of preference using a numbering system. Once everyone is done voting we will take the ballots and count them. The two highest vote receivers will be elected. A runoff election will happen if there is a tie.

Elloise Kim (President): There is no Elections Committee yet, so the Judicial Committee will help. Can I get nominations?

Joseph Telegen (English): Nominates Peder Digre (Global Health)

Peder Digre (Global Health): Accepts the nomination.

Jay Eckard (Drama): Nominates Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama)

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Accepts the nomination.

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Nominates Michaelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology)

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Accepts the nomination.

Julia Shi (Nursing PhD): Self-nominates.

Elloise Kim (President): Speeches' will be made in order of nominations. A minute will be given for each candidate.

Peter, Monica, Michelle, and Julia gave a speech/Q&A session.

Adam Bell (Learning Science and Human Development): How are you validating ballots (to ensure no vote cheating)?

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): Everyone must print their name on the end of their ballot.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Names are in place just to ensure everyone has voted then they get ripped off. Names will not be used to disclose for whom votes are casted for.

Elloise Kim (President): Nominees must leave with James while people cast their votes. In the meantime, the next agenda item will occur. Remember to rank all nominees.

6. Executive Senator Elections **6:47PM**

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama) and Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology) won and are the new Executive Senators.

7. Senator's Corner **6:29PM**

Elloise Kim (President): Instead of spotlight at the beginning of a meeting we will have Senator's Corner towards the end. It is meant for Senators to introduce their programs and what they do. It is an open time for people to fill as they please. Thang Phu has volunteered for the first Senator's Corner and will introduce his program.

Thang Q Phu (Electrical Engineering): My department is based out of the Paul G. Allen/Electrical Engineering building. There are a lot of concentrations in my department people can also create their own concentrations. A really popular concentration for undergraduates is metaphysics.

He works in SCCG and works on FPGA RFID tags. Basically, they are similar to the tags that are in stores and placed on more expensive items so they beep when stolen. He's making a monitor for hazardous waste so other countries aren't stealing our hazardous waste to make nuclear weapons. Also, if the container temp gets too high the monitor also senses that. Also, within his department the Raven 2 robot was created it is a surgical robot.

Elloise Kim (President): Thank you! The Senator's Corner is for anything Senators want to say. Contact Randy if you want to be the person to present.

8. Good of the Order **6:45PM**

James Mochella (VP of External Affairs): At SAGE he learned that other graduate schools work on professional development. He thought this was a good idea but wasn't sure if it would be considered a benefit to the Senate. So what are the Senate's thoughts about GPSS expanding its role in the professional development sector? What does your program do already for professional development? Are students receptive? Where are the gaps? What is unique about your development? How can GPSS help?

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): Moves to pause the use of Parliamentary Procedure for this section of the meeting.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Seconds.

Molly Grear (Civil and Environmental Engineering): Her department does not do a good job of promoting jobs that are outside of academia.

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): There is a lack of incentive for PHD advisors to help with outside opportunities.

Thang Q Phu (Electrical Engineering): The University promotes professional development through clubs with cover letters/writing sessions. His department itself throws career fairs.

Adam Bell (Learning Sciences and Human Development): Master students and PHD students are on different tracks, it's good to keep that in mind.

Dan Herb (Leadership and Higher Education): His program does a good job at this with a class. The class is in the cohort model, and has guest speakers. It may not work for every program. A lot of employers would love to talk to students directly.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): By the time we get to other PHD and Masters level our needs become very specific. There are resources on campus but people don't use them because of a need for specificity. It would be best for GPSS to push administration to find students more jobs and make departments more responsible.

A.Y. Odedeji (Philosophy): The development in her department is towards the end of the year and is focused on one conference. In a lot of ways there is a deep tension in the humanities to create students as cheap labor for departments and tenure trap positions. There is hostility in our department against jobs outside of academia. It would be great to find out what alternatives there are to the terrible academic job market we are exclusively prepared for.

Katie Bergus (Medicine MD): Our professional development is very good for preparation. One thing our department does that is beneficial, is our department puts on 20 or 25 dinners with alumni to talk about their particular specialty. Being able to tap into alumni networks would be very beneficial for grad students across the board.

Elloise Kim (President): She is currently talking with the alumni association about what kind of resources they may provide. They will currently be invited to Husky Sunrise so students can network.

Yi Hsun Yang (Material Science and Engineering PhD): Their department is holding an industry day for first time in 4 years, they will invite high level alumni and graduate students have a showcase.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): What are some ways that would make development successful?

Monica Cortes Viharo (Drama): Etiquette dinners, it is important to learn how to sell our selves. Practicing etiquette job interview etiquette is crucial.

Sara Mo (Jackson School): The Jackson school career center has a mentorship program each quarter that has one or two meetings with alumni for graduate and undergraduate students. So people can make connections and get questions answered. This should be service that is provided to all students in order to find jobs.

Joanne Huang (Speech and Hearing Sciences): Would be good for GPSS to have categories of resources on campus.

Jake Busche (Chemistry): A lot of these ideas could be pitched to the administration here as a way to increase bragging rights of the UW. Their main goals politically is to increase the visibility of UW in the state and as a whole.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): All of these are great contributions, GPSS is looking to expand what it is doing for graduate students. We may create an ad hoc committee to explore proposals.

Kelly Edwards (Graduate School): The Graduate school has been thinking about a lot of these things. Hopefully core programs from the Graduate school will try to curate and be more of a central clearing house about workshops on campus. For school specific events we don't list those. The Graduate school is in contact with alumni's as well to develop alumni networks. We want all UW's students to be ready for careers they want to have. We would love to partner with GPSS and individual schools about them.

Elloise Kim (President): All Officers have office hours so feel free to talk and work with us. From the next meeting on Good of Order can be about any issues.

9. Officer Reports

6:34PM

Sarah Loeffler (Vice President of Internal Affairs): We are hiring one more position as the Director of Graduate Relations. They will work with Sarah and the graduate school on program reviews and other committee liaison positions. For committee updates the Science and Policy committee met last week. Their first event is at end of November, its about science and a group is coming out from New York to host the workshop. Ask any science and policy committee members if anyone has any questions about the event. Our

next GPSS social event is Nightmare at the Museum we will have posters, food, and people can wear costumes. The event is up on social media and the website. Make sure to send out a notice to your constituents. Also, we need volunteers so please sign up on the volunteer list.

James Moschella (Vice President of External Affairs): Sage went well. There were 18 delegates from different schools. There was also a best practices session. GPSS will continue working with groups in the future. Also, the next Legislative Session calendar is coming out soon/ starting to get going. Right now, James is in a Period of relationship building so that when he goes to Olympia for the Legislative Session he already has some connections to work through. UPASS, ST3, textbooks and open access, and student loan refinancing are on the agenda. SLAB's (State Legislative Advisory Board) first meeting is in the GPSS office this Friday at 9:30am, please come and participate, the legislative agenda will be drafted then. He is also working with ASUW on an informational video about how to vote on campus. Working on informational posters to inform students that the FAFSA process has changed and also to explain tax breaks better. The new Legislative Director Matt was hired. WSA is meeting in Vancouver this weekend.

Randy Siebert (Secretary): Working on uploading previous years' documents to the website (minutes and agendas). Goal is to have everything from 2008 to now up online by November. Still working on Senator list so please email her, and get confirmation from the graduate program advisors. Also, the Senator handbook is being updated. Moreover, there is a Judicial meeting this Friday. The Diversity committee is trying to get people together, there may be more money this year. The first diversity event is for International students and it's a communication skills workshop on Tuesday Oct.25th in Hub 250 from 11:30am-1:00pm.

Michaella Rogers (Treasurer): She has hired a budget specialist, who was the University Affairs Director last year. Today was the first Travel Grants and Finance and Budget meeting. Travel grants application are due one week from today on Wednesday Oct. 26, the applications are live on the website. Special Allocations application are also up on the RSO community site. If there are any questions, please email her. She has a bunch of funding posters that describe different funding GPSS provides so make sure to take those back to your programs.

Elloise Kim (President): The Board of Regents met last week. Online there is a draft of guidelines for prison divestment, in order to figure out for the future how and when UW divestment will happen. She wants student feedback in finalizing the language, the University is making guidelines for general divestment. She is working with student life to make a focus group for international graduate students. She is Trying to make a focus group with international graduate students to help the Graduate School know where they are lacking in addressing the needs of international graduate student. Educational outreach is now named PCE and is hoping to make a new fee based program student

advisory committee. She wants to learn how to serve fee based students better. Also, the diversity council met today, and the diversity blueprint is almost done now. There is a chance to hear about the diversity blueprint at the faculty senate meeting in Savery hall tomorrow. There are a few liaison-ships that need to be filled, they are very important. Please contact Elloise if you feel ready for this commitment or know anybody who would be good for it.

Kelly Edwards (Graduate School): Faculty councils often have an undergraduate focus so graduate student representation is very important on these councils.

Elloise Kim (President): In the past year there were a lot of difficulties in getting graduate representation so try to fill positions as soon as possible.

Joseph Telegen (English): The Diversity council is the meeting where faculty, staff, and student representatives discuss academic issues in diversity that they face. The purpose has been unclear so they have been discussing that recently. There were only two students in the Diversity council there today. The Council meets once or twice a quarter.

10. Announcements

7:09PM

Elloise Kim (President): If there are any events or things anyone wants shown online email Randy by Tuesday at noon and it will also be up on the announcements slide during the next meeting. If there are any pressing announcements, please keep it to 20 seconds long.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): The Science and Policy committee is developing a new white paper project. They are trying to pair policy and STEM students to write white paper on topics they are interested in. A white paper is a 1-2 page paper about a specific policy issue it is meant to convince people. We want to do this and present it as a concrete way to get students to work together.

Adam bell (Learning Science and Human Development): We are not talking about any social science at all, only talking about STEM?

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Primarily focuses on STEM sciences.

Randy Siebert (Secretary): If name on your nametags is not your preferred name, let Randy know.

Yue Shi (Biology): Where are the announcements?

Randy Siebert (Secretary): Announcements are on the GPSS website and social media.

Elloise Kim (President): Make sure to disseminate information from GPSS to your constituents.

11. Adjournment

7:15PM

- a. **Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology):** Moves to adjourn.
 - b. **Erin Firth (Oceanography):** Seconds.
-