

# Graduate and Professional Student Senate

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## Executive Meeting Minutes Session 5

October 26, 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 Michealla Rogers  
GPSS Secretary Randy Siebert  
GPSS Executive Senator Joseph Telegen  
GPSS Executive Senator Michelle Brault  
GPSS Executive Senator Monica Cortes Viharo  
GPSS Executive Senator Laura Taylor  
ASUW Representative Taylor Beardall

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:33 pm**

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

**Sarah Loeffler** Moves to approve the agenda.

**Joseph Telegen** Seconds.

Seeing no objections, the agenda is approved.

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#### **3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**5:34 pm**

**Randy Siebert** Moves to approve the minutes.

**Sarah Loeffler** Seconds.

Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

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#### **4. STUDENT CONDUCT CODE UPDATE**

**5:35 pm**

**Officers and Executive Committee introduce themselves. Ellen Taylor & Elizabeth Lewis introduce themselves.**

**Elizabeth Lewis:** Student Conduct Code would come in two parts. First phase concentrates on clarifying expectations of students, and making definitions clearer. Second part is to take a look at the process they want to do. Describes Chart (current process). Trying to make process easier

to navigate: Initial allegation, fact finding hearing with officer, initial order etc. Current process requires a fact-finding mission at different levels so trying to frontload all of that. So students can look at that before an initial order is proposed. Process right now can a year for things to get resolved. Research shows that closer to time when incident happens, much more likely to help students grow from intervention.

**Ellen Taylor:** Title XI. Shows new process in a transparent way. Most of process is one in which a student and officer can work together to understand facts. Title 9, is sexual harassment, sexual assault. Complainant has a right of appeal just as a respondent, already built into system but clarified in new process. Early fact finding stage is a chance for both students have an opportunity to interact and add additional evidence as well as respond to statements of others. Hearing officer can listen to both side, so they can figure out additional evidence/witnesses they may want to pursue.

**Elizabeth Lewis:** Making sure we have folks who are trauma informed, make sure folks are trained to do type of investigations they may have to do. Important piece to remember: Student will still have opportunity to have advisor or attorney during this process. On Title 9 side, they may look at report investigator has made and give feedback on it. Review panel will be made up of faculty with lots of training. Panels will be student and faculty.

**Michelle Brault:** How will you determine the faculty council, voluntary or chosen?

**Ellen Taylor:** The plan is to have faculty who have been selected by faculty Senate. Plan to have pool of faculty selected and trained to be on title 9 panel. For an individual case a panel will be selected from that larger pool. This code applies to all three campuses. So trying to make so there are three trained chairs for the panel one from each campus. Whichever campus the student's home campus is then that chair will review the process.

**Elizabeth Lewis:** This will provide a greater depth of faculty members

**Ellen Taylor:** One more thing to go over. When students have 21 days to go over the review they have to have a reason to go over the review. We are trying to put in Checks and Balances to give students and the university consistency. The review panel will have access to all information that went into first order by conduct officer. Students can ask review panel to consider new evidence that came into light since first review process. Students can ask for check on procedural error, or ask to look at sanction imposed again. Working to improve consistency on sanctions imposed on students from campus to campus.

**Elizabeth Lewis:** Three things the panel can do in the new model: 1. If there is new evidence not available to investigator at time, they can let the investigator know and ask them to take a look at it and see if it changes outcome 2. They can increase or decrease the sanction. 3. Part of this will be in the WAC but will also build a companion policy. The WAC is going to be a certain way; we can expand on the WAC and the policy into more accessible language.

**Ellen Taylor:** The policy will be through the shared governance process here at UW.

**Elloise Kim:** Motions to extend the time.

**Erin Firth:** Moves to extend time by 5 minutes.

**Michelle Brault:** Seconds.

**Joseph Telegen:** How is timing going to be handled for each statement and reaction. He is worried about organized attack language and character disparagement.

**Elizabeth Taylor:** There is confidentiality and conversation with the students and coaching them in getting what it is that they really want to know, they will not share personal feelings. Overall, folks are pretty sensitive and savvy around those types of things. They don't want to be ping pongs. Really about the role of investigators for asking large questions and shed light on discrepancies. In report provided to student's the discrepancies will be noted, and students have a chance to respond to discrepancies.

**Michelle Brault:** Who will have access to the report?

**Elizabeth Lewis:** Only students, unless students ask for administrative repeat then the report will go to a review panel.

**Michelle Brault:** Will past records be seen with the student conduct code?

**Ellen Taylor:** Not really, they primarily look only at the single incident. However, if someone is repeatedly cheating or breaking the conduct code prior disciplinary sanctions could be weighed in on, possibly increase sanctions. Still it will only be available to conduct officer.

**Elloise Kim:** What is the timeline for this amendment?

**Ellen Taylor:** We hope to have this in effect by December 2017. Hoping to present to the regents in January. It is a rough outline.

**Elizabeth Lewis:** The hope is you give us feedback from the code and then eventually write a resolution and have the GPSS support the new student conduct code.

**Elloise Kim:** Thank you so much for coming.

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## 5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

6:10 pm

**James Moschella:** Want to get an idea of how the professional development session went.

**Joseph Telegen:** He says he was wrong about the location of the Good of the Order on the agenda. It went very well.

**Laura Taylor:** Thinks the best idea was to do something with the Alumni, like a dinner or something. Connecting with Alumni would benefit all.

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** Thought the discussion was cut short.

**Elloise Kim:** She saw that more people wanted to speak but there was a solid discussion within the planned time. To extend the conversation, Elloise is introducing the Career Center and UWAA in the next Executive meeting to get an idea on what they can do for the senate.

**Joseph Telegen:** Was wondering if others would give their opinions on if they felt conclusions were cut off.

**Rene Singleton:** The students that didn't have support in their program were the first to talk and others who had departments that gave students lots of support were bored, even if they showed empathy.

**Michelle Brault:** When James asked to see what GPSS can do for them, the conversation didn't switch to that. People were set about sharing their experiences.

**James Moschella:** How did the actual event seem and what can GPSS do?

**Sarah Loeffler:** We talked about setting up an ad-hoc committee to help develop a program for the GPSS to do something.

**Michaella Rogers:** Doesn't think people really knew what was already available on campus.

**Joseph Telegen:** Agrees with Laura about the alumni idea.

**Michelle Brault:** She feels pressure from her advisors to not do career development, but focus on academics.

**Erin Firth:** The PhD system is currently flawed and a lot of positions for tenure track are gone (more relevant to science). There is lots of funding and chances for professional development. I think it's important to push professional development outside of academia for students.

**James Moschella:** Many students didn't find the assistance for professional development. Paramount priority is to bridge the gap.

**Michelle Brault:** Advisors in academic settings only know an academic setting. Making something tangible in writing that students can pursue something outside of academia is good for students.

**Erin Firth:** The Senate should push the University to allow for professional development. And work with university to create programs for professional development.

**Joseph Telegen:** Attended “Arts & Humanities in a STEM World”. They talked about the Exploratorium, para-academic settings. Maybe we could bring some professionals looking for academics to us.

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** A lot of people will do both academic and non-academic in career. What are the transferable skills they need for both those potential pathways.

**Elloise Kim:** There was a lot of feedback about the lack of professional development.

**James Moschella:** GPSS should really take the lead on professional development for graduate students.

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** Agrees that GPSS needs to take a lead.

**Sarah Loeffler:** We saw a need and our connection provides us with a great opportunity.

**Rene Singleton:** Let’s start off with a partnership, it should be balanced. Have a lot of people to use it for resources because this issue is part of the Husky Experience for Graduate students.

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## 6. DIVESTMENT GUIDELINE

6:27 pm

**Elloise Kim:** Guideline for Divestments. UW is really trying to come up with a process to spearhead and standardize divestment process instead of relying on arbitrary decision. Wants to hear GPSS opinion on guidelines.

**Joseph Telegen:** Should we have guidelines? (Guidelines were sent in a previous email)

**James Moschella:** Pretty poor guidelines, and forces student government to do most of the work for things that seem pretty objectively morally bad things.

**Joseph Telegen:** Is this the Board of Regents telling us this is what we will and won’t consider?

**Elloise Kim:** They don’t want it to be a top down process. The Treasury office will help the body that wants to work to divest something. Primary responsibility for research and evidence for divestment will go to the community/students. The Board of Regents will then decide to divest.

**Michelle Brault:** Points 1-5 on page 2, do they have to satisfy all criteria or one to divest?

**Elloise Kim:** In practice it must fulfill all criteria.

**James Moschella:** The Board of Regents is going to be extremely picky on word choice if they are going to divest because it all comes down to money they will be losing.

**Erin Firth:** Has an issue with the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph in the document. Divest considered only after all options to mitigate moral problems gone through. Too broad, and could go on forever. Need more of a timeline.

**Joseph Telegen:** In the first criteria possible cop-outs would be saying a company isn't directly morally reprehensible, but they are doing something morally reprehensible so no divestment.

**Erin Firth:** They have limited morally reprehensible to only 5 things, which is problematic.

**Michelle Brault:** The Board of Regents also reserve the right to interpret guidelines as broadly or narrowly as they see fit.

**Joseph Telegen:** This document seems like way to avoid divestment. Language is providing political cover. Seems almost impossible for something to meet most of the criteria.

**Michelle Brault:** Number 2 criteria is divestment seen to be more viable/appropriate than ongoing shareholder engagement. Who decides that? The Regents? What is the criteria for that?

**Joseph Telegen:** This is Board of Regents way of saying this is how they are going to decide.

**Michelle Brault:** How do the Regents decide if something is more appropriate for ongoing shareholder engagement.

**Erin Firth:** Basically comes down the idea that Regents don't have to divest from anything that they don't want to divest from.

**Elloise Kim:** Three years ago it didn't pass because it wasn't a one-sided issue. What I'm hearing is this current language of this draft is not allowing a chance for the school to divest from something.

**Erin Firth:** On a micro and macro scale, the larger message and individual word choice is not welcoming divestment.

**James Moschella:** We should be harsher in response to these guidelines. To show discontent with wording and overall message.

**Joseph Telegen:** At the last Union meeting they said that some proposed divestment plans were taken by Regents and some weren't. Do you know which were taken up?

**Elloise Kim:** Not sure what Joe is talking about, but current divestment discussed at Board of Regent's level is Prison divestment. Also, school has repeatedly said that UW doesn't currently have a direct investment in the private prison industry. Maybe very indirectly among companies UW has hedge fund investments in. Current statement of school is we have nothing to divest from when it comes to prison divestment for UW.

**Erin Firth:** In discussions before, people have challenged the Board of Regents that they aren't dealing with indirect investment.

**Joseph Telegen:** It's almost like number 1 criteria is a response to claim that there is no direct investment. Setting up future claims to be thrown aside because there is no direct investment to divest from. Almost message instead of criteria.

**Rene Singleton:** Check to see if some parts of the document were created by other committees. Historically, many times the issues that come up goes through student groups. Make sure that GPSS does homework and checks on student sources that may have something to do with guidelines.

**Elloise Kim:** Regardless of whether we have guidelines at Board of Regent level if something is not passed as a resolution at GPSS or ASUW senate it will not pass, that's why BDS did not pass.

**Erin Firth:** If in the course of seeing where student input was had if GPSS sees a vacuum where there could have been student input, she (Erin) would be happy to volunteer to fulfill that role. Also, as written if something is seen morally reprehensible and there is any dispute they will not divest

**Jayda Greco (GPSS Director of University Affairs):** Maybe do some research to make sure groups we are associated with didn't work on this. GPSS can work on writing rebuttal on this to send to the Regents, about why GPSS doesn't agree on this and other solutions to this.

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** Any rebuttal we provide will be less harsh than anything the public will provide in terms of feedback.

**Elloise Kim:** More quorums will be made to have student feedback with the lead of the Student Regent, Austin Wright-Pettibone.

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## 7. NOV. 2 SENATE MEETING AGENDA

6:44 PM

**Elloise Kim:** Describes the Senate agenda: Call to order, approval of agenda, approval of minutes, two guests (UWPD Chief Vinson and Jason Kilmer from Health and Wellness to address Mental Health resources), Good of the Order, Officer Report, Announcement, and Adjournment. Senator's Corner at last meeting wasn't well received so we will cancel it for now.

**Joseph Telegen:** Suggests that instead of Senator's Corner, each officer spends a quick second talking about a specific senator. Just one person talking.

**Erin Firth:** Why is Joe's idea different than Senator's Corner?

**Joseph Telegen:** It is more interactive.

**James Moschella:** It may show favoritism. Officers can't really do that.

**Michaella Rogers:** What will Good of the Order look like this time?

**Joseph Telegen:** Maybe talk about the issues that GPSS can take on.

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** During Good of the Order, possibly talking about possible Resolutions on Death of a Pet. A student is trying to create a policy to push forward to the administration about having and allowing time off for grieving the death of a pet.

**Laura Taylor:** Can you expand on what you're talking about?

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** You can miss an exam and make it up if you have proof of death of a pet. So, there was a lot of fuss about particularities of death. Wants to make policy on being allowed time to grieve more clear.

**Taylor Beardall:** It hasn't been put in as a resolution, it's just been talked about.

**Laura Taylor:** How was it received at ASUW?

**Taylor Beardall:** Some people were interested but some people didn't care much for it.

**Elloise Kim:** Personal Opinion, it might be better if we talk with Faculty Councils on how we can navigate policies on how to deal with this situation before we present this to the Senate.

**Joseph Telegen:** Suggests talking about the pet resolution in Good of the Order.

**Erin Firth:** What can we bring up for Good of the Order that has gone through ASUW?

**Taylor Beardall:** As of now we have only passed 1 resolution, on ASUW Facebook page we brainstorm ideas from meetings. She can bring those next meeting.

**Michelle Brault:** We could have a longer health and wellness section for Good of the Order as well as the speakers.

**Joseph Telegen:** Agrees with Michelle, but maybe not a health of wellness Good of the Order but rather one of the topics discussed. We should add minutes to Good of the Order. (We will)

**Randy Siebert:** Wants to put 5 minutes on the agenda for the Judicial Committee

**Erin Firth:** It would be useful to bring in the new unit lead for the counseling center as a guest for the future. To ask her about what her plans moving forward are.

**Sarah Loeffler:** James and Sarah talked about a one-pager.



**James Moschella:** As a legislative department planning to produce a student position 1-pager joint with ASUW OGR on mental health on campus. However, he would like to post-pone the discussion until later when sexual assault taskforce comes out from Olympia.

**Erin Firth:** Asks James if will be a part of a larger, cross-campus effort to improve and link mental health services. (Yes)

**Laura Taylor** Moves to approve the agenda.

**Erin Firth** Seconds.

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## 8. EXECUTIVE SENATOR REPORTS

6:57 pm

**Monica Cortes Viharo:** Very impressed with people who came to the SLAB meeting, lots of great conversations.

**Michelle Brault:** Went to the faculty council meeting a few weeks ago and talked about increase in Post-Docs minimum budgets, a 10,000-dollar raise, pretty substantial. Talking about how to help faculty adjust giving their post-docs a raise in funds.

**Erin Firth:** STF is getting their communications together better. SAF is coming up.

**Laura Taylor:** Serves on the Faculty Research Council. Possibly looking at getting funds for marijuana research. Proposals are coming out.

**Joseph Telegen:** Went to the first F&B meeting, SLAB was awesome. Him and Michelle will be working together putting together white papers for mental health. Next week's Senate meeting will be research for them. They are working on non-stem lobbying, lobbying for non-stem programs. Something going on tonight with UAUW 4121 Union, they are taking a look at the UW Master Plan they will be questioning some parts of it.

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## 9. OFFICER REPORTS

7:03 pm

**Taylor Beardall:** Legislative Steering Committee started last week. Hopefully the ASUW Legislative Agenda will be approved November 17<sup>th</sup>. They had a great homecoming weekend. Hope to advertise the homecoming scholarship more to Graduate students in the future. Rock the Vote is next Wednesday from 11-2 PM on the HUB Lawn. Vote Goats will be there. Any questions about the Experimental College go to them. It is on hiatus this year. Michael is spearheading the task force for the Experimental College. ASUW passed the first resolution to encourage more involvement with class presentations and established guidelines for presenters.

**Sarah Loeffler:** Program Reviews is an ongoing thing. The application for Grad Student Relations is up. Tomorrow is the Fall Social. Should be a good time.

**James Moschella:** Interesting updates. After SAGE, sent out some feeler emails to Graduate Student representatives across Pac 12 interested in creating a coalition, and have heard a lot of support for that. 10 out of pac-12 schools will participate in monthly conference calls with other Graduate programs. Working on legislative agenda, also WSA is working on legislative agenda. S&P the White Paper Project has a timeline. Worked closely with Washington State on building a tuition plan with some Senators to get a loan refinancing plan. Thank you to everyone who attended SLAB, the legislative agenda now getting drafted.

**Randy Siebert:** Judicial Committee is set and getting geared for a good year. This past Tuesday had the first Diversity Event, “Communication- A Workshop for International Graduate Students”. There was a lot of interest and people seemed to really have a good time. There also seems to be a strong need for conversation and communication workshops for International Graduate Students.

**Michaella Rogers:** She hired her staff member. Nothing much to report.

**Elloise Kim:** Had a Focus Group for studying budgetary situation of College of Arts and Sciences. Meghan is working to look over old files from Senate and digitalize them. Liaisons to the Faculty Councils are almost filled with only 2 more spots left. One position for retirement and benefit, and one for University Facilities and Services.

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**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**7:21 pm**

**None**

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**11. MEETING ADJOURN: 7:24 pm**

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