

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Senate Meeting Minutes

November 2nd, 2016 |HUB 332

Call to Order 5:33PM

1. Approval of Agenda 5:34 pm

Dan Herb (Leadership in Higher Education) Moves to approve the agenda.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology) Seconds.

1. Approval of Minutes

5:34 pm

Adam Bell (Learning Science & Human Development): Moves to amend the Minutes to “No vote cheating” in the minutes.

John Lurie (Astronomy): Seconds.

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): Moves to approve the Minutes.

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

2. UWPD Chief John N. Vinson

5:35 pm

Chief Vinson: Quick update on work they are doing, trying to solicit ways to move forward for a safe campus.

Main problem on campus are thefts of opportunity, things we want to continue to educate the public about.

UWPD is trying to enhance their response to more serious crimes on campus, problems have been coming out around different crimes on campus. UWPD is always in a constant state of preparation and awareness.

As a part of the active shooter training we have our own training video, we made it over the summer. It's a seven-minute video, we want to see your reaction to it. It will be translated to a couple of different languages and there will be captions for it as well.

ACTIVE SHOOTER VIDEO VIEWING

Asks for opinion. Also, one college they know of makes it so one quarter per year all faculty must watch this video, if you have any idea about how to get this video out there let us know.

Alan-Michael Weatherford (Comparative Literature): What advice would you give for someone who is not physically able, because everyone in the video is physically able.

Chief Vinson: Have a response plan with someone in their class, think critically. Have a sense of surrounding, know the safe spaces.

Alan-Michael Weatherford (Comparative Literature): Is this explicitly stated on the site?

Chief Vinson: We say that in the in-person presentation, but we still need to put it on the site.

Dan Herb (Leadership in Higher Education): Are you a part of the orientation processes for Graduate and Undergraduate Orientation? (Yes)

Christie Aesquivel (Museology): Is the belt going over the door hinge a tried and true method? (Yes)

Erin Firth (Oceanography): How will you respond to students who want to bring a gun on campus because of this.

Chief Vinson: Will tell them to let the police get there first, because if there are more people carrying guns than police then sometimes we don't know who the bad guy is.

Brian Tracey (Guest): Last year there was a lot of tension between the police and student groups of color. What have you done this year so they know about this and how have you broken those barriers?

Chief Vinson: We have a student safety committee, and a subcommittee with Dean Taylor. And are trying to set up a framework for additional group conversations in January.

Brian Tracey (Guest): I know lots of students who would be interested in being involved in the subcommittee. How can they be involved?

Chief Vinson: Email me for more information.

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Is this video specific to UW students? It doesn't talk about the locking method in buildings. Also it doesn't tell us where to go for more information.

Chief Vinson: We are finishing the website then the link to that will be up on the video. Also, not all doors have locking mechanisms so we don't want to add that to video just yet. We will list which doors have the locking mechanism on the website when it is complete.

Alan-Michael Weatherford (Comparative Literature): Given recent tension with students of color, currently what is UWPD equipped with?

Chief Vinson: Handguns, rifles, shotguns, Tasers, and chemical ammunition (mace).

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Moves to extend time by two minutes.

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Seconds.

Margaret Hughes (Environmental & Occupational Health Services): How are you going to incorporate this into the TA conference?

Chief Vinson: If you have ideas of how to incorporate it let us know and we will come to you.

Chris Cox (Geography): For TAs in old buildings will there be training on how to lock up in the old buildings?

Chief Vinson: Absolutely, this is a yearlong process, we have the video and the University Safety committee (represented by various members across campus) so they are doing that approach. Then we will go building by building and will reach out to building coordinators to see who wants to have training and we do that for each building. Hopefully by end of June we get to all buildings.

Chief Vinson: November 14-18th working with GPSS, student groups, and ASUW for safety awareness week. Lots of events during that week, if anyone wants to be involved let GPSS know and we will get you minutes for the meetings and invite you in.

Elloise Kim (President): The new location of UWPD is on 15th. Chief Vinson is very available and his cell number is public.

Jason Kilmer: He is the assistant director of health and wellness for alcohol and other drug education and associate professor of psychiatry in University Sciences. He works on an outreach model; students can come to them.

1 in 5 full time college students has an alcohol use disorder, only 3.9% receive services of any kind. Most get nothing.

With depression research, out of U Michigan 72% of students who flag for depression with depression say they need help but not many get help.

We have amazing resources on campus. Health and Wellness is for students that are unsure of where to go for help. There are a number of facilities.

Within 24 hours of getting a report by UWPD that a UW student goes to a hospital Health and Wellness reaches out to them to check up on them.

Also, the Suicide intervention program is an outreach program. If someone cryptically says something about suicide and you think someone might need help, then health and wellness can provide help. They want to be mindful if someone is hurting. They have consultation and referrals.

We are also doing presentations on campus. Meghan Kennedy coordinates the program, and is trying decrease the stigma around mental health on campus. Also, how to get help to those who need it.

The Alcohol and drug program is another program it gives options for resources and people can get one time consultations for information. Something not most people know is that weed in Seattle is double the potency of that in the nation. Also, weed is addictive. There is chance of providing education on that.

Next program, Sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking and harassment advocacy and support program. This program has grown with things like social media, and texting. Person he tags team with the most are people in this office. If a person is a survivor of assault this is a confidential place for guidance, support, and to talk to someone about it. Also, a place to learn about how to help others. Also, this is a place for people to go to if they want to help others.

Student Care is the most overarching program in Health and Wellness. If a student has a loss of parent, homelessness, medical problems or for some reason needs some time off from school or help the coordinator works to make minimal negative affect and help those in need. This program gives outreach.

Health and Wellness also has training education where they are invited to talk about how to lessen risk for risky behavior. We don't just say no or yes but talk about ways to reduce risk with drinking etc. Mental health and suicide prevention, alcohol control, green dot program

The green dot program is bystander intervention: if you see someone in a dangerous situation do something to prevent the dangerous thing/situation from happening. More Graduates and Undergraduates are in this program than ever before.

Interpersonal violence education in terms of healthy relationship workshops.

There are also peer health educators, they go to quarter long trainings on how to support peers.

Furthermore, they have three different programs with information about health and wellness. Feel free to take as many as needed for your constituents. Questions?

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): How much anonymity does a student have in this program?

Jason Kilmer: Our state has a 911 anonymity, no matter age and what you have done they take care of you with no legal repercussions these same rules are in this program. There is nothing attached to a file.

A.Y. Odedeyi (Philosophy): In case of a health emergency do police and ambulances show up? Is there a way to just get ambulances to show up? For racialized groups police, may make it more dangerous.

Jason Kilmer: Would defer to law enforcement on the answer to this question, but depends on how public (on a highway for instance) the issue is and if there is a need for police.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology): Most of the educational opportunities are geared to students, what education is available to faculty in terms of being sensitive to mental health. Are faculty trained at UW? If students come to them how can they be sensitively handled?

Jason Kilmer: Faculty are trained, but they could be trained a lot more. There are departmental workshops and open workshops for faculty. They try to train faculty to not make assumptions, they provide training when it is requested.

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Moves to extend time by five minutes.

Joseph Telegen (English): Seconds.

Adam Bell (Learning Science & Human Development): What communication does your group have to other health services on campus (Hall health, UWMed) What opportunities exist for better contact?

Jason Kilmer: When student comes to us we don't tell others without written permission. Other places depend on if they have a release in place. An academic advisor may hear something concerning and tell something general to Health and Wellness.

Adam Bell (Learning Science and Human Development): I meant what services do you share?

Jason Kilmer: We hope people know that already.

Mikel Ruterbusch (Immunology): You mentioned a low proportion of people who seek help for issues, through educating students about resources we may be able to increase that number. Are you taking steps to reduce stigma around asking for help?

Jason Kilmer: Folks that do work on mental health do just that. If people ask what symptoms for addiction are we talk about that, we try to avoid labels. We are also trying to raise awareness of risk factors and signs for problems.

Jennifer Chou (Pharmacy): Did U of Michigan do a study?

Jason Kilmer: They did a screen of a random sample of students to see who is at risk for depression.

Jennifer Chou (Pharmacy): Some people don't know they are at risk how do you get to them?

Jason Kilmer: We try to outreach for that, but also by doing screening in the community to identify when people have issues, letting them know they may want to check something out.

Seungeun Park (Nursing): Is there a record that follows students in to the job market?

Jason Kilmer: No record to worry about, we just want to help.

Shuhang He (FIUTS): As an international student, what steps have been taken to teach International students?

Jason Kilmer: Yes, we are a part of FIUTS orientation, and are available for ongoing orientation.

Elloise Kim (President): Learned a lot about Health and Wellness a few weeks ago at a meeting. Students are not as well informed about services so please let students know.

4. Judicial Committee Introduction

6:23 pm

Randy Siebert (Secretary): Unfortunately, only one member is here right now. Randy is the Judicial Committee's ex-officio. Introduces Robert (a committee member).

Robert Conrick (Atmospheric Sciences): Introduces members of the committee.

Randy Siebert (Secretary): The Judicial Committee is here to investigate any grievances to do with the Constitution or Bylaws, procedures, committees, officers, or officer candidates of GPSS. If any issues arise contact the president, the ex-officio (Randy), or the Chair (Jay) or any judicial committee member. Last year was about updating Bylaws.

Robert Conrick (Atmospheric Sciences): This year a possible project is standardizing the selection process for Senators, every department has a different way of doing it. They want to hear thoughts on this.

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): She thinks it will be difficult for the Judicial Committee, because of the variety of sizes for the departments. So there is not always one way that works for everyone. Do you have an idea for the kind of standardization you want?

Randy Siebert (Secretary): Judicial Committee just wanted to bring up the idea, they know every department is a little different.

Elloise Kim (President): The question is more about sharing best practices, rather than telling departments what to do.

Joseph Telegen (English): A good step prior to this is to look around at what departments do and don't do right now. Trying to standardize the process. Maybe a survey would be helpful before making a standardization process.

Elloise Kim (President): Until a year ago we had language in Bylaws that GPSS must keep record that describes how each department selects its representative. It's very unfortunate that we didn't know where the documents from many years ago existed so as secretary with help of judicial committee she got rid of description and gave the

responsibility to the department. Departments often want to know the "right way" of running elections.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Does the Judicial Committee have any particular reason for doing this, or is it preemptive?

Randy Siebert (Secretary): This is more pre-emptive in the long run making this a more streamlined process in getting Senators involved and Senators ending their terms.

Andrew Prindle (Landscape Architecture): Joe has good point with the survey maybe also ask departments what they think GPSS does. (Great, thanks.)

5. Good of the Order

6:29 pm

Elloise Kim (President): This is a time for conversation about anything, it is a casual conversation. To kick start the conversation we made a small entertaining video for the election.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): Everyone can vote at Schmitz hall, at the ballot box across from Wells Fargo, they can also vote by mail. He made a fun video about how to vote on campus.

Elloise Kim (President): Anyone can bring something up now.

Tanya Kumar (ASUW Bothell President): Doesn't recommend mailing ballots without postage stamps, the Post Office has returned some ballots without postage stamps, there is an investigation going on for the issue. It's better to be safe than sorry.

SHOWS VIDEO

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): Make #gradsouttovote on social media. Also, what is the climate around the election throughout your constituency? At the last executive meeting, everyone said they were concerned about this election. He wants to make everyone feel safe.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Not sure that GPSS should make sure that people don't feel unsafe, people should feel worried about this election.

Erin Firth (Oceanography): There are many levels for people to feel unsafe in this election. People who are LGBQ may be more directly affected by an outcome of the election. A lot of talk in news is around the idea that Hilary needs to win by a lot otherwise rhetoric around topics in the campaign will be seen as more acceptable. This is a part of the feeling of discomfort around this election.

A.Y. Odedeyi (Philosophy): Had a student in one class talking about how people don't defend white men when they are talking about racism or sexism. Being a multiple marginalized person, A.Y. felt attacked by his words. Thinks this election has made young people more openly racist/ignorant. There is no good way to respond to rhetoric. Not concerned about the election but everything that's going to happen after.

Alan-Michael Weatherford (Comparative Literature): Has been thinking a lot about neo-liberalism, and suggests that it is good for everyone to understand it. Neo-liberalism is happening at UW. Like having TA cuts in Arts and Sciences when Arts and Sciences bailed out UW Dentistry, a failing program. Now TAs compete with their peers to get students in their classrooms. UW works with the State; we are articulators about how the state functions. The State has morphed to make a difference, to get minorities into power. Dean Stacey has hinted that UW will experience more cuts and that is very much tied to the election, both Trump and Hilary are both business people and will value bodies valuable to capital while devaluing others.

Benjamin DeTora (Asian Languages & Literature): He is a first-year Graduate Student, he said it is really hard not to have opinion on the presidential candidates. He also said that if a voter isn't from Washington State there are a lot of names that they don't understand. Hopes to have presidential candidate's discussion where things around Washington come up.

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): There are voter guides out and some are in major newspapers etc. Also, there is one for King county.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology): Ballotpedia also helps. It's a voter's guide and it has links about people and initiatives in Washington. There is a lot of research from one page.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): These are great ideas, in the future GPSS will push to be a better provider of resources and recognizes that this is hard for everyone. He wants to open up the floor for anyone to talk about anything.

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology): Milo Yiannopoulos, there is an online petition for this person not to come to campus to give a talk sponsored by a UW republican group. This person touts hate speech. This came across her desk by a Graduate student that is one of her constituents.

Elloise Kim (President): The President is anxious about his arrival, and is hoping he will not come but can't ask him not to come. UW is very alert about his upcoming arrival. They are trying not to provoke him too much.

Renee Singleton (SAO Advisor): This is a good time for people to educate themselves about what's happening, if you see petition try to google what's happening and who's brining things being petitioned. Educate yourself so you can make decisions about how you feel. This is a conversation GPSS and other groups on campus will discuss. Educate yourself on the University handbook about the policy on speech, and the information in there about speech in the classroom. It will give a foundation for students to educate themselves on this so they know how they feel. We will be challenged after the election with all kinds of feelings, make sure to educate yourselves. Try to make sure you have a solid base about what's happening where you are. If you don't like the rules that is something you can change. She wants Senators to have a steady solid perspective so they can help others and themselves understand what's happening.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): How to respond to politics is a good discussion.

Adam Bell (Learning Science & Human Development): To add to that we need to work on calling in, not calling out. Ways we can bring people in, and work with people we disagree with and close the large divides, not try to make them bigger.

Dan Herb (Leadership in Higher Education): A lot of people are TAs so it's good to have training to make uncomfortable moments into learning experiences. Making it a part of all curriculums would be good. Talk to your department and find resources for students.

A.Y. Odedeyi (Philosophy): It's okay if you don't know how to deal with situations that come up if something is violent towards you, it can be a very emotional task to confront on top of other emotional strains of being a TA.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): GPSS discussions are very productive.

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): How many people participate in TA conference/training? (Some). It would be good to put together a workshop about dealing with microaggressions and incorporating it into a two-day TA training at the beginning of the year.

Benjamin DeTora (Asian Languages & Literature): The module on teaching in the classroom touches on this stuff.

Elloise Kim (President): If there are other programs out there let Randy know.

6. Officer Reports

6:45 pm

Sarah Loeffler (Vice President of Internal Affairs): The Fall social was last Thursday and over 300 graduate students attended. There was food, drinks, and it was a good chance to mingle with other graduates. Next event is the Science & Policy committee workshop on November 30th. She is also hiring right now for the Director of Graduate Student Relations position. She is in the middle of interviews and is hoping to make a decision soon. Get the word out, and you can apply too. The Graduate Student Experience Committee is up on website and applications are up.

James Moschella (Vice President of External Affairs): He is working hard with SLAB (State Legislative Advisory Board) to make the Legislative agenda, they will meet Friday at 9:30 am. If anyone has opinions but can't make it to the meeting send James an email. He was told by multiple Senators that state support for graduate tuition is on the agenda. Some work for Veterans Mental Health counselors may be able to be folded into an omnibus bill for education funding. He wants to start working groups for campus wellness and student debt. They would potentially make some white papers which are information resources for legislators on a particular issue. There will be informal meetings throughout the year. The Vote video is done, was made in partnership with ASUW. He has some projects. The FAFSA poster is coming. Use the #Gradsouttovote and send GPSS a picture to show that Graduate Students are voting on campus.

Michaella Rogers (Treasurer): The Finance and Budget Committee had a meeting today, it gave first funding to student group. Travel Grants for Fall are closed; the committee is currently grading applications. There is a meeting next week to discuss who will get funding. STF meets weekly and is hearing proposals for that funding. SAF will be meeting starting Friday. She is doing a lot of number crunching for budgets for this year.

Dan Herb (Leadership in Higher Education): When are Winter Travel Grant Applications open?

Michaella Rogers (Treasurer): Will be up on website soon, also dates for when they are up are on website.

Randy Siebert (Secretary): Had the first Diversity Committee meeting it went pretty well and she is scheduling another one. The Judicial Committee is going strong. Let her know about good vendors for food for meetings. She will reach out to departments that don't have Senate representation still. There are two Senate meetings left this quarter, Senators need to go to two per quarter. The first diversity event "Communication Skills for International Students" was met with a good response. The Senate handbook is coming. Also, she is updating the website.

Eloise Kim (President): Met with Graduate school and UWAA career center and internship center and UW investment. Last time had a vibrant conversation about professional development, relayed information to people in her meetings. UW AA and career and internship center will come and talk about what they are planning for Graduate student professional development support and programing. She finished recruiting interanion graduate student focus group with student life. She has 9 students, from 9 different programs and 7 different countries. Almost finished recruiting for the fee based programs Student advisory committee she has six people and hopes to have 2-3 more people. If you or anyone is interested in serving on those committees to address concern about fee-based programs let Eloise know. The meetings will be help once a month it's a good chance to speak up about actual experience with fee based programs. She attended the First-Generation Graduate Mixer led by the Graduate School Core Programs, it was a great event and will be continuing. First meeting among first generation graduate students, it ill continues.

The Board of Regents will meet next week in the room next door; the meeting is from 8:30am to 3:00pm. It's an open meeting however people are not allowed to speak until a certain allocated time but they can listen. Eloise is also doing a special project with some staff, there were old files in drawers in the GPSS office. Currently the staff are trying to digitalize the files.

She also invited student life and Student Conduct Code people to the Executive meeting and they introduced the initial part of their amendment to the Student Conduct Code. Tried to streamline and shorten appeal period, at initial stage of discussion. Their goal to finalize the amendment by next fall. When they have the drafted language, they will come to the Senate. We are still looking for lots of liaisons for committees listed.

A.Y. Odedeyi (Philosophy): Do we need GPSS liaisons?

Eloise Kim (President): They are a way to increase student voice.

James Moschella (VP of External Affairs): Student activists fought to have a student vote on all votes. That is why we have shared governance at UW and part of reason we have a Student Reagent. If we don't continue to be involved in committees we may lose our privilege through inactivity.

Dan Herb (Leadership in Higher Education): Undergraduates are also represented.

7. Announcements

7:06 pm

Eloise Kim (President): If there are any conferences or events please email Randy so we can add events to Facebook and the website and send out the announcement in emails.

Don't hesitate to send events to Randy. Also, this time can be used for impromptu announcements.

A.Y. Odedeyi (Philosophy): Encourages people to go to the first generation student meeting. Many people had good experiences. Can get "Proud to be first generation stickers" to put in our offices so undergraduate students can know about the event as well.

Kelly Edwards: She will bring a stack of postcards for the first-generation event. There is Graduate student recruiting for the Advisory Board for first generation programming. They need student input on programming and structural changes. They will meet for first time in a couple of weeks to work on stuff.

Vincent Jobin (Aquatic & Fishery Sciences): There is a Graduate student symposium on Nov. 17th in Magnuson hall. Graduate students will present their research.

Adam Bell (Learning Science & Human Development): The college of education also has a research presentation soon, one of the milestones to getting a PhD is to present your work. The event is all day, with 40 minute presentations.

Meixi Ng (Learning Science and Human Development): There is a GO map event this Friday, 5pm at Still Liquor on Capitol Hill. Let Students of Color/people in department know it's a happy hour for students to get together.

Randy Siebert (Secretary): Health and Wellness informational papers are up front.

8. Adjournment

7:11 pm

Michelle Brault (Molecular & Cellular Biology): Moves to adjourn.

Vincent Jobin (Aquatic & Fishery Sciences): Seconds.