



Graduate

and Professional Student

Senate

Senate Meeting Minutes Session 3

NOV 18, 2015 / HUB 334

1. Call to Order: 5:35 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alex Bolton (President) entertains a motion to remove “A Resolution Regarding the Use of Student Tuition for Capital Projects” due to its schedule change.

Justin Bare (Computer Science and Engineering) proposes to utilize the time allocated for item 8 for a discussion for “Resolution Urging the University of Washington to Take a Neutral Stance throughout the Democratic Process of Forming a Union and to Respect the Right of Faculty to Unionize.”

Joseph Telegen (English) moves to amend the agenda as suggested.

Brandon Ray (Atmospheric Sciences) seconds.

Seeing no objections, the agenda is approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:38 pm

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology) moves to approve the minutes.

Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering) seconds.

Seeing no objections, the minutes are approved.

4. SPOTLIGHT: STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES

5:39 pm

Chrissy Elles is currently a student intern at the Student Legal Services (SLS) and was a former GPSS Senator for School of Law. **Carole Grayson** is the Director of SLS and has been practicing law for a long time. The SLS has two main goals: providing students safe legal representations and employing law students at UW. Many third year law school students are working as licensed legal interns and two undergrad legal assistances are helping the office administration. The SLS provides free 40-minute legal consultation. If students need any further

service beyond that 40 minutes, they can hire the SLS at the \$15/hour rate. The SLS is able to keep its consultation fee as reasonable as possible because of services and activities fee. There are various issues they can help students with: criminal law, family law, estate planning, contracts, credit cards and more. The SLS also aims to empower and educate students on their legal rights. The SLS clients ranges from age 16 to 60s. One of the main missions of the SLS is to help increasing academic retention and make student feel less burdened by providing legal consultation and services. 57% of SLS clients have said that the SLS assistance made it easier for them to stay in school financially, academically, and psychologically. The SLS is to help students get through tough times. Their office is located at HUB 306. The SLS also has a brochure in mandarin Chinese to empower students who do not have roots in the US.

Q&A

- **Giulianna Conti (Music)** asks whether she can go to the SLS on behalf of others.
- **Chrissy Elles** encourage students to drop by their office themselves to schedule for an intake and a further discussion on individual cases.
- **Dave Zerby (MBA)** asks whether the SLS is able to represent students in relation to the school and whether there is any conflict of interests due to the SAF funding.
- **Carole Grayson** says there is no conflict of interest but SLS is not able to represent students under student conduct review processes.
- **Susie Cummings (iSchool MLIS)** asks whether the SLS is available online for students who are also paying SAF.
- **Carole Grayson** will have to double check and confirm their eligibility because some distant learning programs do not pay SAF.
- **Susie Cummings (iSchool MLIS)** asks if there is a Skype consultation.
- **Carole Grayson** answers that depending on student needs, distant consultation can be arranged.

5. STUDENT REGENT- VANESSA KRITZER

5:51pm

Vanessa Kritzer (Student Regent) is the 2015-2016 Student Regent and a former GPSS Senator for Evans School. She explains the role of Student Regent. When a budget is decided at University of Washington (UW), the Board of Regents is the body who votes on it. The Board is made of 10 members, and 1 of them is a student. 10 years ago UW students believed that it was important for student voice to be taken into consideration in budget making conversations, and thus the role of Student Regent was born. The Board's monthly meetings are open to the public and during each meeting there is a public comment period where students can express their opinion. There are also many decisions made during committee meetings. There are mainly two committees that are highly relevant to students: Academic and Student Affairs Committee and Finance and Asset Management Committee. In the upcoming January meeting, the Board of Regents will be looking at the graduate and professional student experience and the graduate program review. She hopes to partner with the GPSS to get a robust conversation on these topics. During the past Regent meetings, the Board of Regents heard the experience of undergraduate students, and this year Vanessa wants to make sure that graduate and professional students are included in the conversation. One of her big over-arching goals for this year is to increase

communication between staff, administration, faculty, and students to make sure that student voices are heard and reasons for decision-making is delivered to students as well. Currently she is working with the PACS chair to improve a process in which deans consult with students in a budget making process. Another thing she is working on is the Race and Equity Initiative. She wants that there is more than rhetoric with this topic; instead she hope to see more actions taken to make all students feel safe and included. On that note, she is encouraging the University to have more contacts with minority groups. Lastly, she oversees the approval of new programs at UW. This year she will continue to focus on the criteria for program formation and its associated fees to make sure that there are a solid guideline for creating new programs. She welcome Senators to visit her during her office hours and contact her to talk about any issues of their interest.

Q&A (answered by **Vanessa Kritzer**)

- **Dave Zerby (MBA)** asks how the UW administration is getting information regarding student voices.
- The Board of Regents strives to ensure that during panels, student voices are included, which is why mechanisms such as a public comment period have been implemented.
- **Elloise Kim (Secretary)** asks where her office is located and when her office hours are.
- It is every Wednesday, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm at Gerberding 159.

6. STATE LEGILATIVE AGENDA

6:05pm

Brian Taubeneck (VP of External Affairs): There are mainly two priorities on this year's Legislative Agenda: 1) investing for academic excellence and predictable tuition and 2) encouraging the State to continue to fund State Need Grant (SNG). The state loan program for grad students can offer lower interest rates to let grad students avoid the state PLUS loan. This is part of a long-term strategy, and hopefully the state would fund the study this year so that they can continue lobbying for this during a next legislative session. With the Sexual Assault Prevention Task, he works to ensure that student voices are heard and have actual seats at the table rather than just asking questions. Additional position statement includes such as shared governances and programs that aid underserved populations.

Alex Bolton (President) says that this is an information item and therefore the Senate does not vote on it yet. But should anyone has question or concern, they may contact either Brian Taubeneck or Alex Bolton.

7. RESOLUTION URGING THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PREPAREDNESS IN THE EVENT OF AN ACTIVE SHOOTER

5:56 pm

Giulianna Conti (Music) shares her memories experiencing horrific incident of active shooting and raise concern on the lack of information on the UW website regarding campus safety. Safety information and guidelines regarding active shooters on the UW website is very unclear. Shwa wants to ensure that everyone is informed as much as possible to be safe on UW campus, and would like to ask all Senators to be equally prepared for something that can protect their own safety. Her group has a few proposals on how UW can increase its safety in case of an active shooter on UW campus. They

also welcome input from everyone.

- ◇ Collaborate with law enforcement, psychology profession, and school administration to see what content may be available for training on active shooter preparedness.
- ◇ Create educational video to promote self-protective during active shooting.
- ◇ People may have an opportunity to opt-out on this training.

Discussion

- **Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology)** asks whether they are allowed to give friendly amendments.
- **Alex Bolton (President)** says no for this is the first reading, which is for discussion. Amendments can be suggested after the first reading.
- **Giulianna Conti (Music)** will be very responsive to emails. If they have any question or concern, or would like to participate in future discussion in the group, they should feel free to contact her.
- **Joseph Telegen (English)** says that the authors of the resolution are emphasizing the distribution of information, but they are open to the way that the safety video will be produced.
- **Kirby Conrod (Linguistics)** asks to clarify whether it is an opt-in or opt-out training.
- **Joseph Telegen (English)** says that it is an opt-in but they are open for a continual discussion on whether it should be an opt-in or opt-out system.
- **Dan Herb (Education)**: The University of Washington Medical Center already has a similar presentation included in their orientation. It is called Code Silver; it is part of a new employee orientation that is mandatory.
- **Adam Bell (Education)** suggests the team to edit language that can potentially promote a culture of fear.
- **Giulianna Conti (Music)** will meet with Professor in Psychology Department to ensure the language used in this resolution is appropriate.
- **John-Paul Anderson (Political Science)** raises concern about student profiling
- **Giulianna Conti (Music)** will include information on identification of active shooters but will be sensitive about the language and information that will be distributed.
- **Dave Zerby (MBA)** is concerned about Giulianna Conti's qualification to write about safety materials for active shooter situations.
- **Giulianna Conti (Music)** will ensure that a team of experts in various areas rather than any individual contribution creates the material. Campus Community will be the source of information for this resolution.

**8. RESOLUTION URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF WAHSINGTON TO TAKE A
NEUTRAL STANCE THROUGHOUT THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS OF FORMING A
UNION AND TO RESPECT THE RIGHT OF FACULTY TO UNIONIZE** **6:39 pm**

Justin Bare (Computer Science and Engineering) believes that there are a couple of main reasons why faculty unionization is important: to give faculty more voice in shaping the University's direction and priorities, and to give faculty more voice about funding resources. He thinks that administration's response has been problematic as their stance is obviously leaning toward anti-unionization. They have highlighted many downsides of faculty unionization and included very few benefits. The administration has spent public money on the law firm to develop anti-union literacy. The law firm is very experienced at beating the democratic process of unionization. It should be recognize that the university does have the employer & employee relationship with their faculty as the administration takes part in approval of faculty's appointment and re-appointment. Sending out anti-union rhetoric creates fear among faculty and discourages unionization.

Discussion

- **Laura Koehn (Aquatics and Fishery Sciences)** says the UAW has put out a statement similar to this and this resolution might cause a bit of confusion. She would like to see more consensus or collaboration with the union members.
- **Justin Bare (CSE):** Being a supporter of faculty unionization he would like to put out something strong that supports the unionization. Originally the language was much stronger, but considering the setting of the GPSS, he is changing the language to become more pro-unionization.
- **Melanie Tate (Philosophy)** points out that Ana Mari Cauce's name is repeatedly targeted in the resolution.
- **Justin Bare (CSE):** All messages have been sent and signed by Ana Mari Cauce. But he is open to changes.
- **Joseph Telegen (English)** asks how he defines a neutral stance.
- **Justin Bare (CSE):** He thinks that the school administration should not say anything about this campaign because of the employer and employee relationship.
- **John Lurie (Astronomy)** says the last WHEREAS in the resolution is vague. He asks what it is trying to convey.
- **Justin Bare (CSE)** says that it is to point out the law firm is experienced in defeating unionization.
- **Madi Ashrafi (ME)** says people may support the eneral good. But he wonders how this unionization will affect grad students. The Faculty Senate has not come to the GPSS to recruit for support and explain what the benefits of faculty unionization are.
- **Justin Bare (CS)** cannot speak for the faculty; the faculty members who are attending this meeting may be able to speak for what the benefits of faculty unionization are and why Ana Mari Cauce is opposed to this.
- **Carrie Mathews (Senior Lecturer, English)** suggests to Justin Bare to frame this resolution as an act of freedom. This is an issue of fairness.
- **Justin Bare (CSE)** says that there is a student forum on faculty unionization this Friday. That would be a great chance for dialogue on how this would affect students.
- **Dan Herb (Education)** suggests that the resolution should include specific rhetoric or a quote that suggests that the administration is actually anti-unionization.
- **Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology)** suggests some language changes in the

effort to keep the resolution neutral. As it stands, there are some lines are quite rogue in the resolution. She also adds that Ana Mari Cauce's email Justin Bare has mentioned includes both anti-union rhetoric and resources for pro-unionization.

- **Kirby Conrod (Linguistics):** Line 32-35 are about a law group that has an experience of defeating unionization that Justin Bare has mentioned earlier. She suggests him to include a concrete precedent rather than just a description.
- **Adam Bell (Education)** says that he will have a hard time selling this resolution to his constituents in such a non-neutral way. The fact that the Senate is taking a stance itself is not neutral. They may want to be careful about taking language from the union because that would imply that we are in support of unionization.
- **Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs)** says that the Faculty Forward events welcome grad students. So, she encourages all Senators to attend events and collect more information on faculty unionization. Perhaps sharing graduate student experience with the union and including such language in the resolution may help the conversation. Given all concerns, it is an option to create a new resolution if someone in this room wants to work with Justin Bare to craft a slightly different framing of the resolution.
- **Justin Bare (CSE):** The Washington State law says the Board of Regents cannot take a stance on topics like this. Ethically, there is a clear power dynamic between the employers and employees and he thinks it is truly problematic.
- **Giulianna Conti (Music)** has concerns on the neutrality of the language in the proposal, for the language used during the in person presentation is polarized
- **Justin Bare (CSE)** is open to suggestions to make a resolution less aggressive.
- **Joseph Telegen (English)** asks for clarification of line 30 on whether it means a physical space or a virtual space.
- **Robert Wood (Professor, Atmospheric Sciences)** is the President of the UW chapter of AUP and an organizing committee member of UW Forward. To answer Joseph's question, he says the language in the resolution means a shared space within the University to make it easy to facilitate open discussion.
- **Seth Bergeson (Evans School)** comments that line 48 and 49 seems to be a bit subjective and can be modified. He asks if other universities around the UW also have a faculty union.
- **Justin Bare (CSE)** is unsure whether other universities of the UW scale have a faculty union and suggests that he may delete line 19 and 20.
- **Brian Taubeneck (VP of External Affairs)** raises a question about the language "using public money" and asks if Justin Bare has verified whether they are using public money.
- **Roy Burstein** does not see why it is necessary for the administration not to take a stance. The resolution is not giving any specific reason.
- **Mahdi Ashrafi (Mechanical Engineering)** asks what the Faculty Senate's stance is.
- **Robert Wood (Professor, Atmospheric Sciences)** says the Faculty Senate has not yet taken the stance. The Faculty Senate wants to have a forum in January involving people with expertise to talk.
- **Mahdi Ashrafi (ME)** believes that the GPSS should wait for the Faculty Senate's response.
- **Kelly Edward (Associate Dean of Grad School)** says GPSS and the Faculty Senate are both in favor of a democratic discussion to make sure to get to an informed decision.

· **Justin Bare (CSE)** looks forward to any suggestions.

The contact information of the resolution authors will be sent out with the minutes and announcements by Elloise Kim.

8. GOOD OF THE ORDER

7:21 pm

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology) moves to table Good of the Order until the next meeting.

Ted Chen (Bioengineering) seconds.

Seeing no objections, Good of the Order is tabled to the next meeting.

9. OFFICER REPORTS

7:22 pm

Monica Cortes Viharo (VP of Internal Affairs): Two program reviews have been conducted. Director of Graduate Partnership, Bryan Namba, has recently joined our staff and his role is to work on G3 and Program Review. Senators may contact Bryan if they are interested in getting involved in G3. Also, Director of Events has been recently hired. The U Pass Advisory Board voted on expanding the universal Student U-PASS Program's services to Spokane Transit Authority and there will be more discussion.

Brian Taubeneck (VP of External Affairs): The Washington Student Coalition meeting went well. Alex Bolton and he were invited to a higher education student symposium, and they were asked to talk more about accessibility and affordability of UW. They were receptive, and he would be interested in working with them in the future.

Kerstin Hudon (Treasurer): The SAF meeting starts next week. The Travel Grant application will have some modification - people would like to see more transparency. The Committee will deliberate it on Friday. People can email to her and she will make sure that all opinion is heard. Lastly, the school has hired a new Director of Student Veteran Life.

Elloise Kim (Secretary) will send out the timeline of resolution drafting, presenting, and editing along with the writers' contact information. The Judicial Committee met earlier today and they reviewed one third of the Bylaws for possible amendments. The Diversity Committee met last Tuesday and reviewed 3 applications for Diversity Funds. However, there was a concern among committee members seeing that the majority of applications had been from undergraduate-led RSOs in the past. They would like to see more graduate student participation. The office is trying to get a microphone since people often have a hard time to hear other people's speaking. The Race and Equity Initiative student roundtable is next Monday, 6 pm.

Alex Bolton (President) says the Regent meeting happened last week and there were two main issues: fee-base program criteria and concerns on using student tuition on capital projects. He is working to make sure that students are engaged early on in the conversation about and process of capital projects. He is also working closely with ASUW president Tyler Wu and PACS chair Alice Popejoy on the topic. As a final point, senator's participation at each meeting must be longer than 45 minutes to fulfill attendance.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7:34 pm

Please check the addendum for the full list of announcements made during the senate meeting. Senate Announcements are collected after a Senate meeting. Senators who have made announcements may send information including a link and a flyer if available to Elloise Kim at gppssec@uw.edu by a next day noon.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:39pm

ADDENDUM: Announcements

Lunch and Learn

Nov. 20th (Fri), 12 - 1 pm

Health Sciences T-438

MEDEX class 49 invites you to bring your lunch and join guest speaker Ari Kohn, President of the Post-Prison education program here in Washington State to talk about unique healthcare disparities, particularly regarding mental illness in this population. Mr. Kohn spoke at the Common Book series kick-off, and those of us in attendance agreed that the speakers presented important topics in a way that inspired us on our journey to becoming invested and compassionate providers. Contact Gwen Jackson (gwenjpa@uw.edu) for more information.

#BlackAtUW Brown Bag Lunch

Nov. 20th (Fri), 12 pm

Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center

Please join us this Friday for our first #BlackAtUW Brown Bag Lunch. With so much going on around the world, in our country, in our city and on our campus we would like to invite folks back to the Samuel E. Kelly Unity Suite to come together for a community lunch gathering. We hope this gathering can provide an opportunity for folks to meet new people and/or enjoy new conversations with familiar faces. Please feel free to bring /invite a friend! ALSO please note this is a brown bag lunch so please be sure to come with your own lunch as FOOD WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.

Domestic Drones and the Right to Privacy:

Roundtable with Congresswoman DelBene and Privacy Policy Experts

November 23rd (Mon) 10:30 – 11:30 am

Parrington Hall, Forum

WHEN: November 23rd, 2015 – 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Forum, Parrington Hall, Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, University of Washington
Please join Congresswoman Suzan DelBene and privacy policy experts for a discussion about the importance of protecting individuals from mass aerial surveillance. Earlier this year, news reports revealed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been conducting aerial surveillance missions over many U.S. cities, including Seattle, and notably during protests in Baltimore, MD and Ferguson, MO. The reports suggested that some of the aircraft were equipped with capabilities ranging from “Stingray” technologies, high resolution cameras, to infrared cameras. Such technologies can capture massive amounts of data including images, emails, texts, calls and geolocation, detect movement inside homes and buildings, and patch together highly detailed images of vast numbers of pedestrians and cars on the ground, all raising significant Fourth Amendment issues and questions for Congress that this panel will explore.

Race and Equity Initiative Student Roundtable

November 23rd (Mon) 6:00 – 7:30pm

HUB 145

Interim Vice President for Minority Affairs and Interim Vice Provost for Diversity Gabriel Gallardo and Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Ed Taylor will host a student roundtable focused on the Race and Equity Initiative on Monday, November 23rd. Both undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to attend. The purpose will be to provide a brief update on initiative progress and gain input/ideas directly from students as the initiative is shaped. Dinner is provided for those who make rsvp.

RSVP here: <https://catalyst.uw.edu/webq/survey/jodene/285992>

Facing Homelessness Art Exhibit

Mon – Fri 9 am - 5 pm

UW Tower

1415 NE 43rd Street (in the alley)
Seattle WA 98105

The UW tower is currently hosting an exhibit of portraits of homeless people from Seattle on the mezzanine level. This exhibit is from the non-profit Facing Homelessness, which seeks to "remove the negative stereotype against those living on our streets." The tower is open during normal business hours, Monday through Friday and is free and easy to enter with a husky card. If you can't make it to the tower, similar portraits are available online at <http://www.facinghomelessness.org/index.html>.

MLK Jr. Week Advisory Board Meeting

Dec. 3rd (Thu), 2015 5:30 pm

Jan. 4th (Mon), 2016 6:30 pm

Mary Gates Hall room 171

The University is launching a tri-campus week long celebration for MLK Jr. The Administration is looking for students to provide ideas, suggestions, commentary on planning a week of activities in commemoration of Dr. King Jr.

Bias and Discrimination Task Force: Hotline Development/Brainstorm Session

Dec. 9th (Wed), 12:30 - 2 pm

MGH, OMAD 3rd floor conference room

A hotline is being developed for students to call in when they experience acts of discrimination, bias, etc. In its infancy, the developers are asking for any ideas and suggestions. Please contact Marisa Herrera, mherrer@uw.edu

Office of Ombud looking for Graduate Student Input

The Office of the Ombud at UW is considering instituting (university-wide) the practice of encouraging graduate students and their advisors to establish expectations about workload, progress, authorship, and other such topics during the first few weeks of graduate school. The Ombud office would like to have graduate student input into this and other proposed ideas about improving student-advisor relationships. If you or your constituents have had experience in navigating mentoring relationships or are interested in having input into this process, please contact Austin Kinney, University Affairs Director (gpsua@uw.edu) or Yasmeen Hussain, GPSS Senator (hyasmeen@uw.edu).

UAW 4121 Petition for OPT Extension

The Optional Practical Training (OPT) is essential for most international graduates to lawfully work in the US after completing their degrees. The OPT program has been recently targeted by some groups alleging that it depresses wages, which had led to the invalidation of a rule allowing an extension period to STEM graduates. Homeland Security has subsequently proposed a new rule to reinstate the extension, but does not allow extensions to non-STEM graduates. This new rule is currently open for public comment, and this is our best chance to weigh in. The International Solidarity workgroup has put together an online petition that will be delivered as a public comment from students at UW. The petition is here: <https://www.change.org/p/us-department-of-homeland-security-ensure-equal-rights-and-benefits-for-opt-workers>

UW Daily Opinion Editor

UW Daily is looking for fresh perspectives on the UW college experience. Perfect opportunity to elucidate the campus about your personal or academic journey at UW. Use your words as hammers and bang this University into a better shape. Contact Haylee Millikan opinion@dailyuw.com