

# Graduate & Professional Student Senate

## GPSS Senate Meeting- 14 January 2015

Meeting called to order at 5:35 by meeting chair Alice Popejoy

### Approval of Agenda

Alice Popejoy (President) entertained a motion to approve the amended agenda for February 25, 2014.

Norah Williams: Motioned to move the voting items to previous section- childcare & open source resolution move up. Withdrawn after response from Alice

Joseph Telegen (English): propose to move | Elliott Koontz: Seconded

Agenda for the meeting on January 14, 2014 approved without objection.

### Approval of Minutes

Alice Popejoy (President) entertained a motion to approve the minutes- Joseph Telegen moved to approve the minutes,

Brandon Ray: seconded.

Saejin Kwak: motion to amend the minutes to accurately reflect her question as sent to the Secretary

Brandon Ray: seconded

Brandon Ray: motioned to approve amended minutes

Hailey MacKay: seconded

Amended minutes approved

### Spotlight - Husky Real Food Challenge

- National organization that challenges universities to provide certain percentage of “real” food on campus
- What would make a food “real” - fair trade, organic
- Four categories- producers, earth, community...
- Proposing a food system- many universities have signed up for the real food challenge
- University of Washington is in a unique situation where we don't have a corporate food provider, we have lots of potential to create “real food environment”
- 25% real food by 2020
- The commitment- giving students a voice, creating transparency on campus and engaging stakeholders in the campus food system.
- Real food calculators: 16% real food at the University of Washington
- Dani- college and universities are one of the most powerful influencers in the food system, we have a real chance to make an impact. We got 800 student response, 93.5% of student said they would support this campaign. We are on social media, and please visit us at [huskyrealfoodchallenge.org](http://huskyrealfoodchallenge.org) if you are interested

## **Husky Real Food Challenge Discussion**

- Eric Kernfeld: how was the survey conducted
  - HRFC: Intercept survey on resident hall, there were emails sent out for the survey on the catalyst too. There were 8 questions, the last question asked, “as student or faculty of the institution, would you support this?”
- Chrissy Elles: Did you mentioned anything for on campus farming?
  - HRFC: creating a food system policy, in many cases it means letting us decide what we want the policy to look like.
- Daniel Grafton: How can GPSS support this endeavor?
  - HRFC: We are finishing up a resolution. If you would like to be a part of the resolution, please email Husky Real Food challenge or Natalie ( secretary) to get involved

## **GPSS Election Packet Discussion Session**

- Brandon Ray: what does it mean for the university financially to create a new officer position?
  - Alice: Yes that’s why I wanted to mention this in the senate. I am not certain what the committee on budgeting is going to feel about this, but I got a sense that they will be willing to entertain this new position.
- Hope Sisely: why is reconstruction needed ?
  - Alice: Typically GPSS president are very ambitious and they come to GPSS with ideals to create committees and make changes to bylaws, but every year there’s a new thing. And typically it is for the good of the benefit of graduate students. The vice president of internal affairs would be facing a lot of internal issues- maybe even chairing meetings and coordinating various programs, and becoming the deputy of the organization on campus.
- Justin Bare: How could we ensure that this change won’t add more confusion
  - Alice: The answer is both in ad hoc planning committee, and in transition. This year, all 4 officers are dedicated to make the transition very smooth and transparent, which I think is what was lacking in the past. In order for all of us to do our job and finish what we aim accomplish, we really need to create a new officer position.
- Eloise Kim: where is the additional funding coming from?
  - Alice: SAF is a fee that all students pay, that’s the source of our operating budget. I heard many organizations are expanding, and it would go with the trend, and I think we have a really good cause. I can't see why SAF wouldn't help us become more efficient. I think they will like the direction that we are moving toward in the long run, rather than continuing to add more staff.
- Doug: We are not just asking for funds from SAF, we are also consolidating other funding resources.
- Alice: I appreciate this might come off as a shock. I will at this time, invite the election committee to come up and present the election packet.

## Presenting Election Packet

- 4 positions that are approved right now. We are supposed to approve the packet according to the bylaws. We encourage the senate to move forward with the process
- Eddie Schweiterman: There are two options- approving the [packet], and making amendments on the new roles added. Or we can  $\frac{2}{3}$  suspend the bylaws to stop the approval of election packet.
- Brian Tracey: if we don't approve this tonight, what are the effects?
- Elloise Kim: The creation of ad-hoc committee is linked to this now. But we have to amend the bylaw now, or we have to amend the bylaws to amend the bylaws in the future. So given current situation, we encourage the senate to move forward.
- Alice: move to entertain the the motion to approve the election packet as is.
  - Will Scott- move, Monica Cortes Viharo- seconded
  - Alice: We have an approved election packet
- Alice: Entertain the motion to create an ad-hoc committee that would focus on approaching reconstruction, budgetary considerations, drafting bylaws and assisting with implementation
- Brandon Ray: Who is going to be on the committee?
  - Alice: That is up to the senate You want someone who isn't at stake to become subjective. Our original perspective was have the new selected officers become a part of the process.
- Monica Cortes Viharo: Can the member of judicial committee be a part of the ad-hoc?
  - Alice: We will check on that
- Natalie: " shall not sit on any other committee" - you must resign 35 days before the election
  - Eddie Schweiterman: any bylaws changes would have to go to judicial, so you will still be involved
- Move to entertain the motion to create ad-hoc
  - Colin Bateson: moved
  - Devin Bedard: seconded
  - Colin: three meetings in the next two weeks?
  - Election Committee: the next meeting is the last meeting of of winter quarter, and election would happen the second week of spring quarter.
  - Alice: Are there any objection? Are there anyone who is interested in joining the ad-hoc committee? Please reply to my email of this evening to become part of the ad-hoc committee
  - Elloise Kim: would you set a date of when people should reply your message to join?
  - Alice:tonight

## Ad-Hoc on Fee Base Program

- Alice: who is in a fee-base program? A lot of our master degree programs, and business programs are fee based programs, or are being transitioned into fee based programs. There have been issues with people in fee based programs- there has been

interest in talking about issues of fee base program. A couple years ago there was a trend to turn state base programs to fee based programs, and programs would just transition to fee base without any specific criteria. There should be criteria for creating fee base programs. I am not sure what that criteria would look like, but I know there's a lot of GPSS senators who are knowledgeable on this. We should take leadership on this, and take our proposal to the administration

- Laura Taylor: what is the time line? Who would you like to present this to?
- Alice: Faculty senate council would be a good place , I also sit on board of regent, and that would be another place to go. Grad school councils are the first step of the program
- Chrissy Elles: Can we make sure to have someone on the law school on this committee.
- Vanessa Kritzer: Can we make sure the committee has a proportional number of students in fee-based programs - at least two
- Hope Sisley: moved to approve committee
- Vanessa Kritzer: second

### **U-Pass Fee Increase**

- Alice: There hasn't been an increase for the past 4 years, exec decided to not to vote on this measure until we hear what the senate thinks. We will hold another vote next week, so we can be in compliance
- Elaine Klein: If we don't approve this what would happen?
  - Alice: If we don't approve, U-Pass fee can't be increased.
- Colin Bateson: Can you explain more on the U-Pass Fee increase
  - \$76 quarterly,
  - Alice: fares are going up, and in addition to the creation of light rail, they are projecting fee to increase
  - \$4 increase to next year, another \$4 for the year after. It will have the program run under deficit for the next year, but we are determine to solve the problem in second year
- Katie Kuhl: Do you have statistic on number of students who benefit from this program?
  - Average across student body- each student save about \$210 per quarter
- Jason Young: Point of information: if you vote this down, you might have to change and go back to the old system.
  - It will ceased to be a public good
- Devin Bedard: Point of information: the idea that everyone benefit from having a fantastic opportunity or resources that might not be available to people other wise, so it's a social good.
- Jason Young: I am curious if any of the statistics are specific toward graduate body?
  - we did a campus wide transportation survey- 95% of surveyed graduate and professional student use their U-Pass. 94% of surveyed graduate and professional students report satisfaction with their U-pass

- Devin Bedard: I have never used a U-pass, can you opt out of the program
  - If you are a student employee, if you are represented
  - Josh: rebate rather than refund ( rebate is funded by central administration, so there's no shift of cost)
- Devin Bedard: as the fee increases, does faculty also have fee increases
  - Josh: they will have much more dramatic increases because they haven't been treating
- Alex Lenferna: it also benefits students who can't afford their own transportation method.
- Eddie Schweiterman: U-Pass was \$99 for fall of 2010, we were facing a spiral, fewer people were enjoying the benefit, but the cost also went up. At the executive meeting, we asked a lot of tough questions. another benefit is less congestion on campus
- Monica Cortes Viharo: represent people who use this service. This service allow people to do things at affordable rates. It also makes us more competitive as an institution.
- Laura Taylor: echo what Monica said, one of the things for recruitment is that there is guaranteed transportation. Especially for people who have off-campus labs, having that mode of transportation is really important
- Joseph Telegan: a figure was repeated- what was the average cost of transportation
  - \$ 2.00 per trip one way for the bus rides across all services.
- Luis Centurion: improve light rail, what do you mean ?
  - King county metro are making those improvement. The changes you can expected this year is the focus on frequent reliable services on portal. Where as you used to get 30 minutes between service, now it's 15 minutes. In addition to frequency, they are also considering decompressing
- Alice: entertain motion to extend time on discussion
  - Jason Young: move to end discussion
  - Justin Bare: so move
  - Devin Bedard: Seconded
  - Yasmeen Hussain: objection.
- Josh: administration, ASUW, and GPSS all three has to come together in order for us to continue with the proposed fee. Students can accept or reject the proposal. The council came up with the two year- step plan, if the fee increase plan got rejected, the contract object that we turn into a opt-out program,. We will highly likely be going back to \$150.
- Yasmeen Hussain: withdrawn objection
- Kristen Helps: there are a lot of students in online program who does not benefit from the U-Pass program.
  - Alice: I think it's an important but separate issue. Distinction between that issue and the U-Pass increase
- Eddie Schweiterman: Celeste said that the consequence of not approving the wouldn't be discontinue, rather it would just be more substantiate increase the next year. I

support the increase to make it more sustainable, but I also want everyone to have clear information before voting .

- Colin Bateson: specify objection
- Alice: majority vote to close discussion, in favor of closing discussion, passed
- Alice: Move to vote on the fee increase;
  - John Lurie: I want to address to question on what would happen if this is voted down- technically correct, but outcome would be same
- Alice: entertained motion accept the U-Pass fee increase proposed by transportation services.
- Monica Cortes Viharo : move to accept the fee increase
- Eddie Schweiterman: seconded, no objection.
- Alice: Fee is approved by the senate, and next week the executive will vote on this.

### **Open Source Textbook Resolution Discussion**

- Jason Young: the reasoning behind having the secretary is responsible for nominating
- Natalie: senator would be responsible for spreading the news, and we can do a catalyst vote to collect that information
- Will Scott: Wondering whether staff has the capacity to present award? Are there any other way to say that we support aside from adding more work.
- Monica Cortes Viharo: Friendly amendment: secretary responsible coordinating nominating and the naming of such award.
- Alex: Accepted
- Alex: Near the bottom is a list of people who would participate in this, and I would like to clean the language up a bit more
- Chrissy Elles: Friendly amendment: adjust language on Chair of the Faculty council part in line 70.
- Alex: accepted.
- Vanessa Kritzer: are there any other incentives?
- Alex: ASUW is looking at award as well. What is something that we can do that doesn't cost money? what is a way to create culture? I figure recognition would be the most suitable way
- Alice move to entertain the motion to approve open access textbook resolution
  - Colin Bateson move to approve resolution
  - Bree Herndon seconded

### **Childcare Resolution**

- Brandon Ray: Childcare resources on campus are insufficient. Speaking from a parent perspective, I have been on the waitlist for a year and a half. The resources on campus are inadequate, this has been an issue for the past 40 years. There has been some opportunity to increase childcare resources, so we created this resolution to make administrators listen. This would force the administration to act on the inadequate child care resources
- Alice: I went on record at the Board of Regents to take the childcare issue seriously- two months later I am pregnant. It really shifted my perspective as a student parent. It

is a personal issue for me now, but I hope for future people would benefit from our efforts.

- Bree Herndon: Move to approve the resolution on child care
- Mahdi Ashrafi: Objection, This childcare would impose more potential fee increases from the administration
  - It doesn't call the university to engage in providing childcare services. If you see this clause- it encourages the university to make the campus a more family-friendly campus, but not necessary provide child care services. But that wouldn't come from student tuition fee, rather it would more likely comes from Student Activity fee- but that would be a really long and drawn out process. This is a statement simply encouraging university to address issues student parents are experiencing.
  - We should consider every possibility for childcare, or other policies or facilities that would benefit students who are parents
- Mahdi Ashrafi: objection withdrawn
- Natalie: friendly amendments?
- Alice: I change the vet causes- we can't mandate them do something. Rather than saying required, instead saying "urge". Do you take the friendly amendment?
- Meixi Ng: point of information- rough timeline of how the university would take this resolution or when they would implement these things
  - Alice: there is not guaranteed. But it ensure the future administration of GPSS continue to take this issue seriously.
- Jason Young: Move to approve the amended resolution
- Evan Firth: seconded

### **Officer Report**

- Alex: last week was the policy cut off- the physical cut off is this Friday. We had a hearing last week where we had some medical students testifying in Olympia on the expansion of of the medical program. WSU medical program creation issue is in the House of Budget Committee now.
- Doug: departmental grants are still open- don't forget to apply.
  - What percentage of fund is still available? Doug: about 70%. If it's not used, it will be used for travel grant
  - Eddie: When is the deadline for this quarter. Doug: for departmental grant is kind of on-going. I want to say March 3rd for this quarter. But you can continue to apply.
- Doug: If you would like to run for officer election, feel free to come talk to us.
- Natalie: next campus conversation is on Monday the second in HUB room 340. It's facilitated by Tiffany- it would be great event- please help spread the word for the event. On elections for ASUW- they just approved their whole election procedure and we are all figuring things out as we go.
- Alice: thank you all very much for staying. I hope you all sit on the ad-hoc committees, either for the fee-base program, or the GPSS restructure ad-hoc committee

- Daniel: We can tell our constituency to be a part of ad-hoc if they are interested right?
- Alice: Yes
- Alice: bad news, the Husky Experience committee from Gerald Baldasty- I recommended someone to sit on the committee, but they told me it is currently full. I got a response today that there are 2 graduate students on the committee now, which is kind of a disproportional representation. The good news is the Office of Ceremony told me today- we want to get graduate students to get involved in Freshman convocation. Previously there was no welcome event for incoming graduate students, but we are working on making it a first year convocation for graduate students as well.
  - Monica: are transfer students invited to the freshman convocation?
  - Alice: No really currently. the idea is to make freshman convocation more approachable and inclusive.

**Announcement:**

- Colin Bateson: Mechanical Engineering has a happy hour every Friday. If your department might be interested in organizing something similar, please contact me. Every Friday at 5:00PM.
- Thilini Kahandawaachchi: FIUTS culture Fest is happening tomorrow and on Sat. You are welcome to come and bring your friends and family. On Saturday we will have performance from around the world. Tickets are \$10 for students in advance and \$15 at the gate
- Brandon Ray: Husky and Military Veteran started an internal committee. We are holding an event on 3/9 from 5:30-7:30 for people to come and talk about diversity within the veteran community and how we are related
- Abraham McClenney: There is not a lot of awareness on student activities fee committee (SAF). We would like more feedback from students on where they would like their money be allocated.
- Brian Tracey : Tomorrow at Margate 171 the Pipeline project is having a breakfast gathering. Tomorrow night 7:00 at Meany Hall, there is Black Panther speaking. Friday, 4:30 at ECC racism event. Diversity committee is exploring the issue of micro-aggression, please feel free to come to our event, we would love to create a safe space for everyone to have a voice
- Monica Cortes Viharo: Cabaret- show starts on 3%. Graduate production called the Hostage starts at 3%.
- Justin Young: Disability incarcerated event at the HUB.
- Natalie: send announcements to me tonight

**Adjourn:**

Alice: entertain the motion to adjourn meeting.

Bradon Ray: moved

Brian Tracey: seconded.