

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GPSS Senate Meeting- 6 May 2015

Meeting called to order at 5:32 by meeting chair Alice Popejoy

Approval of Agenda

Alice Popejoy (President): First, we would like to clarify some miscommunication. We thought Ana-Mari was coming this week, but we made a mistake, and she is actually coming next week.

Natalie Gordon (Secretary): proposed a series of amendments: After the approval of minutes, I move to first hear the active shooter training presentation, followed by the presentation on the student code of conduct, then the presentation on graduate student housing, then on graduate student mental health. I also move to remove the union bargaining because they reached an agreement with the university, so we should go right to the minimum wage resolution.

Hope Sisley (Earth & Space Sciences): Second. | Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Move to approve as amended. Evan Firth (Oceanography): Second

Agenda for the meeting on March 6, 2015 approved with amended items .

Approval of Minutes

Alice Popejoy (President) entertained a motion to approve the minutes

Joseph Teligen (English): so moved | Hope Sisley (Earth & Space Sciences) : Second
Minutes approved without objection.

Spotlight TA Active Shooter Preparedness- Ginger Farrell

Ginger Farrell: I had been an active senator for a few years before, but I am not currently serving in the senate. I have been on a lot of committees, and one of the things that has come up is the lack of active shooter training. My department did an interview about a year ago with UWPD, and I learned that there are mainly three types of shooter situations: barricaded suspect, hostage situation, and active shooter. Today we are talking about active shooter. It is considered the greatest threat on campus or in public areas. They usually last about 10-15 minutes, and the shooter usually doesn't have an escape plan. Unfortunately there is no typical profile for active shooters, and there is little or no time for planning when it's happening. So far, in all of the training videos out there, the message is run-hide-fight. When I looked at the training, I was not anticipating this information. Most of us in this situation would be in class or an office setting. In active shooter situations, you are supposed to just stay there. You are not supposed to run. Barricading yourself is your best option. In addition, we can't expect the police to arrive immediately. It would be over before they could arrive. Do not expect responding officers to provide first aid or evacuation. Don't run to the police- stay down. Everyone's considered a suspect. Stay down and show your hands. And also be resourceful together. The trainings say we are on our own in these situations. Additionally, studies shows that those who have had training, drills, or similar things, initially when they hear gun shots, they don't panic and they responded faster, so training is much needed. All this information got me thinking

about barricading- so I started looking at the classroom that I am teaching in, and I realized that there's no way to barricade yourself. And I found one thing- it's called the sleeve. It slides on the door closure so if they try to get in the building, they can't. It is easily implemented. We had the teacher from our department who had been at the Denny Hall shooting go to the UWPD training and the police said that we can get electric cords and wrap it around the door, the other option is getting keys. I am not sure what the real solution is. But I feel like we lack resources and we are unprepared. Other schools have training for active shooter situations. Faculty and staff should also be trained. The point of this pitch is not a solution but to bring awareness to this issue and how we can face this challenge. Does anyone have any questions or comments?

Jennifer Porter (Geography): this information makes me a bit uncomfortable now. There has been research that shows that there are indications before these kinds of things happen. How are the school and faculty addressing the issue? My concern is what are we doing on the prevention side of it instead of just responding.

Alice Popejoy (President): So, we just happen to have an expert on this issue. We have Ellen Taylor here with us at the meeting. Ellen do you want to take it away?

Ellen Taylor: What I want you all to know, does anyone know about Safe Campus? There is a program called VPRP, you can call them at 685-SAFE, but if you are in an imminent danger you should still call 911. But if you are concerned about someone in your classroom, they can assess the situation with you, they can then convene a safety plan with you and work with you on how to face the situation.

Branden Audet (International Studies): Move to extend time by 5 minutes | Joseph Telegen (English) : Second

Devin Bedard (Earth & Space Sciences): The sleeve is a very constructive way of addressing the issue because it would just keep the door stuck and people won't be able to have access.

Branden Audet (International Studies): I have spoken with the UWPD about incorporating more military components in this. I think we have to do preventive work, but there needs to be more work on how to respond to this.

Ginger: What Ellen was talking about, I didn't know that. But that is something I would like to know. That is something that should be distributed at the TA/RA orientations to get the Safe Campus information out there.

Student Code of Conduct Ellen & Elizabeth:

Elizabeth: I don't know if you had the opportunity to look at the revisions to the Code of Conduct that were sent out to you. When I first came to the University in 2007, I looked at the book and I realized I had a hard time understanding the rules, and I thought, how are students supposed to understand this? So in 2010 we wanted it to be easier for people to understand. I want to say

that GPSS voices have been well represented in the revision process. One of the things that we understand is that we need to be more explicit with the compliance. We wanted to simplify the language, and we wanted to unpack the definitions of misbehaviors. In the proposed student conduct code we restructured the code by breaking it into different WAC sections. We break down the definitions and articulate what those things are. And one of those things is sexual assault. Currently rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment is all in one sentence. So imagine if students are called in, they have a hard time focusing on the things that we want to focus on. So we unpack those definitions. Also, we wanted to review the off-campus conduct code. The off campus conduct code has three divisions currently. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds you guilty of a major crime anywhere in the world, and if the university thinks there are university interests involved, then it can take actions against that student. So basically, the victim doesn't have to be UW affiliated. The second part of the code is if you engage in physical harm or abuse and the victim is a UW faculty member or student, then we can take action under the student conduct code. The third issue is regarding the quality of life issue in the North of 45th area. We deal with noise and other issues. One of the things we were noticing is that we are getting cyber harassment, stalking, sexual assault that is not rape, those kinds of things. We were having a hard time proving where is the physical harm and abuse when we suspended those students because the harm might be psychological or not physical, or there's not a broken bone to show. So that was the reason that we wanted to revisit that. We realized that that part of the code wasn't allowing us to be responsive to the kinds of things that student were asking us. We also wanted to look at whether we wanted to implement some kind of medical leave to the student conduct code. Most institutions have some kind of involuntary medical leave, and it was tied to their student conduct code. We quickly decided to abandon that project for a number of reasons. The Department of Education and the Department of Justice came up with the conclusion which said that the University couldn't take action against students that are harm to self. And those conditions were usually the reasons why students would be placed on medical leave. And so that was clear that that wasn't something that we wanted to pursue. We also noticed that a comprehensive review of the code has not been done since 1990. Most of the time only minor tweaks were being made, but even those had a lot of inconsistency. So we wanted something that would be much easier to navigate. Another thing is that in our current code, it lumps things together, for example, "it is violation of student conduct code to unlawfully possess alcohol or drugs." And so it is lumped together and that's problematic because when we are charging students for violation of 3G, they would say that "I had beer at the football game, why would you say I have drugs." Likewise, the sexual offenses were all lumped together. So it says "rape and sexual harassment" and so when we charge student with sexual harassment, it may not be a high level thing, they would say that they didn't rape anyone or assault anyone. So getting them to focus on the piece we wanted to talk about was really difficult. So in our proposed code you will see that we have expanded a lot about what is the prescribed conduct. And really what we have done is that we unpacked the current student conduct code and clarified a lot on what is there that didn't have any definition. So making the structure difference was an important part to us in terms of moving forward. We expanded the definitions and clarified the structure, we have given each section its own WAC. We hope that in the future it will help make any additional edits or changes easier as they

emerge. If we don't have the definitions down right, we have a good system to fix it. We have changed the jurisdiction of the code to sort of say that the code applies to you regardless of where you are when there's university interests involved. The second section talks about how we can take action under the code if student engage in physical violence or abuse, but the current problem with that is it doesn't allow us to show non-physical harms such as in situations like cyber harassing, stalking, and bullying. The changes would allow us to take action under the student conduct code if it happens off campus and that physical abuse does not adequately reflect what we need to be doing in terms of responding to student concerns. So if Ellen and I go to a conference, and I did something inappropriate at the conference, and we have to work together, that's going to allow the university to take action to protect Ellen and her educational interests in the institution. And we have created a separate process for discriminatory harassment and sexual misconduct, and this is an all faculty and staff board, no students sit on this board. Lastly we streamlined the process. There is a flowchart. The current system is very circular, it goes round and around. We are proposing a much more linear procedure that is easy to understand. Lastly, I would like to share with you our next steps. We have been meeting with the GPSS Executive Committee and Aaron and Alice have been very helpful on writing the codes, and the ASUWs of the three campuses have been very involved in this process. We are requesting that you endorse the proposed student conduct code, and we count this as part of Washington Administrative codes so it has to go through formal rules making. Right now we won't be able to complete that by the July 1st deadline, and we we are going to have to do some emergency adoption rules to get us compliant for the specific things that we are required to have in the codes. We are also working with the faculty senate to seek support. Ultimately this would go for public hearing sometime in the fall for the rules making part of it and it would go to the Board of Regents after that. Moving forward, we would like to be able to say that we sought endorsement from all student governments regarding the student conduct code before we presented it at the council. One of the things we have talked about is that the students we have talked with are all very supportive regarding the changes. And we made a commitment that if there are some significant changes, we will come back to you, and make revisions. *You have our assurance that if something is changed in that document, we will come back to you for another endorsement before we go to the Board of Regents. We want this process to be very transparent.*

Alice Popejoy (President) : Thank you so much for all your hard work in the past 4 years. They have been very receptive to our comments. Aaron is our University Affairs Director who has been very involved in the process and has done so much behind the scenes. I am very pleased with the current draft that you all have seen. Are there any question or concerns in the room? We need a motion to extend time.

Justin Bare (Computer Science): Motion to extend time by 5 minutes | Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Second.

Brian Taubeneck (GPSS Policy Analyst): I was wondering of there have been any decisions made on in the hearing process, who has to approve this?

Elizabeth Lewis (Student Conduct Code Office): I think you are asking me a preliminary consent question. The proposed conduct code is neutral on that. It provides a lot of definition about what consent is and what we might use as common language to have a conversation around consent. But each situation is unique and different, and we want to be fair to that situation.

Justin Bare (Computer Science): I was asked to bring this to the attention of GPSS by Will Scott who is another Computer Science senator. We were wondering about the section 314: “unauthorized use of computer resources” seem to be a very broad statement. Is there any definition on that, and in particular we want to mention the example with Aaron Sports from a while ago, who was prosecuted very intensely and who then committed suicide because of how hard it was, can you address that issue?

Elizabeth Lewis: The computer use part is really in conjunction with UW Technology drafting that language. That was a really tricky section to write because we want to allow ourselves some wiggle room. Because technology and things are moving so rapidly, there’s a point that I cannot yet imagine. Yet we want to temper that with what it would look like. I can assure you that we evaluate each case on a case by case basis. we look at what is the allegation and what is their side of the story before we make any final decisions. I recognize your worry and we certainly don't want to have the same outcome.

Alice Popejoy (President): Is there any opportunity now to have further conversation about this?

Elizabeth Lewis: In the executive summary that was sent, there is still a catalyst for an open survey on this revision, or you can send suggestions to Higgie@uw. If you have any further suggestions I am really interested in your feedback.

Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs): How long will that catalyst site be open?

Elizabeth Lewis: We are not sure, but the email will always be open. We would like to get it wrapped up as much as possible this year, because this is a group of students who have worked on it, and we will continue to have conversations with faculty, but I think it would be in your best interest that we get this wrapped up.

Ellen Taylor: One of the things that the Elizabeth has mentioned is we broke down the codes in very small chunks, and that’s very intentional. So if next year we realize that we made a mistake on the definition or language, it will be much easier for us to head back to make edits. But of course we want to make it as perfect as possible.

Graduate Student Housing- Ben Moez from HFS

Ben Moez (HFS): I am the Administrator for Apartment Life. I work on residential life and housing and food services. Residential life is the group of people who work with students when they are living there. We respond to issues regarding assignment process, billing, or facilitating

people changing from one facility to the next. My role is to supervise staff that actually live in the communities and support the people who are living there. So I have a team of 6 professional staff members, each one living in a different apartment community that we operate, and they have a group of student staff to manage that community. This year I have done work with Alice and Aaron and spent some times showing them the facilities we offer and answering questions. My intention is to answer the questions that you might have regarding graduate and professional residential life. For residential life and my position, I really see GPSS as a stakeholder, and as a source of information on the salient issues that are affecting graduate students. I had the opportunity to come last week, which was very informative to learn about some of the union issues, and learn about some of the debates. And that's really important to me because when I work with students, I really want to figure what it is that we can bring in those communities to support the graduate students to do skill developments, and reciprocate for GPSS which provides forums where we can engage in a stable supply of graduate student perspectives on issues that are coming up here. It really helps us provides the best services. It's important to know what you are discussing and how we can improve the residential life. We are bringing a new role in the summer and I am hoping to work with my whole staff team to figure out a better support mechanism to better serve the graduate students. We have one property that is completely all graduate students in Mercer Court building C & D, but we have graduate students living in 6 facilities, some with families. So we really try to vary the resources that we offer based on who is living there.

Alice Popejoy (President) : Do you mind running down that list of grad student housings?

Ben Moez: Mercer Court is 5 building-community. Two of those five building are 100% graduate student communities. They are 12 month leases with different flexibility based on academic course load and graduation. Right next to it is Stevens Court with townhouses and apartments, there are 1 bedrooms there that are designed uniquely for married couples or those in domestic partnerships and we have about 100 graduate students there. Its a melting pot community. We have the Cedar Community with studios. And then we have Nordheim Court at the U-Village for students who have families and children. We have 2 or 3 bedrooms. For those families, it's month to month agreements. And after that it's Radford Court and then there is Commodore Duchess. Its a historic building literally right across the street from the school.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): It's great to hear that HFS is trying hard to match graduate students needs. But a question that always comes up is accessibility and price. Is there anything that HFS is doing to address the inaccessibility of campus housing for graduate students?

Ben Moez: My understanding, especially in our newer facility, is the whole system supports the debt load of the construction in a lot of ways. So as we build new things, we try to mitigate that impact on any one student or area. We have a portfolio that has a diverse price point. So that diversification is something that we are trying to maintain in the face of trying to provide the best facilities. Stevens Court is an example, it doesn't have wifi, it's also the lowest price point. One

of the biggest complaints is that there is no wifi, but providing that service needs infrastructure and that would increase the price. So we are constantly trying to balance those factors, and at the same time changing the things that we offer. So there is a lot of vocal response on what we are doing with North Campus, and I understand that that is predominantly undergraduate residence, and for graduate students it's really far, but we are trying to not become economically and socially stratified. We continue to work with people on campus on what financial aid would look like, so that's very much the component of it. We are trying to diversify the community as much as possible.

Brandon Audet (International Studies): I am a resident of Radford Court. The problem is every time you renew your lease, they increase the price every year. What pressure can put on places like those where 85% of students are graduate students?. What kind of dialogue needs to happen?

Ben Moez: So what influence do we have in this dialogue? My understanding of the relationship of that private partnership is that they provide some of the rationale around their overhead on upkeeping the facility and our student services work on any fee increases and on the reason behind the rationale for this fee increase. So you can't really separate those agencies, because there's a partnership. You need to have both to have a dialogue

Alice Popejoy (President): Entertain a motion to extend time. Brandon Audet (International Studies): move to extend for 1 minute | Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs): Second

Monica Cortes-Viharo (Drama): Radford Court has lower prices for students. Sometimes, when you renew the lease, there are offers like having the first month half off. I have heard that.

Ben Moez: There are sometimes market incentives depending on what's happening elsewhere. Obviously as Blanton Turner, they look at the market very intensely. For housing and food services, the market is very different. For first year students, they are not necessary comparing HFS to other non HFS residences, but for other graduate oriented communities, there are often market incentives being offered to students who are looking at different options.

Alice Popejoy (President): Adding one thing on what HFS is doing, ASUW and GPSS worked with HFS this year and there's a reduction in IOP rates which gave HFS \$2 million dollars per year savings, and this give HFS the opportunity to give flat rates for this year. So there are no increases on any of the student housing rates on campus UW-run facilities. And there's a 1.5% increase for off campus facilities. I think they're trying, but I think there are more opportunities to collaborate creatively and we can be more involved in that process. Thank you so much.

Suicide Prevention - Vanessa Kritzer & Lauren Davis

Vanessa Kritzer (Public Affairs): Lauren is an MPA student at the Evans School of Public Affairs and she is also the Director for Campus Affairs at Forefront, which is an organization working toward innovation in suicide prevention. She also serves on the Suicide Prevention Coalition. So

Lauren and I were talking a lot about the issue of suicide prevention on campus and we are hoping to bring in a resolution.

Lauren Davis: Forefront is based in the School of Social Work. In the Fall of 2013, UW received federal funding for suicide prevention from a national plot of money that goes to suicide prevention. We have been very actively involved since then. We have very robust involvement from all the folks you would hope to see on this issue. Folks from Hall Health, the Counseling Center, Health and Wellness, the Communication Department, and the Athletic Department are all very diversely involved in this organization and conversation. The reason I am talking about this grant is because this grant really brought to light certain deficiencies. Some of the things that we have been working on is drafting protocols for the university on how to identify and respond to students who are in distress, such as doing training at various levels, and working with student groups across the board to promote mental health and also collecting data. So a lot of folks don't realize that suicide is the second cause of death among college students. We have about 3 student suicide deaths at UW according to the data module per year, 700 suicide attempts every year, and 5000 roughly who have considered suicide. And the reason we think that these numbers are more or less accurate on our campus is because in the last 6 years we have lost 16 students due to suicide on this campus, which is just slightly below that 3 deaths per year, which makes us believe that the rest of these numbers are fairly accurate. The point I wanted to make is over half of those are graduate students, and not over half of the students here are graduate students. So graduate students are disproportionately affected by suicide, and that's not unique to this university. We have great resources across campus here, but they are truly insufficiently funded and insufficiently staffed. According to a national survey looking at college student mental health, the recommendation is that you have one mental health counselor per 100 students, so that equates to 43 counselors on a campus of our size. We actually have 26, and that's a 40% deficit. The result is that the wait times can mount up to one month. There are crisis services where you can walk in, but in terms of new intake for prevention and therapy, folks can be waiting up to a month, which we feel is unreasonable for people who are seeking help. Another issue is that it inhibits Hall Health and the Counseling Center to do more proactive work. For example, there is a really great online interactive approach, it's quite effective for students who might not self identify for services or risk of suicide. It was created by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. We even had an offer from someone to fund that at this university, but we couldn't accept because our Counseling Center and Hall Health are absolutely stretched in terms of trying to see the students who are walking in the doors. So they can't imagine taking on another load of students who proactively identify via these screening measures. Now screening is incredibly effective at screening students at risk. But it's something that we are unable to do because of staffing issues. So because of this, we made a formal request to the Provost, now Interim President, Ana-Mari, and the response was a couple of things. One is that they don't see it as a priority. Although it is a life or death issue, it doesn't make it unique or a high priority. Number two, that we need to talk to students and Student Life. There is some activity on trying to get some immediate short-term fixes, like trying to get half the FTEs to work on suicide prevention programs. Ellen has been working really hard to get funding for the Student Activity Fee to get

one more mental health counselor. Again, those things would help, but there is still a lot of room to grow, and that's why I talked to Vanessa about drafting a resolution on this.

Vanessa Kritzer (Public Affairs): We are going to be drafting a resolution this week which we will be bringing to the next GPSS meeting for students to vote on. But I wanted to give everyone a little background on the problem, and see if any other senators would be interested in co-sponsoring this resolution. It's an issue that I feel very passionate about, and I think given the disproportionate effects on graduate students, it's something that we should make sure to raise awareness on and make a recommendation to UW Administration on how we can improve this situation. I will be passing around a sheet if you would like to be a co-sponsor, and I will also send you more information so you can edit it before we bring it to GPSS. And Lauren is going to walk us through a couple of the points on what it is that we propose GPSS to put in the resolution.

Lauren Davis: The resolution will more or less look like this, but we are still modifying some of the language and details. So we are making suicide prevention a campus priority. What we envision it will look like is this:

- There will be a universal message sent out from the Provost Office stating that suicide prevention is indeed a priority on this campus. Also, sexual assault in recent years has become a priority, and there's a task force for it on our campus. So this grant is ending in Fall 2016, and there's this stakeholder group, and also strategic planning of this work that we have done, so looking at potentially a suicide prevention task force to sustain this as a priority on campus.
- How to reach a sustainable outreach. Have a plan that will get us there, like a tier strategy in collaboration with the Counseling Center and Health and Wellness. We hope to do more of proactive work on suicide prevention on campus and create a 2-5 year plan to increase campus behavioral resources to an appropriate level.
- Provide resilience/coping skills in some formal capacity to all incoming students. You want to treat folks who are struggling with mental health issues, but you also want to do some proactive work so that less folks would end up needing mental health services. In my field, we talk about this as upstream suicide prevention, as opposed to downstream whereas folks are already in crisis. UAA has become very interested in this issue and they are holding resilience week, and we have this event with Ed Taylor, head of UAA about this. We would like to formalize this sort of mechanism, so next year, incoming and transferring students would get some kind of formal education of resiliency and trying to result in ultimately fewer people needing mental health services.

So that's a quick summary, and that's my organization website. Suicide Prevention Center is a nationally funded agency that has a whole bunch of resources, and they have a few that are specific to college students. Would love to take any questions from folks.

Brian Tracey (Marine Biology and Environmental Affairs) : move to extend for 10 minutes |
Joseph Telegen (English): Second

Brian Tracey (Marine Biology and Environmental Affairs): Who would I go to for training?

Lauren Davis: Me. I will be your contact person. We offer training for students as well as faculty and staff. So that would be fantastic.

Monica Cortez Viharo (Drama): Along the line with that, if people can be trained, has there been any thought to do some kind of crisis hotline that fellow grad students can volunteer at?

Lauren Davis: Great question, so not up here. The number that Ellen mentioned fits under that. So we are working with Safe Campus to help rebrand them as the go-to resource when people have concerns about suicide, it is not just for concerns about stalking and active shooters, etc. Their staff has been trained on critical suicide assessment and management and so they can give the same resource that a crisis center can give. That goes along with making suicide prevention a campus priority.

Branden Audet (International Studies): If you could paint the picture, is there a specific department or type of student that's at risk?

Lauren Davis: Across the board. That's why we preach that everyone can be at risk of suicide.

Jonathan Epstein (Genetics): Does suicide prevention cover self harm? What are we doing to address that side of the issue?

Lauren Davis: Currently suicide and self-harm are different but related. Safe Campus says "suicide and self harm", and so they are the resource to go to that for that kind of situation and they can direct you to the right resources.

Vanessa Kritzer: In terms of a resolution, one of the main points is making a plan to increase the number of mental health counselors. And that's going to reach to students with a variety of issues. We have a fantastic group Huskies for Suicide Prevention Awareness, which is mainly undergraduates, but it's certainly open to all students. They just hosted a walk here and had 450 people walking on this campus for suicide prevention. But there can more collaboration.

Jeremy McGibbon (Atmosphere Sciences): One thing that concerns me is that when I first came to the university there was not suicide prevention education during the orientation so I was wondering if there is any action taken on that?

Lauren Davis: We are working with Safe Campus on the rebranding effort, and we are trying to get the Safe Campus number in everyone's cell phone number. We will work on how to insert this information in orientation, on a departmental level. But we are also told that orientation is not the best time to throw all information at students. So on your question about training, people are really averse to any kind of mandate, that being said, we are doing a training study right now

comparing different trainings. The winning modality is going to be rolled out massively to about 3000 students and faculty every year including graduate student TAs.

Alice Popejoy (President): That could be something that you could add to your resolution, like GPSS Secretary shall ensure that this is part of what we mention when we are at the GPA conference. So this year Natalie and I went to the Graduate Program Advisors conference and gave our pitch on GPSS, and some of the things we can do is highlight some issues that are important to grad students that have come up at GPSS. And we would like that to be vocalized at the GPA conference. So if you want to pass that as part of your resolution, it would be a good check.

Joseph Telegen (English): move to extend time by two minutes | Esta Camci: Second

Justin Bare (CS): Do you have any information on what sort of events cause suicide? Are there any specific reasons for suicidal behavior, like financial burden? Something that we can fix preventively?

Lauren Davis: We know that 90% of people who die by suicide have been diagnosed with some kind of behavioral illness, so there can be some sort of trigger events that might precipitate someone who is already at risk because of an underlying behavioral illness. There are a number of things that the school can do, for example the Counseling Center and Hall Health would work toward hardship withdrawal or financial aid options with students on a case by case basis. It's definitely wrapped around creating case management on the issues that you are mentioning.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Are you offering any kind of workshop at the RA/TA conference? The application is due on the 11th to submit a proposal. You get \$50 to do it. Doing a session for TAs on what are some of the warning signs and general behavioral issues that you want to be aware of, that's something that many first time students may be worried about. Also for professors, they should be able to point to resources for those who need help.

Lauren Davis: Great piece of information. I will get onto that.

Alice Popejoy (President): In the last three weeks, I have heard so many issues that need to be at the RA/ TA training, I know one on micro-aggression, and diversity training, and mental health, and sleeves. So May 11th is the deadline to submit a proposal. Its mainly just a form that you fill in. Can we have everyone put in the phone number 206- 685-7233 for Safe Campus?

Resolution on the Minimum Wage;

Alice Popejoy (President): The reason that the UAW 4121 item was withdrawn is because they have come to a tentative agreement, and the voting will be happening on Thursday. You can vote in Mary Gates Hall.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Jennifer and I have been working on drafting this resolution that sets the position of GPSS on UW adoption of Seattle's Minimum wage schedule. If you remember our first meeting in April, the university was scrambling to put together the \$11/hr, which became effective on April first. This is the trajectory that Seattle has generated to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2017 for those without medical benefits and 2018 for those with medical benefits. This resolution was constructed in order to provide a position that could be referenced later for graduate and professional students. The way our clauses are stated in our resolution is to establish the history of the minimum wage adoption and in regards to implementation. So the reason why there's a bit of complexity at the UW is that there are a lot of people who are paid under \$15/hr, many of those are student workers. A subset of those are paid through departments that are funded through SAF. SAF is a \$130/ quarter fee that you pay that goes to Hall Health, GPSS, ASUW, student publications, Student Legal Services, and counseling services. So the idea is that we want to construct the story here that reads that we want people to get paid \$15/hr but at the same time not result in either massive fee increases for us or big cuts to services through SAF. If you scroll down, there is a bit of history on the minimum wage adoption. There was a scramble there before April 1st to implement this. There is disagreement over whether the city law applies to state agencies, which includes the University of Washington. One thing we state is that really the University should have been aware of this. There's a potential cost for not complying if the Washington Supreme Court finds that we do have to follow the city law. There's a way out of this that doesn't involve increasing fees or cutting services. One is if the UW administration funded some of the programs that are funded under SAF. SAF actually funds a lot of things that are actually generally fundable through UW's general fund. There is also a moral reason to implement the minimum wage. If we don't raise the minimum wage, it would mean that students could make more money going to another employer off campus instead of working on campus doing academic and research work. So in terms of that statement, we are calling the UW administration to follow the Seattle minimum wage increase schedule. We also refer to workers performing work with functions equivalent to that of a regular employee at practicum sites. UW SAF will work to identify programs that can be funded by the UW general fund. We encourage work toward maintaining current services and increasing wages. We also encourage the GPSS president to advocate on behalf of student workers.

Brandon Audet (International Studies): As someone who is a student worker off campus who made the minimum wage, is there any clause that the university does increase pay and cuts hours?

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Cuts to hours would be cuts to the services that the SAF provides because you need the hours to provide the service. We want to avoid exactly that scenario.

Jennifer Porter (Geography): We have also addressed that many of these SAF organizations are already over stressed for funding.

Roy Bernstein (Global Health): I am not too familiar with how all the finances work, if this money comes from a general fund, would that just lead to general tuition increase? Maybe it wouldn't be that bad to accept some kind of fee increase?

Alice Popejoy (President): I was actually going to suggest changing UW general fund to UW administration fund. The fact that we pay the Student Activity Fee for the Counseling Center is an indication of larger problem because the university is potentially diminishing student investment. Those infrastructures should already be provided by the institution rather than from the students' pockets. What the consequence of this are all depends on how this would shape out, and how the next year's officers and administrators handle this. I will say that as I talk to administrators, they support the \$15/hr minimum wage, but we are just finding a way for us to be able to fund that and pay that level of wage. I would add that it would require school lobbying to push for state support.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Often times, in terms of the history of students asking for funds and the administration saying no, what would happen is we would get the message that there is no money, but then all of sudden there's money. And we would get to do the things that we wanted to do. Part of it is that budgets are very complex, but also historically there are two kinds of competing forces that have been involved in the rise of tuition- one is declining state support and the other is the expansion of school administration. The moral argument we don't make explicit in here is that these services and paying people \$15/hr is more important than administrative salaries, and that's just one perspective that you can bring.

Alice Popejoy (President): Administrative cost include any expended services that are not academic. It would be interesting to do some digging on how the administrative service are really providing services to students and how much of those are really just administrative for administrative sake. Other comments or suggestion?

Joseph Telegen (English): I propose to add a whereas clause at line 89 to read as follows: "whereas the UW and its low salaried employees perform various and essential functions within the economy of Seattle."

Alice Popejoy (President): I propose to replace 'general fund' with 'administrative fund'. I think funded by the UW administration would be more broad and inclusive.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): I accept that as friendly.

Joseph Telegen (English): I think it's important to emphasize in the whereas clause the connection between the benefit for the University of Washington and the City of Seattle.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): I accept that as friendly.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy) Can people disagree with the friendly amendments? Alex do you just have a question for Joseph?

Alex Bolton (VP): What are some of the function you are talking about?

Joseph Telegen (English): Such as UW Social Work students, Teaching Assistants, etc.

Alice Popejoy (President): Entertain a motion to approve the resolution.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Move to approve the amended resolution | Elloise Kim (English):
Second

Alice Popejoy (President): All in favor of the resolution. All opposed? Abstentions? Thank you so much for your long hard work on this. This has been a long journey.

Resolution passed unanimously.

Officer Reports

Alex Bolton (VP): I have been focusing on two areas. We are working with SAF to make sure that they can fund the minimum wage increase. We are also still heavily involved in the budget issue, in particular the medical school and Spokane issue.

Douglass Taber (Treasurer): Tomorrow we have the Reconnect: Our Planet event from 5:00-8:00 with a ted talk, we will have discussion, and then we will have a workshop to have everyone be engaged in the conversation/ reception which will be in the Walker-Ames room. We are also looking for volunteers for the Spring Social. We also have some departmental allocations left, it is closing this week. So submit the application soon.

Natalie Gordon (Secretary): All of our events are on social media already. We have our diversity events happening. One on Veterans, one on the LGBTQ health. We still have some diversity funding left, so please apply soon. Also I would like to search for well-oiled practices in departments for selecting senators to get senate representation going and to be able to provide suggestions or best practices to departments who struggle with this or who are just gaining representation. If you are interested in working on this, please email me.

Alice Popejoy (President): Invite your friends on social media to attend the events. We have some exciting developments regarding the childcare co-op. If we pitch our program to HFS, they are willing to sign an MOU. I am also working on the innovation fund to fund a childcare feasibility study. Also we have our new officers, congrats. I am really excited about that. Also fee-based programs, there has been an ad hoc committee and we just had our first meeting. That ad-hoc committee is going to recommend that SCPB vote on this permanent policy to never transition tuition-based to fee-based programs ever under any circumstances. Done. No more moratorium. But I am excited about it. And we should all be really excited about this. That

being said, I have heard some rumors that the School of Public Health, MPH program might be transitioning to fee-based. The ASUW presidential debate is happening right now, so if you want to hang around the HUB that would be great.

Announcements:

Brian Tracey: I have a bunch of brochures for resources for pregnant students so please take some and distribute them in your departments. This week is sex-travaganza events, if you have any question and are curious, join us. The Diversity Committee has been narrowing down the categories for diversity funding. Read the announcements Natalie makes. Also it is Spring time, so please try to get out there and break the mold.

Justin Bare (Computer Science): There are Graduate Interest Groups for teaching with technology, and there is a \$50 apple gift card. The first 20 people who show up gets a \$20 gift card.

Christine Tran (Education): Tuesday the 26th, we are having a discussion on the model minority myth. Also Wednesday the 27th there is an interdisciplinary fellowship information session.

Alice Popejoy (President): The Student Regent Election meeting was last week, it was made up of people from GPSS, staff from Student Life, and members of ASUW from all three campuses. There are three candidates being recommended to the the governor. Its really exciting. One of them is our own Vanessa Kritzer and another is Juliya Ziskina who presented our Open Access Resolution.

Meeting Adjournment.

Meixi Ng (Education): move to adjourn | Joseph Telegen (English): Second
Alice Popejoy (President): Meeting adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.