

Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Executive Meeting Minutes Session 6

OCT 21, 2015 | HUB 303

Members Present:

GPSS President Alex Bolton
GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs Monica Cortes-Viharo
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs Brian Taubeneck
GPSS Treasurer Kerstin Hudon
GPSS Secretary Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim
GPSS Executive Senator Yasmeen Hussain
GPSS Executive Senator Joseph Telegen
GPSS Executive Senator Brian Tracey
GPSS University Affairs Director Austin Kinney
ASUW Director of University Affairs Roy Taylor

Call to Order: 5:37pm

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alex Bolton moves to approve the agenda.

Elloise Kim seconds.

Seeing no objection, the agenda is approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5:38pm

Kerstin Hudon moves to approve the minutes

Roy Taylor seconds.

Seeing no objection, the minutes are approved as amended.

MEETING OBSEVERERS

5:39pm

Matt Becera, Katie Carlton, Ingrid Chan, Jare Newson are students in Communication 372 who reached to Alex Bolton (President) to sit in on the GPSS meeting to observe norms and interaction for their group project. The GPSS staff and officers introduce themselves and mention their preferred pronouns.

FALL BALL UPDATES

5:40pm

Monica Cortes-Viharo says Burke Museum has been booked on October 29th for the Fall Social. The poster has been posted on the GPSS website and its hard copies are currently being printed. The Executive Committee members can come in the office and grab a few on the following day. The GPSS will send out a department email and the Facebook event page also has been created. The photo booth has been secured. She is working on coordinating drinks, wine, and food. She has decided not to hire a DJ for a budget-saving purpose, but asks for an alternative way to have music.

Roy Taylor will inquire for a Rainy Dawg Radio DJ that may be willing to DJ pro bono. The expected attendance for the Fall Ball is around 400 people.

Alex Bolton encourages all staff and officers to promote the event as much as possible since tis promotional cycle is slightly behind. Hel also asks all to post about the event on their social media.

Kerstin Hudon reminds everyone that the event will need volunteers for scanning & checking IDs, and food and beverages. She will be in charge of volunteer coordination. People may email her if they are available to volunteer from 7:00PM-10:00PM on next Thursday.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS

5:47pm

Alex Bolton asks the Executive Committee to review the proposed appointments and provide feedback on the list. Nominations are as follows:

Registrar Search Committee

Kerstin Hudon, GPSS Treasurer, Evans School of Public Policy and Governance

Vice President of Minority Affairs Search Committee

Elloise Kim, GPSS Secretary, Arts & Sciences, English

ASUW Legislative Steering Committee

Brian Taubeneck, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance

Activity Based Budgeting Committee

Kerstin Hudon, GPSS Treasurer, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance

GPSS Finance & Budget Committee

Henry Olson, Arts & Sciences, Biochemistry

Luis Fernando Centurion, iSchool

Joseph Telegen, Arts & Sciences, English

Evan Firth, Environment, Oceanography

David Zerby, Foster School of Business

Nazila Dabestani, Public Health, Global Health

GPSS Travel Grants

Joseph Telegen, Arts & Sciences, English

Evan Firth, Environment, Oceanography

Chang Dou, Environment, Environmental & Forestry Sciences
Eric Teeman, Engineering, Material Sciences & Engineering
Jen Hubber, Public Health, Epidemiology

GPSS Judicial Committee

John Lurie, Arts & Sciences, Astronomy
Brandon Ray, Environment, Atmospheric Sciences
Jason (Jay) Eckard, Arts & Sciences, Drama
Yong Han (Noel) Kim, Engineering, Aeronautics & Astronautics
Allen Miller, Arts & Sciences, Drama
Norma Kaminsky, Arts & Sciences, Comparative Literature
Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim, GPSS Secretary, ex-officio without vote

Diversity Committee

Shuxian Chen, School of Nursing
Stephanie Kiracofe, Medicine, Rehabilitation
Michelle Morado-Peters, Arts & Sciences, Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies
Lauren Drakopulos, Arts & Sciences, Geography
Elena Swartz, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy and Governance
Gwen Jackson, College of Medicine, MEDEX
Sara Al Mughairy, School of Engineering, Human-Computer Interaction & Design
Brian Tracey, Environment, Marine and Environmental Affairs
Meixi Ng, College of Education
Shuxian Chen, Arts & Sciences, Economics
Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim, GPSS Secretary, chair

Yasmeen Hussain points out that it is interesting that every committee has one voting member from the Executive Committee. She recommends the GPSS to welcome more diversity in its committees.

Kerstin Hudon reassures that there are future opportunities for people who'd like to join her committees, and the Travel Grants Committee is willing to accept more people. She mentions that there are 3 more Senators who expressed their interest in F&B during the last Senate meeting.

Joseph Telegen moves to approve the nominations.

Elloise Kim seconds.

Appointments of all committees are approved without any objections.

VOTING TECHNOLOGY

5:51pm

Yasmeen Hussain says that previously the Executive Committee considered a clicker technology and other alternative voting systems to better keep track of voting in the Senate and avoid peer pressure. She has done some research on clicker funding through the STF, and has found out that ASUW's proposal to SFT says that ASUW is willing to let students check out clickers, including the GPSS, as a priority.

Roy Taylor tells that aside from clickers, there is TinyURL for an easy access. People can access a specific TinyURL link through their laptop as well.

While there are still some logistics that need to be figured out, **Joseph Telegen** volunteers on communicating with the ASUW. Both **Joseph Telegen** and **Roy Taylor** encourage Yasmeeen Hussain to look for other options as well, since figuring out the ASUW clicker technology may be a bigger commitment than she has anticipated. **Yasmeeen Hussain** also agrees that it would be worth investing more about options.

Roy Taylor clarifies Elloise Kim's question by saying that Senators are able to vote when a poll is open only during a meeting – so, neither before nor after the meeting. But Senators can choose to vote on a clicker or with their computer. Though Shotwell software is currently experiencing some glitches, he encourages the use of clickers in general.

Yasmeeen Hussain responses to Kerstin Houdon's question on the consideration of the text-to-vote system. She says that most text-to-vote systems are fee-based, and the GPSS will need to find a budget to use them. If the Executive Committee is considering of submitting an application to STF, they do not have to submit anything until January, but that will also mean that they are not getting anything until May. January will be their deadline. "Poll Everywhere" is free for 25 people, and \$19/month for 50 people, and \$39/month for 100 people. Timeline-wise, they should have more options by the next Executive Committee meeting. The Committee tables the discussion until its next meeting.

ASUW LETTER TO UCLA

6:00 pm

Elloise Kim informs the Executive Committee that there is a letter sent by the ASUW to the Black Students Organization of UCLA with the GPSS's name on it. On October 6th there was a Kanye West/Kim Kardashian-themed party thrown by Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and Alpha Phi sorority at UCLA. There were people who wore baggy clothes, padded bottoms, plump lips, and blackface that could be deemed as mocking black people and black culture. Last Thursday Mitchel Chen, ASUW Director of Diversity Efforts, brought this to the ASUW BOD meeting and the ASUW BOD decided to send a letter to the whole students to support the UCLA community and show their solidarity against cultural appropriation. With that, Mitchel Chen contacted all relevant organizations and commissions that would be interested in signing the letter. She believed that the GPSS Diversity Committee also had a good reason to be part of the letter, but as the Committee was not formed yet at that time, Elloise Kim signed the letter as Chair of the GPSS Diversity Committee. The letter has been sent out and also has been posted onto the ASUW Facebook page. She wants that all the Executive Committee members know that the GPSS got involved in the letter.

Roy Taylor brought a resolution to the ASUW Senate yesterday that made the content of the letter as the official UW student opinion, and it was passed with a vote of 60 -1 and 9 abstentions.. Therefore, this is officially the opinion of the ASUW, not just the Board of Directors.

While a new GPSS resolution is not needed, the Executive Committee agrees they should pay close attention on this topic. **Brian Tracey** points out some concerns on the lack of communication between the letter organizers and students and how quickly the letter was sent out. Mitchell Chen and the ASUW are having a continuing conversation on culture appropriation especially for the Halloween is fast approaching.

10/28 SENATE AGENDA

6:08pm

Yasmeen Hussain will be hosting the Spotlight: a Resolution Rundown to teach Senators how to draft a resolution and what its timeline is.

The **Executive Committee** discusses whether the Executive Senator election should happen during the next Senate meeting or they had better wait one more week to allow newer Senators to participate in. **Joseph Telegen, Kerstin Hudon, Yasmeen Hussain, and Brian Tracey** favor having the election in the next meeting as they started the first Senate meeting later than in past years. The Committee decides to have the meeting in the following week and Alex Bolton will moderate the election with the assistance of the Judicial Committee.

The **Executive Committee** decides to clarify the difference between GPSS inner committees and executive liaison positions on other University committees.

Kerstin Hudon also reminds the Committee to add the Fall Ball advertisement and volunteer recruitment into the agenda.

Costumes are highly encouraged at the event. But if people have any question or concern about what costume may or may not be appropriate, they can learn from the “We’re a Culture, Not a Costume” campaign ran by Ohio University’s Students Teaching About Racism in Society (STARS) and others. **Elloise Kim** will post some relevant resources to the GPSS Facebook page of the Fall Ball.

Joseph Telegen motions to approve the agenda.

Monica Cortes-Viharo seconds.

The agenda is approved without any objection.

EXECUTIVE SENATOR REPORTS

6:27pm

Joseph Telegen says that he will join the Federal and State Legislative Steering Committee. Tonight is his first ‘Sweating with the Senate’ session.

Yasmeen Hussain suggests extending the “Good of the Order” item on agenda to 15 minutes. (**Joseph Telegen** seconds. The amended agenda is approved by the Committee). Transportations Services responded to Yasmeen’s concerns and made some minor changes. She will continue to update the GPSS on this issue.

Brian Tracey says that he has been following up with Tent City conversations and will email Alex Bolton about it. He, along with another Senator who will join on the Diversity Committee, will give a workshop at the Center for Teaching and Learning this spring on microaggression.

OFFICER REPORTS

6:31 pm

Monica Cortes-Viharo will be giving a workshop tomorrow at 11:45am, working with the Core Program, on Communication Skills for International Grad Students. It will take place at HUB 214. The job description of Director of Programs has been posted onto Husky Job. She will bring someone from the Husky 100 to the next GPSS Executive Committee meeting.

Brian Taubeneck has been attending various meetings. There is a lot of collaboration with the ASUW OGR working on their legislative agenda. He is working with Rene Singleton, SAO Adviser, to set up his winter working schedule. He is also working on the GPSS's legislative agenda.

Kerstin Hudon says that Rene is in the process of fixing some payroll issues on officer salary. There are some mix-ups. Also because of the delay in hiring people, there is a lot of extra personnel money, so the GPSS will be hiring a Policy Analyst to serve the entire year. Another issue is that there is a position listed as Director of Development, which was put in as innovation fund a couple years ago to try to improve alumni relation and to fund raise from alumni. The impression that she has gotten from the last year is that the position was not very helpful and was not the best use of the GPSS time or resources. If the GPSS does not end up hiring another person, it might result in reduction in the personnel fund next year.

The Travel Grant application for fall is closing on Friday midnight. There has been fewer applications than they anticipated and the Committee is likely to award less grant and save it for a next quarter. There are some conversations on re-doing the Travel Grant assessment rubric. Senators brought up the question of why the rubric had not been posted to the public currently, and she believes that a big reason for it is that a big portion of the score is based on a faculty recommendation. After this cycle of Travel Grant is over, she will start working on a new rubric that may be more public available. She will bring the new draft of rubric to the Exec Committee once it is completed.

Also, a current model of Special Allocation funding favors heavily a student organization that has one major event. Organizations with medium size events that are spread out the year have a lesser chance of getting the Special Allocation. There will be a discussion during this week's F&B Committee meeting on having a special consideration for organizations that have smaller events or a series of programing to ensure that they are not favoring any particular organization.

The first meeting of Registrar Search Committee went well.

Lastly, she might not be able to attend the Executive Committee meeting next quarter due to her class schedule, but she will try to have detailed notes on report and try to have one of her staff serve as her proxy.

Elloise Kim: Membership of the Diversity Committee and the Judicial Committee has been approved today and she will call for the meeting of both committees. The GPSS logo has been added to the Senate Meeting minutes, and there are some style changes with announcements. If there is any feedback or suggestion for further change, it will be welcome. Fall Spotlights have

all been scheduled and secured. They include Student Regent and Provost. Information Specialist is finally on board. She has been attending Graduate Student Experience Oversight Group working on the “First 90 Days” initiative. It is a big group comprised of many different offices across campus. It will be an on-going project for the rest of the year.

Roy Taylor met with a representative from Seattle University on Tent City. Their Tent City was in 2004-2005 winter. They are interested in hosting another one. If the UW decides to host one, they will publish a letter in support of the UW’s decision and to pressure the legislatures to bring in the Tent City. Currently there are a lot of legislative stuffs going on in the ASUW. He just has been re-commissioned to the Student Debt Reduction Working Group for another year. He is going to working on retention and enrolment to help formulate specific goals for the legislative agenda.

Alex Bolton: The Husky Experience is a program to encourage student entrepreneurship, and they are looking for volunteers to serve on the Husky Experience Advisory Council. The SAGE meeting went really well, and there is a temporary position to look on practices. Brian Taubeneck and he met with Sarah Clarke today. He went to President Cauce’s first state address today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

6:50pm

Yasmeen Hussain requests announcements from the Executive Committee meeting also to be sent out to Senators. She suggests that the officers presenting the information items also should send information to Elloise so that the Senate can collaborate to get all information out.

Elloise Kim says that in the past announcements were not necessarily included in the minutes because they were sent out via email, and Alex and she have discussed to have them as an addendum to minutes. The Committee thinks that it would be helpful.

Brian Tracey says that it would be helpful to attach a flyer of events for the announcement email as well.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:58pm
