

Graduate & Professional Student Senate

GPSS Senate Meeting- 29 October 2014

Meeting called to order at 5:34 by meeting chair Alice Popejoy

GPSS Parli-Pro & Structure

Before Alice called the meeting to order, she reviewed the the parliamentary procedure briefly to help new senators become more familiar with meeting language. Alice also re-emphasized what GPSS means and where it sits on the University campus. GPSS: seed community, facilitate advocacy, and provide pathways and tools for success.

Introduction of GPSS Officers

Alice Popejoy - President

Alex Bolton - Vice President

Douglas Taber- Treasurer

Natalie Gordon- Secretary

Reading of Agenda

Entertain motion to approve the agenda for Oct 29, 2014 - Alice

Vote: Move to approve the agenda - Brandon Ray , Seconded- Joseph Telegen

Resolve: Agenda for the meeting on 29 October 2014 approved without objection.

Approve of Minutes

Entertain motion to approve the minutes (sent out by secretary) for Oct 15, 2014 - Alice

Vote: Move to approve the agenda -Eddie Schwieterman, Seconded- Laura Taylor

Resolve: Minutes for the meeting on 15 October 2014 approved with no objection (edited information including attendances and names misspelled.)

Previously on GPSS

Alice emphasized that it is crucial for everyone to stay until the end of the meeting because there was some information that was given out at the very end of the last meeting that a lot of people missed. Alice recapped clarification of the UW Medicine affiliation with PeaceHealth. In addition although WSU decided to move on with their medical training program, WWAMI is still alive. Lastly, childcare was also a very big component of the last meeting. Alice will talk more in detail about "The WholeU and Your Kids Too" later in the meeting.

GPSS Spotlight

Natalie: the spotlight is an opportunity for people to come in and talk about their program, we have a line up until the end of this quarter but if you would like to have a spotlight, please send me an email and we can set up a date for you to present.

Women in Chemical Sciences at UW

Mission: to educate and empower women in science and their supporters by providing a safe and open space for dialogue, mentorship, collaboration, and skill building. This club started two years ago, and WCS started inviting speakers to mentor people. Chemistry Senator is Tom Edwards.

Upcoming events

- 12/5 1st annual WCS Lecture Series Maria Klawe, President of Harvey Mudd College
- 11/18 Cultures connecting workshop
- 3/3 Public lecture “past, present, and the future-finding aliens and finding ourselves”
- 3/14 Seattle Expanding Your Horizon conference
- Mentoring program between advisors and graduate student expanding

Past event review

- Professor Amy Cuddy- power posing - the way you pose yourself change the power dynamic- there's a popular Ted Talk on this topic
- Professor Christy Haynes- Struggles for women going into chemical academic career

Past workshops

- Stereotype threat and gender diversity - non binary genders. Discuss how to create a inclusive environment on campus and make resources more accessible. We are currently talking about bringing gender neutral/accessible restrooms on campus. We are also focusing on transgender insurance issue as well.
- Impostor Syndrome: feeling that you don't live up to expectations, and lacking sense of belonging in a community
- Science Communication - how to expand and explain research with limited vocabulary used in modern society
- We have a lot of passion about women in science and we want to connect with the larger UW community. If you want contact us, you can send emails to wcsuw@uw.edu

Joseph Telegen (English): There is a mindfulness program setting up at ASUW- possibly consider connecting WCS with other on campus resources.

Monica Cortes-Viharo (Drama): Also have you considered connecting with the Women's Center to expand this program to women who are not particularly in the science program?
Answer: yes, we are collaborating with them, particularly on the topic of equal pay.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Do you have to reserve a spot for these events? Answer: the main event, you can actually register through the UW graduate event/lecture series page.

Vanessa Kritzer (Public Affairs): Can you talk a little more about your experience as women scientists in the chemical industry? Answer: It isn't so much that people are saying overtly sexist things all the time, but it is the small things that pile up. People make comments and feedback that people don't want me there to do the work because I am a female, so when Sarah was talking about starting this club, I was really supportive of it. Being able to have a space to discuss these issues is something that we really value as women in the sciences industry.

Alice Popejoy: is it only men that are being sexist , or are women are doing it as well?

Answer: I think it's not necessary all about gender, a lot of the overt sexism is coming from men, but benign sexism, sexism language covered in complements comes from women a lot of the time.

Alice Popejoy: research shows that both women and men would say that men are more competent when the same exact CV is being presented to employers

Childcare Issue

Denny field is being preserved, so this is the first and probably the last opportunity that we will have to have a childcare facility on campus that is in adjacency to green space. There is a two year wait list for our childcare facilities which aren't even on campus. This has been an issue since 1970. We are currently collecting stories of what it would mean to you to have a childcare facility on campus. They have asked us to come up with a model showing that we can do this sustainably. We are also collaborating with the School of Education so they might also potentially benefit from having students learning from hand-on experience. The name of our campaign is "The WholeU & Your Kids Too". If you are student parent, your kids are part of your life.

Joseph Telegen (English): what material are you asking for? Answer: We are also creating surveys, so we just want to collect stories to gather support and inform our surveys.

Monica Cortes-Viharo (Drama): We should add a question asking do you perceive yourself becoming a parent in a year or two?

Brandon Ray (Atmospheric Sciences)- is there any collaboration with ASUW? Answer: this issue is not a priority for them because they are currently fighting for the affordability of housing on campus. But we do, in theory, have their support on this issue.

Mark Bourne (Built Environments) - what does it mean to be sustainable childcare? Answer: Finances. We want answers to question like who is going to pay for it, the initial investment for the capital, and the human resource power to support this facility.

Saejih Kwak (Education): It's going to be a shift, this particular facility, I am not sure what it is going to look like, but we definitely want more accessibility.

State Legislative Update

Alex Bolton: Introduced Rod, the newly hired Organizing Director

Rod: The state legislature has to fund K-12 education more than it is now. That is going to have a big impact on us, because how the government is going to find that money, there is a high chance that the University of Washington may experience funding cuts. If there are cuts from the legislature, it is going to mean that there is a real risk of tuition rising. What do you

think it would be like if you have to pay higher tuition, while you might not have guaranteed funding for TA, RA positions. It's a one union contract. A lot of state funding for RA and TA positions depends on that funding. Does anyone have any stories of how this would affect them?

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): We are having problems recruiting every year, because stipends are so much lower than other schools.

Monica Cortes-Viharo (Drama): We only take two students every year. It is extremely competitive for someone to get into our program because we don't have money to accept more students.

Erin Dunnington (Nursing Accelerated) : Not being able to get in advance program for students at the Nursing program.

Devin Bedard (Atmospheric Sciences): International students would not be allowed to study in the US

Rod: Having to pay more tuition or not having guaranteed funding will affect us all. We are trying to tap into the national network that GPSS already has. We want to have student organizations tap in to this network and become more educated on the impact of this issue.

Roy Burstein (Global Health): how do you answer the question of where should the funding come from? Answer: To get on the same page that cuts will hurt UW. Higher education is very important. We want to make sure that our voice is fully represented, and make sure that people know that we need to be fully funded

Alice: the governor's office and people in Olympia say there is going to be a cut no matter what, the question is how much. So we are really trying to make an emotional impact. For the first time in a long time though, education is finally the center of the conversation in Olympia again. I see that as an opportunity. You can't fund K-12 education then cut higher education funding and say that you do a good job.

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): point of information: do you guys know for a fact that this is where they are going to have the cut at or is this just an assumption? Answer: 25% increase in undergraduate tuition due to this issue, it will come from higher education.

Alice: there are four categories in the state budget that funding cannot be cut. Corrections, human services, higher ed, and 'other'. Higher ed is the biggest of the four categories.

Thomas Edwards (Chemistry): There is a connection between higher education and benefit. When you see higher education is a private good, you see personal gain. You can't put a price tag on having an engaged citizenship at the University of Washington. Rod: we have a

lot of information that we can present, but we really need people in power to present these stories to the legislature. We want them to know that impact of this cut.

Branden Audet (International Studies): how do they plan to slice the cut? Rod: that would be more of a second base question.

Alice: the UAW local union, we do contract negotiation with them every year for the RA, TA positions at the baseline levels. This an example of how this will directly impact everyone.

Go vote

Alex Bolton: Ballots are due on Tuesday, we will have a dropbox van starting on Saturday at Red Square set up by King County. If you would like to volunteer for phone banking tomorrow night, let me know.

Laura Taylor (Molecular & Cellular Biology): point of information, what is phone banking?
Answer: calling and asking people to go out and vote.

Officer Reports

Alex Bolton: two new hires. Paul and Rod. Alice and I just returned from Texas, and we did some advance practices and we are facing similar issues since we are all majorly public institutions. There is another Washington Student Association meeting coming up in a week

Doug Taber: We have a Fall Ball. It's on November 6 at the Hub South Ballroom. If you would like to come volunteer for the Fall Ball, please sign up at the sheet. If anyone is interested in Finance and Budget Committee, we still have one more spot.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): volunteering is a great opportunity for people who don't feel as comfortable at parties and like to have something to do.

Natalie Gordon: Judicial Committee had a meeting for the first time. Diversity committee also had a great meeting. Also please make sure that you say your name and department out loud when you are speaking and return your name tag back to the box when the meetings end.

Alice Popejoy: we are having an interactive innovation pipeline program, 4:30 at the HUB on November 17. If you have research that you think would look good on a poster, please come and participate in this great event. We had our first PACS meeting. How many of you have college councils that you know about at the University? [Many people didn't know]. We will talk about this more throughout the year.

Announcements:

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): our smoking site survey is complete. There are specific smoking site on campus and we did a study about people's attitudes toward them. Our report from our survey is out, and it will be sent out to you at some point this week.

Douglass Taber: if you have trouble disseminating information, you can contact me and I can help you with that , because it for your constituencies to know about this information.

Thilini Kahandawaarachchi (FIUTS): we are looking for performers for the Cultural Festival 2015. If you are interested, please reach out to Natalie.

Joseph Telegen (English): Judiciary Committee should stick around and discuss more about the bylaws. I am also interested in starting task force if anyone is interested.

Alice Popejoy: if you are interested in a committee, and want to become more involved, you can email either Natalie or just go on the GPSS website.

Brian Tracey (Marine & Environmental Affairs): November 4 the Law School is holding a special event at Mary Gates Hall. November 15 is a Green Dot Event (awareness on being an effective bystander), Diversity committee met and one of the things we talked about is having everyone branched out to participate any culture events so I want to encourage everyone to be more aware of cultural events on campus.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Alice Popejoy: entertain motion to adjourn meeting

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): move to adjourn

Branden Audet (International Studies: second