

# **GPSS Senate Meeting Minutes**

## **Oct. 5, 2011**

### **1. Call to Order**

**Trond Nilsen**, Industrial Engineering: moves to bring the meeting to order.

**Jonathan Kocarnik**, Public Health Genetics: Seconds.

Motion passes. Meeting called to order at 5:43pm.

### **2. Orientation**

#### **Introduction to GPSS**

**Aaron Naumann**, President: Gives general introduction to GPSS and welcome. He talks about how this year there are both new, exciting opportunities at UW as well as continuing challenges, especially budget cuts for higher education

#### **Introduction to Officers**

1. Aaron Naumann: President

Gives introduction to the role and responsibilities of the President.

2. Adam Sherman: Vice-President

Introduces the role and responsibilities of the Vice-President, highlighting Higher Education Summit and placing students on University committees.

3. Colin Goldfinch: Treasurer

Introduces the role and responsibilities of the Treasurer.

Finance and Budgeting Committee, Travel Grants committee, oversees human resources and IT internally, social events, Science and Policy Summit.

4. Melanie Mayock: Secretary

Introduces the role and responsibilities of the Secretary.

Work on Senate roster, communications, recordkeeping, liaison to ASUW, diversity.

#### **Parliamentary Procedure**

**Aaron Naumann**: explains parliamentary procedure and how a senate meeting is run.

**Melanie Mayock**: explains a run-through for a practice resolution on cake.

Practice on Cake Resolution:

**Trond Nilsen**, Industrial Eng: Explains how to be a sponsor for a resolution.

**Jonathan Kocarnik**, Public Health Genetics: Moves to stop reading resolution.  
**Colin Bateson**, Mechanical Engineering: Seconds.

**Megan Gambs**, Oceanography: Who is Renee and is she really going to buy us cake?

**Melanie Mayock**: Rene is our Advisor, and yes, she will buy us cake.

**Melanie Mayock**: Question for the sponsor: Did you solicit input from other Senators about the type of cake to get?

**Trond Nilsen**, Industrial Engineering: Yes, I spoke with other Senators.

**Melanie Mayock**: Moves to amend the resolution to replace the word “carrot” with the word “chocolate.”

**Ginger Farrell**, French and Italian: Seconds the motion.

**Athena Pantazis**, Sociology: “What bakery is the cake coming from?”

**Melanie Mayock**: We don’t know that right now.

**Aaron Naumann**: All in favor of the amendment to replace the word “carrot” with the word “chocolate”? All opposed? It’s not clear if the amendment passed.

**Trond Nilsen**, Industrial Engineering: I move to amend the resolution to include one carrot cake and one chocolate cake.

**Megan Gambs**, Oceanography: Seconds.

All in favor.

Nay: 1

The resolution passes.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

**Trond Nilsen**, Industrial Engineering: Moves to approve the agenda.

**Jonathan Kocarnik**, Public Health Genetics: Seconds.

All in favor. Motion passes.

### **4. Approval of the Minutes**

**Karl Starns**, Jackson School- RECAS: Moves to approve minutes.

**Jonathan Kocarnik**, Public Health Genetics: Seconds.

All in favor. Motion passes.

## 5. Provost Search

**Dan Schwartz:** Introduces himself as member of the Provost Search Committee and a Professor from Chemical Engineering.

**Aaron Naumann:** The Provost search is an internal search. President Young is still new here and wants to learn the culture of the university. He was advised that the best candidates for a new Provost are on campus. There are community forums and targeted meetings to find out what the community would like to see in a new Provost. The Provost has two major roles:

1. Executive Vice President
2. Chief Academic Officer

The Provost has as internal focus and works closely with the President.

**Dan Schwartz:** Talks about how the Provost affects students' daily lives. Shares an example about the creation of the College of the Environment that helped create synergies between undergraduate and graduate programs. He explains to Senators how they can nominate someone for the position of Provost.

**Conor McLean, ASUW President:** Talks about the phase of collecting feedback from the community.

**Aaron Naumann:** Asks if there are any questions about the provost.

**Alice Pedersen, English:** Can we tell our cohorts that they can nominate someone?

**Aaron Naumann:** They have to hold the position of tenured professor.

**Jonathan Kocarnik, Public Health Genetics:** In health sciences, we are physically removed, but I would suggest someone who has worked with creating inter-disciplinary studies.

**Onyinye Edeh, Global Health:** How long does the professor have to have been at the UW?

**Aaron Naumann:** There is a preference for someone who has overseen a large budget.

**Sarah Bergman, Earth and Space Sciences:** Since it's an internal search, will the person elected have to give up their position in their department?

**Aaron Naumann:** Looking at Chairs or Deans of colleges, which would also leave a vacancy.

**Dan Schwartz:** Gives example that shows how the professor/dean would be formally removed from their position.

**Aaron Naumann:** We'll now have Senators break up into groups to discuss the Provost search.

Senators break into small groups to discuss the Provost search. Aaron then calls on a speaker from each group to share what the group discussed.

**Jonathan Kocarnik**, Public Health Genetics: Make sure the Provost is someone who judiciously makes decisions on departmental budget cuts. Rumors about programs getting cut affects student and faculty retention. Budget is going to be the biggest problem for everyone.

**Ginger Farrell**, French and Italian: Ditto what Jonathan said. Also, balance between academic and professional programs

**Dan Schwartz**: Is ditto about transparency?

**Ginger Farrell**: Ditto is towards budgets, funding, and transparency.

**Jonathan Kocarnik**, Public Health Genetics: Using metrics that are tailored to each department. Making sure same metrics aren't used in the same places.

**Brigit Stadler**, Jackson School- Korea: Loss of tenured faculty, funding, lack of faculty diversity, lack of TA/RA positions

**Jennifer Griffiths**, Aquatic/Fisheries: Communication is really important, lack of inter-departmental communication, getting student feedback to their ideas, a vision for the university.

**Aaron Naumann**: Reminds everyone that GPSS helped create the Provost Advisory Committee for Students last year.

**Colin Bateson**, Mechanical Engineering: Cost of living situation in Seattle, someone who is more in touch with what graduate students go through today. Transparency of capital projects. Ambitious vision and plans. Someone willing to engage student body- eg town hall meetings, and a successful teacher/mentor.

**Dan Schwartz**: Someone who gets the critical role of the graduate students.

**Ted Chen**, Bioengineering: Departments feeling that decision-making autonomy is being diminished, course availability, administrative experience, regular forum for communication.

**Aaron Naumann**: Summarizes Ted's statement, as a candidate for Provost is able to advocate for university as a whole, not just their own department.

**Catherine Mangum**, Jackson School Russia: Support of outreach programs

**Michael Hutchins**, Earth and Space Sciences: Not putting departments together just because of size. Awareness of emerging disciplines.

**Sara Crumb**, Public Health Genetics: Ditto on everything that has been said, finding a Provost who can also see long-term goals, find someone who has experience dealing successfully with major budget cuts but has still maintained integrity and quality of program.

**Trond Nilsen**, Industrial Engineering: Making decisions that are not just politically convenient.

**Daniel Coslett**, Built Environment: A provost that is not from STEM, and also looking at a positive outlook on difficult financial situations.

**Aaron Naumann**: This year UW got local control of undergraduate tuition.

**Russ Hugo**, Linguistics: Sole-focus on UW or more transparency.

**Aaron Naumann**: comments on the commercialization of the university. There are many who want to see this in a centralized place. The conversation is beginning and looming.

**Dan Schwartz**: Legislature last year added to our mission, economic development.

**Nicole Secula**, Music: Focus should be on candidate's vision of role of the university, what is going to be their focus.

**Karen Tabb**, Social Welfare: Integrity, leadership, long-term vision. Re: Integrity: courage to stand up if activity-based.

**Alice Pedersen**, English: Questions the role of the public.

**Aaron Naumann**: What are we and what do we do.

**Sarah Bergman**, Earth and Space Sciences: There can be ways to do anonymous surveys if we are looking internally.

**Aaron Naumann**: Debate on whether candidate names will be made public. If a Dean is turned down for Provost, would they leave the university? Transparency as a double-edged sword

**Jennifer Griffiths**, Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences: find people who have been decided against during the process.

**Abbas Hooshmand**, Civil Engineering: list of primary accomplishments

**Alex Fry**, Astronomy: moves to close debate.

**Trond Nilsen**, Engineering: seconds.

All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes.

## **6. GPSS Committee Appointments:**

**Executive Committee:**

**Aaron Naumann:** gives brief introduction of what the committee does, its role and responsibilities. Two vacancies.

**Aaron Naumann:** nominates **Mateo Banegas**, Public Health - Health Services.

**Mateo Banegas:** “I have been a Senator for 4 years. I worked on our own search for the Dean of the School of Public Health.”

**Aaron Naumann:** nominates **Amy Winter**, Dentistry.

**Amy Winter:** “I was on Elections Committee, was in Health Sciences and would like to have representation for these departments.”

**Michael Hutchins**, Earth and Space Sciences: Nominates himself. “Last year I served on Graduate Program Review Committee, and this is my third year on the committee.”

Vote is conducted. The Senate elects **Amy Winter** and **Mateo Banegas** to the Executive Committee.

### **Judicial Committee:**

**Melanie Mayock** introduces the Judicial committee’s role and functions. Looking for 6 senators.

**Daniel Coslett**, Built Environment: Can you be on the Judicial Committee and also sit on a University Committee?

**Melanie Mayock:** Yes, that’s allowed.

Seven nominations:

1. Daniel Coslett, Built Environments
2. Michael Hutchins, Earth and Space Sciences
3. Wes Kovarik, Jackson School & Law
4. Eder Sousa, Aeronautics and Astronautics
5. Blake Hovde, Genome Sciences (nominated by Keolu Fox, Genome Sciences)
6. Matt Eliseo, Business
7. Buddy Rutzky, Law

**Kevin Johnson**, Jackson School- South Asian Studies: Can anyone un-nominate themselves?

**Daniel Coslett:** I withdraw from consideration.

Current nominations:

1. Michael Hutchins, Earth and Space Sciences
2. Wes Kovarik, Jackson School & Law

3. Eder Sousa, Aeronautics and Astronautics
4. Blake Hovde, Genome Sciences (nominated by Keolu Fox, Genome Sciences)
5. Matt Eliseo, Business
6. Buddy Rutzky, Law

**Karl Starns**, Jackson School-RECCAS moves to approve the six nominations.

**Kevin Johnson**, Jackson School-South Asian Studies: Seconds.

All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes.

### **Finance and Budget:**

**Colin Goldfinch**, Treasurer: introduces the roles and responsibilities of the Finance and Budget Committee.

Nominations:

1. Catherine Mangum, JSIS-RECCAS
2. Karl Starns, JSIS RECCAS
3. Colin Bateson, Mechanical Engineering
4. Ted Chen, Bioengineering
5. Kiran Alluru, Aeronautics and Astronautics
6. Keolu Fox, Genome Sciences
7. Kristen Hosey, Nursing

Members will be voted on by the Executive Committee.

### **Travel Grants Committee:**

**Colin Goldfinch** introduces the roles and responsibilities of the Travel Grants Committee.

Nominations.

1. Tennille Thelen, Immunology
2. Nicholas Cain, Applied Math
3. Nitya Venkateswaran, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
4. Karen Tabb, Social Work
5. Jenny To, Oral Biology
6. Onyinye Edeh, Global Health
7. Bonnie, Lau, Speech and Hearing Sciences
8. Brigit Stadler, JSIS Korea Studies
9. David Scoville, Environmental and Occupational Health

### **Legislative Steering Committees**

**Adam Sherman** introduces the roles and responsibilities of the State & Federal Legislative Steering Committees. Takes volunteers for both combined.

Nominations:

1. Amber Trout, Built Environments (State)
2. Trond Nilsen, Industrial Engineering
3. Skylar Olsen, Economics (State)
4. Cara Bilodeau, Social Work (State)
5. Russ Hugo, Linguistics (state)
6. Dan Coslett, Built Environments
7. Sarah Bergman, Earth and Space Sciences
8. Nathaniel McVicar, Electrical Engineering
9. Sarah Crumb, Public Health Genetics (State)
10. Ted Chen, Bioengineering
11. Sam Jessup, Statistics (State)
12. Jessica Bottomly
13. Matt Sousa, Business, State
14. Colin Bateson, Mechanical Eng (Fed)
15. Bonnie Lau, Speech & Hearing (Federal)

Members will be voted on by the Executive Committee.

#### **Graduate Program Review Committee**

**Aaron Naumann** introduces the Grad Program Review Committee, its role and responsibilities.

**Jenn Tippins**, Jackson School- China: Do they know the depts. up for review this year?

**Aaron Naumann**: Yes, we have that information.

Nominations:

1. Jennifer Griffith, Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences
2. Kristen Hosey, Nursing
3. Amy Mehrton, Jackson School- Middle East Studies
4. Daniel Cortez, iSchool - MSIM
5. Runze Yu, Civil and Environmental Engineering
6. Adrienne Sussman, Psychology
7. Abbas Hooshmand, Civil and Environmental Engineering
8. Alina Schimpf, Chemistry
9. Jessica Lozano, Anthropology
10. Ginger Farrell, French and Italian

Members will be voted on by the Executive Committee.

#### **Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee**

**Melanie Mayock** introduces the roles and responsibilities of the Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee.

**Trond Nilsen** also helps to explain its role and why it was created.

**Nicolas Cain**, Applied Math: Must a student be a senator at the time of the appointment?

**Melanie Mayock**: Yes, but they don't have to be a Senator to be nominated.

**Keolu Fox**, Genome Sciences: Can we create a forum on science and policy?

**Melanie Mayock**: You are free to make an informal working group. GPSS already has a group working on the Science and Policy Summit, including Treasurer Colin Goldfinch. If you want to create a standing committee, the bylaws require a Senate vote.

Nominations:

1. Ben Crockett, Applied Math (not an official Senator yet)
2. Ginger Farrell, French and Italian
3. Heidi Berge, Jackson School - South Asian
4. Brigit Stadler, Jackson School - Korea Studies
5. Trond Nilsen, Industrial Engineering
6. Meredith Slota, iSchool - MLIS
7. Chris Lizotte, Geography
8. Vicki Wilmes, Art History

Members will be voted on by the Executive Committee.

#### **ASUW Senate Liaisons:**

Evan Smith, ASUW: Gives introduction of ASUW Senate Liaison.

Nominations:

1. Kiran Alluru, Aeronautics and Astronautics
2. Ted Chen, Bioengineering

Members will be voted on by the Executive Committee.

#### **7. Announcements:**

**David Scoville**, Public Health-Environmental and Occupational Health: Would like to be on Travel Grants committee.

**Aaron Naumann**: We'll add you to the volunteer list.

**Colin Goldfinch**: Announces Fall Social.

**Aaron Naumann**: Announces Higher Education Summit on November 4th.

**Becky Edmonds**, LGBT Students: Rainbow Grads, Fall Social on October 13th at 4:00pm.

**Renee Singleton:** Asks senators to project more when they speak.

**Noralis Rodriguez,** Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies: Brown Bag lunch meetings in her department.

## **8. Adjourn**

**Jenn Tippins,** Jackson School- China Studies: Moves to adjourn.

**Trond Nilsen,** Industrial Engineering: Seconds.

All in favor. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

## **GPSS Senate Meeting Minutes November 2, 2011**

### **1. Call to Order:**

Time called to order: 5:35pm

Aaron gives introduction to the meeting.  
Sean Wilson is the new ASUW liaison to GPSS

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Trond Nilsen, Industrial Engineering: Moves to approve the agenda.  
Buddy Rutzke, Law: Seconds.  
All in favor, motion passes.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Mitch Kaufman, Philosophy: Moves to approve the minutes from the October 5<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting.  
Kiana Scott, Public Affairs: Seconds.  
All in favor, motion passes.

### **4. Guest Speaker: Graduate School Dean Gerald Baldasty**

Aaron gives an introduction for first guest speaker, Dean Gerald Baldasty of the Graduate School.

Dean Baldasty:

- Brief Intro:  
From Spokane, came to UW as an undergraduate, Communications major. Because of a faculty mentor he decided to go to graduate school. Has been on the faculty since 1978.
- What the Graduate School Does:
  - Graduate School is the infrastructure for most of the departments and programs of graduate study.
  - Concerned with the success of graduate students, particularly students of color and for high achieving students during recruitment.
  - Offer workshops that departments may not be offering.
  - GO-MAP program
  - Quality assessments: Every program has to be reviewed every 10 years.
- Diversity at UW:
  - Doing better than 10 years ago, but not doing nearly as well in comparison to schools the UW wants to be like. Taking the notion seriously of being a public institution and the need to produce great leaders in the next generation.

- Non-resident tuition waiver:
  - If you're a TA or RA, this does not apply to you.
  - Created in 2003 by the Board of Regents, for students from out-of-state paying full tuition. Qualify for in-state tuition after first year. This was a popular program and was used as a recruitment tool.
  - In 2009, Provost Phyllis Wise looked into the program; its costs were over \$4 million in forgone tuition, for approximately 300 students the program covered. The program has been ended because of its costs. This will affect the 2012 cohort of incoming students. If you are a student now, you are grandfathered in.
  
- Graduate School Agenda:
  - Urging UW to prioritize graduate and professional school education. Grad and professional students play an important role for this institution. They also serve as great role models to undergrads and are key to faculty retention. Important for both educational and research mission of the institution. Would like to see the institution double fellowships.
  
- Questions:
  - Buddy Rutzke, Law: The Law School has no TA/RA-ships. Any metrics in how out-of-state tuition worked as a recruitment tool?  
Dean Baldasty: No metrics, but about 80 students in Law School received the tuition waiver.
  
  - Buddy Rutzke, Law: Were benefits of the tuition waiver program being considered?  
Dean Baldasty: Did not think we would generate an extra \$4 million if those students decided not to come here. May see later that this was a short-term solution.
  
  - Onyinye Edeh, Global Health: How do you know that you qualify?  
Dean Baldasty: Go to the website. Many departments don't know about it.
  
  - Keolu Fox, Genome Sciences: Recruiting students is not easy. How does UW market itself?  
Dean Baldasty: Research- talk about quality of institution, good labs, good faculty.
  
  - Aaron: If you dis-enroll from university you may not be eligible when you come back.
  
  - Nitya Venkateswaran, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies: Training for faculty to be more welcoming for students of color?  
Dean Baldasty: Not so much, our focus is on student development. Faculty training could be beyond the Graduate School capacity.

Dean Baldasty speaks highly of Aaron's involvement in search for new Provost.

## 5. Guest Speaker: UAW President David Parsons

Aaron introduces David Parsons of UAW Local 4121. The union represents all the TAs and RAs on campus as well as undergraduate workers such as graders; this amounts to about 4,000 people.

### David Parsons:

The union and GPSS have been linked since the union's inception. Emerged directly out of GPSS in the late 1990s when there were a lot of debates about funding and employment for grad and professional students. The debate centered around how students play two roles: 1) students and 2) workforce (TA/RA/tutor/grader). When grad students are both, how do we organize and advocate for ourselves as workers.

GPSS in late '90s decided students should have a collective voice for collective bargaining and faced resistance from the university. Arguments being made at the time have somewhat diminished at present. Students are still primarily students and not employees and the university wants to have that relationship. In 2004 UAW negotiated first contract with the University. As academic student employees, we bargain with the university as equals. Primary function of UAW is to represent ourselves as academic student employees.

Other issues and advocacy include: immigration reform, scientific research, affordability and access in tuition. Important for access to the university to encourage diversity.

### Questions:

- Wes Kovarik, Jackson School – International Studies: Dean Baldasty is pushing funding to fellowships. Would that come at the expense of TAs and RA-ships?

David Parsons: If fellowships become a way for the university to provide less funding then a) not immediately clear how it would work- removing TA/RAs from classroom and labs would fly in the face of experience. b) whether there would be same processes available to Fellows as they have been for TAs and RAs. So when students have problems with their funding, what sort of policies would govern dispute resolution and what processes would be in place when they need advocacy.

- Adrienne Sussman, Psychology: What's the contract negotiation status of student fees?

David Parsons: Fee increases result in a de-facto pay decrease. Last year the University was willing to provide a compensation off-set for increased fees (e.g. building fee). At the end of negotiations they provided a small compensation so that things are kept even. This year there are new fees.

- Aaron Naumann, President: UAW is re-negotiating with the University in March/April?

David Parsons: some minor improvements rather than nothing

- Skylar Olsen, Economics: In the Econ department, we as TAs cannot hire graders. What is the union's stance on this?

David Parsons: Strongly encourage that this issue be pursued. Cannot require to work more than 20 hours. If there is a change to course structure due to budget cuts, that kind of change is the sort of possibility. Direct relationship to support staff and workload.

- Nicole Secula, Music: No one wants to stand up because they don't want to lose their TA-ship. Is there someone we can bring in on our behalf to speak to the dean/advisor?

David Parsons: UAW has stewards that can help. It's far less effective when workers are not proactive in the process. University cannot take away your job, it is against the law. We don't know of a single situation where someone has lost their job from the experience or situation.

David Parsons: Next Wednesday we are drawing attention to cuts to higher education and the connection to larger economic trends in the state of Washington. Highlight out-of-state banks gaining 100 million in tax incentives while the UW budget is being cut.

## 6. Bylaw Amendment Proposal

Aaron brings up his job offer and announces he is resigning from the role of GPSS president. Current bylaws say that the Vice-President would step into that role. But if Vice-President transitions to presidency, there would be two large holes among GPSS officers, rather than just one. Authors of bylaws had never intended for a president to step down. Only a few officers in history of GPSS have resigned.

Aaron opens floor to senators for questions.

- Nitya Venkateswaran, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies: Any situation where we would need Vice-President to step in to Presidency?

Adam Sherman, Vice-President: It's still possible for the Vice-President to assume the position temporarily. The new proposal would be more democratic.

Melanie explains in detail changes to the bylaws. She references the last page of the bylaws, which explain the rules for amendments. Proposed bylaw amendments need to be sent to Senators seven days before it is voted on. Judiciary Committee does not have to approve it before it comes to Senate, but she checked with the members and they all support this proposal. Melanie goes over the changes to affected parts of the bylaws. To amend the bylaws it is a majority vote of those Senators present, in person or by proxy.

- Nathaniel McVicar, Electrical Engineering: Point of Information: Any rules on current President/Officer endorsing other candidates?

Aaron Naumann: Historically, no.

- Tobias, Germanics: grammatical mistake question in amendment.  
Melanie: That will be fixed.
- Ted Chen, Bioengineering: What would we do if President had to leave temporarily?

Melanie: It's too difficult to find a temporary replacement, get them trained, then hold an election.

Aaron Naumann: Hope that this part of the bylaws will go to the Judiciary Committee later for more revisions. This proposal will get us through the process for now.

Colin Goldfinch, Treasurer: Executive Committee meets every week.

Melanie: Bylaws have long set of election rules for normal election process and short set of election rules for replacement election. This one is for replacement election.

Trond Nilson, Industrial and Systems Engineering: Replacement election and election packet wording is confusing. Moves to change wording in Clause 5, letter d, to read:

d. The Executive Senators shall develop election rules and an election packet for the replacement election, which shall be distributed to the GPSS at least seven days before the election.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: Seconds the motion.

Michael Light, Social Work: Clarifying question: Are we coming up with a new system every time this happens?

Colin Goldfinch: Because replacement elections may happen during the time when there is not an elections committee meeting...

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: Bylaws have rules that cannot be changed by the Elections Committee. Elections Committee changes only incidental rules. They would not be able to change other rules.

Aaron Naumann: Calls for a vote on Trond's motion to amend the amendment proposal. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes to fix wording in bylaw amendment proposal.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: I move that the amendments be approved as written

Mitch Kaufman, Philosophy: Seconds.  
All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

## **7. Higher Education Summit and Legislative Update**

Aaron Naumann:

This morning there was a press release from ASUW proposing three initiatives to generate revenue for higher ed. Tomorrow night is the Student Empowerment Banquet.

Higher Ed Summit Agenda:

8:30am- meet and greet with Michael K. Young. Members of the Board of Regents will also be there.

Panel 1: Where we are at present

Panel 2: What is the future for Washington's public research universities in area of shrinking state assistance?

Panel 3: Attaining an Advanced Degree: Has Student Indebtedness Reached the Tipping Point?

No one has proposals to offset costs from cuts to higher education. The more that students can become engaged will help us in the long run.

Adam Sherman:

At the end of the Higher Ed Summit, engage in dialogue with legislators about the work you do. Stories are important and student voices need to be heard.

Adam would also like to visit departments and asks Senators to find time for Adam to come talk to their department and see the work and research firsthand. The purpose is to have stories to share with legislators for the special session, which starts November 28. There will be a Town Hall meeting in mid-December in partnership with ASUW and other organizations. Multiple ways for students to communicate with GPSS to relay stories/

- Laine Anderson, Speech and Hearing Sciences: Is the Summit informal - can students come and go?

Adam: As long as you can be there for part of the event, that would be great.

- John Huang, Epidemiology: It would be great for faculty to know, are they invited too?  
Adam: Yes, the more people involved in conversation, the better. The more we can get faculty and administration involved, the better.

Melanie: Don't forget to help put the word out about the event.

## **8. Science and Policy Summit**

Colin Goldfinch:

Last year GPSS put on a Science and Policy Summit to complement the Higher Ed Summit. It's meant to investigate the interface between science and policy. Right now we are starting to fundraise and plan for the event. Want to know what issues are salient and pertinent to students doing research right now. What kind of speakers would be interesting? What should the format be? If you know of departments who want to contribute or partner with, please let Colin know.

- Michael Light, Social Work: Are there any tools in place for garnering feedback?  
Colin: not yet
- Nicole Secula, Music: Are you reaching out to Bothell campus? There is a new department there in Environmental Science.

## 9. GPSS Funding Options

Colin Goldfinch:

GPSS has three types of funding for students:

1. Travel Grants: Students can only receive once throughout the course of degree.
2. Departmental Allocations: This is funding for you department. Could be for events to build student community, new furniture, magazine subscriptions, etc. No retroactive funding. No food or drinks.
3. Special Allocations: For registered student organizations. Online application.

Michael Light, Social Work: What is the total funding for the year?

Colin:

\$17,000 for departmental allocations

\$21,000 for travel grants

\$15,000 for special allocations

## 10. PhD Movie

Free movie screening on November 17th

## 11. Announcements

Aaron Naumann:

- Campus planning and budgeting office: Looking for grad students in discussion of long-term planning of the university. Potential innovation zone on the west side of campus.
- Help ask questions at Higher Ed Summit

Charles Plummer, Earth and Space Sciences:

- The Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS) is a committee of students that has a voice with the Provost on budget issues. Question for everyone: What does “quality” mean to you, as graduate students? If cuts are going to come, what areas do students want to see protected?

## 12. Adjourn

Chris Lizotte, Geography: Moves to adjourn.

Ted Chen, Bioengineering: seconds.

All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes.

Time of adjournment: 7:35pm

## **GPSS Senate Meeting November 30, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order**

Aaron Naumann calls the meeting to order at 5:37pm

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Ted Chen, Bioengineering: Moves to approve the agenda.

Dan Cortez, iSchool: Seconds.

None opposed. Motion passes.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Edward Schwieterman, Astronomy: Moves to approve the minutes from the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Gregor Passolt, Quantitative Ecology and Resource Management: Seconds.

None opposed. Motion passes.

### **4. Special Election**

Aaron introduces Trond Nilsen (Industrial Engineering) from the Executive Committee.

Trond explains the Special Election process: The Executive Senators created election rules that were sent to Senators two weeks ago.

#### **Introduction to President's Role:**

Aaron gives short introduction to the position of the President, including committees the President sits on, roles and responsibilities. For more information on the role and responsibilities of the GPSS President, please visit:

<http://depts.washington.edu/gpss/senate/officers/elections>

And see Elections Guide section 3.1

Question pertaining to hours - limited to 20 hours/week?

Aaron: Hours over 20/week are voluntary, but getting the job done requires 40-60 hours a week.

Aaron: Critical aspect is understanding the structure of how University committees work.

#### **Nominations from the floor:**

Charles Plummer (Earth and Space Sciences) nominates himself.

There are no other nominations from the floor.

Charles introduces himself. Has spent over 3 years in GPSS as a Senator, served on the Executive Committee, currently chairs the Provost Advisory Committee for Students. Worked on Student Technology Fee, UPASS, and other issues. Already knows the Exec Committee.

**Second nominations:**

No other nominations.

Trond explains that it would be a yes/no vote of confidence in the case of only one candidate.

**Questions for Candidate:**

1. Aaron Naumann, President: What are your top three priorities?

Charles Plummer: First priority is getting students involved in the University budget process. Second priority is figuring out as a grad student body what the next steps are for lobbying within the university. Third: transportation. Transportation costs are going to increase in the future. Need to think about how to build relationships with King County Metro as well as other large transportation users in the next 5 to 10 years.

2. Megan Gambs, Oceanography: Why have you decided to run for president?

Charles Plummer: This is the last year I can have an impact on the campus. It's our responsibility to help each other. Want to be able to say that I have helped my fellow students as much as I could.

3. Mateo Banegas, Public Health: The President spends on average 15-20 hours a week in meetings. Will you be able to attend these?

Charles: I only do research, so my schedule is flexible.

Kiana Scott, Public Affairs: How will you handle taking office in the middle of the year?

Charles: Working with Aaron and catching up with him. Being on the Exec Committee for the past 3 years I understand the stakeholders

Karl Starns, JSIS Russian, European and Central Asian Studies: Do you think your vision with GPSS coincides with current president, or if not, how does it differ?

Charles: My vision is mostly one of maintenance, not to shake things up or change course of direction. Aaron and I agree with many of the issues.

**Voting:**

Charles is taken out of the room and the Senators vote on paper ballots, administered by the Executive Senators. The vote is a yes/no vote of confidence in Charles Plummer.

**5. Approval of Legislative Agenda**

Adam Sherman talks about the GPSS state and federal legislative agendas.

We have two GPSS legislative steering committees. This year we had a very compressed schedule because of the special sessions happening in Olympia this month. Please make sure this is in line with the values of your constituents.

## 1. State Legislative Agenda

Big budget shortfall, state funding is definitely at risk here at UW.

Highlights:

- preserve all funding for higher education in 2012-2013 session
- eliminate unnecessary tax loopholes
- create a variety of revenue packages
- funding higher education is a way out of the recession
- higher education is a good return on investment
- create incentives for students to pursue advanced degrees and for businesses to stay in WA.

## GPSS 2012 Priorities

- no additional cuts
- bold revenue packages
- financial aid- Washington work study program, child care matching grant
- improved efficiency- reduce administrative costs, reduce time to degree

Questions:

Chris Lizotte, Geography: How will we deal with the restrictions from the Tim Eyman initiative on tax increases?

Adam: A tax increase would require a referendum because it's not feasible to get 2/3 vote in the Senate. To put a tax package on the March ballot would require a vote by the legislature by Dec 17; otherwise a later referendum would have higher administrative costs. Once it becomes a referendum we are not allowed to take a stance on it.

In terms of more permanent revenue, there are a lot of ideas out there. That is why I left the language vague so that I don't have to come back and get a new vote by the Senate each time.

Aaron: we are really trying to think outside the box, moving away from consumer consumption which may fluctuate. Other ideas are formation of a state bank low interest loans for WA residents. But we need flexibility in language for Adam to lobby.

## 2. Federal Legislative Agenda

Priorities:

- Funding
- Bold revenue packages
- Financial aid and access- always fight for it

- Visa reform- we do this every year
- Loan forgiveness programs- payments on federal loans never exceed 15% of discretionary income. After 20 years all loans are forgiven, if you go in to public service, done after 10 years.
- Improved Efficiency
- Academic Excellence

Aaron: last year we lost subsidized loans for grad students.

David Scoville, Occupations Health Sciences: there is a typo?

Adam: please email Melanie re: typos

Naomi Campa, Classics: How can the language support humanities or those disciplines outside of STEM majors?

Adam: Spillover affects every single department, so science is not siloed. No one person or 10 people can reflect the collective voice of everyone. I agree that what you don't say is as loud as what you do say.

Erin Abu-Rish, Nursing: During the spring of 2001 at Western Washington University, there was a good speaker about the value of a liberal arts education.

Aaron: The new provost can help with that too.

Liana Wood, Pathobiology: There is a significant risk of cutting residency opportunities, which would reduce the ability of med students to learn.

Adam: Can you suggest a sentence for that issue?

Liana Wood, Pathobiology: "preserve funding for graduate medical education"

Naomi Campa, Classics: We should include language about the importance of arts and humanities.

Aaron: adds language to the Federal Legislative Agenda

John Huang, Epidemiology: Moves approval of the State and Federal Legislative Agendas.

Ted Chen, Bioengineering, seconds.

None opposed, no abstentions. Legislative Agendas approved.

### **Election Results:**

92 senators voted yes for Charles Plummer.

1 voted against him.

Charles is elected the new GPSS President.

## **6. Student Engagement**

Melanie Mayock introduces the student engagement segment and gives examples of how to get more students to contact legislators.

Senators break up into groups based on program and brainstorm ideas.

Group Reports:

Kimberly Schertz, Law: One of our ideas was to get legislators to come to the students.  
Aaron: great idea, we have had legislators come to campus before.

Sarah Bergman, Earth and Space Sciences: Try and recruit specific students to have experts in the field speak to why funding for that field is important.

Ginger Farrell, French and Italian: Humanities pub crawl and write postcards.  
Interviewing graduate students, one person tells story, the other writes it.  
Aaron Naumann: We've talked about video-vignettes to send out to legislators.

Eddie Schwieterman, Astronomy: Series where we solicit responses from students and submit it into a contest. Another idea is having a calling party to contact legislators.  
Also, having groups of departments call.

Alden Denny, Oceanography: Combine skill that we all need (self-marketing) with the stories that GPSS needs. Individual graduate students able to describe their research and impacts.

Laine Anderson, Speech and Hearing Sciences: Write letters if it is easier for them: put postcards in grad lounges for students to easily write a postcard.

Sean Wilson, ASUW: The GPSS website has templates for letter writing, under the Action Alerts section.

Trond (Industrial Engineering): Come up with talking points for departments to give them the information.

## **7. GPSS Financial Update**

Colin Goldfinch gives update on GPSS year-to-date spending, mid-June through November 10. Use of online transaction system to follow spending throughout the year. These numbers are reliable and relevant to decision-making, but bear in mind that some transactions have not shown up yet.

Revenue: we have not gotten the full amount of revenue stipulated in yearly budget. 1) SAF paid incrementally in chunks throughout the year. 2) Fundraising to support events

and Higher Ed Summit- we got \$18,000 so far. Also, we had 2 largest events already and have come in under budget.

Personnel: spending for staff and officers is under budget and will probably be at budget by the end of the year.

Number in account is an estimate and we have regular audits.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: Regarding copies in the Treasurer and Secretary budgets, can you explain the footnotes?

Colin: I wanted to leave footnotes in to give rationale for the numbers. Info on budget lines. That may be an error, and I may check it.

Yasmeen Hussain: What is the phone service fees?

Colin: Increase in fees; UW tech controls it.

Aaron: If you have physical structure for offices you have to pay for it.

## **8. Announcements**

Melanie Mayoock, Secretary: There's an opportunity to go to Olympia this Friday with the Washington Bus, a non-profit organization. Will send out more information by email.

Onyinye Edeh, Global Health: Tomorrow is World AIDS Day, 3:30 to 5:30pm in Smith Hall.

Evan Smith, ASUW: Student Senate passed diversity requirement yesterday for undergraduate education.

Trond Nilsen, Industrial Engineering: Thank you Aaron for your service at GPSS.

## **9. Adjourn**

Ted Chen, Bioengineering: Moves to adjourn

Becky Edmonds, LGBTQ: Seconds.

No objections; motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 7:37pm.

## **GPSS Senate Meeting – January 11, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order**

Charles Plummer, President, calls meeting to order at 5:41pm.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Adam Sherman, Vice President: Moves to alter the agenda due to Mayor McGinn being a bit late.

Aaron Lykken, Evan School: Seconds.

None opposed. Motion passes.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Eddy Schwieterman, Astronomy: Moves to approve the minutes from the November 30<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting.

Mitch Kaufman, Philosophy: Seconds.

None opposed. Motion passes.

### **4. Guest Speaker- Seattle Mayor Michael McGinn**

Mayor McGinn talks about his time as GPSS President. He asks: what are your sources of power? 1. Money is power. 2. Ideas have power. 3. Words have power. 4. Clarity. 5. Organizing.

Questions:

Adam Sherman: Talk to us about engaging students.

McGinn: Relationship organizing is where you connect people and ideals so that they become engaged. People tell their story, why they are engaged, leads to the story of now. Right now the vision we share at the state level is in jeopardy. If you can get people to take the first volunteer action, you can get them to do more. Volunteers are not resources to be mined, but are heroes.

Andrea Cobb, Sociology: Regarding the Seattle Family and Education Levy, what are some of your goals?

McGinn: School levies have been doubled. Partnering with schools. Created the RoadMap, and focusing on the achievement gap.

Sara Celms, Special Education: Looking to become a special education teacher. What are your thoughts on the school board situation?

McGinn: Government education system is not very accountable. We can use levies to spend money to generate results. Influence through speaking up about it. I don't have the answers yet. Charter schools are another answer.

Adam thanks the Mayor for coming.

## **5. Lobby Day Information**

Adam Sherman, Vice President: Lobby day is Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Register with your friends. This is your chance to take your work and show it to the legislature. Budget cuts have nearly eliminated work study, child care matching grants. Adam explains the Lobby Day contact cards and asks that Senators fill them out. Adam asked who is doing their own individual lobby day, and three senators responded.

David Scoville, Environmental and Occupation Health: Is there info about the issues?

Adam: I will talk about that during my officer report.

Onyinye Edeh, Global Health: Is Lobby Day 9am to 5pm?

Adam: If you use the free transportation provided, it's 9 to 5.

Andrea Cobb, Sociology: Is there training on messages?

Adam: Training will be provided.

Aaron Lykken, Public Affairs: Showing up for lobby day will make a difference, especially in person.

## **6. GPSS Strategic Planning**

Charles Plummer begins with a brief overview of the idea for strategic planning from the officers. Officers felt it was time to look at restructuring GPSS to better meet our goals.

Colin Goldfinch: The consultation work will be on a tight timeline, probably done by February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Moving from task force to implementation needs to be done by the end of the year. We need reasonable and achievable objectives.

We are appointing a task force so get an objective view of GPSS. Task force will be speaking with GPSS staff due to their knowledge of GPSS operations. Also meeting with specific student groups on campus, to get a full student body perspective. Lastly, comparing GPSS to other student governments. Once that is done, the taskforce will begin the brainstorming phase and work with three committees to make recommendations for the budget and bylaws. The GPSS budget is planned to be passed by March 7<sup>th</sup>. Bylaw amendments would be done before GPSS elections for next year.

Charles Plummer: opens up the forum for questions.

Adam Sherman: asks about steps A, B and C to be mentioned in further details.

Charles Plummer: Step A involves officers thinking about what officers believe GPSS does. After that, officers and staff sat down to talk about key things to do and how to best measure them, which was step B.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: asks Senators to give their thoughts about the proposal or share their questions.

Nitya Venkateswaran, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies: Concerned about the timeline for taskforce – not enough time for consulting and gathering input from a wide variety of people. Colin responded that steps have been taken to make the process expedient.

Andrea Cobb, Sociology. What is the role of the taskforce for implementation?

Charles: That falls on the incoming officers. Andrea then asks how urgent these changes are. Charles responded urgency depends on the Senate's perspective.

Alden Denny, Oceanography. What resources will the ad hoc committee have to research other schools?

Charles Plummer: there will be presidential staff available.

Nicole Secula, School of Music: Thought bylaws and procedures were done by the Judicial Committee.

Charles Plummer: they will be involved, but they don't have to go out and consult everyone.

Eddy Schwieterman, Astronomy: Any specific issues that the executive officers would like to mention?

Charles Plummer: This is the culmination of many ideas over time. We see a lack of capacity to getting a job done. We aren't as effective as we should be.

Adam Sherman: moves to table the conversation, due to Mayor McGinn arriving.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: Seconds the motion. No objections.

[Talk by Mayor McGinn]

Evan Smith, ASUW: Moves to un-table the Strategic Planning agenda item.

Ted Chen, Bioengineering: seconds. No objections; motion passes.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: Responds to Eddy's earlier question about any issues the officers want to mention. She says that GPSS is a little top-down, not participatory enough. Also compensation may be unbalanced.

Colin Goldfinch, Treasurer: Some plans to improve GPSS this year have been achieved; others have not. We need a holistic approach.

Sharon McRae, Nursing Science: Wants to know a little more about what GPSS has done in the past that was successful.

Charles Plummer: Some of that information is available on the GPSS website.

Melanie Mayock: Will send out information about past successes, including past year's officer reports.

Moroni Benally, Native American Students: What's your vision of GPSS?

Melanie Mayock: We'll send out mission and vision information.

Charles Plummer: Didn't put mission out there to avoid biasing task force.

Adrienne Meyer, Public Affairs: What is the oversight of this taskforce?

Charles Plummer: The officers will enforce timelines.

Jean Dinh, Medicinal Chemistry: Childcare assistance has been a great success for GPSS.

Nicole Secula, School of Music: Why create a separate ad-hoc committee? Who is better to handle this than the Finance and Budget Committee?

Adam Sherman: The taskforce was proposed to be well-rounded and have a variety of skills sets, not just a singular focus.

Melanie Mayock: The taskforce needs a holistic view.

Moroni Benally, Native American Students: The ad-hoc committee is a great idea.

Andrea Cobb, Sociology: Are some of the challenges fixable through policy change only?

Charles Plummer: The problems extend beyond day-to-day operations. We really don't know at this point what the issues are, and this process will hopefully shed light.

Andrea Cobb, Sociology: Are parts of the bylaws off-limits?

Charles: everything is up for grabs.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: Moves to approve the committee and move on.

Eddie Schwieterman, Astronomy: Seconds.

Charles Plummer: Are there any objections?

Eder Sousa, Aeronautics and Astronautics: I object. It is better for staff and executive members to decide what's best to change, not Senators.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: There isn't any harm in forming the committee.

Charles calls the vote.

Nays: 1. Yeas, everyone else. No abstentions.

Motion passes and the ad-hoc committee is created.

## **7. Officer Reports**

Adam Sherman, Vice-President: Has been in Olympia - the legislature is exciting chaos. Shared governance is a big topic. Legislation is being pushed for students to have greater roles in budget and policy processes. Another piece of legislation will force public comment periods at Board of Regents meetings. The Hope Act, will reduce the sales and B&O taxes and replace with income tax. Much more progressive. Might be passed in 2-3 years.

Colin Goldfinch, Treasurer: Working on speed dating, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Science and Policy Summit, working on Keynote speaker and fundraising. Travel grant round just finished up, and sharepoint site under construction.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: Explains her role, liaison to ASUW, recordkeeping, etc. Working on communications. Dispute resolution committee looking at other school's discipline solution policies.

Charles Plummer, President: Graduate program reviews - thanks Senators Adreinne Sussman and Jennifer Griffiths for streamlining process. Also getting acquainted with administration and committees. Met with the president a key times, who agrees mostly with our lobbying priorities.

### **8. Announcements**

Evan Smith, ASUW: Fill out your FAFSA form.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: Leave your name tags when you leave.

Adam Sherman: Thanks for filling out the cards.

### **9. Adjourn**

Adam Sherman, Vice President: Moves to adjourn

Becky Edmonds, LGBTQ: Seconds.

No objections; motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 7:20pm.

## **GPSS Senate Meeting – February 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order**

Charles Plummer, President, calls to order 5:37. Recognizes new Senators.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Buddy Rutzke, Law: Moves to approve agenda.

Amy Winter, Dentistry: Seconds.

No objections, motion approved.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes from January 11<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting**

Natalia Hryniw, Atmospheric Sciences: Moves to approve the minutes.

Amy Winter, Dentistry: Seconds.

No objections; motion approved.

### **4. Officer Introductions**

Adam Sherman, Vice President: Second-year law student. Vice-President is the external liaison, especially in Olympia. Spends 4-5 days a week on student issues, such as shared governance. Also advocate at federal level for grants and other issues. Manages student are appointed to University committees.

Colin Goldfinch, Treasurer: Studying public health. The Treasurer manages budget and social events. Open to ideas for events.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: Studying Urban Planning and Public Administration. The Secretary is the ASUW liaison, handles communications, record-keeping, other activities.

Charles Plummer, President: Represents GPSS to Regents, Provost, other University administrators. Formulates initiatives, such as childcare.

### **5. Speed Dating**

Colin Goldfinch, Treasurer: The GPSS Speed Dating event will be in UW Tower Cafeteria mezzanine. Need volunteers, lots of fun.

Volunteer: Amy Winter, Elizabeth from Dentistry, Jessica from Classics, Noralis from GWSS.

### **6. Strategic Planning Break-Out Groups**

Sarah Celms, Special Education: The Strategic Planning/ Restructuring Taskforce would like to get feedback from Senators. Please look over the handout and provide feedback.

We will split up into groups by College- Arts and Sciences, Health, Engineering etc, Jackson, Law, combine Built Environment, Education and Evans.

Charles Plummer, President: Would entertain a motion to suspend rules and add Kelsey Knowles, Student Regent, to the agenda. There is a special regents meeting coming up.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: Moves to add Kelsey Knowles to the agenda.  
Daniel Cortez, iSchool, Seconds.  
No objections; motion passes.

**Kelsey Knowles, Student Regent:**

There is a special meeting of the Board of Regents on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Email already sent with details. Will be public forum on tuition and budget issues. There will be a second forum April 5<sup>th</sup> for all UW community. William Gates Hall, targeted for students from all three campuses. Sign up by Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for top priority to speak-send your name, issue, phone number and email address to [regents@uw.edu](mailto:regents@uw.edu) or purple paper copies that can be dropped off in Gerberding, though you can sign up the day of with lower priority. Remarks limited to 3 minutes. Will begin with brief update from Vice Provost on Budgeting and Planning. At least 5 regents will be in attendance.

Melanie Mayock Secretary: Regents are ultimate decision makers, set tuition.  
Kelsey Knowles: February meeting focused on tuition, next forum will concern general budgeting more as legislative session develops.

Adam Sherman: What are effective ways of talking to the regents?

Kelsey Knowles: Good to be specific about potential solutions, how your program could benefit from a different structure, eg if a fee-based system makes sense for your program. Provide personal details that convey what tuition means to you. Some programs still have lower tuition than competitive/peer institutions.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: Tuition can mean several things for grad students, in terms of grants, fee-waivers, etc.

Kelsey Knowles: if you are working through a grant, or as a TA, bring up to the regents and the impact that tuition has on your situation. If you are funded through a particular system, explaining it will help

**7. Graduate Student Issues at the College Level**

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: I was recently asked how Senators can get issues on the Senate meeting agenda. I sent an email to Senators a few days ago asking for suggestions for the Senate agenda. Two similar proposals about information sharing on how students in different colleges are having a voice in college-wide decisions.

Sarah Celms, Special Education: College of Education has a faculty council with non-voting graduate student reps. Students sit on faculty search committee. Would like to know how much contact other schools have contact with their Dean.

Sheri \_\_\_\_, Nursing/Midwifery: On December 19<sup>th</sup>, tenured faculty at the School of Nursing voted to eliminate the midwifery program. Established by state legislature several years ago, remains very important. Students have been organizing and mobilizing. Around 4,000 signatures in the last 2.5 weeks to maintain program. Senator Karen Kaiser

added amendment to SB 6115 to make taskforce to regulate number of healthcare providers. Midwives are primary healthcare provides, not just natal care. Taskforce document includes mechanism to communicate between School of Nursing and State of WA healthcare personnel shortage strategic plan/taskforce. Taskforce will also work with UW School of Nursing to ensure that changes at UW are in line with social good and public health of state. We believe that the School ignored these needs when they took their vote. Unilateral decision, we ask people to sign petition cards.

Melanie Mayock Secretary: Cutting programs can spark mobilization, but broader issues of student voice are present even when cuts are not present. We want a discussion about how to build the student voice in all colleges on campus.

John Huang, School of Public Health: Various departments are fairly autonomous and there is not a lot of communication between them. Two years ago, a handful of GPSS senators from the different departments started meeting during the dean selection process. Dean that was selected has been receptive and encouraging of student input. Working to address lack of communication. Steering committee emphasized need to include students moving forward with the School's strategic plan. Met with new student services director.

Daniel Coslett, Built Environment PhD program: Last year, fear that program might be cut or altered. Met with the Dean to find out. Good to check in with your Dean, even if there is not a specific issues. College of Built Environment has been trying to become more able to deal with these kinds of issues. Proposal for college-wide student organization. Some departments have formal councils, some informal, some none. College-wide organization would link everyone, give representation on faculty council. Dean asked Senators to begin thinking about how to form this and what it would look like. Want a long-term body. Good idea to think about in other colleges.

John Huang: In Public Health, similar situation with program cuts. Demonstrates need to have structure for communication, student voice.

Melanie: Some officers will be staying after to discuss these issues.

## **8. Legislative Update**

Adam: Many groups have long-term relationship from the same lobbyists. Students are at an institutional disadvantage because our representatives are new faces. Shared governance is a major agenda item, in part developed by Evan Smith of ASUW, to give greater input on major decisions, especially budget. Proposal had wide, bipartisan support. Blocked by chair of House Higher Education Committee as low priority, but says he will support it later. Forming Provost Advisory Committee was important, but more is needed.

Work study program makes a big difference, \$8 million program for students to have jobs. Senator Frock put forward bill to support, but did not pass. Working to make sure

that it is a budget item, not a policy item. In peril, not in Governor's budget so we need legislature to place it back in budget.

Childcare matching grant is small, spread across all WA universities. Doesn't provide a lot, but very important. Working with Senator Brown to get public support.

Program fees and stealth tuition: Administration wants to implement program fees that are different for in-state and out of state students. Mostly impacts undergraduates for now, paves way for differential tuition for undergrads. Some amendments made that implement shared governance if tuition is raised. Complex, unclear if moving forward or not.

Motor voter registration-default setting would be registration to vote when getting driver's license. More registered students means more advocates in legislature. Not moving forward.

Graduate tax: Rep. Seaquist formed committee to examine over the summer. Idea is to get free college, then pay percentage of income post-graduation. Reinforces idea of public education, benefits those who may want to go into public service. Earning potential doesn't necessarily mean what you earn, but used to justify high costs. Looking into the possibilities. Assembling team of lawyers, policy analysts.

Sales tax: Gregoire has again proposed. Can be regressive tax, but it is an income source for healthcare, education, etc. Still on table, will provide updates.

Charles Plummer: We have been approached by Transportation for Washington. Big bill on transportation, which funds roads, transit is up now, only happens every 4 or 5 years. Governor's plan, because of constitutional mandate on funding certain things like roads, proposes using non-road funds for transit. Signed letter supporting this idea, which would mean less construction of new roads.

Adam Sherman: We don't have institutional capacities for mobilizing people. Need ability to quickly rally people to go to Olympia. Need people to be activated, ready to act. Don't have an organizing director, legislative communications director. Busy tracking bills, schools, so can't handle these responsibilities. Restructuring taskforce might look at how to build up these abilities.

Legislative process can be frustrating, changes very rapidly. Bill that was considered dead can be quickly resurrected, in this situation we need to be able to mobilize quickly. Bill supported by many students was held up by administration opposing it, despite earlier positions.

Daniel Coslett, Built Environment: How is your capacity hampered by turnover? What about a two-year position for GPSS Vice-President?

Adam: legislators more likely to meet if they know you. On two years for Vice-President, worried about lowering interest if it is a longer commitment.

Daniel Coslett: Overlapping terms would be useful.

Adam Sherman: restructuring involves discussion of leadership development. Some people are interested currently in this type of work.

Buddy Rutzke, Law: Are there other organizations we can tap into?

Adam: SAGE (Student Advocates for Graduate Education) is a national organization we belong to, is useful to talk to about internal structures. Also ASUW Office of Governmental Relations has five staff members, more volunteers and institutional support. Synergy, looking to other institutions.

Kelsey Knowles: was just in Olympia, legislators are not hearing from many people in support of higher ed. Need more statewide support from people beyond university and within university community. Extra emails and calls matter.

Noralis Rodriguez, GWSS: Are there more radical tactics we could use?

Adam: Good direction, appreciate sentiment. Undergraduates tend to be more willing to take this kind of action. Avoid illegality. For example, Occupy the Capitol didn't get taken very seriously by legislators. Need message that is powerful and perhaps radical. Need to be careful. Strategic but not angry. Lobby Day on Friday, email Maxine Sugarman at ASUW, you can still sign up.

## **9. Updates/ Announcements**

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: Tuesday 11am new Senator orientation. Email to get in touch.

## **10. Adjourn**

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: Moves to adjourn.

Chris Lizotte, Geography, seconds.

No objections; motion passes.

## **GPSS Senate Meeting – February 29, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order**

Charles Plummer, President, calls meeting to order at 5:34. Recognizes new Senators.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Eder Sousa, Aeronautics & Astronautics: Moves to approve the agenda.

Sarah Bergman, Earth and Space Sciences: Seconds.

No objections, motion passes.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: Moves to approve the minutes from the Feb 1, 2012, meeting.

Michael Hutchins, Earth and Space Science: Seconds.

No objections, motion passes.

### **4. UW-Tech Wi-Fi update/ STF Surplus**

Charles Plummer, President: Introduces guest speakers from UW-IT. He notes that the Executive Committee will be voting next week to approve STF money for the project about to be discussed. Charles can field any additional questions after the talk.

The floor is taken by David Morton, director of mobile technology for UW-IT, and Colleen Butler, project manager for the Wi-Fi refresh project. David and Colleen provide the following presentation:

This project of updating Wi-Fi throughout campus is now in its second year, rolling into its 3<sup>rd</sup> in July. They need to update this technology to new meet standards. The goal is to upgrade the network to 802.11n. This allows more users on the network and gives better coverage. It also allows the expansion of network coverage, geographically.

Funding is being provided on Seattle campus by the UW Technology Recharge Fee (paid by departments) and Student Technology Fee surplus funds. \$1million in funding was received for this process last year. The whole process is expected to cost around \$4million. They asked for the student portion to pay for about 1/3 of the cost, when students are about 3/4 of the users on the network.

The upgrade is necessary because of the demand. Usage is doubling about every 12 months. More and more devices are on the network—on average 2.5 devices per user. Five years is an average re-refresh cycle. This seems to fit well within technology cycles and new developments in technology as well. Of course, all of the new technologies are backwards compatible. Now, we see about 65,000 unique handheld devices on the network, which is a lot for 40,000 students. 140,000 unique devices, in total, are visible on the network as well.

The upgrade has already begun. Over 3000 802.11n access points have been installed in 105 buildings across all 3 campuses. They hope to have 5000 in total when the refresh is done. There is a lot of focus on student areas in assuring network coverage. They have

also upgraded the infrastructure that supports and runs those access points—13 controllers.

A map was provided showing the areas that have been upgraded and those that are going to be upgraded in the next six months or so. The HUB and new res halls are not being included in this project because they don't fit with the timeline of this project (ie they are still being built). The health sciences building is lagging behind in the upgrade, because it is hard to perform installations there as there is asbestos all over the place. They are working hard to make it happen though. In addition to common areas and dining halls, libraries were one of the first targets of this project. They have also added coverage in the By George Café, Res halls, Mary Gates, South Campus Center, I-Court, etc.

They are using a “rip-and-replace” method, and then will be going back and filling in access holes in the network after the fact. They hope to expand coverage to buildings that had no service before and improve outdoor coverage as well, though this is challenging and expensive. Part of the reason why buildings were left out of the service loop before is because they are hard to install this sort of technology in. Examples of such spaces include the IMA, Kane Hall, Schmitz, and the Health Sciences Complex.

David asks whether it is a priority for students to have outdoor Wi-Fi access on campus.

Responses mixed, but many nods and yeses. David mentioned that as students have and use more handheld devices, constant coverage throughout campus, this will become more important.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: How are holes in signals found/how is signal strength measured?

Colleen: People are actually walking around with network analyzers.

David: They are also working on developing an app that allows people to “check in” and report poor signal or signal holes around campus.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: How big is the coverage area for each of the devices?

David: Quite big, but the issue is not only coverage, it is also capacity. Similar problems with user glut are occurring on cell networks as well.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: How will this new technology get around the system of too many users clogging up the network, as has happened to some phone companies.

David: Wi-Fi operates on two different bands. There are more channels available in the new 5GHz base. The controllers listed in the upgrades are going to manage these kinds of adjustments in order to handle user demand and data flow throughout the Wi-Fi network.

Megan Gambs, Oceanography: Last slide was talking about other places to consider—the bus stops would be a great place to add network

David: we are looking at that, actually.

Charles Plummer, President: People can forward additional questions or comments from David and Colleen to Treasurer Colin Goldfinch.

### **5. Bylaw Suspension and Election Announcement.**

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: GPSS annually elects officers – this usually happens in May. This year, we have the strategic planning ad hoc committee as well, which might be making changes to the way officer structure works. There could be jobs created, removed, tuition waiver removed, etc. So we can't predict what will happen in May, and we therefore don't have the elections packets ready.

Trond and Hunter Marston (Jackson School, Southeast Asia Studies), chair of the elections committee, recommend that they suspend the portion of the bylaws that says that GPSS has to produce the elections packet 2 months before the elections. They hope mean to have packets ready 1 month before the elections.

There are 2 sections in the bylaws that are of interest. The first says that the elections packet will be submitted to GPSS senators 2 months before the election. The second one is more complicated because they can't suspend the whole clause, they just want to deal with the wording to allow for April instead of March. They are posted in the presentation.

Trond asks for questions. There are none.

Charles Plummer, President: Entertains a motion to temporarily suspend the first bylaw. Article 6 section E, Clause 2, letter b.

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: Moves to suspend GPSS bylaw Article 6 Section E Clause 2 Letter B.

Hunter Marston, Jackson School – Southeast Asian Studies: Seconds.

Jonathan Kocarnik, Public Health Genetics: Proposes a friendly amendment — say “temporary suspension, to be lifted following the elections in May”

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: That language isn't needed.

No objections, the motion passes.

Charles Plummer, President, entertains a motion to suspend second bylaw, Article 5, Section G, Clause 4, letter c.

Hunter Marston, Jackson School – Southeast Asian Studies: Moves to suspend bylaw Article 5 Section G Clause 4 Letter C

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: Seconds

No objections, the motion passes.

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: He understands that the elections committee plans to have a packet available by April 4. Last year's packet is available for viewing on the GPSS website, for those interested. Please run. Competition is good.

## **6. Strategic Planning and Ad Hoc Committee findings**

Charles Plummer, President invites the entire committee to the floor.

Adrienne Sussman (Psychology), Ted Chen (Bioengineering), Wes Kovarik (Jackson School – International Studies), Moroni Benally (Native American Studies), Kristen Hosey (Nursing), Colin Bateson (Mechanical Engineering)

Jonathan Kocarnik, Public Health Genetics, stays seated.

The members of the Ad Hoc committee gave the following report:

The Committee surveyed stakeholders for GPSS – senators, graduate and professional students, registered student organizations that receive GPSS funding, travel grant recipients, GPSS officers, GPSS committees; they have also been doing research about graduate leadership at other universities. The committee meets once per week for 2 hours or so, and have been doing so since the beginning of the quarter. About half of the senators have responded to surveys and about 800 other grad students.

Problems that were found in Senate structure include:

- how information is disseminated about GPSS;
- articulation of the mission of GPSS;
- lack of clarity on what GPSS does/is trying to do, among the student base;
- distribution of work load among the officers;
- GPSS being reactive, in terms of receiving a high work load and not always knowing where to direct it (ending in a lot of work being given to very few people);
- the need for more efficiency in GPSS;
- the need for stronger relations to staff, committees, and other constituents;
- senators are feeling under involved;
- 70% of students interviewed have had no interaction with GPSS other than a singular social event (ie speed dating, social);
- many senators want a more significant presence on campus;
- lack of continuity year to year, due to staff turnover;
- lack of social cohesion among senators and GPSS members;
- no coffee at senate meetings - give senators sad-face.

Suggestions for change that the committee has been considering include:

- Social events and things for senators;
- changes to the bylaws to lighten the workload. Specifically, they want to suggest a new officer position: VP of university affairs. It came up at the last senate meeting that being VP is now currently a full time job, what with spending so much time in Olympia, etc. So, the new staff position could handle more things on campus, help rallying folks around particular issues in Seattle. Literally, they want to give the VP's job to two people. With current budget cuts, the agenda in

Olympia is so important that they really need as many resources focused on this as possible.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: Doesn't the committee want someone to lighten the workload of the president? Because these things listed are all internal affairs.

Ad Hoc Committee: This is more about organizing for lobbying. This could also be a two year position, because it takes more than a few months to make the relationships that are necessary down in Olympia. The idea is to work with the VP making sure we are doing the best job lobbying for UW in Olympia and DC as we can.

Nicole Secula, Music: Sounds like you are looking for a mechanism more than a person. Do we really need a person, if we can create a program or email listserv, etc., instead? Would that allow us to avoid funding a new job?

Ad Hoc Committee: Definitely. Any mechanism would be good. Supporting the VP with a committee was also discussed. But the committee also wants someone who can be in the VP position for two years. In the hopes of attracting someone to do that, though, GPSS needs to lighten the load on the VP. This position doesn't necessarily have to be filled by a senator. A committee or work group could be organized from the general grad student body.

Nathaniel McVicar, Electrical Engineering: it is hard for the VP to go to Olympia and be here in Seattle, so why not let the new position deal with Olympia and lobbying and let the VP be here?

Ad Hoc Committee: That is a different way of structuring, or perhaps a different name for the same structure. These are all possibilities. We are trying to focus on the workload of the VP primarily. Other universities have this second position somewhere in their structure as well.

Matthew Sousa, Business school: The VP is busy right now because the legislature in session. Is the demand for this new position year round, or only during this time of year?

Adam Sherman, Vice President: "I have an opinion." Even though there is a scheduled legislative session, the interim period, which leads up to it, is when you need to be building relationships with legislators. Then there is work afterwards as well. It will be heavily concentrated on winter quarter, of course, but at the same time, there is a lot of organizing that needs to happen on campus leading up to that. And spring quarter is when federal lobbying is done, so there is demand there too. So, prep work and student organizing will fill out the year. We need to have a year-round presence in Olympia and in DC.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: She has a slightly different take than the presentation. She thinks this would take the highest load off of the president. Presidents have reported working 60 hours a week or more. The president should be overseeing the whole organization. A new VP of university affairs could take some of the campus-side issues off of the president's shoulders, which is really needed, and takes some load off of the VP as well.

Ad Hoc Committee: It was also discussed that GPSS officers should have decreased compensation—decreased to tier 1 levels only. They also recommend the formation of new

committees : a lobbying committee, a social committee to take load off of the treasurer, a media committee for outreach to the student body and other stakeholders. Creating more leadership positions would help get senators more involved. Each committee should have an elected chairperson. At the moment, at least 1 officer is expected to sit on and chair each committee, which is inefficient. There should also be an orientation committee, to introduce GPSS to new students. Also, there should be an orientation process for new senators. Currently about \$70,000+ per year goes into tuition coverage for officers. The treasurer decides on the budget for next year by making a rough guess on what kind of people will run for office. They have to guess what tuition tiers each officer will be in. There are three tiers for pay, and then additional ones for dentistry, law, etc. The only way to be able to hire an additional staff member would be to decrease the tuition waiver for officers. The trade off, though, is that this is a disincentive to run for GPSS office. The second option would be to decrease officer compensation to tier 1. This would bring in enough money to bring one person on. But there is still a variable disincentive to run across different departments at UW. The third option is to keep everything as it is and then focus on committees and senate involvement instead, to help lighten officer load. The committee is still seeking input on these recommendations. All recommendations will have to be voted on by senate as well. They have looked at other public research institutions, and others have lower compensation, but lighter workloads. But no other university is a perfect comparison to UW. There are many different ways to do this, and many of them have been considered. The committee has also been considering how changes could affect different individuals with respect to their own financial security, TAs and RAships opportunities, etc., which may variably incentivize or disincentivize involvement in GPSS at this level. There will be a meeting of these committees over spring break to finalize all of the recommendations and present a full proposal to senate in April.

Kimberly Schertz, Law School: Can you demonstrate tuition waiver recommendations visually? It is tough to understand exactly what the recommendations are.

Ad Hoc Committee: The total budget is around \$300k. Tuition waivers are around \$73k. Nearly half of the budget, including tuition waivers, goes to supporting staff. They are still crunching numbers.

Skylar Olsen, Economics: She would also be interesting to know the proportions of graduate students that fall within each tier. We need to know exactly how the incentives are changing for which student/department.

Nathaniel McVicar, Electrical Engineering: It would also be good to know percentages of students in each tier over the last 5 years, so that patterns in the changes of these divisions can be determined.

Ad Hoc Committee: They thought about this as well. They want to know what students are likely to want to hold office.

Jonathan Huang, Epidemiology: He agrees with others who say it is to better plot out and quantify these incentives. This would help the senate make an evidence-based decision. But also we shouldn't lose the big picture, which is to take a look at the fundamental mission of GPSS.

Why should students come here? That message can drive the roles for the exec committee, etc. That is the critical question. Hopefully student feedback will allow recommendations on this.

Ad Hoc Committee: There seems to be some informal mission that GPSS is following. We haven't articulated it yet, but it's not the mission as currently formally stated. Once we figure that out, we can recommend a full mission based on feedback. With this mission in hand, we can be more strategic when approaching the budget, trying to meet specific goals.

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: What about officer salaries? Have you considered dropping waivers and increasing salaries? Currently salaries are similar to TA/RA salaries. But you could increase the salary pay, so that payroll is more predictable.

Charles Plummer, President, asks for motion to increase time for this agenda item

Chris Lizotte, Geography: Moves to extend this agenda item by 5 minutes

Megan Gambs, Oceanography: Seconds.

No objections, motion passes.

Nicole Secula, Music: Recommends that the committee send out catalyst survey based on this information presented tonight so that senators can respond to it and so that the committee can have senate reactions in hard copy.

Ad Hoc Committee: Yes, We'll do it. All the information presented today, and will create open survey spaces for senators to leave comments.

Brook Sattler, Human Centered Design and Engineering: Sad to hear about cutting tuition waivers. Many students are giving up TA-ships and RA-ships which would have tuitions waivers when they accept office. Should we allow officers to have these other GSA appointments in order to get tuition waivers?

Ad Hoc Committee: They entertained the idea of dropping tuition waivers, but the committee isn't currently leaning that way. They mostly wanted to bounce the idea off of the senate.

Yasmeen Hussain, Biology: Asks the committee to clarify the recommendation for tuition waiver decrease.

Ad Hoc Committee: There were three options: drop, decrease, and leave as is. We are talking about option one right now.

Nathaniel McVicar, Electrical Engineering: What about dropping tuition and increasing salary?

Ad Hoc Committee: Salary raises will be considered if we drop the tuition waiver.

Kimberly Schertz, Law School: What about dropping a percentage of tuition?

Ad Hoc Committee: Another issue is stability in the budget from year to year. This problem would still exist if we don't know what the budget would be, so if we drop to tier 1, some would have tuition covered, some not totally, but budget planning would be improved and this pressure eased. Tier 1 students are also the students who are most likely to have their tuition waived by a TA-ship or RA-ship, so they would have almost no incentive to have tuition dropped

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: One currently can't hold an officer appointment and a GSA appointment at the same time, is that right?

Ad Hoc Committee: They think that's right.

## **7. Legislative Update**

Adam Sherman, Vice President, gave the following report:

Lobby day happened. Over 200 students came down, both grad and undergrad. Many people spoke to their legislators from their home districts. Had some great guest speakers come and talk about their priorities, etc.

Most policy bills that directly impact students didn't make it through. Policy bills are those that do not cost any money, it is just a shift in what grad students can/can't do. One was introduced by Evan Smith, ASUW university affairs director, which was trying to get students more involved in the planning and budgeting phases of major universities. UW admin has been good at involving students, but we wanted to insure that for other campuses as well. That will come back out during the next legislative session. The second had to do with student auditing, gaining student access to university historical documents and archives, records, etc, to have the same perspective as administration when going into budgeting talks, etc

One bill dealt with student comment periods during regents meetings, and this passed. Andrew Lewis and Adam were able to help pass a provision that says that any time the Regents want to pass a new fee, they have to give 21 days-notice, which allows students time to put forth policy alternatives. There was another bill put forward by Senator Frockt about financial aid counseling. Students should have a right to know and get counseling about the financial burden they are taking on when they take out loans and other financial aid packages. They should be educated on the impact of the money that they will be taking out and the earning prospects that are available to them after graduate in order to pay off that debt.

The budget allocations, so far, are looking more positive than what the governor proposed. The governor had originally proposed \$160 million in cuts, getting rid of work study program entirely, which is the last form of state financial aid for graduate students, as well as suspending the child care matching grants, all while increasing funding for engineering degrees. The house produced their proposal last week. The senate budget is next. House budget called for \$65 million in cuts to higher education, which includes \$30 million in cuts to 4 year institutions and \$13.5 million in cuts to UW. \$7.8 million is going back into engineering programs in Washington, and \$3.8 million of that going to UW specifically (Adam thinks that the other half is going to WSU). The work study

program is preserved. The child care matching grant is preserved. To fund this, they make \$10 million in cuts to state need grant, which hurts undergrads, which is a mixed blessing and is not good for university culture overall.

The senate released their budget yesterday. This version is way better than the house version. No cuts whatsoever to higher education. Right now there is no guarantee that the senate version is going to pass, so now is a very important time to put pressure on your representatives. In the senate budget, there is an increase to community and technical college funding by \$4 million and an increase of \$1.9+ million to 4 year institutions, \$1.6million of which is going to UW. These increases are earmarked toward specific programs—especially an emphasis on aerospace programs thanks to pressure from Boeing. The state need grant and work study and child care matching grant were 100% protected. These things are now on the radar of senators, which is a very good thing. We must now fight for them. Email, call, write letters, send postcards, write op-ed letters in the newspaper. Adam also invites you down to Olympia anytime. He will set up meetings with people who are on the fence.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: He is overjoyed by senate budget, but whence this revenue to preserve all these programs?

Adam Sherman, Vice President: The state doesn't know what revenue will look like next year. There is a push for a rainy day fund, but senate says it's already pouring. Revenue has been slightly up in the last couple of years. They are counting on the economy to continue to recover. Democrats in both the house and the senate are willing to defer \$330 million dollars in payments to school districts to fund their proposed budgets. They are deferring payments to them by one day to kick the can down the road into the next fiscal year. School districts have come out in favor of this, because they get no cuts either. Everyone just hopes that this is all solvable next year when the next fiscal year rolls around. The state has constitutional obligations to fund k-12 education. This has been a Supreme Court issue, recently.

Kevin Cummings, Educational Psychology: Is the reality of no cuts to higher education coming at the expense of k-12?

Adam Sherman, Vice President: No. In the senate budget there were no cuts to either. People are just using money that was already there differently.

## **8. Dean Search**

Charles Plummer, President: UW will soon be losing deans in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Nursing, and Engineering. Charles needs to fill a student position on the committee for the College of Arts and Sciences. Who would be a good candidate? Please send suggestions or nominations to Charles via email.

Charles also went to board of deans meeting last week and proposed the creation of planning and budgeting councils in all of the colleges and schools in the university. Some schools are stepping forward to pilot the program. As he learns which colleges and schools will be involved, he will

be circulating the information and seeking students to be involved in this kind of work, looking at 5, 10 year plans for the school, putting input on budget, etc.

Trond Nilsen, Industrial and Systems Engineering: Which schools are piloting?

Charles Plummer, President: We don't know yet. He is waiting to hear back from the Chair of the Board of Deans.

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: Some colleges were listed in The Daily

Charles Plummer, President: That info, he is pretty sure, is incorrect.

### **9. SAGE update**

Adam Sherman, Vice President: SAGE, the Student Advocates for Graduate Education, is a coalition of schools nationwide that UW decided to join to try to affect graduate education on the federal level. Every year, students spend a few days on the hill in DC, talk to legislators. He and others will be in DC the first few days of next quarter as well. They will be focusing on F-1 visas for education and ensuring that they are regulated fairly, as well as the visas people use to stay in the US and work after graduation. They will also focus on federal research funding . They try to maximize the amount of money in those pools.

### **10. Announcements**

Melanie Mayock, Secretary: There will a tour of the new HUB for senators. The GPSS office will be back there next year. This will be sometime in April. There is space for 8-10 folks. Might be first come first serve. Also, they are looking for a meeting space for next quarter. This space is not ideal. We'll let you know what happens and where we move to before April 4.

Kelsey Knowles, Student Regent: Thanks to everyone who came to the health forum. This announcement will be repeated at the April 4 meeting as well: on April 5 there will be an additional public forum to provide comments to the Regents, 2:30-4:00. It will be open to the entire university community on budgetary matters. Look for an email.

Chris Lizotte, Geography: serves on Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee. The committee was formed a few years ago to provide process advocates for students dealing with disputes in their department. The services have been used zero times. Now they are doing a self-audit to examine the need for the committee and existing resolution procedures across campus. Please go back to departments and talk to your constituents if they have been involved in some kind of dispute process and whether that process worked at all. Please report back any findings to DRAC. Look for an email.

Charles Plummer, President: The Ad Hoc Committee meets at 4:30 on Thursdays. Feel free to stop by. Other committees are also open if you want to come and observe.

## **11. Adjourn**

Colin Bateson, Mechanical Engineering: Moves to adjourn the meeting.

Michael Hutchens, Earth and Space Science: Seconds.

No objections, motion passes.

Meeting adjourns at 7:10.

## **GPSS Senate Meeting April 4, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

### **1. Call To Order**

Charles calls the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Kiana Scott (Evans) moves to approve the agenda.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy) seconds.

None opposed. Motion passes.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Buddy Rutzke (Law) moves to approve the minutes from February 29, 2012.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) seconds.

None opposed. Motion passes.

### **4. Finance and Budget Committee: Call for Volunteers**

Colin Goldfinch (Treasurer) announces there are two vacant seats on F&B committee until end of quarter. Meetings are not longer than an hour. If interested, email him.

Small amount of money to give out for departmental allocations.

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy) is interested.

### **5. Spring Social: Call for Volunteers**

Colin Goldfinch (Treasurer) invites senators to participate as volunteers at the Spring Social on April 12th. Ted Chen (Bioengineering) is interested. Also Ryan Shanderay (in Law school, not a senator) and Will Arighi (Comparative Literature).

### **6. GPSS Budget**

Colin Goldfinch (Treasurer) walks through the budget proposal, which has been recommended by F&B, Exec Committee and Restructuring Task Force. Once it is approved it goes to the Services and Activities Fee (SAF) committee. Total budget is pending allocation from SAF.

Major Changes:

- Not for Tourist guides- no revenue assumed. (Current guides are old.)
- New Social Committee will handle small events.
- End Travel Grants and using that money to fund new Committee structure and staff support. The reason for this is there are limited resources to give out travel grants and the number of applicants is growing. Decided it was better to take that funding and allocate it towards funding new committees.
- Treasurer's Fund: We decided to fund fall and spring socials exclusively through fundraising activities.

- Personnel: Increase in hours for summer staff to get ready for fall events. Increased staff capacity to support committees. Moving the executive assistant from a 10-hour to 20-hour position.

Colin opens floor to specific questions.

Daniel Coslett (Built Environments): Travel grants- I am sorry to see it go. To say there is funding for that elsewhere is not necessarily true. Also seeing it as a way to represent ourselves beyond here.

Colin: Issue of whether or not GPSS is the right organization to be distributing that funding. We already work with a small pool of money and there is a 100% turnover of those that administer the grants and applicants struggle with who is on this committee, so that committee doesn't have a lot of consistency year to year. Additionally, the administrative work that goes in to it is tremendous. Mission as an organization to be an advocacy type organization, but travel grants makes students upset with the GPSS

Nitya Venkateswaran (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies): I was on the travel grants committee, I am sad to see it go. Lack of transparency in information provided. Students didn't know why they didn't get the funding or if they got all the materials in on time.

Colin: In terms of more information- that has been a challenge, but in the past couple of years, we tried to explicitly state that students should not count on a travel grant for funding. In terms of feedback for why students were not awarded grants, that is more challenging and would require more time by the committee members.

Sanjay Hari (Chemistry): Are we going to cover the tuition waiver now? I am unclear as why we can't get rid of that line.

Charles Plummer (President): Officers are part of the UAW union. To leave the union requires a vote of the union; deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup> to ask for that. So we can't do that this year.

Jon \_\_\_\_: Travel grants don't go that far, less than 50 people getting \$500. In land of limited resources, what can we do for the greatest number of grad students. We should look to create other opportunities for advocacy.

Adam Sherman (Vice President): moves to extend time by 10 minutes.

Chris Lizotte (Geography) seconds.

No objections.

Jon Kocarnik (Public Health Genetics): With limited resources, we could use funds for other things. But if cut, should have page on website that shows where students can go to find information on funding sources.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): I proposed putting up a webpage to point students to where they can get travel grants. Increasing competitiveness of travel grants indicates this need. This might be more in line with our core mission and resources.

David Scoville (Environmental and Occupational Health): I was on travel grants committee this year. The more travel grants we get the more applicants we get. I agree with Colin. I am not sure from the applications we get that we have the power to distinguish which are the 'good' applications that deserve funding.

Buddy Rutzke (Law): I am wondering about some of the mechanics of the SAF funding. Can we ask them for more money?

Colin Goldfinch: Last year we got for an increase in funding and we can ask for more funding. But this year there is \$1.5 million more in requests to SAF than funding available. They also asked us to try to operate within those means.

Adrienne Meyer (Public Affairs) I am concerned we are eliminating something that is a direct service. Concerned about the perception that GPSS is moving away from service towards administration.

Daniel Capurro (Biomedical and Health Informatics): As an international student, travel grant opportunities are very small. GPSS was one of the few that they can apply for.

Daniel Coslett (Built Environment): There are also limited travel grant funds for non STEM students.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): What is the arts and entertainment line in the budget?

Colin Goldfinch: Goes to ASUW spring concert.

Kristen Hosey (Nursing): I'm also the resource assistant to the Treasurer and was on the Restructuring Committee. We did a survey of people who applied for travel grants. The only people who gave a positive response are the ones who received a grant.

Colin Goldfinch: With travel grants, the amount that comes out is the individual benefit that get to go to the conference. Social events are also opportunities to build a stronger community for graduate students from different departments.

Melanie Mayock (Secretary): What type of an organization do we want to be? To specialize in distributing grants or to specialize in advocacy which has the potential to have a bigger impact.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) moves to approve the budget.

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy) seconds.

None opposed.

Abstentions: Three. Motion passes.

## **7. Elections Packet**

Brigit Stadler (Jackson School – Korea Studies): Introduces the elections guide. The only changes are dates. April 24th is the deadline to submit election materials to get them on website. Election is at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Senate meeting.

Jon Kocarnik (Public Health Genetics): Moves to approve elections packet.

Daniel Cortez (Information School): Seconds.

All in favor. Motion passes.

## **8. Bylaw Amendments**

Melanie introduces bylaw amendments, broken up into 6 sections.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Why does the president have to attend all committee meetings?

Charles Plummer: Quorum doesn't require them to be there, but the president has a seat. They don't have to attend.

Nitya Venkateswaran (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies): I think these committees are great but how are we going to get senators to participate?

Melanie Mayock: Every year we get a number of new senators who want to get involved. Recruiting for the chairs is important.

Wes Kovarik (Jackson School – International Studies): We didn't have trouble filling the committee seats in the beginning of the year.

Melanie: We also have a budget for food for the committee meetings.

Melanie: To amend bylaws we have to have Judicial review the recommendations, which happened, and then the Exec Committee made some suggestions.

## **Treasurer duties/Finance and Budget Chair**

Treasurer would no longer be chair of Finance and Budget Committee, Chair would be elected by GPSS in spring quarter to serve a one year term.

Jason Madrano (Nursing) When do these bylaw changes take effect?

Melanie/Charles: We envisioned the changes happening for next year.

Jason Madrano (Nursing): When would we elect the committee chairs?

Charles Plummer: Within the next two Senate meetings.

Chris Lizotte (Geography): moves to amend Article V Section 2, per the proposal.

Colin Bateson (Mechanical Engineering) seconds.

Motion passes.

### **University Affairs Committee**

Charles Plummer: This committee is for developing new university policies as well as monitoring different parts of the university campus, etc. Subcommittees can be made up of all graduate students (don't have to be senators).

#### Diversity Subcommittee

Melanie explains purpose of diversity efforts on campus. Having a formalized committee would be really effective and help to get more done.

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy): Which committee can non-senators join?

Charles: any subcommittee

Kiana Scott (Evans): What about positions that are elected in spring and a senator doesn't know if they will be a senator for their department the following fall?

Charles: I believe as written you don't have to be a senator to be the chair of a subcommittee.

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy) Is there an evaluating process and is there a way to remove the committee chair? What is the chance that a subcommittee can become a 'little fiefdom'?

Charles: President retains power to remove every chair.

Chris Lizotte (Geography): Moves to amend the bylaws to create the University Affairs Committee.

Adrienne Meyer (Evans): Seconds

Henry Hunter (Biology): objects. Believes the officers should be non-voting on committees.

The motion passes. Bylaws are amended as suggested by executive committee.

### **Government Relations Committee (GRC)**

Adam introduces reason for and role of proposed Government Relations Committee. To create harmony and cohesiveness of external advocacy at both the state level and federal level. GRC is guard of our standing opinion so this is a collection of all our external advocacy positions. Would also be a good historical document year-to-year as where GPSS stands on issues.

Kiana Scott (Evans): It says the vice-president will be chair of the state legislative steering committee and the members of the GRC include both the vice president and the chair of the state legislative committee. This seems repetitive.

[This language was corrected by removing the phrase "chair of the State Legislative Steering Committee" from Clause 1a.]

Nathaniel McVicar (Electrical Engineering): Why is the University Affairs Committee chair not officer, but GRC Chair is the Vice President?

Charles: Vice-president has been the state lobbyist so would keep that position.

Rene Singleton (SAO Advisor): Also GPSS's right to lobby in Olympia is granted to only certain positions

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Are the president and vice-president are approving their own positions?

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Moves to change to "President and Vice President shall jointly appoint the five senators and they shall be approved by the Executive Committee" (Clause 1 d.)

Kiana seconds.

Jon Kocarnik (Public Health Genetics) moves to amend the bylaws to create the Government Relations Committee.

Kiana Scott (Evans): Seconds

None opposed, motion passes.

### **Communication and Outreach Committee**

Melanie Mayock: This committee would work with the Secretary and Communication Specialist to create policy around communication and outreach for GPSS.

Chris Lizotte (Geography) I move to remove 'non-voting' from Clause 1 a) and to remove 'plus the Secretary' from Clause 3 b).

Chris Lizotte: motions to amend the bylaw

Sarah Celms (Special Education) seconds

Adrienne Sussman (Psychology): Moves to approve the amendment and create the Communications and Outreach committee.

Sarah Celms (Special Education) seconds.

None opposed, motion passes.

### **Social Committee**

Colin Goldfinch introduces social committee and its functions.

Buddy Rutzke (Law): Moves to amend the bylaws by creating a Social Committee.

Jessica Kapteyn (Classics): Seconds

No objections, motion passes.

### **Travel Grants Committee**

Melanie: This amendment would remove the Travel Grants committee from the bylaws. We voted earlier to remove travel grants from the budget, so this is following up on that.

Jason Madrano (Nursing): If we strike the committee from organization, who would take up the pointing students to other travel grant resources?

Charles: Senate can appoint task to one of new committees

Chris Lizotte (Geography): Moves to amend the bylaws by removing the Travel Grants committee.

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy): seconds

Daniel Coslett (Built Environments) objects. I would have liked to have had a further conversation about this.

Bonnie Lau (Speech and Hearing Sciences): We should discuss this further at our next meeting

Charles calls for the vote. The motion is to remove the Travel Grants committee from the bylaws.

In favor: 29

Opposed: 21

Motion carries.

Charles: asks Senators to email president with questions comments related to this issue

### **9. College Councils Update**

Charles: Only the Business School is ready for GPSS involvement to begin work with their college council.

### **10. Legislative Update**

Adam Sherman (Vice President): In Olympia: Legislation passed that requires financial assistance education to make students aware of the amount of debt they are taking on. Special Session is still in progress until budget passes. Current proposal would keep sales-tax revenue collected on behalf of local governments in the state's general fund longer. Could free up \$238 million for spending elsewhere.

In DC: GPSS Delegation to DC. Issues covered during meeting include immigration reform, federal research grants, student debt and certain tax issues.

### **11. Announcements**

Kelsey Knowles (Student Regent): Tomorrow Board of Regents is having 2nd of two public forums from 2:30 to 4pm.

Wes Kovarik (Jackson School – International Studies): Happy Hour at College Inn

Colin Goldfinch: Science and Policy Summit is coming up; call for abstracts.

## **12. Adjourn**

Jon Kocarnik (Public Health Genetics): Moves to adjourn meeting

Edward Schwieterman: seconds

Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm

## **GPSS Senate Meeting May 2, 2012**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **1 – Call to Order**

Charles Plummer calls the meeting to order at 5:39pm.

#### **2 – Approval of the Agenda**

Melanie Mayock moves to change item 4 on the agenda. The sponsor should be listed as Gene Din.

Ted Chen Seconds the change.

Kimberly Schertz moves to approve the new agenda.

Ed Schwieterman seconds.

No Objections. The motion passes.

#### **3 – Approval of the Minutes from the April 4 meeting**

Mateo Banegas moves to approve the minutes

Karen Tabb seconds.

No objections. The motion passes.

#### **4 – Resolution in Support of UAW 4121 Bargaining Efforts**

Jean Dinh (Dept of Med Chem.) is on the board for UAW 4121. They are currently undergoing contract negotiations. This resolution is very similar to what has been presented before because they are in a multi-year negotiation with UW. This resolution outlines GPSS's support for these negotiating efforts.

Questions?

Trond Nilsen moves to approve the resolution.

Ed Schwieterman seconds.

No objections. The resolution is adopted.

## **5 – Call to Action on Student Loans**

Adam Sherman: Some may have heard of news regarding undergraduate student loans. The interest rate will be going up from 3ish to 6ish percent. If you are wondering why yours are already around 6 percent, it's because these special federal rates were only for undergraduates. Renegotiations in August for lowering the deficit in the US congress led to grad students losing all subsidized loans. This is bad for grad students, bad for WA's economy. New loans are set to expire July 1. Any loans after that date will no longer be subsidized, which means that you will be paying interest while you are in school. This is being given to you for your information. There will be a call to action in a few days. We will ask you to contact WA representatives about this matter. I'd be happy to answer any questions about what has happened or what could happen.

Matt Souza: Didn't Patty Murry come to campus to discuss this?

Adam Sherman: she came to talk about the undergraduate interest rates going up. For undergrads, there is no question about whether that rate is going to stay low. The question is how they are going to fund that low rate. Republicans and Democrats are fighting over how it will be funded. Everyone is in favor of it, though.

Jonathan Kocarnik: Is there a particular ask that you have formulated yet in your lobbying on this issue?

Adam Sherman: In DC we focused more on debt forgiveness. Say you graduate, go into public service, and then 10 years later the remainder of your loans are forgiven. At that point, the amount that you are forgiven is considered income, so you are taxed on it. We feel that that contradicts the incentive to go into public service, so we lobbied against that.

Charles Plummer: Time for this agenda item has expired.

## **6 – Officer Elections**

Hunter Marston: I will be running the elections. Please raise your hand if you are a senator or officer without a ballot. Each candidate will have 3-5 min to speak. They can present their case for candidacy and that will be followed by the same amount of time for questions from the floor. After that, proceeding alphabetically through the candidates, the elections committee will go outside as the meeting continues and will announce the winners.

Adam Sherman: is there a procedure for running from the floor?

Hunter Marston: People can nominate themselves.

Adam Sherman, running for GPSS President:

I'm going to talk a little about myself and about my vision to next year. I love purple. I'm a Capricorn. I'm NFLJ in Myers Briggs—or something like that. I've been with GPSS for 3 academic years. I started as a senator in Evans School. I got involved in SAGE last year, and

then this year I was the VP. I am enjoying what I am doing here, but there are challenges and opportunities at the presidential level that I would like to take on.

First I want to recognize what Evan Smith and Charles Plummer did in getting PACs up and running. That is hugely important because budgets are policy. Our budgets reflect our values, and now students can voice their values. They have also worked on college counsels, so our voices are heard not only at the central administrative level, but within the individual colleges as well. Programming and hiring decisions are important to our day-to-day experience, and it's important to know that those counsels are implemented campus wide, that this great idea comes to full fruition. I also want to make sure that we bolster our financial position internally so that we can serve the graduate population better. We recently slashed travel grants. We have to choose between funding this or that. The federal government is also making these hard choices. I think this is myopic and short sighted and we need to figure out how to pay for the things that students need. We can do this by growing the alumni association within GPSS. This will help with funding, with political and social reach, with institutional memory. Right now we have a wall of all of these officers from the past and we don't really know what any of them are up to. Finally we need to think about starting a GPSS endowment. Most larger, fiscally responsible orgs have an endowment. This is a great way to make sure we can get through difficult economic times, to make sure that our funding isn't subject to the whims of other people.

Question from the floor: Are you suggesting that we do fundraising for GPSS?

Adam Sherman: We already do a fair amount, but it's mostly coming from administration. A lot of that funding goes toward funding socials. There isn't a lot beyond that, though, and there are costs associated with that kind of fundraising. But alumni associations are low hanging fruit, and they may want to support and invest in this org that has supported them.

Question from the floor: How would you make sure that GPSS is an attractive place for senators? How would you improve retention and recruitment?

Adam Sherman: I'm happy with what we've done with our committee restructuring. This gives more senators a chance to be involved and get in front of the group. The more people feel engaged with GPSS and feel that they have a leadership role or responsibility, the more they will feel like they want to be there. So, we need to make sure that the committee structure we put into place works and is maintained.

Mateo Banegas: As a current officer, how do you plan to improve your skills as an officer for this next year to be the president?

Adam Sherman: Every year improvement comes through experience. I have attended as many meetings that the president is supposed to attend so that I can get a better idea of what the president's roles, responsibilities are. The more you involve yourself the more you learn. It's hard to have the perfect resume going into this job. Everyone has on the ground learning, but I think I've demonstrated that I can hit the ground running.

Hunter Marston: Does anyone want to run or nominate someone from the floor? Ok, then we will move onto VP, starting with Melanie.

Melanie Mayock, running for GPSS Vice President

Hi, I'm Melanie and I am running for vice president. I am finishing my second of 3 years at UW. I'm studying urban planning and admin. I think we have all felt the impact of several years of budget cuts. In my program, tuition has gone up 15% this year, and might go up again next year. The VP is a key person who can stop these hikes both here in Washington and in DC. I think I am a great person to fill this role. The core of this job is advocacy work. When I had my first job in the 90s, I spent a lot of time lobbying on environmental issues. I loved it and it was fulfilling work. I also am interested in keeping the programs that I am involved in at UW strong and supported not just now but down the road as well. The VP has the role of mobilizing and organizing to get things done. This is the kind of experience that I have. I have been a community organizer and a phone bank worker. I have proposed policy and led press conferences. I also have experience at UW. I was the legislative assistant at GPSS last year and helped then VP Ben Henry. I worked as Secretary of GPSS this year, and I think I played a role in helping us become a stronger organization, including streamlining communications. I am also very self-motivated on advocacy issues. I saw in the Seattle Times last week an editorial about maintaining interest rates for undergraduate student loans. But it wasn't specified that this only affected undergraduate loans. I fired off a letter describing the grad student situation, and it got published on Sunday, which has gotten word out there.

I want to recruit more senators and active members of the graduate student body, and I will do this by building stronger relationships between GPSS and active student organizations. We want to find out what is important to students in your department, and see how we can get more people involved and get these issues addressed.

My second priority will be being a strong voice for graduate students at the state level. This includes lobbying for new revenue for higher education, restoring financial aid that has been cut, and maintaining public transportation.

Third, we need to fight for research dollars and for graduate student loans.

Adam Sherman: Part of the role of next years VP is to work with the new organizing director. What can you say about that?

Melanie Mayock: So, we've changed the legislative assistant to an organizing director, focusing on getting more students involved. I am excited about this, especially with my background in organizing. It will be key in organizing for lobby day.

Matt Souza: The amount of time that you have to dedicate to this is a big factor, especially during winter quarter. Do you think you have the flexibility to dedicate the time that is needed?

Melanie Mayock: I have the flexibility. This job can take up 60 hours a week if we let it, but the goal is to include others and spread this work around so that it isn't completely dependent on me, but rather recruit others, staff, students, volunteers. I've also talked to my department about it.

Mateo Banegas: If for some reason you did not get this position, would you still be involved in GPSS?

Melanie Mayock: I would definitely want to stay involved in GPSS. I would have to figure out how to do that, given the elections in my department, but I would look towards getting involved in various committees.

Courtney Phillips-Youman, running for Vice President.

I am a 1<sup>st</sup> year student in School of Public Affairs. I also was an undergrad at UW, so this makes me a very loyal supporter of UW. After finishing my undergraduate studies, I returned to DC to work for an organization that dealt with agricultural issues, spent time lobbying for those issues, and learned how to navigate the policy making process and made connections with legislators.

I then returned to Seattle, worked with UW Impact, a program that was going through an extensive strategy review. Because of my experience in DC, I was involved in their organizational government. These experiences have provided me critical skills for taking on the roles of VP as Melanie described them. I would ask advocates, alumni, and friends to contact legislators for higher education and for UW.

I worked alongside the UW External Relations team as they followed the legislature throughout the year, and as excited to see that the hard work pay off and a budget come through with no cuts to higher education. I have heard the provost say that they seem to have stopped digging the hole but now it's time to start refilling it, so this is a critical time for interacting with legislators. We are expecting revenue increases for the next year, so we need to begin successfully asking that this money be give back to us. I recently joined the PAC, which is about helping set budgets that reflect student values. As Adam said, it is important to turn our attention to student funding, loans, etc. I will turn my attention to this, as well as to issues of international student visas, student loan repayments, and loan forgiveness. I heard the comments from the last meeting about how these proceedings are officer heavy, and I will do what I can to incorporate senator involvement and make sure that your voices and opinions are given voice in Olympia and in DC.

Matt Souza. I have the same question about your time and flexibility.

Courtney Phillips-Youman: I have talked to Adam about this, and my advisor tells me that I could structure my year in order t make this possible. It is possible. Students have done it, and advisors are aware.

Adam Sherman: You spent some time at UW Impact. Can you say more about what you were doing there? Does that experience translate?

Courtney Phillips-Youman: While there I followed the state funding process very closely. My specific job was to follow legislation and synthesize it for our advocates and alumni at UW. I think that is highly relevant, because I have followed all the debates as they have gone on . WE have aligned with GPSS and ASUW in these meetings as well.

Kimberly Schertz, running for Vice President

I'm Kimberly Schertz from the Law School. I was born in Denver and love the Broncos. I have lived in Washington for the past 11 years. I moved here before high school. I pursued my BA in Spanish and Women's Studies here at UW. I am also a Double Dog. I took a year off, and now I am back here for law school. I only took a year off between college and law school, so I don't have some of the professional experience that some of the other candidates have, but I am an experienced educator, which is key for lobbying. I worked for a while with female prisoners on health issues and on domestic violent issues. Also for 3 years I was a compliance training facilitator at a bank, and served as an educator for my coworkers. To be an effective advocate you need not only a strong voice but also strong representation skills. During my undergraduate program, I was on a student gift counsel and we raised \$40k to install safety lights on campus. I have advocated for an organization that worked for human rights and participated in lobbying efforts. I am now co-president of the disability law alliance and am the GPSS representative on the student bar association. I will be working for a non-profit this summer in NY that will represent low-income domestic violence victims.

In my time here, I have witnessed significant budget cuts. I want to work to continue Adam's hard work in fighting for funding for higher education. I want to prevent increases in tuition, to replenish work study programs, to increase travel grant opportunities either within or outside of GPSS, increase funding for research, improve campus safety, and increase access to child care.

Kiana Scott: Because you don't have a background in legislative experience, how will you hit the ground running in Olympia?

Kimberly Schertz: My internship ends in August, so I was planning on spending that month creating relationships that need to be built in Olympia. I have also signed up for a legislative advocacy clinic at UW.

Matt Souza: I have the same question about your time commitments.

Kimberly Schertz: I have learned that I can over commit myself, so I sat down with my career counselor and we discussed it. I decided that this position is very important and I will cut back on all of my other volunteer work in order to dedicate myself fully to this work.

Adam Sherman: I was part of the legislative advocacy clinic before. JHow will you balance wearing 2 different hats at the same time?

Kimberly Schertz: That will certainly be an on the ground learning experience. I would like to divide this up into multiple conversations so as to not bombard people with issues

Question from the floor: You gave a list of priorities at the end of your speech. Can you give a sense of what they are or rank them in some way?

Kimberly Schertz: #1 is preventing an increase in tuition, but that depends on what sort of funds we are given and what we can prevent. Second would be replenishing work study programs. I would say they are in the order I announced them in in terms of priority.

Ted Chen: Because you don't have as much experiences as other candidates, what is your biggest asset?

Kimberly Schertz: I have advocacy experience just not legislative advocacy experience. I am a very passionate woman. I am a strong person because of my educational background, and I will always remember why I'm fighting for what I'm fighting for. We need to make sure that other people have the ability to pursue education as well. I also think I have good communication skills.

Ryan Shandera, running for Vice President.

I hope that everyone was able to take a look at the material I was able to post online. My experience includes an MBA that I got 4 years ago at Pepperdine. I then went into the working world for 4 years. So I know very well what grad and prof students need while in school and once they have graduated. I have also worked in different organizations. I excel at taking organizations and helping them grow, improve, and build upon themselves. This senate has already identified the need for restructuring. I can help in finishing that restructuring and helping GPSS get to the next level. I did this work at Loyola University, where I restructured the Resident Housing Administration. We had a \$175k budget that year. 12 months later, we had a \$40k surplus. So I can be creative and help GPSS get through the current issues. I worked at Starbucks, ran and grew my own business.

Here is how I think: I'm going to pick on Adam for just a second. As far as budgets go, I think of budget constraint. I have brought in materials that are reused. I am sorry Adam, but your flyer is not budget constraint. I currently have student loans, over \$10k in credit card debt, and less than \$100 in my checking account. I can navigate money and make what you have work in them meantime. I also have a habit of winning even when I fail. 4 years ago, May 2008, I was in the ambassador cup at Starbucks. They weeded 5000 people down to 8. I represented my department of 1200 people. I lost, but the following day, there was a 5x7 portrait of me with an award and a description of the ambassador cup. I didn't win, but I still find a way of getting results and making an impact regardless of what happens.

Matt Souza: I'm asking the same question about time.

Ryan Shandera: As an undergraduate, I worked 30 hours a week when I was going to school and also was an RA. I also throughout my undergrad was on the exec board of 7 organizations and was actively involved in 12. I then managed a 3.9 GPA on top of that. I can balance work, extra curricular, and school. I will be able to dedicate enough time to this organization as well as to my academic endeavors. There is some desire to have summer

work, so if there is the need for my participation then, I have 2 job opportunities on the table and both of them are aware and will be rather flexible with this situation.

Karen Tabb: Thank you for your humor. My burning question is why didn't you run for treasurer?

Ryan Shandera: We already have a great treasurer. I am a great advocate. I like to bring ideas to the fore and bring things into dialogue. I feel like that's where I can really excel. I can also be a successful broad base 'steerer' for this organization.

Matt Souza: You spoke a lot about business organizations and budgets. That's fantastic, but my understanding that the VP job is more about legislative advocacy, talking to representatives at the state and federal level, representing GPSS to them. Do you have any legislative advocacy experience to draw on.

Ryan Shandera: Not legislative advocacy per se. But I was enrolled in Campus republicans, democrats, and the green party. I like to have a broad base. So, no I don't, but I don't see it as a huge hurdle. There is support in the form of Adam, and you are electing us to be part of an organization. I will have to advocate for the budget, and if I'm not knowledgeable and passionate about it, how can you advocate for it.

Question from the floor: What school are you from and what year are you?

Ryan Shandera: Law school – first year.

Adam Sherman: Traditionally the VP has advocated for more funding for higher education. Is that contrary to your position of budget constraint?

Ryan Shandera: No, that is not counter to anything that I would say. Also, it's not my role to advocate for my personal opinions. I am going to be an advocate for your needs and will be bringing my personal understanding of your needs to the table. We need to be cognizant of how we spend money, but bringing in extra dollars is excellent and there are many opportunities for us to do this. Proposes a potential business venture with Amazon and grad student publishing.

Tobias Gruenthal: I have a question for Adam – listening to you for the past several months, I have a good idea of what you do, but when you took up this position, what do you feel helped you be a good VP? Was it your evident public speaking skills? Your law background? What was most valuable?

Adam Sherman: The law background is totally secondary. The key thing is to be personable. If you can go up to people and be reasonable, and be rational, you can get the job done. Decisions in Olympia aren't made solely on rationality. There is a lot of politics involved, and the better you are at relating to people, the better you are at getting your ideas and opinions across. Also, if you can dedicate yourself 100% to it, that's huge.

Hunter Marston: Any nominations from the floor? Then onto Secretary.

Kristen Hosey, running for GPSS Secretary.

I'm a nurse. That's a little different. I've been here at UW for 2 years. I've been a senator for 2 years. I've been working with the Treasurer's office for almost 2 years as the Resource Assistant. I have also been on the F&B committee, the Restructuring Task Force, I'm appointed as the UW Bookstore Trustee. I have had a lot of experience working not just in the School of Nursing, but outside of that school with a lot of different schools across campus. I've noticed that the School of Nursing is focused on the bottom line and not on the needs of the students. The midwifery program is an example of that. As secretary, there are a few things that I would like to highlight. The role of diversity, communication, and supporting you all as senators.

Diversity is important to me. I am a community health nurse, and I have experience doing a lot of work with health disparities, trying to get people access to health care. I have done this both locally and in Malawi. I have also done gender and development work with secondary school girls, and locally I am working with Native American tribes in the Puget sound, working on breast cancer screenings and survivorship. With all of the new committees coming up, the diversity committee could really strengthen our voice for diversity on campus. It's not just about gender and race. It's about having voices from all over campus represented. I don't think that we should be duplicating efforts, but we should be working with pre-existing orgs to provide voice.

Communication is a big issue that came out of restructuring. People don't know who we are or what we're doing. Something that I could bring to the table is what I've been doing in the nursing school, which is getting all sorts of people together to talk about what we're doing and what the issues are for people on campus. I would love to work with the outreach committee to extend GPSS's reach into other organizations and events on campus, having small coffee breaks before major events to introduce people to GPSS and its actions

When I joined GPSS, I had no idea what was going on. I want to run an orientation module this summer for new senators, to train them to advocate better for their programs and students.

Matt Souza: The same time question is posed.

Kristen Hosey: With the program that I'm in losing money, I rushed to get my classes out of the way, so I will have a lot of time on my hands next year

Tobias Gruenthal: How organized are you?

Kristen Hosey: I have been juggling a lot of things. I've been working on the F&B committee, the SPS, TED talks, school of nursing. I haven't dropped the ball on anything so far. I am not the best public speaker maybe. I've been coaching myself. But I'm not disorganized. I am really on top of my game.

Matt Elisio: How many unanswered emails do you have in your in box right now?

Kristen Hosey: Before this meeting, about 5. After the meeting about 40 I bet.

Evan Smith: As the secretary, you would be sitting on ASUW board of directors. Do you have experience working with ASUW and if not how will you get to know the issues?

Kristen Hosey: Last year I got to hang out with Sean who was the secretary and follow him to a lot of meetings. Right now I am on the UW board of trustees for the University Bookstore. 4 of the people on that committee are undergraduate students, and two of them are highly placed in ASUW. So we hear a lot about ASUW from that. There are also times when we have collaborated with ASUW on budgets as well.

Question from the floor: With your experience in public affairs – do you see any opportunities to enhance communication within the organization? The School of Nursing doesn't have a student government, so in the last year, I have been working with graduate students from other departments. We have 460 grad students there, so we need more representation. There are 2 RSOs organizing with senators, and 2 more focused on changing the culture and spirit within the school of nursing. This is how we have been communicating and advocating for students. On GPSS committees, we are going to have chairs, which will help everyone know what is going on next year. That will be great.

Keith Peyton, running for GPSS Secretary.

I am a first year law student. I am interested in the secretary position for a number of reasons. As a law student, I am interested in the judiciary. Part of the secretary's role is to over see the Judicial Committee. I worked on the Judicial Committee at USC where we handled student conduct issues, and I could transfer those skills here.

I have worked in many places on campus, including the LGBT resource center. I have lots of experience working with students, staff, alumni. I am on a lot of committees at the School of Law: OutLaws, QLaw, LGBTQ attorneys. I am also on disability alliance committee, advocating for disability rights. I'm also part of the student ambassador community, part of the law school's outreach to prospective students. I know that disabled students need more representation at UW. We have the QLaw center and the DSS, so we have a lot of services out there, and if I were secretary, I would coordinate more with these services that are already there.

Lastly, I would like to promote GPSS and work with senators. In orientation, I didn't really know what GPSS was all about. I feel like communication and coordination with the various departments could be helpful in getting more students aware of what we do or who we are.

Matt Eliseo: I am a member of the Judicial Committee, I object to the statement that you over see us.

Keith Peyton: Sorry, I misspoke.

Matt Eliseo: How would you like to bring your law school experience to bear as an ex officio member of the Judicial Committee?

Keith Peyton: I handled cases of disciplinary problems at USC, so I can bring some experience and insight to it.

Kiana Scott: How many unanswered emails do you have in your inbox?

Matt Souza: I'm asking the same time commitment question.

Keith Peyton: Now I work 2 jobs in addition to being a full time law student, so I would defer to the job of being secretary in lieu of these other positions. I am already working that kind of load.

Question from the floor: Kristen said that she wanted to increase diversity by bringing in voices across campus. What is your plan for getting south campus more involved, especially considering the executive board?

Trond Nilsen: The executive committee is half science students, at least.

Keith Peyton: I would reach out. Word of mouth, personal interactions with senators—these are all ways to Encourage a more diverse base to participate.

Question from the floor: What are you doing in GPSS now and how will that serve you in your capacity as secretary?

Keith Peyton: Now I'm just working in the School of Law.

Hunter Marston: Are there any nominations from the floor? Ok, then on to treasurer.

Colin Goldfinch, running for GPSS Treasurer

We've been through a lot of changes this year. The restructuring task force created a lot of committees, we have new budgets, new bylaws, and we are still charting a path forward. Those changes aren't done. Right before September, we are going to be moving back to our office in the HUB. This is a great opportunity for us to put our office right back at the center of student life. As we are getting ready for the higher education summit, fall social, student orientation, this will be busy. My goal as treasurer is to make GPSS a central resource for students. I want to make sure that the office is a place where students can come to ask questions, to talk about issues. We have done a good job of using smaller events to bring the community together on campus. Vora did a great job with the PhD movie. We hosted trivia at the Burke Museum one month. We have lots of opportunities to take our position in the HUB out to the larger campus.

I have a few specific proposals. With regards to committees, it is important for the treasurer to create a structure that can support that new organization. We started a new SharePoint system to facilitate special allocations. We can set up a similar system to make it easier for the VP to deal with all of their staff and committees and volunteers. We should also set up quarterly reports, so that we can see trends and patterns across campus in a more real-time manner.

Since the HUB will be open in the evening, I would like to make sure that we have office hours in the evening. If the GPSS office is going to be a place where people can come to talk about the issues, then the door needs to be open for students who have irregular schedules on campus.

Also, since we have had success with these smaller events, we are having some SPS events starting tomorrow that are smaller. I would like to have these smaller events throughout the year: small events, talks, interesting things that can build discussion and conversation across campus.

Overall, we have written out a lot of big changes for next year, but they are all still on paper. We need to have the flexibility to bring all those changes to life, and I hope to accomplish this next year.

Mateo Banegas: You are running unopposed, which shows our confidence in you, but how will you improve as a leader and what did you not accomplish this year that you want to accomplish this year? And what new ideas are you bringing this time?

Colin Goldfinch: Last year I said that I wanted to have a lot more online application systems. I want to bring this forward again. I thought this could be implemented over the summer, but there were all sorts of unforeseen difficulties. I have learned a lot about these processes this year, and I think we've nailed it with the SharePoint system. My objective next year is to remain focused on what GPSS says is important because it takes focus and time to get them done.

Rita Ismail: How do you feel to be the only candidate for this position?

Colin Goldfinch: This is a personal issue for me. I ran unopposed several times as an undergrad too. I wish there were more debate. These elections are an opportunity to have vibrant discussions. I am hoping that committee chairs this next year will be more excited to run for office in the future.

Hunter Marston: Are there nominees from the floor? Ok, then it is time to fill out ballots. Please rank your votes for VP, put your name and signature at the bottom, and pass them to the end of the row.

## **7 – Science and Policy Summit**

Colin Goldfinch: There are two events this year. The first is tomorrow, a presentation competition a la TED talks. Faculty are sharing the results and policy implications of their research

Yasmeen Hussain: How long are the presentations?

Colin Goldfinch: There are 8 presentations of 10 min each with food and drink afterwards. We should be there for 2 hours. It starts at 2:30. The second event is the summit, which will be net Tues in the Walker-Ames room. The first panel is on bioethics and preventative medicine. The second panel is on science and policy in presidential campaigns (or lack there of). This second

event is going to be 3 hours—an hour for each panel and then a student poster competition at the end.

## **8 – Provost Advisory Committee for Students and International Student Fee**

Charles Plummer: I want to briefly report on what the PACS has been doing for students this year. In 2012, this committee has so far focused on undergraduate differential tuition, they have developed official budget principles, have been monitoring updates from the office of financial aid and planning and budgeting. They have reviewed the budget narrative that all the units of the university have submitted. They have offered their questions and analyses to the provost, so that they provost can have more opportunity to discuss student needs with the various deans. They have reviewed the international student fee and provided recommendations on this, and evaluated an alternative income based repayment funding model for the UW developed by the Economic Opportunity Institute (EOI)

In April, the provost came to me and the ASUW president, put together a working group to work on whether there should be an international student fee, what units should be supported with it, show much should it cost, and how should it be levied. She wanted a recommendation in 10 days. Luckily we had PACS that could look at this proposal, and were able to give her a recommendation: this was not the time for any such fee. The decision would be rushed. The next day the provost decided to put a hold on this fee, and credited the group with raising issues that other administrators didn't want to raise. The UW needs \$262 to bring themselves into compliance, but that money should come from somewhere else. Also a blanket fee for all students is inappropriate. Student life also asked for more money, and they found that all students use student life equally, and internationally shouldn't be targeted to fund it. These issues are too tangled up in the larger structural deficits that have reduced service capacities for all students.

## **9 – GPSS Committee Chair Information**

Charles Plummer: We are going to elect chairs for committees at the next meeting: university affairs, F&B, communication and outreach, government relations, and the social committee.

The university affairs committee is in blue and is under my purview as president. This is a place where we hope that a lot of policy can be developed, where there can be not only solid institutional memory, but also develop some new and innovative policies for GPSS and GPSS opinions. They oversee the community affairs committee, which looks at issues of larger scope like housing, town and gown issues, environmental issues, and other extra-university relationships like corporate sponsorship.

Melanie Mayock: There will be a diversity subcommittee. The new secretary will be involve din this. The chair will be appointed by the secretary. This is a group that will be working with different bodies on campus, departments, etc. Interfacing with GO-MAP, etc. I think people who are interested should get informally involved over the summer. This committee will be more

fully formed in the fall. This subcommittee will administer the GPSS diversity fund, which is funded at \$45k/yr to promote diversity.

Colin Goldfinch: The student life committee will be working to with STF and other sources with lots of money for students on campus. The purpose of this committee is to track where our money is going across campus so that we can see if needs are really being met and if we can better represent graduate and professional students to other groups that are giving out large amounts of our money in various ways. The F&B committee does 3 things: departmental allocation funding, which can be used for department-wide student development, special allocation funding for student programming and organizations, and preparation and approval of the GPSS budget. The committee supports the treasurer in setting GPSS budget priorities. The social committee has had \$3k allocated to it this year in order to support events to bring graduate students together. The goal is to underwrite some of the smaller events that GPSS can get involved in throughout the year.

Adam Sherman: Connor, the legislative assistant, was given the bylaws and he produced this org chart (on the projector screen). Hopefully this is a better way to navigate the system – visually. Despite my role next year, government relations is going to be the coolest committee to be involved in. It will be synthesizing all of our external legislative agendas and efforts. It will be establishing institutional memory via a book of standing policy positions, and they will be coordinating with the policy director on urgent action items. For government nerds, this is going to be awesome.

Melanie Mayock: DRAC is something we are looking at changing potentially. The bottom line is that for students who are involved in dispute, GPSS wanted to look at how to be a resource. Communication and outreach is to help get the word out about GPSS. This will be appointed in spring quarter, because we want some committee work to happen over the summer.

## **Election Results.**

Hunter Marston: Thank you all for your patience and participation.

President – 84 votes for Adam Sherman, 1 abstention

VP – 52 votes – Melanie Mayock.

Courtney Phillips-Youman – 28 votes

Kimberly Schertz – 3 votes

Ryan Shandera – 2 votes

Secretary – Kristen Hosey 72 votes

Keith Peyton – 12 votes

1 write-in for Melanie Mayock

Treasurer – Colin Goldfinch 85 votes.

## **10 - Travel Grants**

Daniel Coslett: Last month we axed travel grants. I have heard about a lot of other people who are also upset. I am interested in talking to people with ideas. There are a few of you interested. E-mail me.

Melanie Mayock: On a technical note, my email address is out there. Get a resolution to the Secretary 2 weeks before the meeting.

Jennifer Carroll: I am collecting materials on other travel support opportunities at UW. Please help me collect materials from your programs and departments

Trond Nilsen: Are you looking at putting travel grants back in the GPSS budget or are you trying to set up anything anywhere?

Daniel Coslett: I think we could set up an ad hoc committee for the fall to discuss this. I have no explicit agenda, I think just that it should be discussed in a more active manner.

Charles Plummer: In the new University Affairs Committee, there is room for them to form ad hoc committees to deal with such issues, so that we can get such conversations going without a full senate meeting.

## **11 – Announcements**

Rene Singleton: thank you to elections committee for running elections.

Charles Plummer thanks the elections committee

## **12 - Adjourn**

Megan Gambs moves to adjourn.

Ed Schwieterman seconds.

The meeting is adjourned at 7:38pm.

## **GPSS Senate Meeting May 30, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

### **1. Call To Order**

Charles Plummer (President) calls the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy) moves approval of the agenda.

Kiana Scott (Evans) seconds.

None opposed; motion passes.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy) moves to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2012 Senate meeting.

Colin Batesman (Mechanical Engineering) seconds.

None opposed; motion passes.

### **4. Election for Treasurer**

Charles: Need to first amend the GPSS bylaws before the Senate can elect a new Treasurer. The current bylaws do not cover the situation when an officer-elect resigns for their upcoming term. We're proposing to amend the bylaws to cover this situation.

Melanie walks through the proposed changes. [See Article V, Section G, Clause 5 of the attached bylaw amendment proposal.]

Chris Lizotte (Geography): moves to amend the bylaws as proposed.

Edward Schwieterman (Astronomy) seconds

None opposed; motion carries.

Amy Winter (Dentistry) explains the rules for the special election for Treasurer. She takes nominations from the floor.

Vera Giampietro (Landscape Arch) nominates herself.

Buddy Rutzke (Law) nominates himself.

Ryan Shandera, (law student) nominates himself.

Vera, Buddy, and Ryan give speeches.

Questions from the floor:

Colin Goldfinch (Treasurer): Social Committee and Financial Committee for next year, what are your thoughts about sharing the work and best way to collaborate with those committees

Vera: finding out what people's strengths are, and working together

Buddy: 'servant leadership'- creating infrastructure for other people on the team to communicate, finding people's strengths

Ryan: draws on past experience, give others titles and specialized functions

Becky Edmonds (LGBTQ): How will you make sure that all different people are welcomed and included at various social occasions?

Buddy: more input on the front-end

Vera: community engagement- delegating out to different organizational meetings and word of mouth- asking Senators to play a role and speaking to students

Ryan: putting together events that are free

## **5. Resolution Opposing Cherry Point Coal Terminal**

Natalie Hale presents resolution for GPSS to oppose the Cherry Point Coal Terminal.  
(Please see attached resolution.)

Adam Sherman (Vice President) What are proponents of this project saying?

Natalie: It is good for the economy.

Melanie Mayock (Secretary): Is there a sense of what are other energy sources would be used instead of this in China?

Natalie: We do not want to support China in consumption of coal.

Those in favor: the majority (as called by Charles)

Those against: 5

Abstentions: 9

The motion passes.

## **6. Executive Senator Election**

Charles talks briefly about the role and function of Executive Senators and the Executive Committee.

Question: Why are we only electing 2 executive senators? Who are the other two?

Charles: Executive Senators serve one full year from start date of their term. Megan Gambs and Trond Nilsen are the other two Executive Senators; their terms will be up in the fall.

Charles: Per the bylaws, the officers have nominated two people to be Executive Senators:

Amber Trout (College of Built Environment)

Chris Lizotte (Geography)

Amber and Chris give short speeches about their backgrounds and why they want to be Executive Senators.

Amy Winter (Dentistry) enters the room to announce the Treasurer election results.

Amy: Five people did not print and sign their name on their ballot; their ballots were not valid.

The vote was very close. Congratulations to Vera Giampietro who will be our new Treasurer.

The Executive Senator election continues:

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Moves to approve Amber and Chris as Executive Senators.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) Seconds

None opposed. Motion passes.

## **7. State Legislative Agenda Amendment**

Melanie introduces the amendment she is proposing for the 2012 GPSS State Legislative Agenda. The following statement would be added to the agenda: “GPSS supports policies at the local and state level that improve affordable and accessible transportation options for UW students. Maintaining convenient transit service to the University is a priority.” Melanie states that a new source of funding for public transit will be needed from the legislature in 2013, to prevent potential big cuts in bus service to UW.

David Scoville (Environmental Occupational Health): How do you see this in relation to the UAW effort to get rid of mandatory UPASS fees for Academic Student Employees?

Melanie: We need to keep UPASS universal for the program to work. Rather than not all Academic Student Employees paying for U-PASS, it would be better for the University to pay the fees for ASEs.

Colin Bateson (Mechanical Engineering): Moves to amend state legislative agenda

Will Scott (Computer Science and Engineering): Seconds.

None opposed; motion passes.

## **8. Committee Chair Elections**

### **University Affairs:**

Charles describes duties and functions of this committee.

Melanie Mayock (Secretary): Nominates Kiana Scott as Chair of the University Affairs Committee. Melanie gives short introduction about Kiana and her past experiences.

Mateo Banegas (Public Health – Health Services): Seconds.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) I don't feel comfortable electing someone who is not here.

Colin Bateson (Mechanical Engineering): Having worked with Kiana I agree with Melanie that she is well qualified.

Charles calls the vote.

In favor: 55

Abstentions: 7

Opposed: 0

Kiana Scott is elected University Affairs Chair.

### **Government Relations Committee:**

Adam Sherman (Vice President): Responsibility of maintaining the book of standing opinion recently outlined in the new bylaws and for overseeing the work being done by the state and federal legislative committees.

Kimberly Schertz (Law) nominates herself.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Moves to elect Kimberly as Government Relations Chair.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy): Seconds

Motion passes.

### **Communications and Outreach:**

Melanie Mayock: Marketing to promote GPSS, work with new Secretary Kristen Hosey to get the word out.

Nicole Secula (Music) nominates herself.

David Scoville (Environmental Health) nominates Ryan Shandera.

Ryan has left the room. Wes Kovarik (Jackson School) calls Ryan, who accepts the nomination. Nicole withdraws her nomination.

Chris Lizotte (Geography): Moves to elect Ryan Shandera Communications and Outreach Chair.

Nicole Secula (Music): seconds

Motion passes.

### **Social Committee:**

Colin Goldfinch (Treasurer): This committee helps the Treasurer come up with fun themes for social events, etc.

Melanie Mayock (Secretary): nominates Bonnie Lau (Speech and Hearing)

Ryan Shandera was also nominated.

Bonnie gives introductory speech.

Question: Should we vote by ballot or by hand.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Moves to vote by hand

Chris Graessler (Architecture): seconds

Motion passes. Vote will be by hand.

Bonnie is voted Chair of the Social Committee

### **Finance and Budget Committee:**

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy) nominates himself. Eddie says a little bit about himself.

Amy Winter (Dentistry): Moves to elect Eddie Schwieterman to Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee .

Chris Lizotte (Geography): Seconds

Motion passes.

## **9. Bylaw Amendments**

Melanie Mayock: This is mostly clean-up of bylaws. Most are just making in line with new committee structure that was set up this year.

Jennifer Tippins (Jackson School-China Studies): Moves to waive going through all the bylaw amendments.

Kimberly Schertz (Law): seconds.

Colin Bateson (Mechanical Engineering): Has Exec Committee looked through these bylaws?  
Charles: Members of Exec Committee has looked through it

Onyinye Edeh (Global Health) opposes the motion to waive reading through the changes.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology) seconds.

Motion not approved

Charles and Melanie go through the changes. [See bylaw amendment proposal document for details.]

Nitya Venkateswaran (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies): It would be helpful next time if you explain the reasons for each change when you send out the document.

Melanie: Good suggestion; we will do that.

Yasmeen Hussain (Biology): Moves to approve the bylaw amendments.

Adrienne Sussman (Psychology) seconds.

None opposed; bylaw amendments approved.

## **10. Resolution – Travel Grants**

Daniel Coslett (College of Built Environments) talks about travel grants resolution. This requires the Senate to appoint an ad-hoc committee to look into travel grants issue in the fall. By approving this resolution you are not saying you want to reinstate travel grants. This resolution allows for options.

Will Arighi (Comparative Literature) What is the procedure for appointing members to ad-hoc committee?

Charles: The President appoints members

Nathaniel (Electrical Engineering): Should all of the details of the ad-hoc committee be established in this resolution?

Daniel: I think we can work out details of the committee later.

Kimberly Schertz (Law): moves to approve the resolution

Yasmine (Biology) seconds.

None opposed. Resolution is approved.

## **11. University Budget Update**

Charles gives University budget update. In the Provost's plan, about 20% of new revenue will be used to back fill cuts from the past 3 years.

Chris Lizotte (Geography): This question is more for Adam. Since there were no cuts to higher education in the legislature this past session, are things going to improve in the future?

Adam: The budget was framed to the public as no new cuts to higher education. However, there was a \$2.7 million cut on administration. The legislature also required the UW and WSU to increase spending on engineering degree production by \$3.8 each but it did not provide funding for this. This means it is effectively a \$3.8 cut to the rest of the University's functions and programs. However, the state is seeing slow increasing revenue and this means that slowly, over time, things will probably start to improve and we are not likely to see the kinds of increases to tuition we saw this year.

Kelsey Knowles (Student Regent): Regents website shows where funding will go to.

## **12. State of the GPSS**

Charles gives an overview of the state of the GPSS:

- U-PASS program turned 20 this year
- Deans/Administrators begin to welcome students to the budgeting process
- GPSS, through committees and working groups has kept administrators honest
- GPSS hosted 2 summits and several popular social events

Where is GPSS now?

- We run the risk of overextending this organization
- If you will be at UW next year, please take 30 minutes each week to get involved at UW, whether with GPSS or in other ways.

## **13. Announcements**

Adam:

- 1) Thanks Colin for his service to GPSS over the past two years. The restructuring efforts could not have gone forward successfully without Colin's dedication.
- 2) Thanks Charles for his leadership.

Rosie Lindeke (Nursing – Family and Child Nursing): The midwifery program in Nursing will not be eliminated. If any of you face the elimination of your program in the future, talk to me and I'll be happy to share our tactics with you.

Charles: Thanks Amy and Mateo on Executive Committee.

## **14. Adjourn**

Chris Lizotte (Geography): Moves to adjourn.

Eddie Schwieterman (Astronomy) seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.