



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Senate Meeting Minutes

November 08, 2017 | HUB 334

1. Call to Order 5:33PM

2. Approval of Agenda

5:33 PM

Patrick Rice (Psychology): Moves to approve agenda

Lillian Ferraz Proxy for Evan Fischer (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Seconds

3. Approval of Minutes

5:34 PM

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Moves to approve the minutes

Charlie Fieseler (Physics): Seconds

Training on Slido

5:34 PM

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Talks about Slido an app for Smartphones. Slido is an audience interaction tool for meetings, events and conferences. It offers interactive Q&A, live polls and real-time presentation sharing. Allows to ask questions and also upvote questions electronically via smartphone or computer. Questions will also be shared with the guests after the meeting to ensure all the questions are answered. An Officer will moderate the questions.

To access on a computer: <https://www.sli.do/>. For smartphone access, download sli.do from Appstore. There will be codes that needs to be entered which will be shared by the Officer during the meeting. Enter codes and post a question or upvote questions by just clicking on “Like” below the question that has been posted which will move the question to the top. The person posting a question must enter their name so that GPSS has a record of who asked what question. Slido will be open after the meeting too to post any questions that may occur later.

4. Guest: Counseling Center

5:37PM

Natacha Foo Kune (Counseling Center Director): Distributes postcards describing the services. Shares that Counseling Center located in Schmitz Hall on 4th floor. Can be contacted if interested in talking with a Counselor around any struggles such as stress, depression anxiety etc. that one may have. Counseling Center offers individual as well as group counseling.

A survey was done in Spring 2017. It was a Healthy Mind Study to improve mental health on campus and decrease suicides. The survey will be done again 2 years later to see if the changes that were implemented are working well. There was an equal representation of genders (49 each). Race and ethnicity matches the demographics fairly well. 39% of grad students were represented which matches the number of UW population.

Depression screening was also done to check how many students are dealing with depression. Severe depression was at 11%. Moderate depression at 17%; therefore, any depression is at 28%. Looking specifically at degree level, Under Graduate is at 31%, Graduate Students is at 21% and Others are at 25%. Grad students are doing comparatively better although there is stress but have better coping strategies.

In terms of anxiety, about 9% face severe anxiety, 14% face moderate anxiety and mixed together is about 23%. Grad and UG are matched in terms of the level of anxiety. The question boils down to 'are the students who are suffering actually getting help?'. So, Counseling Center asked students how many have been getting help since last year and 22% of total respondents said they received counseling in the past year. Looking at students who had a positive depression or anxiety screen, 46% are getting help which is twice the overall population. That's a great news. But has more work to be done.

Talking about attitudes and beliefs about Mental Health Services, 15% of the respondents knew where to go for help, 30% agreed, another 30% said somewhat agree; which means that the students know that they could probably look at the website and find information or it could also mean that they know that there is Counseling Center and Hall Health that exists; 11 % said somewhat disagree, another 11% said disagree, and 4% said strongly disagree.

Elloise Kim (President) reads question posted on Slido by **Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology)**: What is the difference between Counseling Centre and Health Hall?

Natacha Foo Kune (Counseling Center Director): In terms of the service that one will be getting, there are no major differences. Both offer short-term counseling services. Locations are different. Hall Health Mental Clinic is in Hall Health and Counseling Center is in Schmitz Hall. Difference is also in the costs. If one is a grad student on GAPE, Hall Health will charge by insurance. Counseling Center doesn't charge.

Natacha Foo Kune (Counseling Center Director): Graduate students seem to know little less where to go compared to Under grads. In past year, 38% perceived clear need for counseling. Interestingly, when asked about current need the somewhat agree category goes from 18% last year to 35% currently. Also looked at suicidality – dealing with suicidal notions, 12% was dealing with some kind of suicidal thoughts in the past year. 4% had suicide plans last year mostly present among undergrad students. 1% attempted suicide last year. An 18% of students revealed they used a substance to cope. 33.51% of students said they used but NOT to cope but presumably for fun. A larger percentage said they don't use at all. If one as to assume what percentage actually uses substances, typically the rates are higher than reality. Use profile is similar for undergrad and graduate students in terms of marijuana, slightly higher for alcohol; mostly binge drinking (4 to 5 drinks in one sitting). 80% of students reported some academic impairment due to emotional or mental difficulties in past 4 weeks. This points to an area for programming to help students have more realistic expectations about how they will be perceived if they are open about their mental health struggles. 44% said they would think less of the person who is seeking help for mental health. Natacha encourages everyone to share details. Talking about positive mental health, 33% of students took the flourishing scale and were doing well.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads the question from Slido: What is the current ratio of Mental Health Professionals to Students? Do you think that ratio is sufficient with the need on campus?

Natacha Foo Kune (Counseling Center Director): The current ratio required is 1 counselor to 1000 to 1500 students. Currently at 1:1600. So not quite meeting the ratio. Not sufficient in terms of Counseling. When one looks at campuses such as UCLA who has tried to meet that demand, they have kept adding Counselors and they are now serving 25% of the student population and yet can't keep up with the demand.

Elloise Kim (President): Thanks Natacha and invites Senators to keep posting any further questions on Slido.

5. Guest: Student Legal Services

5:44 PM

Rory O' Sullivan (Director & Staff Attorney): Passes around brochures of SLS. States that SLS is located at HUB 306 and are available from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. Contact number is 206.543.6486 and email id is slsuw@uw.edu

Reports that SLS provides advice and representation for UW Seattle Students. A 40 - minute free consultation is available for any questions and also offers ongoing representation. One can also avail the service for any advanced representation. SLS has 7 Legal Interns and 2 Legal Assistants. Works on pretty broad range of services such as eviction, security deposit withholding, general lease questions, breaking the lease, repairs/ habitability, if one receives a debt collection letter, DUI, LL showing up unannounced etc. Also provides divorce services. Can provide help with uncontested divorce and also partially for contested. Also does State planning docs such as Power of Attorney, Wills, Trusts and Advance Directives.

New things started are New Online Case Management software. For appointment, visit the website and fill out the Google form and SLS will contact and set up an appointment. Has been receiving a lot of immigration questions. There is an increase in need for immigration services. So, developed a partnership with the panel of Pro Bono Immigration Attorney to meet the needs.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary) reads out a question posted on Slido: What type of immigration issues does the SLS cover? The ISS helps out with OPT and other temporary non-immigrant visas. How much beyond that does SLS help with?

Rory O' Sullivan (Director & Staff Attorney): Questions related to spouses, status under DACA, transitions to H1B, family immigration issues; pretty wide range of questions have been coming in. The panel of Pro Bono Immigration Attorney are specifically able to provide answers to family immigration issues not necessarily employer immigration issues, however, if there are issues with Employer, that can be figured out as well.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary) reads out a question by **Ali Pour Issa (Drama)** on Slido: Are the services free?

Rory O' Sullivan (Director & Staff Attorney): 40 minutes consultation is free per issue. One can go for as many consultations as one wants but for different issues and not be charged. Ongoing representation for most kinds of cases, is charged a \$15 an hour. Fees are waived off for instances such as students who are homeless or who have other barriers.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary) reads out a question posted on Slido: Last year, GPSS passed a resolution that tried to broaden protections for undocumented students. What is the procedure for SLS regarding ICE?

Rory O' Sullivan (Director & Staff Attorney): No information is given out to anyone. All information is protected by Attorney-Client privilege. Also, SLS is happy to do any presentations of their services if some needs.

6. Bylaws

5:58 PM

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Lays out the rule that Exec Senators cannot answer. The quiz is primarily for new Senators and all the other Senators.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): How many meetings per quarter are Senators required to attend?

Siddharth Rath (Materials Science & Engineering PhD): Two

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Who may propose an amendment to the Bylaws?

Elliott Okantey (Law): Any Officer, Executive Senator or Senator

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): How often does the Judicial Committee meet?

Claire Pendergrast (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): At least once per quarter.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): What are members of the Finance and Budget Committee called?

No Answer and will be moved for the next Bylaws POP quiz.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): How often must the Executive Committee meet?

Zhiyun Mary Ma (Education – Leadership in Higher Education) & Jared Rowe (Jackson School): 4 times a quarter

Elloise Kim (President): Suggests educating self about Bylaws. Bylaws needs lots of amendments to reflect what needs to be done. So, educate and propose in the course of the year.

7. 2017-18 Legislative Agenda

6:01 PM

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): The legislative agenda document will be taken to Olympia next quarter to lobby/advocate with State representatives and State Senators. Needs to be passed by Senate. Displays the GPSS Legislative Agenda put together that reflects where GPSS stands in terms of some of the issues. They aren't necessarily priorities.

Elloise Kim (President): Distributes hard copies of Legislative Agenda

Lillian Ferraz Proxy for Evan Fischer (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Enquires on State Support for Academic Excellence and Predictable Tuition. Is GPSS advocating for increase in budget besides tuition for UW?

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): It's worded as "increase of funding for UW's state-supported budget to ensure continued affordability for graduate students" not specifically for tuition but to maintain UW's contribution to WA State's economy is the vague enough language that can be used in Olympia to any bill that support any money that UW will be receiving from State Legislation.

Lillian Ferraz Proxy for Evan Fischer (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Does it include sports funding?

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Yes.

Claire Pendergrast (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): Enquires what's on Open Access and Open Data.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Invites Grant Williamson to talk about it.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Thinks UW should be a part of the Open Access and Open Data that was a previously passed legislation in 2015. There wasn't much action at the University level. So, adding it now to the Legislative Agenda so that Matt finds the opportunity to push it this time. Faculty Senate has also been working on this. It's important to improve access to data so that UW can continue to advocate the data.

Adam Elder (Biostatistics): Asks to briefly explain the priorities and how each item is prioritized.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): The higher education loan program is top ranked because there are two people currently working on the issue and the State Legislature originally had the idea. To ensure traction, it was put right on top of the other issues. The rest was put to vote by SLAB. The placement of the items is arbitrary.

Francis Abugbilla (Jackson School PhD): Question on priority on 'Commission a New Study on a Graduate Version of the Higher Education Loan Program'. International students do not have access to scholarship or funding. Asks if there are any plans for International students.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): This is just Step 1 of the process only to explore the possibility of feasibility. Start for in-state grad students first and grow out later.

Nathan Dreesmann (Nursing PhD): Enquiry on 'Support for Expanded UW Medical Programs to Sever Underserved Populations'. Points that it seems like it's only addressing Medicine and what about expanding to other programs like Nursing, Social Work etc.? Are there any plans to make it more inclusive?

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Asks if the wordings 'Expanded UW Medical Programs to Sever Underserved Populations' encapsulates the programs Nathan pointed out?

Nathan Dreesmann (Nursing PhD): Potentially like Dental practice etc.

Shelley Brandstetter (Nursing - Family & Child Nursing): It can be changed to Health Care Practice as it encapsulates everything and not just Medicine.

Pedro Marquez (Social Work): Is there is any process to take some of these directly to School as an institution for their impression

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Yes. That's something GPSS as a Body can do. University has noticed what GPSS has been advocating for Students and decides to address them internally. Something like that happened with fee-based program's transparency last year. It is entirely an option to go that route.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Motion to Amend the wording to Health Care Practice.

Shelley Brandstetter (Nursing- Family & Child Nursing): Approves

Kristen Covey (Nursing- Family & Child Nursing): Seconds

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Approves the 2017-18 GPSS Legislative Agenda

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Seconds

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Moves to extend time by 1 min

Jake Busche (Chemistry): Seconds

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Question on sexual assault and preventive care – the part about barriers to reporting, discussing etc. is at the end and considering that those policies are federally under attack right now, asks if the additional policies and state protections can be further up.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Asks if would okay to say ‘current preventative and responsive efforts’?

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Moves to amend the ‘presence’ to ‘current preventative and responsive efforts’ for sexual assault.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Seconds

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Motion to extend time by 1 min and vote to approve the Legislative Agenda

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Seconds

All votes in favor with no objection.

8. SAGE Report & Tax Reform

6.09 PM

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Attended the SAGE Fall Summit in Pittsburg. SAGE is a coalition of 21 Public Research Institutions that advocate for grad student issues or funding issues at the federal level. For confidentiality sake, it will not be revealed yet. Shared best practices across campuses. Over 9 to 10 campuses were present. Elloise and Matt will share more in committees or other venues. Will be doing a detailed report and will be posted on website and also shared via email. Few highlights include final decision on the 2017 SAGE Legislator of the Year. New Working Groups (contact Matt if interested in joining) have been decided. The groups are, Finance focused on (student debt, taxes, etc.); Campus Wellness focusing on (mental health,

etc.); Campus Climate focusing on (Title IX, EDI, free speech, etc.); Immigration focusing on student immigration funding and Research Funding. Also reports that SAGE Day on the Hill DC Conference is due March 25th-28th

Francis Abugbilla (Jackson School PhD): Seeks further clarification on research funding.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Research Funding working group is going to focus on federal allocations to departments for grants like NH funding, NEA funding, NEH funding and SF Funding and ensuring that all those funds are maintained and see if those can be increased in the current administration. Primarily focusing on funding sources not being eliminated.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Reports Tax Reform is a massive issue. House released their tax reform bill on Thursday, November 2nd. This bill includes:

- Repeal of Section 117(d), making waivers/fellowships tax-free
- Repeal of the Student Loan Deduction Credit
- Repeal of the Lifelong Learning Credit
- Repeal of Section 127, making employer education assistance tax-free
- Consolidation of the American Education Opportunity Credit all accounts of 4+1 years.

Waivers/fellowships would be counted and taxed as income. Will be taxed on the whole amount (loan and income and waiver). That makes grad school accessible only to the wealthy. SAGE and NAGPS (National Association of Graduate & Professional Students) have been active on this issue. Working with American Counselling education and the work is being noticed in DC. Discussions are happening in Congressional Offices but unable to ascertain the effectiveness of those conversations yet. Emphasizes that ‘WE CANNOT BE COMPLACENT.’ Constant pressure is necessary to Congress and Departments and Agencies basically anyone that gives funding to graduate schools who will also see ramifications from the tax legislation that is being passed. Senate bill is expected to drop on 9th November. Updates will be shared with the Senate as much as possible. Important to keep pressure on both chambers. Encourages referring to the SAGE Action Alert packet for more information and targeted legislators on the GPSS Facebook, GPSS Twitter, and External Affairs Twitter.

John Metz (Atmospheric Science): Asks what the university is doing about it and how Senators can work with university on this.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): University is looking into this. Most of the aspects has been targeted at Admins and not at Students. Working with Sarah Castro to see how students can be involved. Been collecting stories from grad students all across campus regardless of the departments. If students are on fellowship or tuition waivers, their stories need to be collected and heard. Collected a few thus far but need more that can be shared with legislators. Dylan is working with Giuliana to work with grad students to find out how many students and departments are on tuition waivers and fellowships. Invites Senators to gather information of the likes and share with Matt and those will be passed on to appropriate external and campus partners.

Yue Shi (Biology): Will TA or RA ship also be affected?

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Yes. Anyone who gets a waiver that is not funded from an external body. There are grad students who are funded but not waived who may not be affected. Basically, the money that's institutional which will be affected.

Yue Shi (Biology): Asks what about International grad students?

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Shares that discussions are on. Looking into it. Not much information to share as yet.

Elloise Kim (President): Motion to extend time

Jake Busche (Chemistry): Moves to extend time by 10 minutes

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Seconds

Jake Busche (Chemistry): Updates that the Faculty Senate is aware of it. Suggests talking to Mary Lidstrom (Professor of Microbiology). They are very concerned about this.

Whitney Hugie (School of Nursing): Asks if GPSS plans to educate the grad students about tax reforms and some of the terminologies? If yes, how they would go about it.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Talks about the links in the action alert packet and suggests referring to web pages that has great information.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Suggests sharing the GPSS page on Facebook accounts of respective departments.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Highlights that he manages the Twitter account and if anyone wants to tweet on that Twitter account, he can be reached out.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Shares that she was trying to put up these information in her department but got a pushback from Faculty and Staff stating that UW resources cannot be used for political issues. Seeks suggestions from GPSS Officers.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): What other student bodies at other campuses do is give them the option of Advocacy Vs Lobbying. UW is touchy about lobbying, however is fine with advocating.

Rene Singleton (Assistant Director of Student Activities): If one is under pressure in their department, it's not advisable do political activity. If its advocacy its fine.

Kelly Edwards (Executive Senator): The job is to educate everyone. Encourages sharing issues to raise awareness.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Suggests hosting an information forum to get the message out. Contacting congress would be good.

Lillian Ferraz Proxy for Evan Fischer (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Is it okay to create a task force team for this to plan an action.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Talks about Adhoc Committees. If there is bandwidth, suggests creating one and getting the membership.

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Asks if it makes sense as a Body to pass a resolution.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): If it's a resolution, it needs to be passed before Christmas which is unlikely as there's lots of contention and other key issues they are dealing with.

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Motion to extend time by 2 minutes

Jared Rowe (Jackson School REECAS): Seconds

Morgan Simon (Earth & Space Sciences): The Senate in a few days is going to drop their own task reform which is another can of worms.

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Has been a concentrated effort reach out to Dave Reichert (Federal government office in Mercer Island, Washington) on the ways and means in the House.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Yes, he is one of the targeted legislators in the action alert packet.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Passes the motion to create the Adhoc Committee

Sara Jacobs (Built Environment): Approves

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Seconds

Elloise Kim (President): Votes to create a new Adhoc Committee. With majority of votes, the Adhoc Committee will stand.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Invites Senators to send him an email if they want to be on the Committee.

9. Resolution in Support of an End-of-Year Celebration

6:38 PM

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): One of the major things that keeps the Senators together is the use of Parli Pro. The exercise to help get familiar. Once can use the cheat sheets for the activity.

Asks everyone to match up with returning Senators go through the Resolution in Support of an End-of-Year Celebration in groups and come back with the things that needs to be fixed. Only new Senators are allowed to participate in the next part of making motions and making amends. Asks for suggestions in Resolution in Support of an End-of-Year Celebration

Morgan Simon (Earth & Space Sciences): Moves to amend the motion by correcting the word ‘whine’ in line 15 to ‘wine’

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Is that something that normally needs a motion?

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): It can be accepted as a friendly ordinance or vote.

Nyssa Baechler (Marine & Environmental Affairs): Moves to amend the motion to strike out lines 24 and 25 as it seems unnecessary.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Seconds

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Objects

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Calls for a vote
In favor of striking: 24
Not in favor of striking: 18
Abstaining Movements: 3

Movement stands to strike out lines 24 and 25.

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Where does a friendly amendment would fit into that process if someone wanted change it rather than strike it and would that occur before the objection or after in the process?

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): A friendly amendment would have been fit to change the wordings. Once the motion has been made and it has to go through with the vote, it needs to follow through with the vote.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Its mentioned in the Bylaws that a friendly amendment as long as agreed by all the Officers can be accepted automatically. At what point the Officers feel it’s okay to make the changes?

Elloise Kim (President): Clarifies that, everything is done at the Senate now. But the full process of the resolution is divided over two meetings and in between two meetings the first one informs the Senate what the resolution is about and there will be opportunities for Senators to provide suggestions for amendments including friendly and more substantial changes. Then the officers will take the friendly amendment if they agree with that or they will bring it as is and go through motions after which it will be decided if it will be passed or not. It’s a lengthy process to revise.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): States that Giuliana could have accepted that as a friendly amendment. A friendly amendment is relatively broad in the discretion of the authors generally that has been used in situations where it's clear that it's a minor change like 'Whine' to 'wine' rather than a contentious one.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): States that she should have approached as an Author rather than exercise.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Motion to extend time

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Extends time by 3 minutes

Claire Pendergrast (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): Seconds

Heather Mathison (Nursing): Motion to amend the resolution on Line 10

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Clarifies that it would be a friendly amendment and accepts

Rachel Hutto (Bio Chemistry): Moves to amend the motion by moving Line 24 and move it to 'whereas' clause.

Elloitt Okantey (Law school): Seconds

John Metz (Atmospheric Science): Asks if they get the resolution from ASUW.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Yes

Zhiyun Mary Ma (Education – Leadership in Higher Education): Moves to amend the phrasing of the lines 12 to 13 and strike it as it sounds passive and unprofessional.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Seconds

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Welcome to motion to add more time or table it until the next meeting.

Audrey Motta-Wurst (Speech & Hearing Sciences): Motion to table it until the next meeting

Morgan Simon (Earth & Space Sciences): Seconds

Pedro Marquez (Social Work): Objects

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): *Calls for hand votes. Majority to table it.*

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): 190 students attended the Fall Social last week. For the 2017-18 Program Reviews (Winter Quarter), the Center for Digital Arts & Experimental Media is up for program review and the Department of Urban Planning & Design is also up for program review. To begin working with students from those departments. To ensure they have a student voice in the process. Graduate Student Experience (GSE) committee is working on figuring out what resources students want and need on campus through a student survey. Invites to join the GSE committee. Next meeting is on Nov 28th at 4pm. Location is 310. Email for more information. Today is the National First-Generation College Celebration. Shout out to all first gen students. It's also UW's kick off for more inclusive environment for first gen students.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Legislative agenda was approved. SLAB transition into a research based committee. Has open membership. Meets on Wednesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am in HUB 314. Met with two state legislators today one in the State Senate and another in State House. Both were productive meetings. Washington Students Association (WSA) General Assembly is this Sunday at Central Washington University. Matt will be going with Kelsey in tandem with ASUW officer governor relations to represent UW Seattle with WSA. Fee-based programs wasn't an item last year for increasing transparency for prospective students so that they know what they are getting into in Fee-based programs. Working on providing some links on Professional and continuing webpages. New Adhoc Committee is created. Invites people to join if interested.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Is the committee open for anyone outside GPSS or Senators?

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Anyone can join.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Invites if anyone is interested in joining the SAGE Working Groups to email him at gpssvpex@uw.edu. SAGE Report will be out next week depending on bandwidth.

Finally, recommends keeping pressure on Congress.

Brad Copenhaver (Treasurer): Finance and Budget Committee had its meeting shout out to the members. Meets on Tuesdays at 4 PM. Responsibility is to oversee the budget and also to allocate special and departmental funds. Only Senators can join. If interested, contact Brad after the meeting. Still looking for members! First round of Travel Grants awarded on 1st Nov. There were 47 Applicants & 13 Awarded Grants totaling \$ 3700. Next round opens December 1. Working on changes to grant applications. Will be done before Dec 1st. Made updates to the GPSS Budget and Funding website. Special & Departmental Funding Apps are live. F&B agendas and minutes will be up too.

Jason Eckard (Drama): Shares that he was one of the 47 applicants for Travel Grants. One of the question asked was if we get a budget number from our Program Director. Reports that his Program Director had no idea about the Travel Grants or application progress.

Brad Copenhaver (Treasurer): It's a priority to educate departments. It has been a problem and a common issue currently. It will be dealt with on priority.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Attended many board meetings specially related to Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity. Will be sending an update in next Senate emails. Invites interested candidates to join the Diversity committee. Working on updating the website with Creative Director. Seeks suggestions and recommendations from Senators. Email with questions, comments, concerns, and announcements in general at gppssec@uw.edu . Also thanks those who participated on Slido.

Elloise Kim (President): Reports about Fee-based programs. Matt works externally and Elloise works internally. Working with Graduate School, PCE, Office of Registrar on providing clear information & unifying communications as there is lots of confusion on benefits etc. Presented at GSES & PCE meeting and online registration project which has been a hassle is expected in Spring 2018. SAGE will be present in the next Senate meeting which is on Nov 29th. Emergency Aid Program is a new program. Google for UW Emergency Aid Program they collect resources to offer unified communication. If any friends or student is in need of emergency resources, this is good program. In 48 hours since the launch, they received 10 responses. Faculty Council appointments are completed, out of 12, 11 is filled.; total of 38 committees filled. Talks about Diversity Blueprint that helps in assessing accountability to achieve diversity. Communicated urgency of tax reform impacts to Admin.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Asks about Accountability & Transparency; the org she is working with is trying to look at obtaining anonymous data for seminars and symposia that departments sponsor. Asks if GPSS is working on standardized ways of doing that.

Elloise Kim (President): There is no standardized ways of doing that yet and it is part of the discussion.

Pedro Marquez (Social Work): Seeks information on Diversity Committee meetings.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Suggests sending her an email on that.

11. Announcement

7:16 PM

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Veterans Day on Sat at 11am. Invites everyone.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Invites people to reach him directly after the meeting to discuss about Slido and share feedback.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Talks about Tax reform. Highlights SAGE working groups are open to everyone.

Jake Busche (Chemistry): Faculty Senate has a resolution that's making its way through the Open access point. Suggests keeping GPSS's horizon open.

12. Adjournment

7:20 PM

Francis Abugbilla (Jackson School PhD): Moves to adjourn

Caitlin Parke (Chemical engineering): Seconds
