



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Senate Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2017 | HUB 334

1. Call to Order 5:33PM

2. Approval of Agenda

5:33 PM

Pedro Marquez (Social Work): Moves to approve the Agenda

Noelle Symanski (Law): Seconds

3. Approval of Minutes

5:34 PM

Whitney Hugie (Nursing): Moves to approve the Minutes

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

4. UW Emergency Aid

5:37PM

S Kay Lewis (Assistant Vice Provost, Enrollment): Shares that UW Emergency Aid is UW's project with Gates Foundation for students who need long term or short-term funds. The objective is to make sure that students stay in school. There was emergency aid available earlier and was not available all the time. UW Emergency Aid is going to be available all the time and make sure all the students are aware of this. A new page on the site has been created for it. UW Net ID is required to log in and apply if any student is facing trouble with housing, emergency medical/dental costs, housing and living expenses, family emergencies, natural disasters, loss of income etc. Whatever the trouble is and whatever the reason is, when mentioned in the [Emergency Aid Request form](#) and submitted, a professional staff member from the respective campus will be in contact within 24-48 hours (excluding weekend days) to discuss the best ways to support. The staff members who respond to these requests are dedicated to supporting students in times of immediate need. All

information will be kept confidential within the small group of staff members. The service will be launching more campus wide in Winter and Spring quarters. 43 of them have applied so far of which 32 are under grad students and 11 from grad school. \$20K has been given out on scholarship and grants. Short term grants are also available. The key focus is to make it more visible and keep students in school.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out a question posted on Slido: Do you foresee the GOP tax plan (if it goes through) affecting the need for emergency aid for students?

S Kay Lewis (Assistant Vice Provost, Enrollment): Says yes, since some of the tax reforms that are being talked about is regarding tax on tuition waivers, that could make a straight answer to students as access is more. Unsure of what is going to happen in Congress. There are no unlimited funds in the program. Students who take the aid, could have an impact.

Elloise Kim (President) reads out a question posted on Slido: Is this service also available for international students?

S Kay Lewis (Assistant Vice Provost, Enrollment): Shares that international students can also get help with the program. International Student Services will be contacted to understand the situation better. Sometimes the respective departments can help the students as they will have some funds too. There are no criteria as such for someone to be a US citizen to avail the service. However, there could be limitations on the amount granted for international students.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs) reads out a question posted on Slido: What dictates a loan vs grant vs scholarship?

S Kay Lewis (Assistant Vice Provost, Enrollment): Answers that grants are typically awarded on the basis of financial need. Scholarship may be based on the combination of financial need and merit or sometimes just merit. Loans is for students with need or without need. Shares that there will be focus group sessions and Elloise is also part of the committee. Nevertheless, invites Senators to connect to provide with better service.

Elloise Kim (President): Thanks Kay and invites Senators to post any further questions on Slido and encourages Senators to pass information about UW Emergency Aid to their respective constituents.

5. Guest: Regent Joel Benoliel & Jaron Reed Goddard

5:42 PM

Regent Joel Benoliel: Introduces himself and Jaron Reed Goddard who is also a Student Regent member. Shares that he was born and raised in Seattle. Went to Franklin High School. Graduated and joined UW as Freshmen in Fall 1963. The 1963 batch just celebrated the 50th reunion. Called themselves Bookends. Reason being, during the first year of Freshmen in November, 1963 was when the young President, John F. Kennedy was assassinated. It was a tough phase to start graduation at around that time. By the time they graduated in 1967, USA was confronted with the raging Vietnam war that required to make tough personal decisions. Bookends had external factors

over which no one had any control and was affecting in different ways. The message for students is that every generation faces their own challenges. Need to keep the heads up and recognize that the foundation of democracy is strong and will keep running.

Shares that the University of Washington Board of Regents is the University's governing body whose broad responsibilities are to supervise, coordinate, manage and regulate the university, as provided by state statute. The Board of Regents consists of 10 members, one of whom is a student. Regents are appointed by the governor to serve six-year terms, with the exception of the student regent, who serves a one-year term. As Regents, there are many committees they represent and work. Two primary standing committees are those that everyone makes sure they attend all the meetings. One is the Academic Student Affairs and the other is Finance and Asset Management. This year he is chairing one of the two main Standing Committees, which is - Academic Student Affairs. What's differently done in these committee meetings is making sure every student committee is focused on every student through "Champion Program". The start of every agenda has a student story--having difficulty in education as they become adults and cannot afford tuition bills. Terrific stories are collected and he will continue to share. Asks what stories everyone has and invites them to share their thoughts and stories.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Asks, if graduate student tuition waivers become subject to taxes what will the Board of Regents do to reduce the burden of this significant tax increase?

Regent Joel Benoiel: Answers that the Board of Regents have not yet considered that since it's still a very new concern. However, expects someone from the Finance department to brief them on that and suggest necessary actions that needs to be taken. Suggestions by Finance department will be considered and will know before Jan.

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Asks "Can you update us on the progress the Board has made on updating divestment guidelines so UW is not investing in things deemed unethical?"

Regent Joel Benoiel: States that they had a report on that and its happening. It was a long process that involved student & faculty inputs and the Attorney General. Handling on Ad-hoc basis and is completed. Focus is on creating a process which would be in place permanently. There is a committee of people that make recommendations after studying a particular divestment request. The process has been approved by the Regents as of last academic year.

Elloise Kim (President) reads out a question posted on Slido: As higher education costs continue to rise, with less and less State support, how does UW plan to ensure a diverse study body?

Regent Joel Benoiel: States that it's unfortunate and is a great concern. There has been a severe spike in the tuition fees over the years. Shares that that every year, the University is receiving a lower amount of the total budget from the State than requested. Simply have to address the fact that it cannot continue. WA state should fund education as it has been ruled by the Supreme Court as the State's primary responsibility. Unfortunately, when the constitution was being written, not many went to college. Therefore, at that point in time, the idea of basic education was probably just

high school education. So, Washington is billions of dollars behind as a state in terms of funding education and is now planning on catching up. With that focus combined with inadequate taxation system, needs to regain momentum in State's support for higher education. The only way to fix is through progressive tax. Progressive tax is income tax. Need to look at other methods of financing education. There are many who want to help the university through grants and funds and UW has an extremely generous donor base. Regarding diversity, there was a law that was passed in 2000, that prohibits state institutions from basing scholarships and admission decisions on race. So those have to be funded privately.

Elloise Kim (President): Motion to extend time by 10 minutes

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Approves

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Seconds

Micah Buuck (Physics): States that the College of Arts & Science has been spending reserves to pay TAs and will soon (~1-2 years) be of money necessitating severe TA cuts. Asks if the Board of Regent working on this issue?

Regent Joel Benoiel: Says he is working on that. States that UW prides itself in ranking against peer universities. Need to stop and ask, "how do we rank ourselves against peer universities in terms of providing stipends to graduate students?". For the first time in the history of the University, the No.1 major is Computer Science & Engineering. It has exceeded history as it gathered student attention. Reason is because education is becoming so financially burdensome and people want to get into something where they know they have jobs waiting for them after graduation. It is quite understandable.

Elloise Kim (President): States there are a lot of Students who share stories with the Board of Regent. Asks, on what basis are the stories selected for consideration?

Jaron Reed Goddard: Shares that the Board of Regent also has GPSS and ASUW representations as ex-officio members. Basically, the Board of Regent has 3 student institutional student members along with one from Bothell and another from Tacoma who take turns to meet with Student Regent. When students share stories, the Board of Regent prepare them and ready. Recently from Tacoma which has a huge veteran student base, there were a few great stories that came in. There will be monthly meetings where the student voice chosen is going to have a pre-determined fact just based on the regular continuing basis. Student Regent is open to tailoring for students.

Elizabeth Oestreich (Public Health Genetics): Asks if the Board of Regent is aware that there is over one year's wait list for family housing and over 3 years wait list for childcare?

Regent Joel Benoiel: States they do not have specific statistics, but is generally aware that there is housing shortage. There is a problem with not only low-income housing. The problem is actually with moderate to medium income housing. The solution is only building more housing of every type and not of a particular type. As a community, need to look into streamlining of processes. It certainly is a problem and there is more student housing that are being built. As far as child care is concerned, it's a problem for businesses everywhere.

Jaron Reed Goddard: Adds that the Law School has the best services for families and parents. There is a whole room on third floor that is wired that allows parents to bring kids and they can be live streamed. The entire building is equipped with great technology. It should be replicated in other colleges too around campus.

Elloise Kim (President): Shares that Jaron will be called back in Winter quarter for yet another Senate meeting when she will share her plans for the Winter.

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

6:08 PM

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Shares that, normally with resolutions there are two run through; one is for minor amendments. Emphasizes that normally with resolutions, GPSS prefers Senators to interact online. They will be presented online so that one can make comments, engage with authors and each other and they get more time to make any changes. Therefore, when they bring it the second time, there is no prolonged discussion and thus saves time. There will be two weeks' time to be able to discuss it. For tonight's meeting, a streamlined version is being presented. Calls out for major amendments only in Parli language and suggests leaving out spellings and tiny errors in the interest of time. If no amendments, calls them to move to vote.

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Asks if there is a paper copy of the resolution.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Shares that since it was only for the Senate meetings to practice Parli pro, there is no handout.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Moves to vote

Seungeun Park (Nursing): Seconds

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Calls for a vote for passing the Resolution in Support of an End-of-Year Celebration

Majority votes in favor. Resolution passes

Elloise Kim (President): Highlights that when a resolution is passed, it becomes the public opinion of GPSS. Recommends participating actively whenever there is an email from Giuliana.

7. Bylaws Amendments

6:12 PM

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Invites Scott Spencer, the Chair of the Judicial Committee to share what was discussed in the meetings and in the end, vote for all the amendments.

Scott Spencer (Bioethics): Shares that the purpose of the Judicial Committee is to act as a neutral investigative body for any issue within GPSS and also when there are resolutions or Bylaw amendments. If there are any inconsistencies with any other Bylaws, or if there are any red flags that are raised, Judicial Committee investigates them. Walks through the Bylaws based on amendments.

First amendment - There was a confusion on who has the right to vote in an Election. The confusion was with the language previously in the Bylaws. The new amendment clarifies that an Officer is allowed to vote. Important that if the President needs to be the presiding member, they are not needed to vote.

Second amendment - It was unclear if the President is not there, then who takes over as the presiding member of the meeting. The language was changed to when the President and the VP of External affairs for instance is attending SAGE summit, someone else can be the presiding member.

Third amendment - Addresses the clarity on who has the voting rights. The confusion earlier was in the language and now has been clarified.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Seeks clarification on what happened last year when **the** person presiding over the elections meeting was supposed to be the President. But in the instance of the President chooses to vote, there would be somebody else to preside over it which would mean that the VP Internal Affairs presides over it. Asks, but if VP Internal Affairs wants to vote, then what happens?

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Clarifies that the Officers were told to vote last year and the vote was not counted. It was very confusing. Unfortunately, because of how the elections happened, which was too late in the quarter, the entire Judicial process wasn't able to move further. It is written specifically because of that issue. The second part, that says, "all Officers including the Presiding Officers are entitled to vote" mainly so that there is no undue influence on the Senate because they are the person of power. But if they are voted anonymously, then one won't know who the President is voting for. There are many places in the Bylaws which eliminates voting for proxies. There was nothing similar for Officers. Hence the amendment was recommended.

Elloise Kim (President): Shares that from her conversation with Rene Singleton, who has worked with GPSS for 20 years, she learned that there were votes earlier for Officers. It stopped a few years ago and needs to bring it back.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Motion to vote
Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Seconds

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Calls to vote in favor of accepting the proposed to changes to Bylaws

All votes in favor with no objection.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Recommends Senate Body to go through the Bylaws and keep themselves updated about all the changes going forward and indicates that there certainly would be changes more often.

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Seeks clarification on when that person has precedent over the presiding Officer.

Michelle Brault (Molecular and Cellular Biology): Shares that it was taken into account. The President or VP is the presiding Officer even if the floor is given to someone else.

8. Tax Reform Ad-hoc Committee Memorandum & Report

6.24 PM

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Introduces the new memorandum. It was created to discuss the tax reforms. Shares updates that the VP of External Affairs & Policy Director are overseeing the logistics of the committee. Matt and Kelsey were voted to Chair and Vice Chair. 10 people are on the committee and working on action items. The main purpose is to coordinate and partner with different resources on campus. That includes the Graduate School, college Deans, Provosts and others. Matt has been working hard and has been meeting a lot of people and getting a lot of things done. As a committee, working on lot of action items including generating pressure on social media towards different legislators and members of congress. There was also a Day of Action on Thanksgiving where the Committee tweeted for the Washington House members/representatives to tell the stories and why they should not pass the bill. It was heard and is being discussed in the Senate. Working well and there is enough pressure.

Also reports that there was a walkout from 12 to 1pm on campus. The co-sponsorship was with UAW. Lot of graduate students came out to tell their stories. They were Tweeting and sending emails to Congress. If the Tax Reform fails in the Senate, the Committee will be dissolved automatically. If its passed, the issue will be transferred to the Federal Legislator Advisory Board. Invites anyone else to join.

Colton Myers (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance): Adds that the Senate is making amendments to it. It's important to reach Dave Reichert (Federal government office in Mercer Island, Washington) on this issue and the committee is working really hard.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Encourages people to share more stories that can be impactful.

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Asks if there was any talk on drafting a resolution that can be voted on.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Shares that they talked a bit about it. Many are against the tax reforms. They are fighting against it. Unsure if a resolution will actually make an impact because the action items are already taking place.

Elloise Kim (President): Shares that the memo explaining the role of the committee will be up on website.

9. Bylaws Quiz

6:38 PM

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Shares that since the Bylaws were amended there were a few questions that were changed.

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

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Finance Senators

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): *What are 2 out of the 5 Special Committees?*

Elliot Koontz (QERM): Elections Committee & Judicial Committee?

Claire Pendergrast (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): SLAB & FLAB?

Elloise Kim (President): Gives a hint that the President is the Officer who appoints Liaisons to the University Committees and Boards. But there are special committees that Exec needs to approve President's recommendations of appointment to that committee.

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): The Provost Search Advisory Committee?

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): The answer is SAF, STF, University Bookstore Trustee Committee, Campus Sustainability Funds and Provost Advisory Committee.

Elloise Kim (President): There is also Student Regent Selection Committee that will be constituted in winter.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): *How far in advance should resolutions be sent to the Secretary to be considered for a meeting?*

Lawrence Koster (Political Science): 2 weeks.

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): *What is quorum for GPSS meetings?*

Jake Busche (Chemistry): 60 Senators?

Laura Taylor (Molecular and Cellular Biology): 2/3rd?

Elliott Okantey (Law): Half of the membership?

Clare Gamlin (Neuroscience): 33 Senators

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): *How far in advance does the Secretary have to send written notice about Senate meetings?*

Pedro Marquez (Social Work): A week?

Theodore Cohen (Molecular Engineering): 5 days

10. Executive Senator Opening

6:36 PM

Elloise Kim (President): Shares that since Michelle Brault is graduating, there's a need for new Exec Senator, who is eligible and can attend meetings every Wednesday at 5:30PM. Elections will be in winter quarter. Invites candidates.

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Invites people to talk to the existing Exec Senators after the meeting. Recommends people to stay on for at least a year once assuming the role which will help ensure smooth transition. Is happy to help and support throughout.

Jake Busche (Chemistry): Asks if the members from Judicial are barred from contesting.

Elloise Kim (President): Says yes, unless they resign 35 days in advance to be eligible.

11. Officer Reports

6:40 PM

Tori Hernandez (Vice President for Internal Affairs): Reports that UPASS Advisory Board Work Plan is looking to update student support information and provide resources for ORCA Lift especially during gap quarters. Also looking at Night ride evaluation especially during finals week. Planning for 2021 Northgate Link Light Rail Expansion. Currently do not foresee a fee increase in UPASS.

2017-18 Program Reviews (Winter Quarter) are on for Center for Digital Arts & Experimental Media Department of Urban Planning & Design. If interested, invites to chat. First Gen Advisory Board is hosting "Home for the Holidays" social on Friday, Dec. 8 from 12:30 - 2:00 pm in Communications Building 202 (Simpson Center). Contact gpsvpin@uw.edu for more information.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary) for Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Reports that Matt is currently in the process of meeting with State Legislators. All meetings have gone well so far; done with four already, have five more scheduled prior to Session. Tax Reform Walkout

happened today and had great turnout -- around 350 grad students. The Senate bill passed out of committee also expected on the floor by Friday; watching EXTREMELY closely. Also keeping an eye on issues that will come up next quarter, including the Higher Ed Act reauthorization.

Brad Copenhaver (Treasurer): Reports that Special and Departmental Allocations applications are both LIVE. Next Tuesday will have the applications finalized. Encourages everyone to spread the word to their respective departments. Travel Grant Applications for next round to open on Friday, December 1. Revised application and new process are almost there. Shout out to all those who helped with the process.

Sarah Herbert (Earth & Space Sciences): Asks how much in advance would they need to know about the request for grants?

Brad Copenhaver (Treasurer): Says that there are no specific terms for that. However, it generally takes two weeks for them to process.

Francis Abugbilla (Jackson School PhD): Asks if there is a cap for grant allocations.

Brad Copenhaver (Treasurer): Says there is no set cap. It's up to the discretion of the Committee. But there is a general guideline of \$500 depending on the size of the departments. Smaller departments will have a smaller cap and so forth.

Giuliana Conti (Secretary): Reports that the next Diversity Committee meeting is on Friday, 12/1 which will be the finance allocation meetings for diversity resources. Also meeting on Wednesday, 12/6 @ 10 in HUB 314 to take care of the projects. All of winter quarter there are meetings every two weeks that have been scheduled too. 35 people are interested. Making everyone's ideas actionable has been a challenge. Shares that the committees that she is responsible for are: Student Advisory Board Committee for Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity (OMA&D); Diversity Pillar for Graduate School; Diversity Council OMA&D; GPSS Diversity Committee; Race & Equity Initiative Steering Committee also with OMA&D. Thanks everyone for their patience with roster and email.

Matt Munoz (Vice President of External Affairs): Shares that the Policy Director, Kelsey will be taking over the External Affairs while he is at Olympia. Requests everyone to contact her during the week if anything.

Elloise Kim (President): Encourages everyone to complete the Senate Survey. Highlights that the information is anonymous. Reports that Board of Regents in November meeting talked about tax cuts. Drove more attention to severity if the issue. They are well aware. School of Dentistry has a \$10 Mil deficit. They are currently going through the performance update under the new Dean but has a long way to go. SCPB (Faculty Senate Council on Planning and Budgeting) is doing unit adjustment proposal reviews. Thus far, iSchool and School of Environmental Studies have presented at SCPB. In the faculty salary gap analysis & multi-year plan, some schools are going to include their plan of TAship and RAship budgeting.

Reports that the Graduate School Policy Review Committee has been launched. They are trying to have (1) a clear and transparent process for new policy development or current policy revision; (2) sufficient stakeholder involvement; (3) a connection between policy and implementation needs; and (4) timeline efficiency. PACS (Provost Advisory Committee for Students) in Fall 2017, met with UW Advancement, Capital Planning and Development. OPB discussed endowment, UW campaign strategies, capital budget priorities and process, and administrative oversight on capital projects as there are three buildings that are being built presently. Appointment letters issued to Liaisons with help of UAD. Officers are preparing the Quarterly Report for all grad students in December. Officers are reviewing their job description in Bylaws for amendment proposals.

12. Announcements

7:06 PM

Grant Williamson (Molecular Engineering): Moves to send the announcements directly to Giuliana.

Elloise Kim (President): Happy with attendance rate for Fall quarter; which is over 50%.

13. Adjournment

7:07 PM

Tim O'Neal (Neuroscience): Moves to adjourn

Jake Busche (Chemistry): Seconds
