



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Senate Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2018 / Alder Auditorium, Room 104

Members Present

GPSS President: Giuliana Conti
GPSS Secretary: Amy Gabriel
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs: Kelsey Hood
GPSS Treasurer: Robby Perkins-High
GPSS Executive Senator: Zhiyun Ma
GPSS Executive Senator: Jackie Wong

1. Call to Order

5:38 PM

2. Approval of the Agenda

5:39 PM

Kelsey Hood: Motions to amend the agenda to include Election of the Judicial Committee after Committee Round Robins.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Seconds the motion.

Jacob Ziegler (Dept. of Chemistry): Motions to approve agenda as amended.

Celine Pastor (QERM): Seconds the motion.

3. GPSS Overview

5:40 PM

Giuliana Conti: Introduces herself and provides overview of GPSS. Discusses the number of students represented and the various roles of GPSS including advocacy and engagement. Shared the organizational chart and that GPSS works for graduate student body. Senators operate GPSS through voting and writing. There are 5 Executive (Exec.) Senators working in tandem with Officers to run the organization. There are also: 5 Officers, 1 ASUW Representative, 9 Committees, and 9 Staff Members. Each academic department can have two senators. GPSS wants to have accurate representation, so when the Senate speaks it speaks for the whole community. GPSS also provides: Travel grants, Diversity Committee, Events, including the grad student resource fair on Oct 18th which will provide resources so grad students can have a formative time at UW aside from academics; to encourage a well-rounded experience.

4. Executive Board Introductions

5:43 PM

Giuliana Conti: Introduces the Officers, Executive Board and ASUW Representative.

The Officers:

- Sydney Pearce, Vice President of Internal Affairs
- Kelsey Hood, Vice President of External Affairs
- Amy Gabriel, Secretary
- Robby Perkins-High, Treasurer

Executive Senators:

- Michael Diamond
- Noelle Symansky
- Zhiyun Ma
- Jackie Wong

ASUW Representative:

- Casey Duff, who helps communication flow efficiently between undergraduate student body
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5. New Senator Orientation

5:45 PM

Amy Gabriel: Notes that it would be great for Senators to attend as many meetings as possible, but there is a minimum of two meetings per quarter required. The more meetings senators can attend the better so they can be engaged and get back to constituents with what is happening in the Senate. It is important for senators to represent their program, as well as pass on announcements and let their department know about the key decisions the Senate is making. A quick skim of the orientation materials provided would also help new senators get engaged. Committee participation is not required, but highly encouraged because it gives senators the opportunity to be more engaged on a specific topic that they are interested in. Another way to engage is to write a resolution. Amy will be going over the process, but resolutions are a good way to take a stance and represent peers. Senators can stop by the GPSS office in Room 314 anytime. Finally, there will be events and programming throughout the year to attend.

Jackie Wong: Started in March, from the School of Dentistry. The School of Dentistry is going through changes (including a big increase in tuition from \$250k to \$400) which encouraged Jackie to get engaged. GPSS has been a great way to communicate with people in other departments. Jackie participated on the Student Technology Fee Committee and the Student Activity Fee Committee and got to feel pulse of what different departments need and what the students have interest in. Made her feel more connected with school even though she's been at the university for 20 years. Wrote a resolution with the help of another Executive Senator and feels like it caught the attention of the faculty, staff and administration and made them communicate with students better.

6. Parliamentary Procedure (Parli Pro)

5:51 PM

Amy Gabriel: Says there is a sheet on the back of each senator's nametag which gives general tips. Senators should state their full name and department when commenting. For most questions or statements raise hand and everyone will be called on in order.

The basic principles: everyone has equal rights, privileges and obligations; we do our best to protect the minority; free and full discussion is the right of the members; only one question can be considered at a time, so the Senate will finish a topic before moving on; every member has a right to know the meaning of a question before debate and voting.

Presentation of motions: Motions are formal statements or proposals or questions to the assembly for consideration or action. Any member has the right to make a motion. Steps to presenting a motion: Member must be recognized by the President; provide their full name and department; begin with the phrase "I move;" then it requires a second.

Resolution best practices: Resolutions are the official opinions of GPSS. It expresses consensus on issues affecting UW grad students, such as: minimum wage on the UW campus, onsite childcare, open access publication policy etc. Any Senator, Officer or current student can write a resolution, but students need to partner with a Senator to get it in front of GPSS. Senators who have contributed to the preparation of a resolution are the sponsors. There can be as many Resolution sponsors as desired. When discussing the content of the resolution, a friendly amendment is an informal suggestion for an edit it doesn't require a vote or a motion. The resolution author can decide whether to accept the friendly amendment. Subsidiary motions are

formal propositions that require a second and a majority vote if an objection is stated. Typically more contentious issues.

The resolution process: Resolutions go to the Secretary who will send it out for review, then the authors present the first draft for friendly amendments and subsidiary motions, then send a second draft to Secretary, online editing and discussion will begin for a period of two weeks. Once it is finalized, Secretary sends out for Senators to review. Then the Senate discusses the final version and vote for it to pass or fail.

7. Support for Progressive Revenue Sources to Fill Gaps in Higher Education Funding in Washington State 5:56 PM

Amy Gabriel: First resolution readings of the year was sent out earlier this week.

Kelsey Hood: Explains that this resolution came up last spring, but because new senators this is a new Senate body so need to go through this process again. Everyone knows the funding for higher education has historically been low for the state so this was pulled together between GPSS and ASUW encouraging the state legislature to look at more progressive funding sources that will go directly to higher education. Any comments or suggestions are welcome. Matt Munoz, last year's VP of External Affairs, started this last year and we are continuing his work.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that since they are still looking for the document this presentation can be tabled until the document is pulled up.

Amy Gabriel: I move to table this item until after presentation of 2018-19 Budget.

Christina Sun (Epidemiology): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Item has been tabled.

8. Presentation of the 2018-2019 Budget 5:59PM

Robby Perkins-High: Shares that almost all funding comes from the Student Activity Fee. \$442,000 (\$3.50 per student per year). GPSS typically receives \$30,000 from the Provost which enables GPSS to buy food and alcohol at events. Last year's Senate voted to use \$10k out of the general fund bringing the budget to \$482,570 for this year.

The budget is structured with line items for a bunch of expenses which say specifically what the money can be used for. To give an overarching general view, GPSS spends most (74%) of the money on personnel, which is consistent with other student governments. In addition, spend \$50k on events, like the resource fair that is coming up. GPSS has \$44k on grants for students going to conferences, departmental funding, for microwaves etc., and special allocation funding for student

groups that throw events. The special projects fund was approved last year which is the \$10k from the general fund. It is on reserve for new initiatives that the Senate or Exec wants to push through. There is funding for specific committees: Diversity Committee has \$6k, Science and Policy has \$3k and also use money to send Exec Board Members or any senator to conferences to advocate for graduate students.

Budget formation: The Senate decides on the budget each year. In the winter quarter, the Treasurer will meet with all of the Officers to discuss what they want in the budget. The Treasurer will compile a suggested budget from those meetings, which he will present to the Executive Board and the Finance & Budget committee. Both groups give their recommendations, the Treasurer edits and then presents to the Senate at the end of winter quarter. The Senate ultimately decides how to spend the money. Then it is approved for the following year. There is room for budget modifications. Per the Bylaws, the Senate is not allowed to overspend on any one item, but can transfer small amounts of money easily. But, large changes go to Finance & Budget Committee and large enough goes to the Senate. The exceptions are the Grant budget and Personnel funding modifications must go to the Senate for approval.

Ted Cohen (Molecular Engineering and Sciences): What is considered “large” in this context?

Robby Perkins-High: Anything over 4% budget increase goes to Finance & Budget committee, anything over 8% goes to the Senate for approval and if more than \$1,000 has been moved from that line for the year, every transfer has to be approved.

9. Support for Progressive Revenue Sources to Fill Gaps in Higher Education Funding in Washington State – Previously Tabled 6:05 PM

Giuliana Conti: Comments that she joined the Senate to write a resolution. Resolutions are a great way to invest energy in something that allows your voice to be heard and be amplified by the nearly 15,000 graduate students the Senate represents. Usually included Ana Marie Cauce, the Provost and whoever else is relevant to the resolution in particular. Wants senators to think about what causes they might want to bring this year.

Kelsey Hood: Any Amendments?

Giuliana Conti: Reviewed the resolution process again. Any friendly amendments?

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics): Point of information – Since Matt Muñoz is no longer VP of External Affairs, should we change that?

Giuliana Conti: Yes, that would make sense. Do you have any friendly amendments you would like to recommend?

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics): Point of information, can Matt be a sponsor since he graduated?

Giuliana Conti: There are other members who can sponsor it.

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics): Motion to have Kelsey Hood sponsor the resolution.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Strike Matt Muñoz, and insert Kelsey Hood.

Lillian Perez (Evans School): Point of information, in the “that” clauses, #138, “broadening sales tax to include modern goods and services,” what does that entail?

Kelsey Hood: That language was left broad to let the legislature decide, but we can further define if we would like.

Lillian Perez (Evans School): Offers a friendly amendment. “Higher taxation on goods sold over the internet from Washington state, particularly from Amazon or other online companies.”

Kelsey Hood: Friendly amendment accepted.

Giuliana Conti: Motion to close debate and move to second reading for October 24th.

Jake Ziegler (Dept of Chemistry): Moves to close 1st reading and set 2nd reading for October 24, 2018.

Breon Haskett (Sociology): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Great. Senators will receive a Google Doc where they can edit and communicate with sponsors.

10. Committee Round Robin

6:10 PM

Giuliana Conti: Committee chairs or members are set up at a station in a part of the room. Senators will move around to each group, learning about what the committee does and how they can participate. Encourage all senators to participate in a committee. It can be an incredible source of professional growth.

Senators counted off by 7 and senators rotated through the 7 groups, spending 2 minutes at each group.

11. Selection of Judicial Committee

6:33 PM

Giuliana Conti: Says that the Senate needs to vote on 6 senators to join the Judicial Committee. The Secretary has a list of names of interest from the round robin item. Expectations: The judicial committee is not ongoing, it is as needed, but it will be needed this year. Committee members will have meeting notice and will not be overworked, but it is an important committee.

Amy Gabriel: Will read names on list of interested senators and will ask two questions because to be on judicial committee, must be a senator and must not be on any other committees. The committee meets for bylaws or other processes.

From the interested list:

Eshan Dabak
Sep Makhous
Beverley Chen

Giuliana Conti: Still need 3 more people who are senators and are not going to commit to another committee.

Amy Gabriel: Three more volunteers: Mason Proffitt (Physics); Ted Cohen (Molecular Engineering and Sciences) if he leaves Finance & Budget Committee; Ramsess Quezada (Chemistry). Everyone who volunteered, see her after the meeting to share your contact information.

Giuliana Conti: We need a simple majority to confirm the 6 Senators for judicial committee.

Zhiyun Ma (Executive Senator): Motion to approve the six judicial senators.

Owen Pratt (Information School): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Seeing no objections, Judicial Committee confirmed.

12. Legislative Update

6:39 PM

Kelsey Hood: Vice President of External Affairs does all legislative things on state and federal level. PROSPER, the reauthorization of higher education, was really bad, and it is more than dead on the federal level. We are keeping an eye on it. The Department of Homeland Security recently released a proposed rule that they are going to make a change and deny LPR status to people who might become a public charge (meaning they have received government aid). It is going to be posted with a 60-day comment period. Any questions, talk with Kelsey after. It is not happening right away, but on the horizon. Over fall she will be having meetings with a lot of different legislators, so email her with any information/questions/comments want shared. Let her know anything else you want GPSS to work on.

13.GPSS Research

6:41 PM

Zhiyun Ma: Student in Leadership Development Program in College of Education. She is working on a research project focusing on the experience of international students who are senators or liaisons. Wants to bring voice together and share experience to make them heard and bring more awareness. Anyone who is an international student and a senator or liaison can follow the link or the QR code provided to do the survey to determine eligibility for the study. If you have any further questions, email her. If you do decide to participate, it will entail a 45 min interview, which will be transcribed and available for senators or liaisons to read. Participants can pull out at any time during the research. For domestic senators, talk with international student senators or potential senators and let them know about the research. She is also happy to be an international student contact. The study is IRB approved.

Giuliana Conti: Highly encourage participation because it is an incredible opportunity for Senate to learn what we can do better.

Surakshya Dhakal (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): How many people do you need because not sure how many international students are senators, so are you only doing UW or working with other universities?

Zhiyun Ma: Right now only working with however many I get from UW.

Surakshya Dhakal (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): Would it be possible to work with students at other universities?

Giuliana Conti: It is up to the researcher, but we can discuss.

Zhiyun Ma: Not in current plan but can consider it.

14.Liaison Call

6:45 PM

Giuliana Conti: Will receive an email about this soon. Have 75-80 liaison appointments throughout campus. This is an incredible opportunity. These liaison appointments can be held by not just senators, but by any professional or grad student throughout campus. If you are appointed, you're representing the 15,000 grad students. Want people who are interested in being a voice and can commit to a yearlong obligation. There is a survey that we hope you'll fill out and share with others. This is an opportunity to develop professional skills, get a CV line and figure out higher level inner workings of the school. For example – Committee for Arts and Sciences – which we need to fill – would go to the meetings, report back, give an update and then GPSS collects all of the reports, then the President uses the information to know the needs and wants of the students and what is happening across campus. Only way she can do her job is if she knows what the student voice is saying. On the paper you received and will be e-mailed out.

15.Executive Senator Openings

6:49 PM

Giuliana Conti: Announces that the next meeting elections for Executive Senator seats will be held. They make sure senators are being advocated for every step of the way. Exec Board meets every other week. They make decisions about what to bring to senators and set priorities based on what they hear from senators and constituents across campus. The Exec Senators have been greatly impactful and built great relationships. There are currently two seats open. There is more information on the website and will get more information about how it functions and the time commitment.

16.Announcements

6:51 PM

Giuliana Conti: In lieu of Husky Sunrise, there is a resource fair with 24 tables from different campus resources. Grad students have an online orientation, but there is nothing like being able to meet people from different departments on campus. There will be beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. You can speak with different services – information about who will be there will be sent out ahead of time. This is essentially a more well-rounded grad student orientation. So please come and bring your constituents, friends and colleagues, while hopefully getting the resources you need to be the best student that you can be – you need to take care of yourself to do that and these resources will help.

Matt McKeown: Announced posters will be handed out as you leave. Please put them up in your buildings and share social media posts.

Giuliana Conti: Commented please mark your calendars for every other Wednesday. In the meantime, if you have questions, come by the office.

Amy Gabriel: The Senate Meetings will be in Hub 332 from now on.

17.Adjournment

6:55 PM

Christina Sun (Epidemiology): Moves to adjourn.

Samantha De Abreu (Environmental and Forest Sciences): Seconds.
