



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Senate Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2018 | HUB 332

Officers and Executive Senators Present:

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

1. Call to Order 5:33 PM

2. Approval of the Agenda 5:34 PM

Amy Gabriel: Motions to amend agenda from Petition to Create Non-Academic Senate Seat: Vet Life to Campus Sustainability Fund.

Kelsey Hood: Seconds.

Amy Gabriel: Motions to amend agenda to add Approval of Minutes after Approval of the Agenda.

Andrew Shumway (Earth and Space Sciences): Seconds.

Christian Love (Education): Motions to approve agenda as amended.

Surakshya Dhakal (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences): Seconds.

3. Approval of Minutes

5:35 PM

Casey Duff (ASUW Rep): Motions to Approve Minutes.

Chase Kania (Foster School of Business): Seconds.

4. Welcome!

5:36 PM

Giuliana Conti: Introduces officers and Executive Senators. Let them know it was okay to not understand every second at first, but here as representative of department (personal opinion not same as opinion of department). Senators have the power to bring up issues and topics of resolutions. Asks senators to be engaged and come into office. Wants to help senators help their constituents. Slides from the meetings provided via e-mail after. Please forward announcements to your constituents. Point of Information is tool if not sure what is happening. Parli Pro cheat sheet in name tag.

5. Approval of GPSS Goals 2018-2019

5:38 PM

Amy Gabriel: Notes that she sent out the most up to date version, drafted by Executive Committee, last week in packet for Senators review. Went through the summary of each goal. Promote engagement between and equitable access to GPSS, provide purposeful programming, maintain transparent, responsible and sustainable internal structure, and help develop the GPSS brand on UW campus.

Tim O'Neil (Neuroscience): Motions to approve.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Seconds.

6. VP of Internal Report

5:40 PM

Sydney Pearce: Introduces herself because was absent at first meeting. Shared a recap of the successful Resource Fair Event last Thursday, October 18th. Will be receiving a survey for feedback so can make changes for next year. Have some more events planned including: self care, mental health, collaborations with Committees (such as Diversity and LAB), also socials.

She oversees two committees Grad Student Experience Committee (the meeting time is changing), but met last week, and will be planning event with LAB. Also met last week with Science and Policy Committee (meets every other Wednesday at 3:30pm), working on white paper.

She also works on finding the 75-80 Liaisons who will be appointed across campus with the GPSS President and Stephanie, University Affairs Director.

She oversees program reviews. UW reviews each departmental program every 10 years to determine what is going well, what isn't and what students would like changed. Will work with Senators to connect with constituents and get feedback.

Giuliana Conti: Says that pizza will be served after the meeting where everyone can chat and mingle inter-departmentally.

7. Bylaw Amendments

5:43 PM

Giuliana Conti: Notes that the Bylaws are an incredibly important document. As Senators see amendments come through, they should think about any other edits that can be made.

Amy Gabriel: Judicial Committee met last week to make amendments to the Bylaws, and now coming to the Senate for approval and adoption. Reviewed some of the amendments: Added a cover page and Table of Content. Made another edit in the Duties of Senators: word changes (must assign a proxy and give written notice of planned absence); must attend 3 meetings per quarter (1 can be proxy) which is an increase from 2 meetings per quarter last year.

Celine Pastore (QERM): Point of Information: Would like to know the logic on changing it from 2 to 3.

Amy Gabriel: Responds that the point was to encourage engagement and hold senators accountable for taking information back to constituents.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that only asking for people to attend 2 meetings defeats the purpose of having people be represented and get involved. Increasing meeting attendance is a great way to make a change in GPSS culture. It had become a trend over the past couple of years for senators to not come. But if it is an issue, GPSS is happy to see if this is feasible based on senator schedules moving forward. Basic idea was to have senators engage more often, so 3 meetings out of 5 per quarter, rather than 2 out of 5.

Amy Gabriel: If meeting the three-meeting minimum is too difficult, can talk more about other options.

Christian Love (Education): How many senators do you have?

Leslie Michaud (Office Manager): There are currently 98 senators on the roster, but she is waiting on a few confirmations so roughly 105-110.

Amy Gabriel: Continues discussing edits. GPSS Officers serve starting June 16th after being elected in May. Before there was no term limits – added 3 consecutive term limit to open up opportunities for other senators.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Is it 3 consecutive in the same position or as an officer in general?

Kelsey Hood: I added it – I wanted it as an officer in general.

Johnathan Metz (Atmospheric Sciences): Should we make it more specific? Even though it is in the officer section, it also looked like people may only serve 3 terms as a senator.

Kelsey Hood: Accepts amendment.

Giuliana Conti: Asks any other recommendations.

Amy Gabriel: Adding the participation of the VP of Internal Affairs on ASUW Board. If she cannot go appoint someone else. Used to be under the Secretary, but thought made most sense under VP of Internal Affairs. Also added Legislative Advisory Committee under VP of External Affairs.

Kelsey Hood: Notes that the committee made a word change.

Amy Gabriel: Continues going through amendments: switched order of duties between Secretary and Treasurer and notes that GPSS office hours only until 5pm, not 8pm.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Point of Privilege: Can we dim lights that are on in front of screen?

Amy Gabriel: Responds yes. Also notes reorganized elections committee to be with other temporary committees because only exists for a couple of months. Asks for any other questions.

Brittany Bishop (Chemical Engineering): Motions to approve.

Philip Leung (Molecular Engineering): Seconds.

8. Liaison Call

5:54 PM

Giuliana Conti: Presents overview of liaison seats. Notes that GPSS needs representation across campus.

Stephanie Becnel (University Affairs Director): Presents about liaison appointments. Notes that senators received liaison sheet last week and GPSS is still looking for liaisons. Amazing opportunity to sit on committees across campus and be a voice. Specifically looking for four super important seats to be filled: Student Activity Fee (meets Fridays at 1) Student Tech Fee (Mondays at 3:30), U-Pass and Transportation Services Committees. Appointments are a yearlong commitment. Meeting frequency varies. If anyone has any questions should e-mail Stephanie.

Chase Kania (Foster School of Business): Is the information on how often committees meet or the expected time commitment on the application?

Stephanie Becnel (University Affairs Director): Responds that on the application people mark their availability. If anyone is interested in a specific committee, can reach out and Stephanie will get back to them with the time. You do not have to be a senator to apply, so should encourage constituents to get involved.

Jesus Velasquez Sosa (Communications in Digital Media): What have been some of the outcomes or results of some of these committees in the past?

Stephanie Becnel (University Affairs Director): Responds, yes, Robby can let you know since he has sat on some of those committees.

Robby Perkins-High: Sits on SAF and Tech Committee. Explained SAF Fee and Tech Fee Committees. SAF Fee Committee gets around \$16 million dollars a year and the 9 voting members decides how it gets spent. Hall Health, GPSS, ASUW, any unit in the HUB, etc budgets come from SAF. Tech Fee Committee budget is \$9m annually. Formed to work on technology needs on campus. Both meet weekly for two hours. SAF is Fridays 1pm-3pm. Tech Fee is Mondays 3:30pm-5:30pm.

Sydney Pearce: Provides more information on other committees. Notes that there are a lot of other committees and that committees are a place for grad students to give their voice regarding diversity, academic programs etc. U-Pass Committee is great if interested in transportation or Transportation Committee which manages everything transportation oriented.

Giuliana Conti: SAF Committee is run by students for students. Rare occasion where a lot of money is in students' hands and admin has no say. GPSS gets roughly half a million a year (just one example of what SAF funds). Super important to have students on it. Has helped us exist. Each of 4 committees has been transformative on campus.

Jackie Wong (School of Dentistry): Notes that she is sitting on Provost Advisory Council – it's very impactful. Meets with Provost every Friday 3-5pm. The new Health Sciences building was outcome of the committee. Students tuition and other major issues are discussed. Also sat on STF and SAF – important to give unique perspective so that you get to hear all different needs throughout the university.

Giuliana Conti: Requests senators forward application to constituents. Sent out in last all campus e-mail. Important to diversify.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Point of Information: Do all have voting power or are some just for student voice?

Giuliana Conti: Responds that a lot have voting power – though some are just voice. But even just voice, it is important because otherwise decisions made without grad students at the table. Use the opportunity to represent when sitting at that table.

Stephanie Becnel (University Affairs Director): Notes that she is in the back of the room and anyone can come talk or ask questions.

9. Support For Progressive Revenue Sources To Fill Gaps In Higher Education Funding In Washington State 6:03 PM

Giuliana Conti: Notes that this is the second reading of resolution.

Amy Gabriel: Says that the edits are in red in document that was sent out and there is a comment in tax section.

Giuliana Conti: Because there are a lot of new senators – resolutions are strong handed requests to the administration by whoever is named in the resolution. Sent directly to person in last “that” clause. First reading is for friendly amendments. Then sent in google doc for comments and suggestions. Second meeting go over recommendations and vote. Senators vote to determine whether want passed through this body. There are resolutions on the website of what we’ve done in the past if Senators want to familiarize themselves with them.

Amy Gabriel: Notes that there was a requested edit around sales tax – broadening to include modern goods and services (including an online sales tax) for reallocation to fund higher education. Explains that Senator Oliver Keyes (not present at the meeting, made comment on google doc): Sales tax increases are inherently regressive – this is contradictory of the goal. This clause was removed last year.

Giuliana Conti: This went through 1st reading last year. So this is a suggestion to bring this edit back because something that came up last year.

Kelsey Hood: As the author accepts the amendment because it was removed last year.

Devin Short (History): Point of Information. What was removed – just the writing in red or sales tax?

Amy Gabriel: Notes that the document has an over lay with two different edits and that both are edits.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Speaks for online sales tax. Thinks that the overall effectiveness of a resolution is better if the request is more specific. The current draft has broad language, but would prefer more specificity. The internet sales tax a very new kind of tax – online sales tax is an empty credit given to those selling online. People who sell in stores are subject to taxes, but if sell online, not. Argues that leaving online sales untaxed, problem for socioeconomic status. So Oliver’s comment that all sales taxes burden all in low socioeconomic status is not entirely true. Less likely to buy large items online if of low economic status. More likely to focus on food and other immediate needs. Argue for specificity and taxing a market that is not currently taxed at all.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that time is up for the agenda item.

Celine Pastore (QERM): Motions to extend time by 3 minutes.

Andrew Shumway (Earth and Space Sciences): Seconds.

Kelsey Hood: Asks whether last year the entire “that” clause was removed or just sales tax portion.

Amy Gabriel: Responds she does not know.

Giuliana Conti: Also responds she does not know.

Celine Pastore (QERM): Agrees on specificity piece and asks if there is literature that backs up online sales tax.

Phil Leung (Molecular Engineering): Notes that he is still confused about what is being removed.

Amy Gabriel: Notes that there are three options: Just adding “such as online sales tax;” Adopt Oliver’s recommendation and remove just sales tax; remove entire clause.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that GPSS can take a recommendation from the floor for a more specific amendment to this resolution.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Point of Information: Notes that if GPSS wants specificity, the end of “that” clause could be eliminated.

Giuliana Conti: Is that a recommendation to the main author or to the ether?

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Ether.

Amy Gabriel: Notes that the agenda item is at time.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Motion to extend time by 5 mins.

Andrew Shumway (Earth and Space Sciences): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that there is a request to add specific data resources regarding online sales tax. Asks if would we like to vote as amended. Would you like to add any resource searches to the footnotes?

Kelsey Hood: Sure.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Says that she will help with resources.

Giuliana Conti: Still have Oliver's comment. Are we removing?

Stephani Landdeck (Social Work): Notes that any specificity should be backed up with research or be removed.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Suggests prepare debate at next meeting so we can look at positives and negatives before adding any more specificity. It would be a short 5-minute debate with all of the information, including Oliver's input. Motion to table the voting of this resolution to next meeting with short debate.

Jackie Wong (School of Dentistry): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Suggests people take a look at the resolution and engage online before the next meeting.

10.Executive Senator Elections

6:18 PM

Giuliana Conti: Gives overview of what Executive Senator role. Introduces current Executive Senators Jackie Wong and Zhiyun Ma. Notes that Executive senators meet on off weeks not in Senate meetings with the Executive Board who decides what to bring to Senate.

Zhiyun Ma (Education, Leadership in Higher Education): Notes that unlike Officers and Staff – Executive Senators don't have specific roles, just overall goal to support, keep in check etc. Everything that does not fit in a specific box, Exec Senators take care of.

Jackie Wong (School of Dentistry): Adds that Executive Senators do not have paid positions and that they offer a different perspective. Suggested focusing position in interest of trying to be efficient. She is interested in looking at health and wellness of students at the university in addition to supporting other senators. Started in GPSS last spring and had little experience in student government but has since greatly enjoyed it.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that the time commitment is every other Wed. and time in Senate. Not just help for us, but help for you – represent dept at greater level, develop skills, CV line, exec meetings

where we talk about how to operate and optimize how we run the office. Would have the chance to represent 15k grad students

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Asks how long is the term?

Robby Perkins-High: Responds initial term is 2 academic years, then have to re-run and can do 1 more academic year.

Giuliana Conti: For Executive Senator Elections: Nominations, nominated people will speak briefly about why want position. There are two available seats. There are ballots. Need two people tonight. If senators are going to recommend people from the floor, hope that they have spoken with them beforehand.

Robby Perkins-High: The voting process is ranked, so need majority. If tie – instant run off.

Ramsess Quezada (Chemistry): Nominates Jacob Ziegler

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Accepts nomination

Jackie Wong (School of Dentistry): Nominates Lillian Ferraz

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Accepts nomination.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Introduces herself. From Tacoma. Running because has different ideas about how to improve institutions. How do we keep long running institutions accountable and relatable to students they serve? How do we keep sustainability of power in student voice and keep the good work students are doing going? Interested to work on sustainability measures such as, strategy plans and mission work, to make sure staying focused on goals that can be accomplished within each year and more long term. Also passionate and interested in – like the resource fair last week – the tools that we already have as grad students. Commuted from Tacoma first year as. Graduate student. Having U-Pass was essential for being able to attend grad school. Curious about what other resources are available like, health, legal, and free food. Would like to create a grad student toolkit that would be distributed to each student, not through school but another body. As someone who identifies as queer, lesbian and genderqueer, thinks it is important to have people on the board who people queer identities may feel more comfortable talk to.

Zhiyun Ma (Education, Leadership in Higher Education): Motions to extend by 5 minutes

Saddiq Faizi (Jackson School): Seconds.

Jacob Ziegler (Chemistry): Says that he served on Finance & Budget Committee, and was a senator last year. He will be serving on the SAF committee this year as a liaison. Has an interest in equitable finances and making sure university is being held accountable for finances that students pay into university. Notes that because Exec. Senators hold a two-year term they can act as the living memory when turnover happens in other roles.

Sydney Pearce: Requests members of Judicial Committee help with counting the ballots? The five present Judicial Committee members left with Sydney Pearce at 6:33pm.

11. Petition to create Non-Academic Senate Seat: Campus Sustainability Fund

6:32 PM

Amy Gabriel: Explains how the petition process works and notes that a representative from CSF will present.

Kim Foley (CSF Liaison): Asks for people who are familiar with campus sustainability fund and introduces herself as a 1st years masters of urban planning student who was appointed as CSF committee member this past June.

Kim Foley (CSF Liaison): Explains that CSF provides a grantmaking program on campus out of SAF. The projects funded are student initiated and student voted on. Any project that involves any facet of sustainability on campus – the ask is intentionally broad. Students can come up with an idea to recognize issues on campus – reduce carbon footprint, end reliance on carbon fuels, promote air quality or water quality, all while learning. The CSF’s annual budget is \$600,000 (award grants under \$1,000 on a rolling basis and award up to \$100k). As a committee member reviewed budget for 2018-19 and took a look at what is funded for this year. CF is discussing outreach and engagement processes and how to diversify so interdisciplinary teams are learning about it. Notes that personal focus is on environmental planning and that comes from background of applied human ecology, so is interested in diversifying fundraising efforts and bringing together concepts.

Zhiyun Ma (Education, Leadership in Higher Education): Why is a senator seat what you need to meet your goals rather than a liaison?

Kim Foley (CSF Liaison): Can you clarify?

Zhiyun Ma (Education, Leadership in Higher Education): Why is a voting senate needed rather than some other role?

Kim Foley (CSF Liaison): Not sure.

Amy Gabriel: Explains that by having a senate seat, CSF would now has a vote rather than just sitting in the meetings.

Kim Foley (CSF Liaison): Responds that the seat is so that CSF can deepen its role on the senate.

Giuliana Conti: Adds that all or most senators are from academic departments, but ASUW has a non-academic seat. There is also another group that will be petitioning to add a non-voting seat to the body. So the questions is, do we keep it strictly academic or broaden it?

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Asks when considering this – is it on Exec. Board or Senate?

Giuliana Conti: Senate.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Is there a limit on number of seats? Through working on FIUTS has seen politics of what happens with different organizations. Good that we have a student seat open, but is it open to organizations on campus that do not have a student element?

Amy Gabriel: Responds that the bylaws do not specify – just says non-academic programs, for things like VetLife. And we will contact others to see if they want a seat to spread out representation.

Giuliana Conti: Agrees that is important because students may not be able to represent a specific department, but can represent their efforts.

Robby Perkins-High: Move to extend debate by 5 mins.

Celine Pastore (QERM): Seconds.

Robby Perkins-High: What other non-academic seats do we have besides ASUW?

Amy Gabriel: Responds, FIUTS. Which is why created a list, and are asking more to join.

Giuliana Conti: Notes that it is different to have someone representing international students and an international student representing their department.

Amy Gabriel: Motions to vote on petition.

Stephani Landdeck (Social Work): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: It passes, now have a new voting seat.

12. Meet the Officers

6:46 PM

Robby Perkins-High: Move to reduce this item to 3 minutes.

Andrew Shumway (Earth and Space Sciences): Seconds.

Zhiyun Ma (Education, Leadership in Higher Education): Says that each officer will explain their topic area in 3 words. Each did. Senators will talk with the officers or executive senators and ask them questions.

13. Senator Announcements

6:50 PM

Giuliana Conti: Announces two new Executive Senators: Jacob Ziegler and Lillian Ferraz. Asks for any announcements from senators.

Zhiyun Ma (Education, Leadership in Higher Education): Informed everyone about her research project. If international student and liaison – reach out. One of kind, want people to be noticed and hear from them. Encourage international students in departments to connect.

Abbie Shew (GPSS Organizing Director): Next Friday November 2nd 10am-3pm in HUB lawn and patio area – ASUW and GPSS are co-hosting a Rock the Vote event. Free food and drinks. If interested in volunteering reach out to Abbie.

14. Adjournment

6:53 PM

Andrew Shumway (Earth and Space Sciences): Moves to adjourn.

Ian Smith (Jackson School): Seconds.