



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL  
STUDENT SENATE**

Exec Meeting Minutes

*April 25, 2018 /HUB 303*

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**Members Present**

GPSS President Soh Yeun (Elloise) Kim  
GPSS Secretary: Giuliana Conti  
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs: Matt Munoz  
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs: Tori Hernandez  
GPSS Treasurer: Brad Copenhaver  
GPSS Executive Senator: Grant Williamson  
GPSS Executive Senator: Elizabeth Oestreich  
GPSS Executive Senator: Noelle Symanski  
GPSS Executive Senator: Zhiyun Mary Ma  
GPSS Executive Senator: Peder Digre  
Associate Dean for Student & Postdoc Affairs, Grad School: Kelly Edwards  
ASUW Director of Internal Policy and the Liaison: Bo Goodrich  
Assistant Director of Student Activities: Rene Singleton

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**1. Call to Order**

**5:33 PM**

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**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**5:33 PM**

**Grant Williamson:** Makes a motion to amend the agenda to table resolution, Executive Senator Reports and Officer Reports until next meeting.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Seconds.

**Elloise Kim:** Confirms with Elizabeth if they can discuss her agenda later and if everyone is okay with the motion to amend the agenda.

**Tori Hernandez:** States the Officer Reports can be shared over email.

**Elloise Kim:** Agrees to table if the new business goes over an hour.

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### 3. Approval of Minutes

5:34 PM

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Approves the minutes

**Noelle Symanski:** Seconds

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### 4. Officer Elections

5:34 PM

**Elliott Okantey:** Shares a few updates about the upcoming elections. Candidate nominations all came in by 4.30 pm on Friday. Apologizes for letting an unvetted candidate through. The candidacy has been terminated since he attended only two meetings while the mandate was to attend three meetings.

**Giuliana Conti:** Asks if Sonam was informed to remove the name from the website.

**Elliott Okantey:** States yes. All the candidates have received their reminder about elections timetables and campaign rules. Two more reminders to be sent leading up to the elections meeting to remind them about submitting a one slide info. The electronic absentee ballots are ready to be posted online. The paper absentee ballots will be made available on the election day. People view them between 2:30 and 5:30pm. The paper absentee ballots and the regular paper ballots for in person voting will need assistance from GPSS staff to print those. Asks how many papers will be required?

**Giuliana Conti:** Suggests 80.

**Elliott Okantey:** Asks how many people completed paper absentee ballots in the past.

**Grant Williamson:** States it was very few.

**Amy Gabriel:** Asks what's the method for collecting absentee paper ballots?

**Tori Hernandez:** There are enveloped in office that can be used and can be placed at her desk

**Giuliana Conti:** Suggests moving it outside of the GPSS office to RSO office.

**Grant Williamson:** Suggests SAO office.

**Giuliana Conti:** Suggests the Information Office at The Hub.

**Elloise Kim:** Suggests confirming with Rene if it's a viable option. States that people should be informed that they need to go to SAO office to cast the paper ballot vote.

**Elliott Okantey:** Asks if there's any regular Senate business that needs to be conducted at the elections meeting.

**Elloise Kim:** States yes. 2 resolutions, Bylaw amendments & GPSS budget to be done as fillers.

**Grant Williamson:** Points that it will be after the voting and during counting.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares the considering the number of candidates, in terms of time etc. there were concerns regarding structure and time restrictions that people were having time constraints regarding candidate speech and Q&A. Asks everyone's opinion on the time for the candidates.

**Elliott Okantey:** States he will get back with estimated amount of time to add to the agenda.

**Giuliana Conti:** States its 3 minutes per person as per website (total of 8 people).

**Grant Williamson:** Suggests 5 minutes including transition.

**Elloise Kim:** With positions that have more candidates should be thought off.

**Giuliana Conti:** Shares her concern is that according to the Elections Guide, they are allotting ten minutes in total for questions to everyone. The reality of that is that the time will get extended. People are going to be extending the time because they are Senators.

**Elloise Kim:** States that an hour would be good including introduction etc. Good to be safe and allow people.

**Bo Goodrich:** Shares that ASUW allotted 2 hours for 20 candidates. 1 hour seems reasonable.

**Giuliana Conti:** States that from the candidates they have currently online is about 30 minutes total if it's going to be a bit flexible, then 10 minutes maybe for people if they run from the floor and 10 minutes for question which brings us up to 50 minutes. If they extend even ten minutes for questions, it will be almost an hour and half.

**Tori Hernandez:** Points that last year election ran for 4 hours. Extending it more can lead to frustration among people.

**Giuliana Conti:** Asks if Elliott is presiding over that time. Asks if there's anything he can communicate while presiding over that time to keep people aware of the timeline?

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** States that many of the positions are uncontested that's going to shorten the time. It's good to have someone keep time to avoid frustrations and be respectful.

**Grant Williamson:** Highlights that one area they went into trouble last year was when someone would direct all of the questions to all the candidates or to a specific subset of candidates or individual candidates and a different candidate would jump in and answer. Requests Senators to ask specific questions. It gives guideline to everyone.

**Elloise Kim:** Agrees. However, few would get more questions that allows them to explain themselves better than others.

**Giuliana Conti:** Asks if the time for questions can be limited?

**Grant Williamson:** States that as long as they direct people to direct questions to a candidate group, like if someone asks the questions to Treasurer candidate, rest of the Treasurer candidates should be allowed to respond. There were open questions last year which added a lot of time in the end.

**Elliott Okantey:** States that they are not prepared for that this year.

**Peder Digre:** Adds that last year there was also a lot of time when there was a motion to remove Officers from the room and there was also additional discussion time.

**Elloise Kim:** Points that, as a President she would not allow something like that. It is not a good process. The Election Committee has planned it very thoroughly and no surprises to arise at the meeting this year.

**Grant Williamson:** Points that one can object but cannot stop the Senate body if they want to make a motion to that. There were lot of Senators last time who felt that was a valuable time for the exercise.

**Elliott Okantey:** Agrees that it's something that cannot be prevented if the Senate wants. But that's something they can say along the way especially in the introduction that reminds people that the meeting is going to have a tight agenda that can help dissuade them indirectly.

**Elloise Kim:** Adds that the other unplanned procedure was paper ballots were not give to Senators until everything was done. It was not included in the Elections Guide and it was decided discretionally in the room. She was informed about that but there were lot of spontaneous decisions implemented without everyone's consensus. Cannot accept everything that Senate wants, but wants the Exec Body to follow what's discussed and written as much as possible.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Points that they are starting to get a bit off topic. She is happy to volunteer and to time and be strict that can help stay positive at the elections meeting.

**Grant Williamson:** Moves to close the discussion.

**Tori Hernandez:** Asks if there's need for students to be registered for Fall quarter given that registration falls on May 4<sup>th</sup> which is after the elections.

**Elliott Okantey:** States that hasn't been mentioned in the guide. Reiterates that ballots will be distributed as the Senators are seated. Elections Committee will brief and inform and introduce rules and procedure. Any challenges will be discussed by Elections Committee on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Kelsey Hood:** Asks if the general public allowed to participate in the meeting?

**Elliott Okantey:** States that yes, they are allowed and the ballot designs are such that it will require the Senators to write their names and sign, which will validate the voters.

**Elloise Kim:** Highlights that only registered Senators can vote, and proxies are not allowed.

**Giuliana Conti:** Seconds Grant's motion to close the discussion

**Elloise Kim:** Points that they need to include the time on the agenda.

**Tori Hernandez:** Suggests an hour and half.

**Giuliana Conti:** Shares that her concern is if the agenda is out and people sees a long agenda, they might not come.

**Elloise Kim:** Suggests 75 minutes.

*Everyone Agrees.*

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## 5. Personnel Wage Policy

5:56 PM

**Brad Copenhaver:** Shares that in the past, every Officer who hires staff members sets wage based on the budget. But there is no mechanism written to allow change to happen. Lot of Officers prefers to give raises to staff. This policy would procedurally allow to go through an official channel to notify the F&B Committee and SAF that can also enable documentation.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Asks if its normal to give raises within a year.

**Brad Copenhaver:** States that it has happened in the past, but it hasn't happened through formal channels.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares in the past years there was no clear guideline. The Officers would discuss together and then would agree/disagree to increases salaries. Good to have that on records.

**Kelly Edwards:** Asks if Rene has any context. Wants to know the student perspective is on an annual basis or is there a mid-year raise.

**Rene Singleton:** Shares that GPSS has a process. Admin assistant gets a raise because of exceptional job. Its arbitrarily decided by the Manager after making sure if their budget permits. The reason they have decided is they give a price change. Some departments give only the min, \$15/hr. Some are doing the range. One can start at the min and then give a raise. If there is a mechanism, it can be tracked. It's a cleaner way of doing.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that in the past when certain Officers wanted to give a raise, there would be discussion and sometimes there would be unnecessary tension. It is crucial for all of the other Officers to know the staff's work. A procedure would prevent unnecessary tension.

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## 6. General Fund Withdrawal Policy

6:05 PM

**Brad Copenhaver:** Shares that all of the general funds cannot be used by GPSS. Needs to maintain minimum balance. Majority of the money came for the purpose of student activities from Provost. A few weeks ago, ASUW requested extra funds for spring show. There were no funds to offer. Took the idea to F&B committee. So as a committee, didn't want to use GPSS funds. ASUW's policy requires a written explanation of why the funds and how it will be spent and what the deficit is. The ASUW Board works on it. So, recommends a similar thing for F&B to make a recommendation to the Executive Committee to do that.

**Elloise Kim:** States that if its traceable to know where the rollover was generated in the past year. This year got extra money from Provost for Husky Sunrise and Sunset and used them all. In the past, the previous Officers have asked funds from Student life and grad school and there were cases when those funds were not used. If they can know where the rollover was created, it will be helpful to know and prepare for the future.

**Rene Singleton:** States they could look at it. It would take some time. But it's doable.

**Grant Williamson:** Seconds

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## 7. GPSS Budget

6:08 PM

**Brad Copenhaver:** Shares updates that he submitted a draft request to SAF for \$443,220 based on some updated estimates to benefit loading. This budget comes lesser than that. The administration budget had an increase of 25%. In the past there were larger discretionary funds for every Officer to do events that they were beneficial to different projects. When they went through the budget cuts last year, those discretionary funds were cut quite a bit and have been cut since few years. So, recommending a 10K special projects fund for any Officer or Exec Committee member or any Senator who has an idea for special projects/events that GPSS could sponsor.

**Grant Williamson:** States, considering the cut on Spring Social last year, this seems to be like prioritizing the special project fund over Spring Social. Seeks Officers' opinions on that.

**Tori Hernandez:** Shares that students love the socials. Spring quarter is a lot with hosting a social and Husky Sunset. So, a more professional event, a conference or symposiums would be great.

**Giuliana Conti:** Seconds Tori. Husky Sunset itself is like a social. So, makes sense to get back to academic professional events.

**Elloise Kim:** Agrees. It releases the obligation to organize the Spring Social as well.

**Tori Hernandez:** Points that one could argue for Fall Social as well but it's vital to have a social in Fall since it is the beginning of the academic year.

**Grant Williamson:** Asks if the money is going to cover the expenses of tents and other things for Husky Sunrise.

**Tori Hernandez:** States it depends. The ceremonies might not be in President's Picnic budget next year and that's where the tent came from for Husky Sunrise. \$10K will not cover the tent. If there is no funds and tents, Husky Sunrise will have to be completely re-evaluated anyway.

**Grant Williamson:** Comments that he would like for Exec to track the dollar spent per person in socials and every event to know how many students were getting impacted. Allocations to each student should also be tracked. There should be tracking for discretionary funds too to know if it's going to be effective.

**Elloise Kim:** Points that this discussion today is for checking the general items right now than going over each line item. There can be another meeting to discuss in detail.

**Giuliana Conti:** Agrees that it should inform what to do next year. Suggests Treasurer help them to come up with numbers by the end of the year so that they can inform the next Exec Body and the decisions needs to be made by hired and elected. This conversation can continue.

**Peder Digre:** Agrees with Grant's point. SAF is interested to know the impact always. SAF is interested to know how much a student is getting benefitted by the SAF fees vs. how much they are paying into SAF fees.

**Tori Hernandez:** States she can find those numbers in the future

**Brad Copenhaver:** Shares that he broke the 10K funds into line items to be used as general funds to do this as a pilot for next year to know if this is even feasible and if they are going to use it. Likes to demonstrate to SAF in the future the way it's being used for students. For conference travel for VP of Internal Affairs and President, both have the same amount. Traditionally, VP of Internal Affairs attends one conference and the President attends two. So, reduced \$1K from VP of Internal Affairs' budget. In some places there is a lot of budget that's unspent. So, budgets are kept low for those. All the expenses from SAGE conference is not updated yet. Due to high interest in allocation for diversity projects, the \$2k that was cut last year has been added back to the Secretary's budget.

**Giuliana Conti:** Points that its really crucial that when cuts happen, need to make sure that its not especially where specific populations are affected more. Diversity committee is really crucial to some of the processes and is really grateful for that money back. Hopeful that they can continue to grow.

**Peder Digre:** Asks if there's a need for funds for marketing for Diversity Committee? Last year there was a marketing budget of \$100. Asks if that's required too.

**Giuliana Conti:** States yes.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Asks if only \$70 was spent for marketing last time?

**Brad Copenhaver:** States yes.

**Tori Hernandez:** Points that Randy had more posters printed definitely beyond 70 dollars.

**Brad Copenhaver:** Personnel budgets are mostly the same. Made a couple of changes to the Budget Specialist hours by increasing it a bit, Reduced hours for Director of Events & University Affairs Director from 18 to 16 hrs.

**Tori Hernandez:** Suggests not to change Director of Events hours much considering the number of events. Her responsibility changes week by week. Suggests keeping it at 17 hours

**Elloise Kim:** States that she tried to even out the hours a little bit. Entertains a motion to extend time.

**Matt Munoz:** Moves to extend time by 5 minutes

**Giuliana Conti:** Seconds

**Matt Munoz:** Asks Brad & Elloise if before looking at reducing hours, if they checked with the Officers to understand the staff needs?

**Brad Copenhaver:** States No.

**Matt Munoz:** Points that its dangerous to look at these as equal hours to staff per Officer considering the purviews and the needs of staff are so different. Important to go back to Officers and check the hours.

**Grant Williamson:** Highlights that cutting staff time will overburden the Officers. So, recommends increasing the staff hours than any other portion of the budget.

**Brad Copenhaver:** States that he is not sure if they can demonstrate to SAF about the need to increase the staff hours. Waited a long time to hire summer staff. There were two positions that are still not filled.



**Giuliana Conti:** States that considering there is going to be a new group of people coming in, what should be the protocol for people to make adjustments later to some of the position allocations either during summer or during the school year.

**Peder Digre:** Clarifies that F&B would adjust the budget, come to Exe and they would approve that change in allocation of the budget to a line item.

**Brad Copenhaver:** States is SAF gives money on a quarterly basis to GPSS. If there's a change to line item in the budget, then it's an easy change to make.

**Tori Hernandez:** Suggests bringing the Director of Grad Student Relations hours to 11 and have Director of Events at 17 hrs.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that the Executive Assistant position wasn't needed so that was not filled. It was a conscious decision not to hire.

**Noelle Symanski:** Asks if the hired summer positions, are those who typically stay through the school year?

**Elloise Kim:** Says yes.

**Giuliana Conti:** Makes a motion to extend time by 5 mins

**Matt Munoz:** Seconds

**Peder Digre:** Shares that the status quo of SAF position is that units remain same or receive cuts. Brad is being Judicial in small increase of SAF.

**Matt Munoz:** Asks about the open position for Director of Communication that hasn't been filled since 3 years. Points that if there's an unfilled position, it should be removed.

**Elloise Kim:** Clarifies that the Director of Communication, Creative Director & Senate Clerk have gone through transformations over the last 4-5 years. Creative Director & Senate Clerk used to be one position. It was later separated as different positions. The Director of Communication used to be web director. Last year hired someone who could do both website and other creatives who is titled as the Creative Director. Need to give clarity on how the money could be used and clarity on roles too.

**Giuliana Conti:** Asks when it comes to Director of Communications for instance, if the role is to be liquidated, can the hours be allocated to other positions in summer?

**Brad Copenhaver:** States yes as long as it is the same budget code.

**Giuliana Conti:** Suggests maintaining this line item knowing that half of them in the room are not going to be there next year and that the people who are going to make a decision are going to do so in a community atmosphere probably collectively. That line item should stay at the discretion

of the people to decide to reallocate that for the summer which could end up being perhaps more advantageous. Asks otherwise how they can add more to summer because there are several positions that are going to be hired at the very beginning of the school year which means that they're learning curve within their job position is going to be really hard at the start of their school year itself and there are several positions that would do well to have at least three weeks at the end of summer to be able to transition and get trained collectively into the school year itself.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that when Sonam was hired, she had informed that she was not an expert in web and would take some time to learn and so GPSS wasn't sure they would have a Creative Director who would do both web and do other creative work.

**Tori Hernandez:** Clarifies the average cost per student for events – Husky Sunrise \$21, Fall Social \$15, Winter Social \$14 and Husky Sunset \$23.

**Brad Copenhaver:** Moving to allocation funds, states there hasn't been much change. They will be spending all of the money this year. On track to spend all those. Travel grants were funded-25% of the applications. With those couple of changes, increasing the marketing budget, the hour change. The 30K from the Provost last two years, is not a guarantee this year. But expecting to happen. Going forward from next year, it could not happen. Might have to look for outside funding.

**Elloise Kim:** Assures to do her best to lobby for that money from Provost.

**Grant Williamson:** Moves to approve the budget.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Asks if they need approval.

**Brad Copenhaver:** Shares that due to quorum issue on Friday, the approval didn't happen. Don't need to formally approve. They only need to recommend it.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Seconds

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## 8. Update on UAW 4121 Bargaining

6:40 PM

**Grant Williamson:** Shares that this intersects with graduate students to a significant degree. Most of the union members are graduate students because it is the academic student employees and in the University of Washington. The contract is up on May 1st at which point, either there will be a strike or there's some agreed upon extension of negotiations under the current terms. There's been an ongoing process since February working on these and a significant portion of that process was done on non-financial, primarily harassment related concerns because most of the academic students are RAs or TAs who closely work with TI and in most situations the university is very bad at dealing with harassment. Proposals have been here and out that have been agreed by both sides on non-financial concerns. On the financial concerns, the initial proposal of 80% or so of academic student employees are rent burdened in the term that more than 30% of their income goes to renting, the technical sense of the word and not in the sense that Seattle has higher rents.

There's been some confusion over from the administration's side in terms of using that term to say everyone at the university is rent burdened because rents are high. The initial financial proposal given from the university, added \$1400 in fees and health care costs to academic student employees and suggested a 0% raise. The Union started out with no increase in fees and about 20% raise to account for the substantial increase in cost of living that's occurred over the last three years since the contract was negotiated. Knowing that the end result would likely be lower, the university came in knowing the end result will likely be higher. Talked to a lot of ASEs and others. They are very frustrated with this process not only because the proposal from the university doesn't seem to respect the actuality of the situation. But also considering huge university investments in things like the biology building for example which has already caused problems with TAs in Arts and Sciences. The decision to spend \$90M on a work day when it basically doesn't work very well for a large majority of people. So, the end decision is to invest in infrastructure and then try and not pay people right is frustrating. They're also very frustrated because there's been a tone from a number of the university negotiators that very strongly suggest that some of the negotiators are rude and don't answer responsibly to questions.

**Tori Hernandez:** Shares that in one of the bargaining sessions, one of the negotiators was rude when a student expressed that she is the only undergrad ASE and she does all the recommendation and she is the only one and the students know her name but the faculty members don't. She also made a statement that the university works because ASEs work. The Negotiator retaliated saying "no, you work only 220 hrs per quarter". The tone was rude.

**Grant Williamson:** Adds that Jerry Baldasty was there to answer questions too. During the meeting someone asked him "what's the university's plan for making sure students can actually live in the Seattle University" and he said that the university does not have a plan for making sure the students can live in the area. That's where the negotiations are at and that's where these frustrations are coming from. GPSS already passed a resolution saying "we support the UAW4121 bargaining process" in the Senate body, but considering that there's only now 5 days for a strike, just got word that the new university proposal is it can keep the fees increase but give everyone a 1% pay increase which at the high end of the pay scale will be \$340 which is still a pay cut. That's the very highest pay on campus for ASEs -- \$3400 dollars a year and for the low end it's even lesser. There's been suggestions that everyone is rent burdened. When that's on campus that's very much not true in the technical sense of the word and top administrators are making hundreds of thousands of dollars. And in addition, the increase the Union is asking for even if they got the full increase, it would only result in ASEs going from 4% of the university budget to 5% of the university budget. So, it's not a significant change in the university's budget. It's a change that can be managed with proper planning. Shared two different statements; one is directed at the President. It's much more direct in terms of addressing the administration and saying we're not happy with where things are going the other is a statement to graduate students to say, "we are reiterating our support based on our resolution and in our meetings with the administration we're going to do everything we can to advocate for these work for students." This is similar to the international student fee issue and how it affects a large percentage of graduate students and will affect them very negatively. So, it's important to stand up for this issue.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Adds that there are student parents who have been asking about maternity care leaves losing visa if they take maternity leave, and grad students losing housing if they take maternity leave, the negotiator wasn't even aware of the issues.

**Grant Williamson:** Reiterates that they were never prepared to answer. Graduate students who would be coming for research positions are leaving to other universities looking at the cost of living in Seattle. University's reputation is at stake.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Likes the idea of sending email to president Cauce. Seems a bit aggressive. Likes the idea of a letter to graduate students as well. Voice needs to be put up there.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that she meets Anna Marie at times and gets to converse. In her meeting tomorrow, she will talk to her about the tone and negotiators knowledge about student issues. Also highlights that she has been to quite a few budget meetings at the university and TAs and RAs are not necessarily a priority for them to discuss. They mostly talk about debts, faculty compensation etc. Then Dean will allocate the money in department and college. The department Chair will then allocate in the way they believe is the best. There are multiple channels. There is a limit for them, for the Provost that they can say, or advocate pay increase as well.

**Grant Williamson:** In general agrees. If someone comes down strongly on this issue and says they don't agree don't think are paying students equitably right now, it is an issue that there would be substantial movements in terms of the financials.

**Giuliana Conti:** Agrees. However, the repercussions are if they increase the wage, it might compromise the number of positions. Also, the letter can be fit into one page. UW is world renowned for research. The research is done with collaboration between Professors and Graduate students. Without grad students it wouldn't be possible.

**Grant Williamson:** States he is concerned with reduction of RA/TAs. But those positions expect to work more than 20 hours and doesn't pay accordingly. That should not be happening.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares she can do more than delivering the letter to Ana Marie and Jerry. Asks what other actions they would like to take as GPSS.

**Giuliana Conti:** Shares that she looks at this as advocacy for all graduate students. Already passed a resolution in Senate body that says GPSS supports this whole bargain process. Have the majority vote to be able to express an opinion about it. Suggests using social media as an asset within this process so that if we they submit a letter somewhere, they notify people within the community that they've done. That way they also communicate with the constituents that they are talking about this that they are moving it and aside from minutes, that this is something that GPSS is actively pursuing.

**Grant Williamson:** Agrees.

**Tori Hernandez:** Agrees that letter is necessary. Should let the Law students know as well.

**Zhiyun Mary Ma:** Asks to what degree they can get the departments and colleges on board?

**Grant Williamson:** States it depends from department to department. Some departments don't allow to use department communication channels for these aspects especially about the Union. It is not legal as well.

**Noelle Symanski:** Suggests posting the letter on Google Doc so that people can comment and suggest edits by midnight.

**Giuliana Conti:** States she will send it and can make the final edits as well.

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## 9. Legislative Agenda Policy Memo

7:01 PM

**Matt Munoz:** Shares that this is going back to the discretion that was authorized for VP External by this group last quarter. He was able to lobby on bills in the legislature without having to get every single thing approved by Senate or Exec. This is just putting out a formalized language and also setting a deadline by which to have the Legislative Agenda passed and give suggestions on how future VPs of External can go about soliciting input and drafting items for the Legislative Agenda.

**Noelle Symanski:** Shares that the legislature moves fast and she is aware of that. But this level of discussion to lobby for all students without a check in seems a bit broad.

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that this proposal comes out of well thought of idea of being more structured. Likes to include some communication element with the President as a check point. Bylaw also suggests good communication between President and VP and agrees that when things move quickly in Olympia, the VP cannot consult about every single item. But according to the memo, the President is not included at all. Likes to have some kind of check-in.

**Matt Munoz:** States that he didn't think it was necessary to include President because that language is in the Bylaws and the Bylaws super cede policy memos. Because that language already exists, didn't think that this was the right avenue to include that. The cause of communication with the President is part of that. Had fairly regular check-ins on the bills that he was working. Considering Legislative Agenda is from student input, it's not necessarily illegal but it's highly frowned upon to go into a legislator meeting, present a document that doesn't align with your organization's values or what you've been vested to do and then completely talk about something else. That has more to do with reputation. There are safeguards that even go beyond this committee and beyond GPSS that will keep that in place. That will retain the power to request a report of any point and because of how quickly things move, there's a short time window to provide them.

**Brad Copenhaver:** Asks Matt to walk him through the changes to the formal process.

**Matt Munoz:** States that there was no formal process and that was the problem. It was almost as though it was defined in the Legislative Agenda. It was not entirely ethical for his position to advocate for bills outside of that. In one of the Exec meeting he had communicated that there will be an official language made available and hence this is that official language formalized.

**Brad Copenhaver:** Shares that he used to be a lobbyist. The process that he used when had a small committee, they discussed over conference calls. Not sure if that would be the onus for time commitment.

**Noelle Symanski:** States that there's nothing wrong in discretion. However, needs to couple discretion with transparency. Suggests adding that the Senate and Exec can request information as another policy. Providing information within two days would be apt once the request is placed. It's important to get students perspective.

**Matt Munoz:** Pushes back just because there are so many bills that come through. Its hard to do that with too many bills. Agrees that transparency is important but there is no intention to hide anything with the memo.

**Elloise Kim:** Highlights that according to Senate survey, people don't want to get more than two emails per week. They are also least interested with bills.

**Noelle Symanski:** Changes comment from Senate body to Exec.

**Matt Munoz:** States he would have the same response. That said, External Affairs is working on plans to improve communication. Part of that is that they don't have the means to do that other than email.

**Giuliana Conti:** Agrees with Noelle. Discretion and trust is the bedrock of Senate Body. Accountability is important. So, VP of External Affairs should keep everyone in the loop about the. Keep the staff informed. Looking at President, she meets with higher ups, She has to communicate statuses and has to be able to keep all of these pieces. Discretion is important but also the relationship between the President and the Exec and the External VP is also really important so that the person who oversees and communicates the overall status of our organization is kept in the loop and is privy to decisions being made and is valued as a part of that process.

**Matt Munoz:** States that language exists in the Bylaws.

**Grant Williamson:** Shares that to provide a proposal in terms of notification that balances between the two ideas, suggests that the ones' who might be affected; the President, Policy Director and SLAB send an e-mail with the subject line being the title of the bill. If no one objects, VP of External is clear to lobby on it and if anyone objects, it comes to Executive committee for discussion and produce inputs within 24 hours.

**Matt Munoz:** Says he can't concede because sometimes it needs to happen too fast.

**Tori Hernandez:** Makes a motion to extend time by 5 mins

**Giuliana Conti:** seconds

**Kelsey Hood:** Shares that the External Affairs webpage to be up next year. That will address the time constraints and transparency. President needs to be kept in the loop since SLAB hasn't been very active this year. The discretionary aspect to this memo is important because things move at a lightning speed and sometime won't allow time for an email response as well.

**Giuliana Conti:** Knowing the communication that happens between VP & Policy Director during that time, wonders if there's feasibility in requesting that during that time of events when they are aware how intense it is, and the turnaround time could be 24 hours, the Policy Director can assist over email so that people are updated about important policies.

**Brad Copenhaver:** Requests Matt for examples of times when there was so much difference in the Agenda that he had to make a decision by himself to represent grad students.

**Matt Munoz:** Shares there was one probably the most glaring example of when Senator introduced a bill to change a grant to an entitlement. It was on the agenda a fully funding and not to change it into entitlement. It was connected but was not comfortable making a unilateral discretionary decision without that authority being given to him. He ended up staying for it.

**Peder Digre:** Encourages not to micro-manage this position as much as possible and allow them to have some discretion. They give weekly report and meetings happen regularly.

**Grant Williamson:** Moves to vote to approve the memo as it is.

**Peder Digre:** Seconds

**Brad Copenhaver:** Objects.

**Elloise Kim:** Asks if Matt needs more time to look it through and refine the language or wants the memo to be passed as is.

**Matt Munoz:** States he wants to approve it now and policy memos can always be amended in the future.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Asks if there's a mechanism for Exec currently to express disagreements.

**Matt Munoz:** States currently no. It's a non-defined process.

**Elizabeth Oestreich:** Asks then how one will know if he has used the discretion. What's the process for Exec to say they don't agree to that discretion.

**Matt Munoz:** Shares that part of the responsibility of Officers is to give weekly reports to Senate and Exec and also the review power at Exec meetings.

**Elloise Kim:** Promises to do the best with Legislative Agenda to address the key issues.

*Voting begins to pass the agenda as is. 6 in favor. 2 not in favor. 1-Abstain*

*Memo passes.*

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## **10.2018-2019 Student Regent Finalists Selection**

**7:22 PM**

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that the Student Regent Committee deliberated three finalists. Discussed how each candidate can serve. The three finalists. Yasmin Aguilar, Monica Cortes Viharo & Kaitlyn Zhou who was the University Affairs Director at ASUW. These three will be assessed and office of Governor and will be selected.

**Matt Munoz:** Asks when it will be announced.

**Peder Digre:** States it will be announced during the end of May.

**Elloise Kim:** Highlights that this year was competitive, and it was great.

**Giuliana Conti:** Asks how GPPS will be informed?

**Elloise Kim:** States she will notify that to Officers. The list was published on Facebook and Giuliana will include in the Senate email. Interestingly, all three finalists are women and persons of color.

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## **11.Senator Appreciation Planning**

**7:26 PM**

**Giuliana Conti:** Shares that there has been some talk about awards for Senators. Need to streamline some of this process. Thinking about what needs to be awarded, one of the criteria is Senators to have 100% attendance. Its Mary and Evan Fischer.

**Grant Williamson:** States needs to have much better criteria for awards.

**Giuliana Conti:** Agrees. Wants not to play no favorites. Wants to make sure that there is infrastructure rewards to recognize people.

**Amy Gabriel:** States one of the aspects discussed was how Senators do nominations. One of them talked about resolutions, collaboration and committee participation.

**Giuliana Conti:** Opens the question for everyone on how to reward Senators for their involvement with GPSS.



**Grant Williamson:** States for each of the committees if someone has stepped up roles, they can be rewarded.

**Amy Gabriel:** Asks what if there are non- senators?

**Grant Williamson:** States he is fine with that.

**Giuliana Conti:** Shares they need to figure out a way to notify that they are winning. Wants it to be a surprise.

**Grant Williamson:** Says can be informed that they are nominated.

**Tori: Hernandez:** Points that people who are writing resolutions is doing a great job.

**Giuliana Conti:** Adds that 4 resolutions have passed and 6 slated to come through in the next few weeks. Co-authors could be a lot too. Need to finalize the number of awards.

**Elloise Kim:** Requests everyone to send ideas by next Exec.

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## 12.May 2<sup>nd</sup> Senate Meeting Agenda

7:32 PM

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that there will be no guest. Officer Election for 75 minutes, Resolution reading, new business, GPSS budget – 10 minutes, Bylaw amendment – 10 minutes, the second resolution's first reading.

**Tori: Hernandez:** Moves to add STF member announcement and strike off Officer reports.

**Grant Williamson:** Seconds

**Grant Williamson:** Suggests Good of the order can be TBD depending on time – 5 minutes. It can be used to announce results as well.

**Elloise Kim:** Election Results, Officer Reports 5 minutes.

**Giuliana Conti:** Shares that she is worried that people would not come looking at the duration of 140 minutes.

**Grant Williamson:** Suggests adding a note about a special meeting and remind them about their primary responsibility to attend this meeting ad vote.

**Elloise Kim:** Suggests more snacks for the meeting.

**Giuliana Conti:** Suggests a 5-minute break after the election.

**Grant Williamson:** Asks who will be helping with the elections and meeting set up?

**Matt Munoz:** States Officers who are not running for the elections should help with the set up.

**Tori Hernandez:** Agrees.

**Matt Munoz:** Approves the agenda.

**Tori Hernandez:** Seconds

**Elloise Kim:** Shares that regarding the new STF role, when she advertised it, she specifically requested for a non-white person. Jackie has been selected. Seeks Execs approval to go with her appointment.

**Tori Hernandez:** Approves

**Zhiyun Mary Ma:** Seconds

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### 13. Adjournment

**7:46 PM**

**Grant Williamson:** Moves to adjourn.

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