



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Exec Meeting Minutes

May 09, 2018 /HUB 303

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 Executive Senator: Grant Williamson
GPSS Executive Senator: Zhiyun Mary Ma
GPSS Executive Senator: Peder Digre
ASUW Director of Internal Policy and the Liaison: Bo Goodrich
Assistant Director of Student Activities: Rene Singleton

1. Call to Order **5:35 PM**

2. Approval of the Agenda **5:35 PM**

Giuliana Conti: Approves the agenda

Peder Digre: Seconds

3. Approval of Minutes **5:35 PM**

Grant Williamson: Approves the minutes

Matt Munoz: Seconds

4. Bargaining Contract Rally

5:35 PM

Elloise Kim: There will be a rally tomorrow in Red Square. Union is planning to come to the Board of Regent during the public commence period. Last time Exec delivered the statement and since then, negotiation of two parties has made some progress although not completed. If anyone has any opinion as to what GPSS can do, please share.

Matt Munoz: Does anyone have any updates from yesterday's bargaining session?

Elloise Kim: There was an email update regarding that.

Peder Digre: The biggest thing that stood out was that there was a \$100000 vs. a million dollar towards health care costs estimated. That's a really big difference.

Elloise Kim: Was a part of the ISHIP committee for the past two years. One of the reasons why 2018 year's insurance rate was raised by 11% and it will be raised by 15.2% next year is there are few people who spend maximum amount of what insurance could cover. When the big numbers were evened out by the number of students who would be a beneficiary of ISHIP, the cost went up. Need to remember this when we go for negotiation.

Matt Munoz: How is the strike/protest going to affect the work of ASEs?

Elloise Kim: When the strike happened a few years ago, I was teaching a class and there was a guideline given by the Union that it wasn't mandatory for you to participate in the strike. It's up to the individual if they want to take part or not but it is a way to show a collective action to the administration. But if the union decides to strike for more number of days, our payment could be impacted and if certain classes are not fulfilled due to cancellation of multiple classes, it could impact the students too. What was the discussion about the undergrad impact?

Bo Goodrich: The board is prepared in case it occurs and ASUW would partner with GPSS to figure out how to communicate to undergrad students in a way that they understand what's going on and can understand what impact that might have from an administrative level.

Grant Williamson: Agree that undergrad students will be impacted if there is a strike and that is obviously purposeful because it is one of the few ways we can put pressure on the administration and that being said, if we agree to a contract that has unfair terms, that will result in ASEs having to work second jobs much more frequently. There is a trade-off of agreeing to a bad contract that still hurts undergrads and that's an important point to know.

Peder Digre: For students who are not TAs, but are working in a lab or RAship it's not very good for advancing their studies and academics. How does that balance out?

Grant Williamson: Told all my students that I won't be available on this day and they can reach out to the Professor if anything. Informed Professor why I'm doing this and that due to the choice

the university is making, its directly impacting all ASEs. It all goes back to educating people about what's going on.

Elloise Kim: Expecting 3-5 people to make a comment from the Union tomorrow at the Board of Regent meeting. But usually the public comment doesn't get any response. So, intentionally didn't include Union issue in my board report. Just trying to be strategic knowing the climate that the Union have about this issue.

Grant Williamson: We have made our opinion clear as a body. If questions come to you, you just need to reiterate that opinion. We support the grad student body as a whole and ASEs are a big subset of that and there's a clear indication from Senators that we should be supporting the ASE demands in general. If you get questions on it that I suggest that you indicate that we strongly support the union's positions. But I agree it's reasonable and strategic not to bring it up.

Elloise Kim: So far, I tried not to talk about the details of the demands because they are being negotiated. Just trying to deliver the sentiment of students and professors about bargaining in the conversation. If something happens at tomorrow's meeting, I will let you know.

5. Elections Review

5:46 PM

Elliott Okantey: Thanks very much to Exec for everything. There is a full variety of supports that the Elections Committee came to depend on and making sure that everything was in good shape. We received no challenges to the process or results. Talked about the kind of whatever occurred to us as things that might have that either worked really well or that we might want to look at differently. My hope is to put something in writing that can stay with the incoming executive committee. There was plenty of time to get everything done; I think we were cutting it a little bit close on the elections guide. We would suggest that if we can time things so that the elections guide can be introduced at one meeting and then voted on later, maybe that would help people feel that things are more inclusive and considered. One thing I asked the committee was how much is it our responsibility to be promoting the election. We never got an answer to that but we did feel that anything that appeared political, we should stay away from. Most meetings in the winter quarter actually did mention elections in one way or another-- the standing up for the committee or introducing the elections guide or the bylaw change, that is the way to go sort of. We thought about the eligibility requirements, so was curious to know what people thought about the meeting attendance requirements. So, instead of saying three of these kinds of meetings, that part was a bit complicated.

Tori Hernandez: In the past we have done three parliamentary procedure meetings or at least ensuring that you attend one executive committee meeting one senate meeting and hopefully an F&B meeting and you could make it all Exec meetings. But that way people can actually see what executive committee looks like and what a Senate meeting looks like rather than just going to one or the other or only going to happen F&B and not realizing how a senate meeting even looks. I would advocate for having a lot more than just one.

Peder Digre: It's a broader question of who's voting for whom. It's like only the Senators to vote for us. ASUW don't have a requirement to attend meetings and all students who can vote. If we keep it just as Senators voting, that makes sense, but if it ever changes to more than Senators vote, then the eligibility requirement that we currently have makes sense.

Giuliana Conti: I actually would like to ask Robby or Jackie going into the election if they felt that those meetings were more substantial in figuring out what you're going into because I think it's important that we talk about our side with how many meetings do we think is good. But the minimum requirement of meeting essentially is to make sure that the people who are running feel that they are running for a position that they can do and that they feel informed from those meetings and that they can go into the capacity of that Officer's position informed enough.

Jacqueline Wong: It was a fair number of meetings. If you require specific meetings, then it should be of the one that you are running for.

Robby Perkins-High: Agree with that.

Kelsey Hood: Second that too. It will give a sense to people of who they will be working with in the future too.

Giuliana Conti: This brings up a good point which is there's no accountability in people having to show that they went to meetings. It was kind of on a faith. When we don't have sign-in sheets and if someone was going to go to ASUW Board and say that the actual GPSS Officer was not there then there's no one to say that they actually showed up. So, if there's just a way to show that through signatures of actual members that were present at that meeting that you attended that meeting, I would feel more comfortable in then sending people to different committees.

Bo Goodrich: This year for ASUW's endorsement process, we require RSOs to attend at least one forum to be eligible to make an endorsement and so we instituted a sign in/out sheet basically to prove that they came and were there for majority of the meeting.

Matt Munoz: I'm also an advocate of attending at least two parli pro government meetings and preferably two different of those meetings because even though both Exec and Senate have parliamentary procedure. Was there anything in the elections guide whether the meetings that one has to attend were all in one quarter or throughout the year?

Tori Hernandez: Throughout the year.

Matt Munoz: Just making that clear because there may have been situations where candidates thinks they are not eligible because they went to 3meetings in the Fall but not during Spring.

Robby Perkins-High: If the meeting requirements are being increased, then it's a good idea if you want to promote candidates who are outside of GPSS. Currently, I would second the idea of getting the elections guide out earlier or making sure Senators promote in their schools. Personally, I didn't know about the position until Evan Fischer promoted it in Evans School.

Elloise Kim: I'd like to echo Tori and Matt's opinions. I believe at least Officers regardless of the positions attend one Exec and Senate to have a taste of what we work on and how we work on even though each meeting gives a different taste and I like people's idea of tying a certain kind of committees that the candidate is contesting for. Need to have a conversation about which committee could be regulated, monitored and qualified. Regarding elections promotion, it's important for all Officers to have a good understanding of the roles and work with Creative Director to develop the promotional materials.

Matt Munoz: Pushing back a little bit on the Elections Committee being involved in promotion. I personally think it's safe for Elections Committee to separate from the process.

Peder Digre: I would push back a little bit on that card just because of some of the critiques that we had last year and generally just the way our elections in GPSS work that there's a lot of staff who run for positions, and I think only having the Officers Exec and staff involved in the promotion of the election can say how its promoted and published.

Giuliana Conti: I agree with that because I was really uncomfortable promoting the elections. I did it as my job obviously but in knowing that I was running I felt like if I did it too much or if I didn't do it enough that could be misconstrued as me trying to sway people out of running or into voting for certain people and then being essentially paid to do my job which is promoting potentially my own benefit. So, if Elections Committee is responsible for the promotion, I'd like to say that they are elected to do that position. What is helpful to keep in mind is that we have an Exec member that's within the Elections Committee so that person could be the one that is responsible for making sure that those partisan issues don't come up.

Elloise Kim: In that case making sure that there are diverse representations in the Elections Committee can prevent the chance of the partisan tendency. If we can make it in writing in the either Bylaw or election guide to make sure that everyone is aware, we can prevent anything negative in the future.

Grant Williamson: Personally, I think it's having the widest possible group for people promoting is the way to the least biased.

Giuliana Conti: Those who are in the Secretary's position is in charge of communications, then creating guidelines for frequency of the e-mails so that there's something that they can adhere to would be really helpful.

Elliott Okantey: Some issues to be considered are the timeline and membership of the Committee; the more the better. We basically have an 8-person committee but in any given moment only 5 of us were going to be able to be working, so that helped. Communication, emails, website to the Senate and that candidates have equal access to the same amount of useful information. One of the committee members pointed out if it would be possible to devote the entire meeting to elections because it's a long process and it makes for a super long meeting.

Giuliana Conti: The issue that I foresee with dedicating an entire meeting to it is that you have Elections Committee counting the ballots and that gives some dead space. Having agenda items or action items is a really great way to keep people distracted.

Tori Hernandez: Agree with that and especially if something comes up like the budget, that needs to be passed at that meeting itself or action items that needs to be carried out in that meeting itself, then that time is helpful.

Sydney Pearce: It would be great to do all of the business and announcements first and then do result announcement in the end.

Kelsey Hood: As a candidate, I wasn't distracted at all and none of the other candidates were either. I understand there's a lot of things that needs to be done in the time that everybody's there but we need to fill just what needs to be filled because so many people left directly after the voting. The agenda could be structured better with announcements before the results.

Matt Munoz: Have we explored electronic app for voting?

Elliott Okantey: Introducing a way of counting ballots by using Google sheets would take a lot longer. We should continue to look for smallest ways that technology can help.

Elloise Kim: When election happens, it's either earlier of Spring Quarter or in middle of the spring quarter. Lots of things to be done and we can take advantage of having lots of people. I wish that people stay till the end, but people decide to come for the election to make an impact upon the next year's organization. Cannot stop them if they really want to leave after casting their votes.

Zhiyun Mary Ma: I found myself somewhat in an awkward position after the voting in terms of energy levels. There were important resolutions and budgets too that needed to be done. It would help if in future, if we have less intense things to complete in the meeting.

Grant Williamson: It's just the nature of elections is that it's a long meeting. We can do all we want to try and make it better. But at the end of the day there's a lot of candidates running, there are a lot of positions to run for and even if we do electronic ballots we still have to have a meeting where they stand up in front to talk about it. All that does is delay the time between when they do that. So I just don't think there's a way around it.

Peder Digre: Maybe we could use Slido for the questions so that people can upvote if they like the questions and had a similar one to ask. Is there a way that we could end the meeting and then have the announcement after the Elections Committee is done so that people can leave if they want or people can stay for the announcement and an e-mail that's sent out to all the Senators with the results?

Tori Hernandez: Like to reiterate the fact that the Exec needs to do the planning and figure out what's in those meetings and this year it could have been great to do a Senator Appreciation. But we had things that had to be done at the last meeting. We can think of fun things but can't say it can happen every year.

Elloise Kim: Out of the 5 meetings in Spring quarter, the last meeting is shortened to incorporate fun element. Lots of things happen in Spring and there's lots to do. While it's important to have fun, we should be mindful of the jobs we have to do.

Kelsey Hood: Since there's a lot of things happening in Spring, have we thought about doing the elections in Winter quarter so that there are two quarters for the transition too?

Elloise Kim: It's up to the next year's team. But it used to happen earlier where the elections would happen earlier than how it is now. One of the reasons I pushed back when I became the Officer along with other Officers that year was, when the election happened in the spring quarter, the existing Officer started to kind of scale back and so there was a weird transition. There was a back and forth between all the election and later elections seeing how people were doing in the previous year. But if next year's Officers believe that it is better and that longer transition is the best, then I think it's worth a try. Another thing is that in Fall Quarter, Officers are still trying to figure out what they should do and winter quarter is when they are confident of doing their job and Spring is the transition time.

Matt Munoz: I would also push back specifically for this position because I would worry that people who would want to run for this position wouldn't really have a picture of what this position is like because it won't be back from session yet. I think a lot of people who are even in this position don't even know what the position is like during session until the end of the session.

Elloise Kim: When the election happened very early in the spring quarter the campaign had to begin at the end of winter quarter and it was not effective. People were very frustrated by not being able to reach out to people. It was really hard to campaign. The Officers couldn't do much of their work as it was overburdening for them.

Jacqueline Wong: As a candidate, felt it was important to be involved and didn't feel it was too long and then in addition to that having electronic voting would help shorten time.

Elloise Kim: I have question about campaign methods. This came from Senators that they didn't like getting so many emails. Also want to discuss the timing for each candidate's speech.

Giuliana Conti: I was not comfortable not knowing my boundaries that night as a current officer running for another position being paid to essentially work that meeting but then also being paid to run for elections. So, I removed myself as much as I possibly could from any obligations that I had pretty much that entire day so that I didn't feel like I was being paid to do my job for that night because I was actually a candidate I think it's something to think about for Officers that are running. Obviously, there are stipulations when you have an officer running for their same position and they still have to do their job but I know that Tori was gracious and took over my roles. It was just something that I felt was kind of like an issue of ethics that I'm questioning.

Matt Munoz: Another thing that was mentioned the night of the election was refraining from voting for candidates or some of those are Officers and refraining from voting to put them at equal footing with the candidates who can't vote.

Sydney Pearce: Just clarifying that there were people running who were not Senators but there were people who were Senators and they could vote for themselves but people who were not Senators could not vote for themselves? At least if it had been clear beforehand I would have assumed that I wasn't allowed to vote but I was given a ballot slip and then it was taken away. It seemed a little sticky.

Giuliana Conti: As a Senator I would be frustrated if Non-Senators were suddenly allowed to vote. So, I think that's a risk that you take as someone who's not a current Senator running for an Officer's position because you are learning the ropes. There are employees in the office who know their positions well. If our current Bylaw states that Senators get to vote and Officers get to vote then if you're taking the risk to run for an Officer's position as a non-senator or as a non-officer, then that's just the one vote that you know that you're not going to be able to make.

Kelsey Hood: I think that that's a two-way street and Senators running needs to understand that, that's the vote ethically they can't make. This is one instance where it has to be considered as equal play.

Giuliana Conti: My point is that Senators have been appointed by their departments. They've been voted on and they've made a commitment to their seat as a Senator and there's a certain role and responsibility that they take in other meetings in other capacities as such. Senators have been appointed for a reason to represent a body of people which is why they vote; they're not just themselves.

Amy Gabriel: I understand Senators represent their constituents. It still seems a bit skewed that they get to vote, and others don't. So, I think, if you're running for elections you should not be allowed to vote.

Grant Williamson: In reality how likely is it that their department is not going to support their position as an Officer?

Elloise Kim: Matt's comment made me realize that if people really care about equal opportunity; we are the Senate and there is a way to structure the Senate. It means that we are getting them sent, appointed and elected by each degree granting program. On the other hand, individuals who are not Senators are open to run for our elections. I understand that those individuals may feel disadvantaged but that's the way we are in terms of structure, unless we change it. We also have to think about the program representation. Next year, we will have four Officers from Evan's school and two as Senators. So, that's up to 6 people who have a vote while other program may have maximum two votes. How can we regulate that to ensure equal representation of the program? That's something to think about when we want to discuss about these things.

Kelsey Hood: I think that there's also something to be said about wanting to promote the officer positions that are outside the Senate. That's going to be a huge detracting factor when we are promoting within our own ranks.

Tori Hernandez: If you're running from outside of being a Senator, like I don't complain about not having a vote last year and if you have Senators that are elected as Senators; are elected Senators for a reason.

Rene Singleton: GPSS has an insider and outsider issue that needs to be addressed. For instance, people are talking about one needing to be a staff or Officer to run and win the election. That needs to be addressed before incoming Officers take over.

Jacqueline Wong: As a disadvantaged candidate, I felt it was fair to not have a vote. The onus was on me to figure out. With the comment about the emails, that was basically the only way to contact people. So that's something to consider. But it would help people to have more friendly opportunities with Officers.

Elloise Kim: This is the very first year that officially Officers could vote. The way election could be done can change.

Matt Munoz: I'm not doing this intentionally. I'm doing this because I feel obligated and we don't necessarily discuss this here because I don't have the answers now. There might be some sort of ethics law on Washington State law books essentially preventing elected officials from making any vote or taking any action that benefits themselves. So, this is something for next year's team to look into if there is a law that exists and if it goes down the Senators and if Senators voting for themselves or officers voting for themselves in an election would technically break that state law.

Peder Digre: This is for people elected for next year. If you would like to expand the voting members who can vote in GPSS elections to all graduate and professional students, that is something that can be pursued.

Grant Williamson: This is a topic that's better spent next year. I also think right after elections is a poor time to make decisions. I move to close the debate and move on.

6. Resolution Planning

6:50 PM

Elloise Kim: We have many resolutions lined up. At the last meeting we expedited the procedure. I was a bit insecure with that action even though it was done by the parli pro and Senate's consent. This week I had to submit the Board of Regent Report in advance. The Secretary of Board of Regent wants me to submit the resolution along with the report. Within that the short time, Matt couldn't have the finalized version along with the comments. So, we are in good faith that the resolution would be amended with Senate comments. When we had to deliver we didn't have it. I hope that doesn't happen in the future.

Matt Munoz: My only pushback is that the will of the Senate is the will of the Senate.

Grant Williamson: I fundamentally disagree. I agree if we can make major edits to the Word document by having it up and be able to make edits, but the Senate House if they have faith that

Matt is going to execute properly, that's reasonable. And if they're not happy with that they can take action and later revoke the resolution. I think we should trust them to have their good judgment.

Zhiyun Mary Ma: That time gives time to Senate for making a great final decision.

Elloise Kim: In the past, a resolution if accepted in the first reading, didn't have to go for the second reading. But people felt uncomfortable and uninformed. So, the second reading was made intentional. This is not to doubt anybody's capacity but to make sure we have everything on time.

Giuliana Conti: I think of the inability to do most of the work in the meeting was because I had sent Tori the PDFs. Usually these adjustments get made by the Secretary during the meeting and I think that it would have been easier for you to have turned that around faster had you been able to make most of these edits during the meeting itself. It could be wise for us if we say according to the amendments that will be completed you'll have 5 days to get it done or some type of timeline so that the person who is the resolution writer has a timeframe to work with and the Secretary can also get the finalized version and send that out accordingly in a timely manner.

Grant Williamson: Also, the quality of the resolutions in terms of fitting the format being accurate and having grammatical errors is much higher. Thank you for the resolution workshops. That's why we are comfortable like in this case moving to second reading.

Elloise Kim: As someone who runs the meeting and set the agenda with the Exec board, I believe that too many resolutions don't make a good meeting and there was a time in the past when people were happy to make a resolution, but some didn't really like it. So, trying to balance out a good resolution is an important action the Senate could do as a collective body, but we have other elements too. With 6 resolutions coming up, we have to make some planning since we have only two meetings left and hence cannot pass all of the 6 resolutions. Having so many resolutions at the end of the year isn't really great. Important to prioritize and communicate with resolution writers.

Grant Williamson: If someone insists on resolution to be passed in the next meeting, do we have to accept that request?

Giuliana Conti: The resolution Bylaws state that they have to have it in by a certain time. I don't remember any stipulations about us being able to decide whether or not it actually goes through.

Matt Munoz: It says that you can hold a resolution if it's based on the tactical goals and mechanical reason but not for schedule purposes.

Giuliana Conti: Usually the first meeting that's not going to be that big of a deal since they are allotted 5 minutes each for a first reading and it's informative. The challenge is going to be the second reading.

Tori Hernandez: What are the resolutions that's coming up?

Giuliana Conti: 1) Resolution in support of ensuring UW's concrete commitment to on campus sustainability. 2) Resolution in support of expanding the Office of Student veteran life. 3) Resolution to improve remote accessibility on campus for students with disabilities and ESL students 4) Resolution in support of resolving the University of Washington Dentistry student financial issues with input from all stakeholders including dentistry students.5)Resolution in support of improving and expanding orientation resources for all grad and professional students 6) Resolution in support for progressive revenue sources to fill gaps in higher education funding in Washington state. The one for veteran life is somewhat timely because they are trying to coordinate with Q center if that maybe they could take over that office space in Q center as they are trying to move. So it would allow them the summertime to be able to advocate for more space before the start of next year because they do not have the space to respond to the capacity of veterans that are coming through their office either wanting to work there or wanting assistance.

Elloise Kim: Who's giving that resource?

Giuliana Conti: No one at this point and that's why they are getting this resolution. But they are beyond capacity and they have statistics that show that, and you can talk to Yang. The resolution to improve remote accessibility on campus for students with disabilities and E.S.L Students is crucial because if something gets done with the Office of Disability, it would allow the summer to start working on an infrastructure so that next year they could start putting together more opportunities if this had any impact at all. Because it takes time to create an infrastructure with purchasing technology. If it has to do with the Provost maybe it's a waste of time right now, if not, if it's something that can be decided by other people. Those are the two and the dental school one that are really time pressing.

Elloise Kim: For Veteran's life and accessibility, I can advocate effectively. It's better to pass a resolution for School of Dentistry while Jerry is acting dean because we are not very sure when the next interim dean would come in. The national search for the Dean of dentistry will be very hard considering the current mess.

Matt Munoz: If we were to push my resolution to first at the last meeting, and the Officer Senator to take over as the new prime, would we still be able to keep it in its form with my name on it with its intention?

Giuliana Conti: Yes, because we can have people that are not Senators on the list. I don't see any issue with that.

Elloise Kim: We can say 2017-18 Vice President.

Matt Munoz: I have to consult with SAF because they are the second sponsor. But let's not rule that out.

Tori Hernandez: Mine could go through the first reading at the net meeting. A lot of it is just reiterating what Giuliana and I talked about as far as updating the orientation process.

Grant Williamson: The Sustainability one is already passed by ASUW and I modified it. So, the questions that come from ASUW and GPSS are already dealt with and Bo would be there too.

Elloise Kim: All resolutions are important. Need to discuss as Exec Body and pick based on priority.

Matt Munoz: Could we just consult with the sponsors before the meeting and remind them that moving to second reading is an option if they so choose. If the motion is made and if they accept it, and then just see where things go.

Grant Williamson: I would like to propose that we as an Executive Committee we agree to a messaging strategy to the Senate and say these are the 6 resolutions we have, we'd like to move as many through as first reading. We're confident these are strong resolutions that are dealt with in detail. We're still dealing with concerns and we hope that we can move some of these to the second reading.

Giuliana Conti: If we plan to do all resolutions, we put them on there with five minutes each technically for first reading. Senators have a responsibility to read them before they come into the meeting and so, if I can my email well enough I can impart on them the urgency of a brief for a meeting in our last meeting which means that they'll need to spend the time beforehand reading the resolutions coming in prepared and then being prepared to move things through second reading if they think that they're ready for it. I'm happy to do that in my message which goes out Friday.

7. Executive Senator Election

7:05 PM

Grant Williamson: I got a suggestion from one of the Senators who've been nominated last time that because it was on the spot they didn't really have time to think or evaluate whether they actually want to run. So, I would propose that next meeting although we can't nominate Senators we ask for people to suggest people they think would be strong Executive Senators.

Peder Digre: Elizabeth and I will be done after this year. We don't want to have two spots open at the same meeting because there might be people who are not part of that one meeting but are quite interested to run for the position. Can we do this in different meetings?

Elloise Kim: Agree with Peder. But one might fall behind in terms if assuming responsibilities. If its three positions at the same time, then it would be worrisome. But two is fine.

Peder Digre: It helps to have an election in the Fall as well, as it offers newer people with opportunity and become involved earlier as well.

Giuliana Conti: In my announcement email, can I let people know that seats are available at the last meeting?

Elloise Kim: Email notification is fine. But as per the Bylaws, it has to be announced at the upcoming meeting as well.

Zhiyun Mary Ma: I oppose announcing the nomination part beforehand as that would stir the internal motivation.

Giuliana Conti: Can we Skype the ones who are not present at the meeting but wants to contest?

Elloise Kim: I suggest we announce the opening in the upcoming meeting and then do the elections in the following meeting would allow the absentee candidate to run during that time.

Kelsey Hood: About Skyping, since it was not done for GPSS Officer's election, I wouldn't recommend it for anybody else.

Giuliana Conti: Agree. Only difference is that Officers are paid and Exec members are not. People who are passionate about becoming an Exec Senator is like really exciting. I would love to have someone like that because they're not paid and it's voluntary.

Matt Munoz: There's nothing barring the Exec Senator candidate from sending a proxy or with something in a video and still running as an eligible candidate as per the Bylaws.

Tori Hernandez: We should let Elliott do it.

Elloise Kim: The Bylaw doesn't have a language to prohibit people from doing it but good to check with the Rene once.

Grant Williamson: I agree checking with Rene. But would like the Exec committee here to agree on allowing proxy attending.

Elloise Kim: Everybody who has agreed, voted yes.

8. International Student Project

7:20 PM

Zhiyun Mary Ma: This is going to be part of my work for next year. Knowing the number of international students serving in the Senate Body, we are underrepresented. We are 21% of the total student population. Want to involve more international students to the Senate Body. Until Summer, I will connect with other international students within the Senate. In Fall I want to do orientation sessions for the incoming students. We should also do a training session on parli pro for Senators in Fall. I would also like to hold focus groups and workshops for international students. Towards the end, I want to organize a Social to reflect on the things accomplished and those that need more work.

Grant Williamson: Great idea on the orientation in Fall.

Tori Hernandez: Do you see this as a taskforce or committee?

Zhiyun Mary Ma: I will take the initiative to do that as that also aligns with my capstone project. I might recruit a couple of them from GPSS.

Jacqueline Wong: Are you also thinking of inviting Non-Senators?

Zhiyun Mary Ma: Yes. But they need to get familiar with how GPSS functions.

Grant Williamson: There is a way within the current GPSS structure to help give under-represented better representation. We can have groups from under-represented groups actually have Senators that are unassociated with the department but come from the group directly.

Elloise Kim: Going to SAB helped me understand a lot more about underrepresented groups. But the problem with grad students is that there are so many ethnic groups and cultural groups, but grad students are not necessarily the core members of that group. Even when GPSS is connected to those groups, it doesn't mean that we will be connected to the grad student.

Giuliana Conti: I would also like to reiterate that apart from an event tomorrow that our Diversity Committee is hosting to obtain of this very information, we are also here in one capacity to help figure out what we can do in promoting international student relations with GPSS. We have a Liaison through FIUTS. This year she hasn't been very active, but we have met. I have been working with Bo on international student housing issues and Amy, the incoming Secretary will be in charge of diversity efforts as well as orientations. So, for those who are concerned about these issues she and I have that experience. So together we can be good point of contacts. This is an incredibly crucial issue, but I don't think we're going to solve it in this meeting. It's going to take outside meetings where we start to brainstorm and come up with initiatives. For those who have ideas, start utilizing the people whose responsibilities it is to carry this through.

9. May 16th Senate Meeting Agenda

7:30 PM

Elloise Kim: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes, UWPD , GPSS Events and Opportunities – 10 minutes, Executive Senator Vacancy -5 minutes. The Resolutions in the order of:

1. Resolution in support of expanding the Office of Student veteran life.
2. Resolution to improve remote accessibility on campus for students with disabilities and ESL students
3. Resolution in support of resolving the University of Washington Dentistry student financial issues with input from all stakeholders including dentistry students
4. Resolution in support of improving and expanding orientation resources for all grad and professional students

5. Resolution in support for progressive revenue sources to fill gaps in higher education funding in Washington state.
6. Resolution in support of ensuring UW's concrete commitment to on campus sustainability.

5 minutes for each. Good of the Order – a space for union bargaining.

Giuliana Conti: We can strike off Good of the Order depending on how the resolutions go. But people might have lot of questions on union bargaining – 10 minutes.

Elloise Kim: Officer Reports, Announcements and Adjournment

Matt Munoz: Approves the agenda.

Tori Hernandez: Seconds

10. Executive Senator Report

7:40 PM

Peder Digre: Jaron & I met with a Registrar on Friday. Talked about the resolution. She is very supportive of the idea of the preferred name initiative going. Seems to have potential for name pronunciation being spelled out.

Zhiyun Mary Ma: She also made it clear that this type of work needs budget from IT.

Peder Digre: SAF is voting on the fee levels for SAF; the IMA bond fee, the facilities renovation fee and we are voting on our recommended allocations this Friday as well. Will update on the next Exec meeting.

Grant Williamson: Already updated about the union bargaining. There is going to be a strike on the 15th and we all need to be prepared for that. There will be picketing on the main entrance of the campus. It could be a disruptive day on campus.

Giuliana Conti: Are we striking?

Matt Munoz: No since we are not ASEs.

Sydney Pearce: On the day of strike, I have three classes. What is my position as being part of GPSS but I am not working on that day?

Grant Williamson: You attend the classes. I personally ask GPSS to not open the office that day because the Senators were clear that they are supporting the bargaining.

Tori Hernandez: That also aligns with the statement that we put out that we are in support of the Union.

Giuliana Conti: I would totally be on board with that with the exception that my employee gets paid hourly on Tuesday to work. If we close the office, then we're not getting her those hours.

Matt Munoz: They are hourly employee who can claim the hours on the other day.

Grant Williamson: Officers can talk to employees to rearrange schedule for the week.

Elloise Kim: Solidarity is important. It's your personal choice if you want to take part in the strike or not. Being careful in saying that we supported but not with the details. We would not say we need to get this person the raise. That's Union's job.

Zhiyun Mary Ma: What about classes that are online?

Grant Williamson: Will share the link to Bargaining page that has most of the details.

Elloise Kim: There may be people who may not be able to strike when they want to. There is a strong like direction coming from the Supervisor. In some departments students are not allowed to circulate information. It's illegal. The strike happens and some people cannot cancel class because any cancellation can endanger the student's completion of the course.

11. Officer Reports

7:46 PM

Tori Hernandez: Transportation Services survey came out and they broke down graduates/undergraduate student satisfaction for U-PASS and graduate students have a 93% satisfaction rate. Husky Sunset is next week.

Sydney Pearce: There's food and drinks. It's on Thursday 5-8.

Tori Hernandez: Need as much help as we can. So please come. With the grad school council meeting last week, the candidacy certificates came up and I let the council know that we talked about this in GPSS that students want an option for this.

Matt Munoz: SAGE is currently going through a transition. SAGE is also looking at creating an alumni association. For anyone interested there is a DACCA hearing here in Seattle on May 15th and this is issued an injunction to show what a rational basis for why they rescinded DACCA over to the summer. So, this is to justify their actions. The third level PROSPER is always going to be a thing. We keep getting reports that its regaining traction in Congress but then we hear nothing else about it. Prosper is the higher education reauthorization bill which is very bad news for graduate education, but it would eliminate the public service unforgiveness program; it would put a cap on the borrowing amounts and quantities. It would also eliminate the grad plus loans and the parents plus loans. At the State level, Kelsey and I came back from general assembly. It was interesting. There was a 3-hour discussion about restructuring the bylaws and constitution of WSA that ended with GPSS voting to table discussion because it was going nowhere. But we have our

new officer team. We have one from each campus. SLAB is working on a restructure and working on a memo to replace the current policy memos that we have relating to SLAB/FLAB.

Kelsey Hood: The Bed and Blue event is coming up. Please attend.

Giuliana Conti: We have an event tomorrow for Diversity Committee from 2-5pm at The Hub 214. Amy and I are still working on recruitment for Senators for next year and so we're going to reach out to Advisors within the next week or two to encourage them to start recruiting Senators for next year if it's just one and then to give them guidelines or recommendations on guidelines for electing Senators and just more structure for Advisors because they seem generally lost and keep asking us what we should do even though we just end up turning around and saying it's up to you. So, we're trying to impose more structure so that we can start to have more assurance in people that will be with us at the start of next year and participating in it.

Elloise Kim: Since Husky Sunset is coming, I'm planning to do another campus email.

Giuliana Conti: The Daily didn't do anything about our elections.

Elloise Kim: They usually don't. They have revamped a lot. ASUW election poll opened today until Friday afternoon. Whoever gets elected, they will be our partner. Since Husky Sunset happens earlier than usual, I approached QERT program if we could be a sponsor for end of celebration they do in the second week of June for First Gen and international students. We are sponsoring officially. Incoming Officers to mark your calendar for transition on May 31st. RAI committee is looking at closing as they have exhausted the funding. Due to funding issues and shortage, Ph.d candidates will not receive the paper version of the candidacy certificate. The Business School to launch the Dean Search Committee soon.

12. Adjournment

7:57 PM

Tori Hernandez: Moves to adjourn

Matt Munoz: Seconds
