



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Exec Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2017 | 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 Treasurer: Brad Copenhaver
GPSS Executive Senator: Grant Williamson
GPSS Executive Senator: Laura Taylor
GPSS Executive Senator: Michelle Brault
GPSS Executive Senator: Peder Digre
GPSS Executive Senator: Monica Cortes Viharo
Associate Dean for Student & Postdoc Affairs, Grad School: Kelly Edwards
ASUW Director of Internal Policy and the Liaison: Bo Goodrich
HUB Director: Justin Camputaro

1. Call to Order **5:30 PM**

2. Approval of the Agenda **5:30 PM**

Laura Taylor: Approves the agenda

Michelle Brault: Seconds

3. 2017-2018 GPSS Goals **5:31PM**

Tori Hernandez: Shares the GPSS goals for 2017-2018 with Executive Senators. The goals were written down after discussion with GPSS Senate. Talks about the goals that have been discussed – trainings, updating Bylaws and GPSS vision. Invites brainstorming, feedback and recommendation to complete the goals at the meeting.

Michelle Brault: Suggests changes to the Bylaws.

Laura Taylor: The election guides are mentioned in the Bylaws and so points that some of the suggestions that are made to the goals, needs to be consistent with the Bylaws.

Tori Hernandez: Asks what about the vision for GPSS. Senates have different ideas of what GPSS should be but a GPSS vision needs to be written clearly and concisely to move forward.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Recommends having a larger buy-in from the Body from the front end of the process and bring them back based on the issues that were shared and share the statement that GPSS and Exec Senators came up with.

Grant Williamson: Agrees and adds that the newest group of Senators who are coming in don't have an idea what the vision should be. Suggests soliciting feedback for group of Senators so that there is a running start on that.

Giuliana Conti: States, that would feed really nicely into the orientation that she will be giving soon to all the departments which recruits future members and also lets people know what GPSS is and its functions. After speaking with a few departments in the past week, Advisors don't really know what to tell their students. So, it would be helpful to brainstorm now.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Clarifies to Giuliana that she doesn't have to do the orientations for all the departments.

Michelle Brault: Volunteers to orient her department. As far as vision is concerned, proposes that informing graduate students who aren't necessarily as connected to the university as undergrads are regarding what's going on on-campus but also being a resource for them. So, it should be on those lines. Every year it changes based on what comes with specific Senators or just departments on campus. So, sort of being a resource and an Information Center.

Matt Munoz: Reports a quick break down of vision and mission. A vision is the overarching goals that GPSS wants to see over the years that the organization achieves. A mission is the specific actionable things that are being done to achieve that goal. So, suggests focusing either the vision or the mission at the moment and not both at a time.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Agrees and suggests that the idea of a vision statement is who GPSS is regardless of who is the President or who is Provost or what the political climate is; what GPSS stands for as opposed to what is the agenda each year based on the political climate or economic factors. Suggests engaging some of the current Senators, returning Senators on who would like to volunteer doing orientations, what is the vision, for what the Senators should stand for and what are the issues for the 17-18 school year.

Bo Goodrich: Asks if the discussion is about the vision for the 17-18 school year for the organization as whole.

Monica Cortes Viharo: States it's for both; vision is for the organization as a whole like what GPSS stands for all the time and it's about actionable goals that GPSS wants to accomplish; what is the Senator's part this year and the agenda for 2017.

Bo Goodrich: Suggests that in that case, Article 2 of the Constitution defines a purpose for GPSS and it would be good to set a vision for the organization as a whole for the coming years to make amendments to the Constitution to redefine that purpose.

Tori Hernandez: Points that it's important to make the vision very clear to people as they don't read the Bylaws or Constitution.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Suggests throwing information at every meeting in bits and pieces starting from the first meeting.

Tori Hernandez: Points that not all Senators are elected yet. So that would be hard to do on the first one. Asks the group what they all see as a vision for GPSS.

Michelle Brault: Shares that she likes what's mentioned on Article 2 - 'improve all aspects of graduate and professional student life at University of Washington'. That's what they had in the past and are continuing to do. How they improve as an active process changes every year.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Points that GPSS is able to come to the table representing the interests of graduate students across campus.

Elloise Kim: Agrees. There are repeated words appearing in statutory text such as 'advocate' and 'represent' graduate and professional students and Provost. There's no clear vision statement and that's something that they work on with the Senate or with Adhoc Committee and for a more specific vision statement for the year, it would be a great discussion to have at the retreat.

Tori Hernandez: Asks, if that's that vision in general, what can we have this year? Wrote some ideas for actionable items hoping to get more ideas and brainstorm from the Senators.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Reminds everyone that this is a bargaining year for all ASEs. So, anybody who is in academic student employee in this campus will be bargaining their new contract. Requires to be aware of that process and make sure that grad students who work on campus gets a good bargain in contract.

Laura Taylor: States that's a good goal to keep students informed about what's going on and making sure that they know when that bargaining is happening and when they can go to meetings to talk about it. And what's on the table, what's happening with that; having regular updates throughout the year since it is a bargaining year would be really helpful.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Suggests for this year in particular with some kind of Liaison or with the Union or Adhoc group.

Giuliana Conti: Talks about advertising once the vision is agreed on, which is important so that other people know what GPSS believes in and works towards. Advisors can send out to their programs.

Laura Taylor: Asks if they are creating a vision newly or refining the one that already exists? Inclined towards what's in the Constitution already that can be said in fewer words.

Giuliana Conti: Clarifies that it's more of re-laying the vision. It is most important to communicate because in the two years of her experience as a Senator she never really knew the constitution and Bylaws. She was hoping it would be communicated to her.

Tori Hernandez: Recommends having it right on the front page about the vision and making it clear with people on what GPSS does and also coming up with things for this year that can be done to actually follow that vision and how to improve what is happening to students on campus; and especially how to address that this year.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Adds they should be clear with the goals themselves as much as they expect others to know and it's important to re-iterate the goals and vision during every meeting.

Justin Computaro: States "your mission is why you exist". It's the purpose statement. Shares that when he was observing Senate early on, it was almost January until the Senate knew what it was doing. So, it's important to communicate the goals, the existence and what should come on to the table. There were times when issues were brought to the GPSS which could have been handled at the departmental level. Think about why these statements are needed so that it keeps GPSS guided on the deliverables and stay focused. The vision is what GPSS is hoping for and the strategic plan for one year for GPSS and how to accomplish. Suggests living the goals in their actions.

Giuliana Conti: States that one of the key pieces of that will be communication because if GPSS is working to make improvements; these are improvements that we make will be something that comes ideally from the Senate Body representing 15000 grad students and professionals. There is a need to make communication more live rather than every two weeks.

Laura Taylor: Shares that she had suggested instead of only having the ability to comment on resolutions, to have an open shot or open posting forum just for regular Senate discussions that don't have to do with resolutions. It could also provide a forum for people about providing updates to resolutions after they've passed which would also be improved communication after actually enacting to do something right based on feedback.

Giuliana Conti: Adds that it can be posted on GPSS website too.

Tori Hernandez: Points that 'better communication' is already part of the goals. Regarding the day for retreat, there's no one day where all of the Senators can be present.

Brad Copenhaver: Suggests Aug 28th

Elloise Kim: Asks what ideas she has for the program or day?

Tori Hernandez: Talked to Rene and Kelly about the different things that needs to be done. The key ones are listed in the goals which are: Crucial communication - how do you communicate with people; Officer roles and Searle's and expectations; giving and receiving feedback; how to be advocates; who holds each other accountable and what does accountability look like within GPSS; what makes a good leader and also workplace culture. Also, Rene has as a lot of the pragmatics of GPSS that she wants to talk about.

Kelly Edwards: States that those are the major ones that are proposed but has a scope for refining based on what are the ones that really needs focus.

Justin Camputaro: States that in the end, it's what GPSS gets to decide on the final topics and agenda although the rest of the Senators can help with the facilitators etc.

Kelly Edwards: Asks how they plan to divide up the 8 hours of the day.

Laura Taylor: Suggests sending out another survey with morning/afternoon options to know people's availability because half day's work much better for one's schedule.

Kelly Edwards: Points that those are reflective pieces of work and team based pieces of work and pragmatic pieces of work that are going to come to help to take three or four hours and then give oneself a break to walk away from it and then come back to from a different place so that one could get more out of the experience.

Justin Camputaro: States that, with the retreats he does with the staff, he distributes half the time to the development side and the other half to do the tangible things like tackling the vision, goals and such hard things. So, if it's two full days, first day can be on the culture, development, training and leadership skill training things like that and the second day is some of the goals that GPSS wants to accomplish. That should make GPSS walk away with a feeling that they are prepared for the year.

4. Officer Election Guide Revision

5:55 PM

Laura Taylor: Points that these are suggestions and can give an idea to everyone about her thought process. Couple of things to emphasize and a lot of that had to do with campaigning and that could be a bit too specific. But essentially involved everything after the way that ASUW does their job. Essentially, the guide includes ticket, campaigning and endorsements. Subtle references to campaigning rules and what candidates are permitted to do on the day of the election because it was a bit unclear during the last election cycle. Welcomes inputs.

Tori Hernandez: Suggests sharing a Google doc of it that so that others can make comments.

Brad Copenhaver: Appreciates the ideas and points that the guide should also include the actual way of doing elections as it varies. ASUW does it differently and GPSS does it another way. Need to evaluate online options, do between week or two weeks speeches and the actual voting. States, that's something definitely to think about, however, she didn't put it in the guide because it's more of a Bylaw than any election guide issues and has to be adopted by the elections committee.

Michelle Brault: Shares that one of the year's like storing campaign materials within is ASUW or GPSS Officers and often officers will run for another position the following year, there's a need to somehow make it known. If an officer has something in their personal backpack and they're sitting at their desk in the office that's not the same thing as storing it. The personal property of Officers within the office is not the same thing as like putting a huge flyer in the office.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Points that, regardless of what the concrete changes are, recommends a Kennedy training for anybody who thinks they might run. Suggests having a meeting with potential candidates to go over the guide as a group will be helpful.

Bo Goodrich: Comments on the end of year amendment to Section 4.6 on the ASUW fair election statement- it is a non-binding agreement. It's basically saying these are the things that Senators think they should do but can't be forcing people not speaking to those things.

Laura Taylor: Adds, it's something they have a whole page where people actually sign an agreement that says, "I can't legally be bound to this but I've read them all". If there had to be a fair campaigning statement, it could be to the effect that all campaigning from candidates will be conducted with respect for all candidates involved without any prejudice.

Michelle Brault: Questions on why one would not be able to campaign at any event or a meeting that is conducted, funded or sponsored by GPSS except the election forum.

Laura Taylor: States, most of them were taken directly from ASUW campaign. Invites suggestions of people who think that's too limiting and that can be removed from the document.

Michelle Brault: Shares that it seems limiting because if campaigning includes talking to people but if people wanted to distribute like flyers at the meeting before the election that wouldn't be a big deal.

Bo Goodrich: Clarifies that if it's just coming from someone running for officer it gives a different perspective. Probably better access to people! Something to think about.

Grant Williamson: Shares that it's no problem that's solvable by this across the spectrum incumbents.

Michelle Brault: Points that what they suggest is that for someone as an Officer they would be able to hand out flyers or talk to people about the fact that they're running again but neither would the person who's sitting in the back of the room that isn't a Senator, and if they're allowed to come around and express they are not a Senator but is thinking about running this year, that puts their face in front of Senators and they have the flexibility to walk around and get to know people in the

room without fearing this problem with not being able to campaign. Atleast it gives the other person the ability to make connections at other meetings that they wouldn't have.

Tori Hernandez: Agrees with Michelle and points that, that is the time where people can actually introduce themselves and that's the only time that they can get a sense on the Senators that people will actually have face-to-face interactions at GPSS.

Kelly Edwards: Points that the intention behind clarity was to get some greater transparency and equity when some people that were trying to address the issue with some of the candidates. So, one of the definition pieces would be that networking and meeting people isn't necessarily campaigning. But using the open forum section of a meeting to stand up and give a speech might be something that crosses campaigning. From an equity perspective that actually would work better, suggests consolidating all of that for serious campaigning activity to the elections but doesn't preclude talking to people, networking, getting to know, listening to what the Senators say etc.

Bo Goodrich: Asks if they allow people to hand out flyers with that one meeting.

Tori Hernandez: Clarifies that informing about the orientation beforehand and if someone can't make it to the orientation, they can still go and get the information that's needed about campaigning and decide when they would like to turn in the application fundamentally. Final deadlines can be put up on the website.

Bo Goodrich: Clarifies that the day that's posted would be the day they start campaigning and not the deadline day.

5. Executive Senator Reports

6:15 PM

Michelle Brault: Shares that she will be graduating on Oct 19th 2017. Will be updating the Bylaws similar to what Laura has done but for changes by the next meeting, a Google doc will be shared so that people can make recommendations.

Monica Cortes Viharo: Shares that since she will be resigning soon; is unsure of what she will be doing and how much of Senate work. Can continue to keep people updated on bargaining. The union is keeping people abreast that we will be going into a bargaining year. Health care is going to be a really big issue considering what's going on around as it seems like the exchange will stay but that might mean that more universities are interested in really pushing their responsibility for health care. Just letting know that that's something that people are talking a lot about. Still a lot of issues around foreign workers. Shares the issue of an agricultural worker whose visa expired and had died recently. The University's union is working with agricultural workers in Bellingham who are protesting and its heat related to climate caucus.

Peder Digre: Shares that he has started some of the beginning of the year activities for SAF. Not a lot happening until November until the meetings kick off. Going to Kenya for 6 weeks and hence will be out of touch. However, would respond to emails whenever possible.

Grant Williamson: Reports that Brittany Bishop, the Senator from chemical engineering is hosting a Science and Policy procession social hour of Science and Policy Committee; there's also sponsoring Scott Spencer is going to be speaking from 5pm to 7Pm on Aug 16th.

6. Officer Reports

6:25 PM

Bo Goodrich: Reports that ASUW is not fully in operation yet. They are working on practice resolutions and joint resolutions. Working with Giuliana about doing joint resolutions. Might have a full Board in a month and there will be a Board orientation early September. Until then will be working on all the policies and expresses excitement to work with GPSS.

Kelly Edwards: Reports that Husky Sunrise work is on. There is a new online orientation for all incoming graduate students that has been launched. Has included lot of Student as well as Faculty voice and mainly talks about the life as a graduate student at UW to get familiar with. The next step is to grow it and build deeper connections. It's a Canvas course, so anyone with UW ID can get into it. Invites feedback. Another innovation is with respect to libraries taking on online education expertise. The focus is mostly on TAs and move RAs out. There will be a grad research institute synchronized online, not just limited to RA positions but for anyone who wants a little more support to get into Grad Research. Received 60 RSVP's so far. It will be Cohort based.

Tori Hernandez: Reports that, as Kelly mentioned Husky sunrise is coming up; Monday September 25th, right before classes starts around 9 to 11am. Needs a lot of volunteers at 6:30 or 7am. Sending out a sign-up sheet. It's early but can expect free food. The Lyceum research for the Fall Social is also coming up. Fall Social is on 2nd Nov. Working on scheduling trainings for GPSS and Exec Senators. Interviewing a few Director of Events people. Looking at getting name tags for Officers.

Matt Munoz: Shares Federal and SAGE update. Federally things are looking good for grad students. Department of Education seems bent on ending any sort of loan program. Specifically, they're targeting the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program. SAGE is working on a letter to send to the Department of Education to address that. There is an active court case about it that's being led by the American Bar Association which means good prospects. Figuring out a reimbursement issue that was mentioned earlier. SAGE Fall Summit is from Oct 26th to 29th. Will be discussed who will be going for the summit at a later date.

WSA & Olympia update is on the WSA Retreat. It was mostly group building exercise and trainings on Saturday. Sunday had a few guest speakers such as the State Attorney's General Office. Connected with GPSA (Graduate Professional Student Association) at WSU Pullman. WSU Pullman has been named UW's buddy campus which means that each other will hold one another accountable. WSA lobby days are generally 15th or February 5th. The WSA is looking for

representatives for the student disability task force and the sexual assault prevention & education task force. Invites recommendations who seem to be a good fit for those posts. WSA is interested in doing a campus visit.

Further on Olympia, the 45th Legislative District has an open seat in the State Senate that will determine the control of the State Senate. Got a request from Tess from the graduate school's office of communication, who wants to do profiles on the Executive Committee. Recommends submitting a photo (a headshot), respond to a few questions which will be put up on the website and the Twitter account. Volunteers to share the Google form and await feedback.

Tori Hernandez: Shares that she wants to use the same photos and profiles on GPSS website too.

Matt Munoz: Reports on the Committee's update. Science and Policies are running active. Considering some changes to SLAB & FLAB. If any changes, it will come in the form of Bylaw change. Currently recruiting for SLAB & FLAB. Michelle and Matt to attend a neighborhood meet-up on Aug 24th at 5pm. Encourages more GPSS representation.

Giuliana Conti: Reports that she will be holding interviews for Creative Director and Office Manager. Orientations are being scheduled. List of departments and dates will be shared. Invites help on that. Was contacted by two separate people in Foster School of Business about Senate representation considering they have different departments and wants more representatives because they've got the daytime MBA and the night time. They don't feel the night time MBA is being adequately represented in Senate. Bylaws say that Graduate & Professional students who desire to have Senate representation at the program level or are part of a new academic program must have an application that has to be verified by or approved by Executive Committee. There are 5 points that are necessary for the application.

Michelle Brault: Requests to draft and send them to Exec Senators. Voting can be done on email.

Elloise Kim: Asks if it's possible to have it as an action item for the next Exec Meeting?

Giuliana Conti: Says yes and continues sharing that it also brings up questions of other departments that that may have a program additions or questions about the ratio of Senators to certain departments that are really large versus others when they can be broken up into different programs. Lastly shares a concern of her which is: traditionally in the past few years Secretary has planned orientations with or for UYPD and considering conversations that have happened in Senate Body over the past year and two years especially a concern of hers has come up where she is unaware of that process of scheduling it and introducing them or going in with them should there be students that feel uncomfortable or threatened with the presence of police. Working to contact Simon, the Police Officer to discuss that with him to see if it's possible that they can schedule it with the department or if she can send contact information from departments to them if they need GPSS to schedule it.

Agrees that it would be kind of a shame to sever the relationship and not have an orientation and there are students in the Body who do support UYPD.

Continues reporting that it has been inconsistent as far as across programs in the orientation scheduling are concerned with respect to time. So, it just raised some concerns over comments made by Senate members especially last year and needs to be addressed. Would be sharing updates post discussion with Officer Simon.

Brad Copenhaver: Reports that SAF approves funding request of \$439000 at the much lower level than last year. There was a 10% reduction of funds. Last year the Exec Committee and the Finance & Budget Committee approved the budget in Feb & March which was before knowing the cuts had to be made. Once found out, Michaela went through and made the cuts which never went through under any formal process. According to the Bylaws, the Executive Committee during the summer quarter can serve as the Adhoc Finance and Budget Committee. Proposes everyone to go through to ensure everyone is on the same page. Invites feedback, comments in writing.

On Husky Sunrise and Husky Sunset funding; GPSS is not losing the expected \$5000. Regarding travel grants, invites Senators for the upcoming meeting. Passes around sign-up sheets.

Elloise Kim: Reports that she is on the Provost Search Committee. Cannot share too many details yet. Selection will happen in September. Anita Krug is selected as the Interim Dean of Law School. Board of Regent conducted enquiries on D&I Committee. Yet to ascertain who the candidate could be. Invites recommendations. Talks about a student who was in Iran for his research project work and was imprisoned due to the new administration's recent law on bans. Invites people to help if interested.

7. Announcements

6:50 PM

8. Adjournment

6:51PM

Michelle Brault: Approves to adjourn

Grant Williamson: Seconds
