



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Exec Meeting Minutes

December 06, 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: Michelle Brault
GPSS Executive Senator: Peder Digre
GPSS Executive Senator: Laura Taylor
ASUW Director of Internal Policy and the Liaison: Bo Goodrich
Assistant Director of Student Activities: Renee Singleton

1. Call to Order **5:32 PM**

2. Approval of the Agenda **5:32 PM**

Matt Munoz: Approves the agenda

Michelle Brault: Seconds

3. Approval of the Minutes **5:33 PM**

Michelle Brault: Approves the minutes

Giuliana Conti: Seconds

4. Memorandum on Graduate Student Experience Committee 5:33 PM

Tori Hernandez: Shares an addition made to the memorandum as was requested during the last discussion- “any graduate and professional student is part of the committee”.

Matt Munoz: Also reminds that there is no limit on the number of members that can be on the committee.

Elloise Kim: Asks of the VP of External Affairs and Policy Director are recommended members or core members?

Tori Hernandez: Points that the “when possible” aspect comes into picture with respect to that. It can be when they are core members or members of mailing lists. They are part of the meetings whenever there is one. It is also as and when possible as a lot of that will depend on their availability and if they have something for Graduate Student Experience Committee; something that concerns students internally.

Elloise Kim: Shares that the format followed for the memorandum is from last year.

Elloise Kim: Motion to approve the memorandum

Matt Munoz: Approves

Michelle Brault: Seconds

5. Review of Nov.29 Senate meeting 5:35 PM

Elloise Kim: Asks everyone their opinion on Slido conversation. Asks what they thought about the new format of people reading out their own questions.

Michelle Brault: Shares that she liked the format of people reading out the questions they had posted. People could give more context to their question. Believes it created more dialogue.

Tori Hernandez: Shares that she liked the fact that one can upvote the question that’s posted. It represents how much the Senate body cares about the concern/question.

Elloise Kim: Believes the Senators didn't influence much by too many of them voting that moment which is good. If 12 – 13 out of 50 people voted for one question, it means that about 25% of people participated.

Michelle Brault: Shares that most of them participated. Believes since there is upvoting, people might participate passively and might not feel the necessity to upvote a question that's already upvoted.

Grant Williamson: Shares analytics from Slido – 26 (50% of the attendees) active users participated in some form that includes upvoting. The data is just for the region.

Michelle Brault: Asks if any has received any negative feedback from Senators?

Giuliana Conti: Says, none!

Laura Taylor: Shares that Slido discourages people from posting questions who don't have the phone out to access Slido and also encourages people to use the phone. However, its not much of a deterrent.

Giuliana Conti: Wonders if people who ask questions verbally anyway would really take the effort of posting one on an app.

Grant Williamson: Clarifies that Active Users is the number of Users who engage with a question upvote or poll vote.

Michelle Brault: Asks if there's a way to know how many were watching the questions posted and not necessarily posting or upvoting.

Grant Williamson: Says no.

Tori Hernandez: Asks if there's a way to know how many signed into the code at all?

Grant Williamson: Volunteers to take a look.

Elloise Kim: Alerts everyone to be mindful of New Senators joining in Winter Quarter who might need a short orientation on Slido.

6. Executive Senator Report

5:41 PM

Michelle Brault: Shares that this is her last meeting and has nothing to report.

Laura Taylor: Asks if Michelle is planning on advertising her position.

Michelle Brault: Shares that she doesn't have access to anymore and requests Laura to do that for her.

Laura Taylor: Reports that David Eaton's email dated 4th December 2017 on Proposed tax bills' impact on grad students was dissatisfying. There was information on how it effects students but not necessarily on what UW will be doing about it. The email was vague about what would happen to the students and doesn't entirely address her concerns. Shares that she was vocal in the meeting and suggested that the Research Advisory Board needs to come up with a plan especially since every student doing research will be affected by it.

Peder Digre: Reports that he was part of a meeting in Olympia on 5th Dec 2017 for the Washington Student Achievement Council. Talked about 10-year road map which is about how to increase educational attainment in the state to get more people to have college degrees or credentials sought after high school. SAF meeting is happening on Friday, 8st Dec 2017. Matt and he discussed about joining with Joe Dacca, Director and Jillian Kilby, Associate Director from the Office of State Relations. Looks positive.

Grant Williamson: Reports that he is planning to work on Executor senator entry packet (informational) as they are expecting a high turnover of New Exec Senators in the coming 2-3 quarters. Expects feedback from Senate. The packet to be kept ready by January 2018.

7. Officer Reports

5:44 PM

Bo Goodrich: Reports that a task force to review the process in which the State Legislations is created because of dissatisfaction on transparency in communication around the process and how it has laid out the policies. One GPSS representative will serve in that. In talks with Matt and Giuliana. Asks to get in touch with him if there are any questions on the process.

Tori Hernandez: Shares that the name tags for Officers are getting ready. Program reviews are coming up in Jan. Will be discussed more in the coming meetings.

Matt Munoz: Reports that Federal Level Tax Reform is moving to conference. Currently tracking the conferees for each chamber. Higher Education Act (HEA) re-authorization bill is out in the House and is not looking great. SAGE is working on an updated action alert package. SAGE is currently recruiting for working groups. Has sent emails and shared Facebook Posts. Requests Senators to encourage people to join the FB groups. Shares State Level Reports – has 2 meetings this week and next week. In the process of emailing more key legislators to get on the waiting list for early meeting session. Had the chance to speak with Speaker Chopp directly about the Ground Law Study. He seemed interested. As part of WSA, UW signed onto a letter to the Washington and Oregon Congressional Delegations expressing concern over the House Bill. SLAB/FLAB is going along well. Working with state relations on fee based programs applications transparency so that students have a better idea of what they are getting into by applying for fee based program. Will be successfully able to add links to the information on the applications before students submit them which will do a lot to close the gap. This will be for the 2019 application cycle.

Giuliana Conti: Reports that she and Amy are almost through with a historical look of past 5 years attendance by department in GPSS. The idea is to look at stats overtime of Senator enrollment or Senator recruitment and Senator attendance and identifying the underrepresented departments. Will be creating an Ad-hoc Committee for winter quarter on GPSS recruitment which will help in contacting Advisors and to increase attendance. Looking at the numbers, shares that GPSS today has the highest attendance (avg of 54%) after 2014-15. GPSS has grown big (130 Senators) and the numbers have taken a big leap from last year.

Brad Copenhaver: Reports that STF had the funding meeting on Monday, 4th December 2017. Funding 17 projects amounting to \$1.48 Million. Meeting again next quarter. F&B had their meeting on 5th December 2017. Tentatively F&B meetings for next quarters are scheduled for Thursdays 5.30 pm.

Michelle Brault: Asks if anything particularly notable that STF funded?

Brad Copenhaver: Says, not really. Discussed a lot on strict rules. Meeting lasted for 5.5 hours.

Elloise Kim: Reports that Fee Based Program Student Advisory Committee was launched. The Faculty Senate passed a resolution that supports University effort to go against repeal of Sec 117 D that makes tuition waivers taxable. However, not many people are talking about Sec 127 (employee education assistance). Lots of Fee based programs especially evening programs have students funded through the private company and if that section is repealed, lots of Fee based programs could be affected. Brandon has been traveling to DC to advocate that issue. Reports that she discussed with Graduate School Dean David Eaton, Jerry Baldasty Provost and Ana Mari to discuss the issue. They are aware of the issue. Also met with Ana Mari, Jane and Osman (ASUW President) and discussed about what GPSS has done this quarter. Majorly discussed fee based programs, tax cuts, sexual harassment culture and mental health. Also discussed direct admission. College of Engineering is discussing on direct admission. Computer Science is going to do that. Arts & Science is also considering.

Shares that quarterly GPSS newsletters will be circulated to share news about what GPSS has been doing and what to look forward for.

8. Announcements

5:56 PM

Tori Hernandez: Announces that the First Gen Grad Initiative is hosting a home for the holidays social at the Simpson Center on 1st Jan from 12:30pm to 2pm.

Grant Williamson: Shares some more Slido analysis. Confirms that they cannot find out how many people just logged in and only tracks active users.

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| Questions asked - Avg of 18% questions were from Executive Members. | 1 st meeting using Slido: 17 Users 2 nd meeting: 22 Users (Up by 5-6 users vs. meeting 1) |
| Number of questions | 12 questions in the two sessions in the first meeting. |

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| | 20 questions in the second meeting. |
| Likes | 42 likes in the first meeting. 88 likes in the second meeting. |
| *Significantly higher engagement in the second meeting | |

Rene Singleton: Applauds the work done by everyone with a shout out. Commends Matt’s work for what he is doing. Hadn’t expected things to go that good. Appreciates the roles as leaders. Shares that GPSS is building great connection. It will be busier in the coming days and external factors could be dominant. Everyone needs to step up. Encourages to communicate well and keep up the good work

Elloise Kim: Confirms that Ana Mari will be a part of the Senate meeting on 24th Jan 2018

9. Adjournment

6:02 PM

Matt Munoz: Approves to adjourn

Michelle Brault: Seconds
