



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE**

Senate Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2018 / Hub 332

Officers and Executive Senators Present:

GPSS President: Giuliana Conti
GPSS Secretary: Amy Gabriel
GPSS Vice President of External Affairs: Kelsey Hood
GPSS Treasurer: Robby Perkins-Hood
GPSS Executive Senator: Zhiyun Ma
GPSS Executive Senator: Jackie Wong
GPSS Executive Senator: Lillian Ferraz
GPSS Executive Senator: Michael Diamond
Associate Dean for Student & Postdoc Affairs, Grad School: Kelly Edwards

1. Call to Order

5:37 PM

Giuliana Conti: After tonight's meeting there will be free pizza, beer and wine for end of quarter celebration, so everyone can relax and get to know each other more.

2. Approval of Minutes

5:37 PM

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Motions to approve minutes.

Stephani Landdeck: Seconds.

3. Approval of the Agenda

5:37 PM

Sam Fouad (Art, Art History, and Design): Motions to approve agenda.

Brittany Bishop: Seconds.

Kelsey Hood: Objects. Motions to amend to remove Program Reviews.

Stephani Landdeck (Social Work): Seconds.

4. Provost Mark Richards

5:38 PM

Giuliana Conti: Introduces Mark Richards and lets people know how to ask him questions with the Poll Everywhere app. Senators can up vote or down vote the questions based on what they want asked. Informed Senators that this is a trial so they will ultimately receive fewer surveys in email and can ask questions as the meeting is happening. Can get questions answered in a timely manner and can track attendance. But in process, so this is a trial run and interested in any feedback. As Provost Mark Richards is talking, people can up vote and down vote.

Provost Mark Richards: Introduces himself and says he has enjoyed working with Giuliana and looks forward to hearing what senators have to say. Only been here since July, was previously on faculty at Berkeley, although taught at UW 25 years ago. Was born and raised in a small town in East Texas, father was a music professor and mom a music teacher. Town where he grew up was completely segregated until he was in 6th grade. Went to UT Austin to study Engineering, then went to CalTech for graduate school in Applied Physics. Quickly realized would rather be outdoors than a lab, so got his PhD in Geophysics and his research is on things that go on deep in the earth's interior and consequences like plate tectonics and large-scale volcanism. Recently gave a lecture on what killed the dinosaurs. Completed a post-doc at Australian National University, was on faculty at University of Oregon for a few years, then went to Berkeley in 1989. Was Department Chair, then became Dean of Mathematical and Physical Sciences and then Executive Dean for the College of Letters and Sciences. After 12 years as an administrator, went back to faculty. At the time his department, Earth and Planetary Sciences was great, but this job came up, his wife was interested in moving here, and Ana Mari Cauce is a compelling leader. He is still getting to know UW.

One of the most surprisingly rewarding experiences as Dean was working on increasing diversity of underrepresented students in STEM fields. Moved needle in compelling ways. Part of the program started at Berkeley that he now moved here, is being part of a consortium of universities in the mathematical, physical, computer and engineering sciences promoting underrepresented graduate students to enter the professoriate – the consortium has at a bunch of great universities like, CalTech, Berkeley, Stanford, UCLA, Harvard, Michigan, Georgia Tech, University of Texas

and now UW as of two weeks ago. The main thing has to say about 14 years of work in this area - had to unlearn everything he thought about diversity and representation in the sciences. Attitude towards issues of diversity has become very data driven because there are a lot of practices that are attempted that are not effective and a lot of strategies that are straightforward, but that do not get a lot of attention.

When he was here 25 years ago, before going back to Berkeley – the biggest difference between the institutions was UW’s inadequate institutional support for doctorate students (fellowships etc). At Berkeley, the school puts a lot of resources into graduate students and it shows. UW needs to put more resources into funding graduate students, independent of research grants and other resources that are not as steady. Has formed a graduate fellowship task force. Giuliana Conti is a member. The intention is to find some resources from the central campus that can be used to get the most leverage to improve the landscape for graduate students at UW. It will be outright fellowship funding and matching funds (with philanthropy). Most of the donors are alumni who came to UW for undergrad and may not understand graduate students, so there is a process of education with the donor community about how important grad student support is. This is something they are going to undertake in the next phase of the campaign. These things take time. At Berkeley raised over \$300m over last 10 years for graduate fellowship endowment and think UW can do the same. Does not understand why UW has not been more focused on fellowship support for grad students because peer institutions are putting much more of their resources into this area. Have not heard a single objection on campus about making this a priority, which is saying a lot because there are a lot of mouths to feed. Think it is a win and hoping to move forward on this.

Giuliana Conti: Comments that senators saw the email sending out financial census. Will be getting assistance to analyze them, so Senators can expect a report in January. Through the report will get an overview of what some of the issues for grad students are, then will inform the task force about what matters to grad students.

Mark Richards:

Question from Senate: What aspect of UW do you most hope to change as Provost?

There are thousands of constituencies that would like to be the priority – this university is one of the most poorly funded state universities and there are many needs that are not being met, i.e. facilities, financial aid, faculty salaries to name a few. But thinks the priority should be more support for graduate students because current lack of funding is hurting UW’s mission as a research university – need to provide more sustainable support. Most urgent need is in doctoral fellowship support because students are at grave disadvantage. For students in master and professional programs, the situation there has more to do with return of financial aid from tuition (which is how most of those programs are supported) on a need basis. So it is a little bit different, although there is fellowship support for masters and professionals students, so it is still a priority. The key to making this a better university for undergrads, faculty, and the people of Washington is better level of support for graduate students.

Question from Senate: What’s your favorite dinosaur?

I'm not a paleontologist – I'm a geophysicist, so I worry about what killed the dinosaurs, without knowing much about dinosaurs at all. The most interesting victims of the mass extinction are not dinosaurs, but these little bugs that run around in the ocean because they more precisely define the extinction boundary itself. But always liked the stegosaurus.

Question from Senate: Could you elaborate on the opportunities you're working on to make available to grad students of underrepresented backgrounds?

One thing knows from experience – the more flexible the funding departments have for graduate students, the more flexibility they have in support of students from non-traditional backgrounds. Non-traditional background is kind of an all-encompassing term. It generally applies to underrepresented minorities, but in some fields, it also includes women. Currently successfully recruiting students who can afford to come here whether or not UW pays them, so not getting students from lower socioeconomic status, or less funded institutions.

At Berkeley had about \$1m year from the National Science Foundation and used it to do a lot of survey research – a long series of studies. Surveys asked grad students confidentially questions like: How are you supported? How do you feel about the climate in your program? How do you get mentorship? etc. to spot and see implicit bias and stereotype threat. But also asked non-traditional questions like: Have you published in the last year? Have you been encouraged to publish? Have you presented? This is an area that has been little probed in STEM research on diversity. For questions such as, where do you find more of your mentorship? Non-minority males are getting most of it from their advisors while underrepresented students are getting it from each other. How far along are you in your degrees? Underrepresented students were father along, more likely to have passed quals, and equally successful. Did not see a lot of signals in the survey that was surprising other than the questions about publication. There was a large discrepancy – male students were 2x as likely as underrepresented minorities to have published and women fell between. With one exception, the College of Chemistry. From day one they walk in and get explicit instructions about what a grad student is supposed to do. If not writing a paper by second year someone will check in with you. Your progress is reviewed every year by two people who are not your advisor. It is a very structured environment, no secret handshake. That was not the same for every department, where the white male structure of academia has persisted and there is a secret handshake. Depends on the local culture of the department and the degree to which the student actually knows where they stand – ambiguity is a breeding ground for bias. So hopes to make sure graduate programs are structured in a way where everyone knows what the expectations are. Because once we know that we can have a true meritocracy.

Question from Senate: Are there any plans to increase funding for both the arts and humanities?

There is no explicit plan that he knows of. The funding model – activity-based budgeting – is largely about allocating funding to where students go. Students have been moving away from the humanities and arts, and it is not rocket science – primary resource allocation is to where students go. Had a situation this year where several hundred engineering students had to take calculus online because UW didn't have the resources. Right now students in humanities and arts have been decreasing – this is a problem because want a balanced student body and have tenured faculty who will be teaching in those subjects. Think there are ways to make programs/degrees more attractive

to students whose parents and college counselors are saying to get a STEM degree if they want job. Requested from the legislature for \$2m to establish a data science curriculum for non-STEM students because hear from Amazon they would hire outside of STEM as long as have technical background. Cannot direct resources where there are no students, but can educate students about career opportunities and do a lot to make the degrees different. This data science initiative is very exciting, but think a lot of students whose true passion is arts and humanities, but hearing they need STEM for work and think there is a third way – to recognize that all citizens who graduate from a four-year university should have an understanding of technical world. Wife went to Dartmouth, they were required to learn how to program a computer in 1989. When went to UT Austin as engineering – required to take 4Tran programming. Can love art, history – and also want to be part of modern world.

Tim O' Neil (Neuroscience): Motions to extend time by 5 mins.

Lillian Ferraz (Evans School): Seconds.

What experience do you have working with Title 9 offices & do you have ideas about how to improve outcomes for targets of harassment and discrimination through their processes?

Unfortunately he does. Notes that the rules of sexual harassment and sexual assault are changing as we speak. The Dept. of Education, under Betsy DeVos has pulled the rug out from underneath us regarding expectations set by the Obama administration for reporting and adjudication. But there are certain things that have to continue regardless – one of those things is people standing up, particularly tenured faculty members and saying that these things will not happen in their department. Dealt with about a dozen cases of sexual harassment and more often than not, professor so and so is known to be behaving this way. Or male students in this department are known to treat women dismissively. Where are the faculty members to say it is not acceptable? Need to empower people with tenure to stand up and say no. We do not call out this behavior as we should. It is hard to stand up in a faculty meeting. Need to internalize as a culture – some departments are good and some are not. Ana Marie Cauce is leading new measures on sexual harassment, but believes himself the burden is on the faculty to stand up. That is a large part of what is missing.

Giuliana Conti: Will follow up on getting more time with Provost Mark Richards to check-in about questions that are important to the senate.

5. Bylaw Amendment Vote

6:23 PM

Giuliana Conti: Says that GPSS brought proposed Bylaw amendments. Judicial committee member brought it to our attention that Senate didn't actually vote on them. Senators have received multiple copies of the amendment, and must do a vote to actually implement the Bylaws. Have not been out compliance, but just want to make it official.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Asks because the Bylaws were not being certified, this will apply next quarter?

Amy Gabriel: Responds, yes, it will apply next quarter.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Comments that worried about 3 meeting requirement.

Amy Gabriel: Responds that as Secretary, she can excuse people. The amendment will only come into play if really not coming.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Motions to approve Bylaws.

Nathan Dreesmann (School of Nursing): Seconds.

Mason Proffitt (Physics): Asks whether it is possible to approve certain sections individually? Disagrees with term limits. Also thinks the version sent out in the e-mail is a little out of date. Not familiar with any cases where this was a problem, so probably doesn't matter too much. If someone actually was involved for 3+ years, do not see why they shouldn't be. Think reason was to get fresh blood in officers and exec, but not aware of any issues coming up with this.

Kelsey Hood: Responds as one who proposed it – as far as she knows there has not been an officer who has served more than 3 terms, but important in Bylaws to ensure that other students have opportunities. Could happen with doctoral students. Institutional knowledge is important but so are opportunities for new people.

Lillian Ferraz: Having term limits is better than not, particularly with at Evans School – majority of students there did not know what GPSS is. Senators are making votes on their behalf when the students do not know what GPSS is. So don't just want the same people in leadership here for however long doing god knows what – if people want to stay involved they can through other roles.

Robby Perkins-Hood: In response to Mason, notes that could move to vote on this clause separately.

Michael Diamond (Atmospheric Sciences): Withdraws motion.

Tim O'Neal (Neuroscience): Point of Information: Is it three terms in a single role or could the person switch positions?

Kelsey Hood: Intention was an officer at all to give other students opportunities to be funded.

Samantha Thompson (Geography): Move to divide clause to vote separately on term limits and also the number of meetings required, then vote on the rest of the amendments together.

Varun Kao (Material Science): Seconds.

Mason Proffitt (Physics): Point of Information: Since it says “three consecutive terms” is this a limit on non-consecutive terms as well?

Kelsey Hood: Will leave up to Senate to decide. As long as giving time for other people to serve.

Genevive Hulley (Art History): Point of Information: A term is an entire year, so with the exception of PhD students wouldn't be an issue. Motions to keep consecutive terms.

Ted Cohen (Molecular Science): Motions to vote.

Christina Sun (Epidemiology): Seconds.

Vote on term limit Bylaw amendment: Passed by majority.

Meeting requirement Bylaw Amendment

Jared Canright (Physics): Point of Information: The language is conflicting.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Makes proposal change “may” to “must.”

Kelsey Hood: Thinks it should remain must to ensure proxy has to vote.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): The requirements are not feasible for every program. Only have 12 grad students in her program, so providing a proxy for every meeting is not feasible for small PhD programs.

Amy Gabriel: Point of Information: As she said earlier – any exceptions, would be approved by her.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Suggestion to change language to “May assign proxy and must give advanced notice.”

Kelsey Hood: That's fine, up to Senate.

Jackie Wong (Dentistry): Seconds.

Lillian Ferraz: Motions to vote to change.

Clair Rusch (Biology): Point of Information: If do not have a proxy what do you do?

Giuliana Conti: Just talk with the Secretary. It is possible to depart for a quarter – there are classes scheduled during the meeting time, so just communicate.

Clair Rusch (Biology): Is there a way in the dept. to elect a new senator?

Giuliana Conti: That is handled within your department. We just handle the back end of who we are told the senators are. It is figured out within departments.

Stephani Landdeck (Social Work): Seconds to vote.

Tim O'Neal (Neuroscience): So only voting on change from 2 meetings to 3 meetings?

Sam Thompson (Geography): Point of Information: Motions for additional language. Proposes to change language to say that must have a representative (not necessarily a senator) from the department at 3 meetings, so more inclusive.

Kelsey Hood: Accepts friendly amendment.

Michael Diamond: Point of Order, do not think we can do it.

Lillian Ferraz: Okay so withdraw motion.

Michelle Krutein (Pathology): Change wording to make proxy the other senator.

Giuliana Conti: That would complicate it because proxies by virtue are a temporary position.

Tim O'Neil (Neuroscience): A senator from each program must attend, so it could be one or both. Motions for amendment.

Dominik Alamanni (Germanics): Seconds.

Giuliana Conti: Need to vote. Motion?

Sam Thompson (Geography): Motions to vote on this language.

Zhiyun Ma: Point of Information: Is concerned about how clause currently reads.

Amy Gabriel: Objects. The objection is the amendment – means if there are 2 senators, only one of them has to go to three meetings, and so one person could never come, and then someone who wants it will not have a spot to run and join GPSS.

Michael Diamond: Point of Order: Did Kelsey accept this as friendly?

Kelsey Hood: Didn't think needed to accept because this is not a resolution.

Varun Kao (Material Science): Comments similarly to Amy Gabriel, that one senator might not ever attend.

Giuliana Conti: Can submit your own proposals for Bylaw Amendments. All of those in favor of this amendment “a senator, from each dept must attend at least 3 meetings”

Lillian Ferraz: Speaks against the motion. This is really geared toward departments who have two senators who attend regularly. A lot of departments only have one and that one person should be responsible.

Zhiyun Ma: It significantly decreases commitment for senators.

Dean Allsopp (Evans School): Motions to vote on amendment to the amendment.

Neil Cragg (Nursing): Second.

Vote Bylaw amendment that says: “A senator from each department must attend at least three meetings”: Majority opposes – it fails.

Michael Diamond: Motions to vote on what’s in red.

Zhiyun Ma: Seconds.

Vote on Bylaw amendment that says: “senators must attend at least 3 meetings per quarter”: Majority approves – it passes.

Sam Thompson (Geography): Motions on rest of amendments.

Tafari Clark-James (Mathematics): Seconds.

Vote: Majority approves.

Giuliana Conti: Bylaws are officially approved.

Stephani Lanndeck: Is every school allowed to have more than two representatives? For instance, in Social Work have Master’s and PhDs.

Amy Gabriel: If has been done before can have two in each program. Otherwise need to apply to create new seats.

Giuliana Conti: If want more representation, talk with Amy Gabriel.

6. Second Reading – UW Sustainability Initiative and Campus Plan 2020 6:53PM

Giuliana Conti: Hopefully everyone read and reviewed online.

Michael Diamond: Proposing this Resolution with Brittany Bishop. Summarized initiative for those who were not here last time. Nothing on sustainability at top level. Resolution includes full triple bottom line and is in context of UN Development Goals. The only major edit is the first whereas clause with a quote from the report. The footnote citations were also changed to be more formal.

Giuliana Conti: Will move to a vote, but any comments, friendly amendments.

Varun Kao (Material Science): Is there a reason we chose to do it every 10 years?

Michael Diamond: Point of these reviews is more comprehensive – like really large-scale program reviews. Hope to have smaller reviews throughout, but academic departments have them every 10 years. Not logistically possible to do more than that because would spend more time doing the reviews than work.

Giuliana Conti: Do you have a recommendation because mentioned friendly amendment?

Varun Kao (Material Science): Makes friendly amendment to make it every 5 years.

Michael Diamond: Trying to think through whether that messes it up. Does not accept as friendly.

Varun Kao (Material Science): Motions to amend from every 10 years to every 5th year.

Tim O’Neil (Neuroscience): Seconds.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): So if it is not a friendly amendment, all you need is a second?

Giuliana Conti: No, then we need to vote.

Nathan Dreesmann (Nursing): The 10-year program evaluation is an enormous deal. It’s a lot of funding from each department to have one. If the costs are as high as a program evaluation would be, 5 years would be too short.

Giuliana Conti: In terms of familiarity with administration, 10 years sounds long, but it is a feasible period of time for processes like these to be re-enacted. Should consider feasibility.

Varun Kao (Material Science): Withdraws motion.

Katie Reichard (Pharmacology): Rank: Motions to vote.

Phil Leung (Molecular Engineering): Seconds.

Vote: Majority approves.

Giuliana Conti: Resolution passes.

7. Upcoming Events and Marketing

7:00 PM

Matt McKeown: Tomorrow is Science & Policy Committee's White Paper Project. Also on Dec 7th from 10am-12pm there will be an end of the quarter celebration with donuts and coffee.

Giuliana Conti: GPSS is going to have an academic conference. Have not finalized advertisements, but very excited. Around theme of interconnectedness. Opportunity for Senators and constituents.

8. Special Projects Fund Allocation

7:01 PM

Ted Cohen (Molecular Engineering): On Finance & Budget Committee and approved a collection of things from special projects fund. The special projects fund was set up towards the end of last year to start spending some of the money in general fund. Process entailed a form for Officers and Exec. Senators to propose projects to benefit GPSS as a whole. F & B funded the opportunity to send two additional Senators to the SAGE conference. Voted to give \$3,000 to fund two GPSS Senators in addition to the President, VP of External and Student Regent.

Lillian Ferraz: Point of Information: What is SAGE?

Giuliana Conti: Student Advocates for Graduate Education.

Ted Cohen (Molecular Engineering): It is the Lobbying arm of universities to the fed government. Also funded the academic conference at about \$2,000. The more people sent the more they will get. Also gave \$1,500 to Huskies on the Hill.

Kelsey Hood: Don't ruin the surprise!

Ted Cohen (Molecular Engineering): Very excited about the event. Also gave money to the Secretary to go to the diversity conference in SF.

Amy Gabriel: Conference in SF for college students with workshops on identity and how to navigate difficult conversations. Will bring back to GPSS and Diversity Committee.

Ted Cohen (Molecular Engineering): Assuming academic conference uses all funding. \$2,600 left, \$7,400 was spent. Can pitch for funding. Happy to take questions. This is a brand new thing. Regulated by F & B right now, but could be changed.

9. GPSS DivCom Composition Analysis

7:07 PM

Amy Gabriel: Diversity Committee will be doing a short survey on GPSS Senators. 5-10 questions collecting demographic information. Will be anonymous. Used to identify representation gaps and inform advertising for future senators, as well as inform any changes to improve.

10. VP External Legislative Update

7:08 PM

Kelsey Hood: Last meeting until Spring quarter since will be in Olympia next quarter. Fall of this year, had interim leg meetings with members. Thanks again for passing the leg agenda. GPSS is the first association in WSA to get it passed. Big projects will be happening on Legislative Advisory Board – will be drafting a white paper on tuition fund split to restore funding lost since least funded state school in WA.

Will be on campus on Fridays. Brittany (Legislative Director) will be the Senate liaison.

Huskies on the Hill will be on Monday, February 11th. Abbie Shew, Organizing Director is point person. Asking Senators to RSVP ASAP and to distribute information to their constituents. Grad students will have their own meetings. There is going to be a graduate research symposium for the legislature. Goal is to have 3-4 people presenting their research in room and will invite legislative staff to come. Will market as what the legislature's investment in higher ed is doing. Sign up ASAP.

SAGE DOH will be the 7-10th of April. Applications available on the website. Will start collecting them after first senate meeting of Winter Quarter.

Lillian Ferraz: Graduate research symposium is on lobby day?

Kelsey Hood: Yes, will work it around meeting schedules. Know it is a lot of information, feel free to ask any questions.

11. President's Poll Pilot

7:13 PM

Giuliana Conti: Just going to do one question. *Piloted one question* Will use this tool moving forward.

12. Senator Announcements

7:14 PM

Sierra Adibi (Aeronautics): DivCom funding applications closing.

Lillian Ferraz: Meet-up Friday at 6:30p at Capitol Cider for Queer Grad Students

Zhiyun Ma: Teaching Theater for Change in Odegaard Library.

Sam Fouad (Art): Thanks for anyone who came and brought prints. Anyone who wants to join, talk next quarter.

13. Adjournment

7:15 PM

Amy Gabriel: Motions to adjourn.

Jared Canright (Physics): Seconds.