



M-01.19-20 Memorandum on the Creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning

Submitted by Giuliana Conti, GPSS President

1. Introduction

According to records, the GPSS organization has experienced ongoing change and growth which has both contributed to its success as well as its challenges. The reorganization of leadership in the 2014-2015 academic year, which split the Vice President role into VP of Internal and VP of External positions, created long-term change which is due for assessment. Furthermore, as a result of yearly turnover in administration and membership, constant change has limited the capacity for Executive Board members, and particularly Officers, to maintain historical documents and necessary transition materials. Lastly, the inconsistency over time with historical knowledge as well as the reliance on people to uphold and transfer knowledge, has limited the Organizations ability to recognize, log, and react to patterns and goals.

As a result, each year's Executive Board members are expected to learn what they can within the year they serve and attempt to create goals and objectives for those nine months. Recommendations are often given to the next year at the end of their term, but there is little accountability to those recommendations, and they become lost in the transitions from one generation to the next. Over time Boards are subject to repeating efforts and mistakes previous years had attempted, but without knowing it because there is no system for tracking prior attempts at development, or any lessons learned which may help the planning process.

For this reason, the creation of an ad-hoc committee on strategic planning is being recommended. The purpose of this committee is to assess prior efforts at strategic planning, develop a three-year recyclable strategic plan for GPSS, build an accountability and record system for efforts related to strategic planning over the succeeding years, recommend steps and components for each component of GPSS who would ultimately be responsible for enacting the strategic plan, and then begin implementation during the transition of incoming Officers and Executive Senators.

2. Policy Recommendation

- a. That an ad-hoc committee be created for the purpose of strategic planning for the GPSS organization as a whole. According to bylaw article VI, section E, clause 2b, this policy memo is required to be presented to the Executive Board within one week of the creation of the ad-hoc committee in Senate after a passing vote by a simple majority
- b. That this ad-hoc committee convene after January 8th, 2020 and conclude June 10th, 2020 at the end of the school year
- c. That the GPSS President oversee the productivity of the ad-hoc committee on strategic planning, and that membership include one Executive Senator and at least two active Senators (active meaning that they actively attend Senate meetings and can demonstrate reliable attendance)
- d. That the GPSS President provide monthly reports to the Executive Board and Senate



- e. That the GPSS President keep meeting logs and notes in their transition folder for the following President and Officer team
- f. That the GPSS President keep an adviser informed of ongoing progress with a frequency and method that is appropriate to the adviser's schedule
- g. That this ad-hoc committee create a 3-year strategic plan which makes recommendations for each individual year with relevant documents, templates, and tools be created or collected as necessary for the increased efficacy of those fulfilling each year's recommendations
- h. That the ad-hoc committee create a document which describes the rationale and directions for the 3-year strategic plan which can be used as a guideline and resource for succeeding Boards
- i. That campus partners, Senator recruitment and retainment, Officer transitions, Executive Senator onboarding, Liaisons, and historical documents be included as components in the strategic plan
- j. That a reauthorization vote consists of a simple majority by the GPSS

3. Policy Implementation

With an endorsement from the GPSS Executive Committee, this memorandum shall stand as official GPSS policy. This policy is subject to review by the GPSS (as referenced in GPSS Bylaws Article VI, Section A, Clause 4), and could also be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Presented to the GPSS Executive Committee on January 15, 2020