

Minutes  
February 28, 2006  
5:00PM – HUB 310

*Respectfully submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy*

I. Committee Meetings (15 minutes)

*Committees met for 15 minutes prior to beginning the general senate meeting.*

II. Call to Order

**Alex Kim** called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

III. Approval of the Agenda

**Travis McCoy** moved to place committee reports above public forum. Seconded. Passed without objection.

**Shawn Fisher** moved to approve the agenda. Seconded. Objection.

*The motion failed.*

**Jon Lee** moved to place the Nomination and Election of a Senate Liaison to the Course Fee Review Committee. Seconded. Passed without objection.

**Tyler Dockins** moved to place OGR report under Chair's Report. Seconded. Passed without objection.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** moved to place R-12-26 as the final item under New Business. Seconded. Passed without objection.

*The motion was made to approve the agenda. Seconded. Passed without objection.*

IV. Public Forum- Paul Brown, Director of Housing and Food Services & Vennie Gore, Asst. Director of Housing and Food Services

**Vennie Gore** said he has been at UW for 20 years and started as a Resident Director in McMahan

**Vennie Gore** said Cullen White approached him last Autumn about a late night coffee shop at By George Café. He said the estimated customer level was 200, and that the actual customer count has varied from 175-228. He said that currently the coffee shop was running about \$400 below the break even point, the expected profit level.

He said he was a member on the Committee on Improving Undergraduate Education and that they were considering revising the FIG experience.

**Tyler Dockins** noted that UW has been on several “dorms like dungeons” lists and wondered if there were any efforts toward improvement of those conditions with art work or other decorations.

**Vennie Gore** said there had not been but that it could be considered.

**Jono Hanks** asked if the advising centers in the dorms would have hours that would fit student’s schedules.

**Vennie Gore** said they have run advising centers thus far during the dinner hour and had 155 students attend those sessions during winter quarter.

**Jono Hanks** asked if any advisors would be from the Honors Department.

**Vennie Gore** said that Honors advisors could be brought in for Honors House residents.

**Jono Hanks** asked why laundry costs have doubled and mandatory Husky Card deposits have increased by 50%

**Vennie Gore** said that so far laundry fees haven’t covered costs. He said HFS is an independent organization that doesn’t get any support from the UW or the state and thus must cover its own costs.

**Andrew Everett** said many students have noted that fee increases this year are more than all collective increases from the past several years combined.

**Vennie Gore** said it was increased 1.5% over the last rate hike. He said energy costs have risen and that, in addition, employee benefits and wage costs have grown considerably.

He said HFS would be reducing its operating costs by \$500,000. He said various changes have been made to make the dorms more cost efficient.

**Andrew Everett** asked if the lack of state funding impacted their rates.

**Vennie Gore** said HFS is not out to make money, only cover its own costs. He said the organization has to be careful about its rate structure because of students’ living expenses.

He said HFS had to be competitive as students don’t have to eat or live with HFS.

**Travis Grandy** asked what has prevented HFS from allowing the use of debit and credit cards in HFS facilities.

**Vennie Gore** said there is a transaction fee that goes along with every purchase. He said HFS has to be very conscious about its costs and that including such costs would make it difficult to include debit/credit abilities.

**Jerome McCuin** asked what department has oversight of HFS.

**Vennie Gore** said the Office of Student Affairs had oversight.

**Erica Verinitz** said that because of the limited number of disabled accessible rooms she was unable to renew her residency for this quarter.

**Vennie Gore** said he was surprised as HFS usually does all it can to accommodate students, and that he would look into the matter further.

**Jon Lee** asked Vennie Gore to give a breakdown of food costs.

**Vennie Gore** said food costs are broken down to labor, food, direct, and overhead costs. He said HFS operates under a retail model, and that while overhead and labor costs are stable, food costs have gone up due to fuel prices.

He noted that HFS has only 225 revenue days, but that they have operating costs over the whole year. He said HFS is a franchise owner as well and pays franchise fees to those organizations.

*The motion was made to extend the meeting time by 15 minutes. Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion passed.*

**Alex Kim** noted that he lived in the dorms for two years. He said during that time, he had excellent RA's and appreciated their efforts. He said he was concerned that RA's at UW do not receive a stipend as they do at other schools.

**Vennie Gore** said HFS has 100 RA's, and that costs could come to approximately \$60,000 a year. He said the issue was whether or not students were willing to bear that cost and that RA's had mixed responses to the stipend system.

**Hannah Lommers-Johnson** said that students with disabilities have had difficulty getting adaptations made in Steven's Court. She said a disabled student was told they would have to knock and wait for someone else to open the door to the building.

**Vennie Gore** said he was unaware of that and that the door should have an electronic opening device.

**Phyllis Ying** asked if there would be expansion of food choices in South Campus, as it is a high-traffic area.

**Vennie Gore** said that the new bioengineering building would have a café that would offer products other than those at the rotunda.

**Selma Dillsi** said she was glad to see custodian wage increases added into the fee increases. She asked how students knew that custodians would see those dollars.

**Vennie Gore** said most custodians had been with HFS for around 20 years. He said they would see a 4.5% increase in benefits.

**Shawn Fisher** asked what the ideals were behind used undercover police officers in the dorms.

**Vennie Gore** said the program began 30 years ago, and that they were plainclothes officers to improve resident relationships with them.

**Shawn Fisher** said it seemed like HFS wanted to catch people instead of preventing crime.

**Vennie Gore** said the officers were there for security and that HFS was fundamentally concerned with that given that UW students live in a major metropolitan area.

**James Arnold** said many students have asked him about the light meal plan and why it wasn't available in the fall.

**Vennie Gore** said many students are confused about the meal plan the first quarter of the year. He said that over the years, many freshmen had complained about running out of money on the light plan.

**James Arnold** said that a major comment he had gotten from residents was the necessity of better toilet paper in the dorms.

**Vennie Gore** said he would look into that option.

## V. Committee Reports

**Faculty and Administrative Affairs** - The committee discussed R-12-29.

**Academic Affairs** – The committee talked about military recruiters on campus.

**Publicity and Outreach Committee** – The committee brainstormed a brochure to attract more members to Senate.

**Membership** – The committee reviewed R-12-28 and tabled it until next week.

**Campus Affairs** – The committee discussed R-12-27 and tabled it indefinitely.

**Off Campus Affairs** – The committee discussed OA-12-3 and will continue its consideration next week.

**General Affairs** – The committee passed R-12-26 with a unanimously favorable recommendation.

## VI. Chair's Report

**Alex Kim** said he had nothing new to report.

## VII. ASUW Presidential Privilege

**Lee Dunbar** said the Washington Student Lobby was taking place this weekend, but that there shouldn't be too much debate until April.

**Lee Dunbar** said he had in fact gotten an invitation from Bill O'Reilly and that he would be appearing tomorrow. He said he has been on a variety of radio shows regarding the issue.

He said during the north of 45<sup>th</sup> meeting, he was not advocating for an extension of the conduct code, and that he was hoping to work with the community to find other solutions. He noted that the president of GPSS and Will Rasmussen were also participating.

## VIII. Board of Directors Report

**Jon Lee** said the Senate Bill was passed with some modifications and that it was sent to Judicial Committee. He said it would come back to Senate for second readings.

He noted a funding allocation was made to UW Leaders for slightly over \$1600.

**Tyler Dockins** said that the Veterans Waivers and textbook bills both made it out of committee.

He said the discussion about WSL WSA would be crucial later on this year as Lee Dunbar noted.

**Alex Kim** introduced Gregor Stoddard, Director of GBLTC

She said that the Drag Show was this weekend and that the event has had great turnout in years past. She encouraged senators to attend the event.

## IX. Graduate and Professional Student Senate Report

It was noted that the budget was being approved by Senate next week.

## X. Orders of the Day

### Nominations and Elections of Senate Liaison for Course Fee Review Committee

**Jon Lee** said that ASUW can review the legitimacy of course fees around campus via the Course Fee Review Committee

**Mikhail Smirnoff** nominated himself.

**Sheridan Grey** nominated himself. It was noted he did not yet have senator status.

**Erica Verinitz** nominated **Joe Root**. He accepted.

**Cailin Magruder** nominated herself.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** said he is an economics major and serves on the Finance and Budget Committee and deals with the Special Appropriations Committee.

**Joe Root** said he's a declared major where course fees are very common. He said he wouldn't approve them unless they were absolutely necessary.

**Cailin Magruder** noted she is the Committee Chair of FAA and is passionate about the issue.

**Jon Lee** said a lot of research was necessary for the position and asked what students felt made them qualified to carry out the position.

**Cailin Magruder** said she does significant research for resolutions in Senate.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** said he does research on every issue he addresses in Senate. He said he deals with many individuals and thought that compromise would be important to the success of the committee.

**Joe Root** said he is currently carrying out research at the Swedish Cancer Society. He said he has had significant experience with faculty in trying to get a minor created.

**Joe Root** was elected to the position.

## **A. Old Business**

### R-12-7 A Resolution In Support of the Recommendations made by the 2004-2005 Advising Self-Study Advisory Committee

**Erin Shields** introduced June Hairstron from the Advising Self-Study Advisory Committee.

**June Hairstron** said she has been at the UW for over 20 years. She said she has served on several major committees. She said she could answer any questions senators might have.

**Jon Lee** asked if any progress has been made on Dean Bridge's committee recommendations.

**June Hairstron** said the committee was asked to look at how long it takes students to get a degree at UW. She said it was found that it took students a long period of time, between 4-5 years, with some students taking 6 years.

She said initially the committee looked at UW's peer institutions such as UW-Madison and U of Arizona among others. She said the most common advising model is a split-advising model. She said at UW, advising is split between 4 different sections: The Undergraduate Advising Office, Minority Affairs, Student Athletes, and Departmental Advising

She said the committee found that students talk to students first for advice. She said that many departments on campus are utilizing peer advising as a result.

She said the committee is looking at a hub-model in which all advising resources can be consolidated in a single place.

**Sue Ordonez** asked how the space issue would be addressed if the number of advisers was to be increased.

June Hairstron said a reorganization was being looked at in Mary Gates Hall. She said one of the pilot programs is peer advising in various places around campus.

**Travis Grandy** moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

*The resolution passed unanimously.*

## **B. New Business**

### R-12-22 A Resolution in Support of Filipino Veterans Equity

**Anna Gonzalvo**, sponsor of the legislation, presented her resolution.

**Alex Kim** asked if the last 'whereas' clause should be amended.

**Anna Gonzalvo** said it should.

**Brent Hoffstedder** asked what benefits were promised to Filipino soldiers.

**Jon Lee** noted that the Philippines were a territory at the time.

**Anna Gonzalvo** said the benefits were essentially the same as those given to US soldiers. She said she would bring more information on the subject next week.

**Alvin Chang** asked if the resolution should in fact be a Legislative Directive.

**Alex Kim** responded that would be the case only if the student lobbyist was asked to lobby on their effort.

**Alvin Chang** asked if the Legislative Agenda could be interpreted to support this as it stands.

**Lee Dunbar** said it did not prevent the lobbyist from lobbying on the matter.

***Travis Grandy** moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.*

### R-12-23 A Resolution to honor Gordon Hirabayashi

**Karl Smith**, sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

**Shawn Fisher** asked what the purpose was of the hitchhiking clause.

**Karl Smith** said it was to illustrate the injustice of the government's actions.

**Erin Shields** asked if any information was available to how many UW Alumni were affected by those camps.

**Karl Smith** responded there was a list online, but that it was over 100.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** asked about the vague third 'that' clause.

*Secretary's Note: At this time, a technical malfunction caused a small portion of the minutes consisting to be lost.*

A senator asked about the priority of who gets honored, whether it was principally Hirobayashi or equally all affected alumni.

**Karl Smith** said Senate can choose what it wants to support specifically.

**Melissa Aar** asked what the distinction was for this specific group of individuals.

**Karl Smith** said the individuals were unjustly locked up by the US Government.

**Lee Dunbar** asked what the intent of the resolution was.

**Karl Smith** responded that individuals might be honored through the naming of a lecture hall after them or a plaque.

**Gary Fox** noted that the resolution only recommended a monument, and didn't necessitate one.

*Erin Shields moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.*

#### OA-12-3 An Act to Amend the Roll Call Voting Procedure

**Travis Grandy**, sponsor of the legislation, presented the resolution.

**Andrew Everett** asked what the actual change in numbers would be.

**Travis Grandy** said it depended on the number of senators present, and that at the present time the number of votes to proceed from a roll call would increase from approximately 12 to 36.

**Mikhail Smirnoff** asked what the 30% requirement specifically referred to.

**Travis Grandy** clarified that 30% of the body had to vote in favor of a roll call in order for it to take place.

**Shawn Fisher** asked about the term “present” as some senators leave over the course of the meeting.

**Travis Grandy** said that during roll call, the doors to the room are closed to keep the number of senators consistent.

He said the reason for the resolution was to prevent the abuse of roll call during future votes. He noted it had been a problem during last year’s meetings

**Magnus Gordon** asked for clarification on the 30% requirement

**Travis Grandy** said 30% of the voting body was needed to approve the roll call motion.

**Alex Kerchner** asked if proxies counted.

**Travis Grandy** replied that they did.

*The motion was made to close debate. Seconded. Objection.*

*The motion passed.*

**Sam Al-Khoury** moved to move to announcements. *Seconded. Objection.*

*Division was called. The motion passed.*

## XI. Announcements

**Erin Shields** noted Senate 101 was held every week before Senate at 4:30 in HUB 310.

She said senators who wanted to co-sponsor bills should email Travis McCoy with their names and the bill they wished to sponsor.

**Melissa Aar** said that WashPIRG was holding officer elections next week.

**Jill Edwards** said the Honors Croquet League was holding a match at 9PM on Saturday.

## XII. Adjournment

*The motion was made to adjourn. Seconded. Passed without objection.*

*The meeting adjourned at 6:58PM.*