

Senate Meeting Minutes
October 31, 2005
4:30PM – HUB 310

I. Committee Meetings (4:30 PM)

II. Call to Order (5 PM)

Vice Chair **Mikhail Smirnov** called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Cullen White asked when [Seattle City Councilmember] **Conlin** will arrive.

Mikhail said **Conlin** will arrive at about 5:15.

Hala said she just got a call that he may arrive between now and 6:30.

Cullen moved to table the public forum until he arrives.

Mikhail said it would be good if **Hannah** and **Erin** gave their presentation on the 520 bridge issue before he arrived.

Cullen withdrew his motion to table.

Cullen moved to break the public forum into two parts, the first with **Hannah** and **Erin**, the second with **Conlin** to be tabled until **Conlin** arrives. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Alex Gwozda asked for a volunteer to operate the projector. He thanked **Matt York**.

The agenda as amended was approved.

IV. Public Forum:

Erin Shields and Hannah Lommers-Johnson

Erin said the 520 bridge was built in 1953, but today is vulnerable. She said last year Senate was told of a proposal to fix the 520 bridge, and to extend access through the arboretum. She said Senate passed R-12-6 in opposition to an arboretum onramp, mainly due to environmental concerns, the effect on traffic on Montlake, and the effect on the Husky Stadium among other impacts. She said that at the time the plans were still being formulated, but this summer the draft environmental impact statement was released and more details are available.

Hannah said there were three options being considered: a 4-lane, a 6-lane, and a 6-lane with Pacific interchange option. She referred to the design draft shown on poster board. For the 6-lane with Pacific interchange option, Montlake would be widened up to 45th St. She said it creates traffic, at about 1000 additional cars per hour in the afternoon, but there will be no changes to 25th and 45th where most cars will be going to. She said there is willingness to mitigate specifics within the proposal. She encouraged senators to ask Councilmember **Conlin** how specifically it could be mitigated. She said because Montlake would be widened, it could split parking by the Husky Stadium from the rest of campus. She said, however, that the lid overhead could be extended out to make a walkway from the stadium lots to campus, bringing it back together.

Hannah passed out suggested questions to ask.

Erin said the GPSS Student Senate also passed a resolution about the bridge replacement, and they would support the interchange option if the draft environmental impact statement showed the goals they wanted to

see only through that option, versus the other options. She said the Faculty Council on University Relations brought forward a resolution that is basically the resolution R-13-5 in our Senate. She said that the Faculty Senate passed the resolution opposing the onramp.

Andrew Everett asked for clarification that the plan with the Pacific interchange is the only option they are looking at. He asked if they are looking at other 6 lane or 4 lane options.

Aaron Hoard said they are looking at all the options.

Andrew Everett asked about the parking issue to be addressed for the parking to be removed. He said a lot of that land is built on soft ground. He asked how much engineering will be necessary to build it, and what the university community is supposed to do during construction.

Erin said that the resolution states that 760 spaces of parking will be lost. **Erin** said this is all part of the concerns about mitigation, and the environmental impact statement has not given enough detail.

Hannah said **Conlin** will be talking about the proposal addressing specifically that 6-lane with Pacific interchange. **Hannah** requested senators to ask if parking lots could be replaced.

Sam Al-Khoury asked for data for how many students actually park on campus, and what kind of deficit will be caused if the parking spots are lost.

Erin said they do not have that data.

Gary Stute said one thing to consider is that students are getting charged to pay for parking like staff and faculty. He said even if the parking lost is faculty parking, it may indirectly impact students.

John Naughton asked about increase in traffic, and numbers on hard compensation to the university.

Hannah said as far as she knows she does not know of a plan to replace lost parking. She says cars will flow from Montlake over to 45th.

John Naughton said people currently circle from 45th to 520. But he said he could not imagine many people would go through it with this plan.

Erin said the Whereas clauses increase 30% the southeast campus traffic. She said the amount of land the interchange option uses would be 2.34 acres, as opposed to 0.7 acres and 0.04 acres for the other options.

Hala said further questions could be directed to **Conlin**.

Rod Palmquist asked why the Faculty Council isn't looking at other alternatives. He asked if there is an option similar to the current existing bridge.

Aaron Hoard noted the details of width for the different options.

Selma motioned to exhaust speaker's list.

Hala said **Selma** was the last one, and so the list is exhausted.

Erin said she was sorry it is coming up so quickly and it is time-sensitive, because the last day for allowing public comment on the environmental impact statement is today. She apologized for not finding out about this deadline earlier.

Hannah said the final recommendation will be publicly available Nov 6th or 13th.

V. Committee Reports

Jono Hanks said that FAA talked about R-13-5 and elected **Bobby Stoumbos** as vice chair.

Stephanie Adler said Campus Affairs discussed R-13-4 by **Everett**, about a Pub in the Hub, and they discussed R-13-5.

Jessica Kang said Academic Affairs elected **Tri Lee** as vice chair.

Selma Dillsi said General Affairs discussed R-13-5, and **Doug McManaway** was elected vice chair.

Melissa Aar said Off-Campus Affairs discussed R-13-5.

Jon Solomon said Publicity and Outreach elected **Karlyn Goetz** as vice chair, discussed the privacy issues of the Senate Forum, and discussed the possibility of a Senate potluck or other activities.

Charles Cadwallader said they elected **Kim Chung** as vice chair.

Stephanie asked for anyone in Campus Affairs who might not have found her committee to come get a placard.

VI. Chair's Report

Hala asked how committee meetings went. **Hala** said a lot of the groundwork of Senate is done in committees. She said they are free to bring in Senate officers or faculty members. She said committees can make changes in legislation and ask questions for new legislation. **Hala** said currently there is an online Senate Forum, and there is discussion about how public they want it to be. She said when it is public, spam account registration emails are overwhelming. But we like it to be open. She said she is glad Publicity and Outreach is having that conversation. **Hala** repeated the Parli Pro Did Ya Know from the Senate listserv email, asking the 5 classifications of motions.

Kim Chung said privileged motions were one kind.

Matt York said there are subsidiary motions.

Alex Kim said a subsidiary motion is a motion that relate to main motion, for instance to amend another motion under consideration.

Hala said motion to close or extend or postpone debate is considered subsidiary.

Bethany Graef said there is an incidental motion.

Hala said an incidental motion can include suspension of rules, point of order, dividing the question, and other motions.

Austin asked if a specific main motion is a type.

Hala said that naming may be under different rules, but will accept the category of main motion.

Hala said the last is a restorative main motion.

Rod moved to suspend the rules and put R-13-5 immediately on first readings.

Hala said it's not debatable.

Mikhail said there's an option to speak for and in objection, but no speaker's list can be held.

Rod said Student Senate is set up to resolve opinion. **Rod** said it is very important to consider the legislation today, since today is the last day for voicing opinion. **Rod** said first readings are just clarifications on legislation, and this should be done before **Conlin** arrives.

Gary Stute said we already have standing student opinion on this issue from last year. He said we should have plenty of time to get to 1st readings. He said it would be hasty to also suspend rules and go to second readings today.

Kim Chung asked when the public commenting period ends for the 520 option.

Hala said tonight at midnight.

Rod asked if the previous resolution only considers the interchange option.

Erin said it only opposed an arboretum onramp.

Mikhail asked for clarification on whether it would be to consider immediately and then continue with the agenda, or move to that spot on the agenda?

Rod said he wants to consider immediately.

Mikhail said that would move the meeting down to that point in the agenda.

The motion to consider immediately fails 26-18.

Hala said 2/3rds is needed to suspend the rules.

VII. ASUW Presidential Privilege

Cullen invited **Bryce** and **Sameer** to speak on the Legislative Steering Committee.

Sameer said the LSC is the body that creates the legislative agenda. He said he wants RSO and all sorts of campus organizations to express what they want on the legislative agenda. He said there are 4 At-large members to be put on the LSC.

Bryce said meetings are Tuesday 7 pm and Friday 5pm with some exceptions. **Bryce** said the 2005-2006 agenda is online at ogr.asuw.org.

Sameer said minutes are on the website.

Cullen said the Husky Promise is on asuw.org.

Cullen said another presentation that may occur about the student conduct code. He said there is an evaluative committee on the conduct code that has been formed. He said to go vote next Tuesday.

VIII. Board of Directors Report

Sam read an email aloud in support of the By George Late Night Coffee Shop written by **Scott Robinson**.

Kelsey Mussman said there is a Queer Student Alliance social tomorrow night at the Q Center, 4:30pm.

Mikhail said the Board of Directors mostly appointed volunteers, but did not appoint LSC volunteers. He said those will be appointed within the next two weeks. He said they approved money for the Japanese Festival, 1250 dollars. He said they approved 200 dollars for the homecoming banner.

Gary Stute asked about the banner.

Tyler said there was 200 dollars earmarked for the banner, and got 150 elsewhere, so only spent 50 ASUW dollars.

IX. GPSS Report

(Melissa Aar?) said GPSS approved two resolutions to create senate seats for minority groups, like Native Americans and FIUT. She said if senators know of other minority groups at the graduate level corresponding to commissions, they should check with friends to make that representation happen.

Public Forum with Seattle City Councilmember Richard Conlin (20 min.)

Conlin said he was the chair of the 520 issue as a whole. He said he's in his third term in the city council. He said he first wants to say his perspective on the project, and then spend the rest of the time on questions.

Hala said there will be a speaker's list kept.

Conlin said he will pass around his business card, and don't hesitate to send him an email.

Conlin said that 520 is a critical corridor, with importance to University. He said originally highways were made to bring people from suburbs to work in the cities. He said that is no longer true, and traffic goes both ways for 520. He says the growth management boundary makes development stop at a certain point, maintaining farms and forests. He said there are centers distributed throughout Seattle, as well as urban centers on the eastside, where population growth can occur in the future without expanding boundaries. He said they must have a transportation system that works to make it possible.

He said the City of Seattle has been trying to figure out what to do with 520, for 8 years through this committee he is working on. He said there was a wide diversity of ideas that were looked at. He said Nov 30th is the current date for final decision. He said he expects a Seattle vote Nov 13th and a regional vote on the 15th on the recommendation of the 6-lane with Pacific intersection option. He said the city believes they are at capacity with the numbers of cars they can accommodate. He said they could impose a toll to discourage cars and keep the current number of lanes. He said there will be a lane only for public transit and carpools.

He said an interchange on Montlake would become huge, and would not solve problems. He said there would remain backups on Montlake due to limited Montlake bridge size. He said buses would not have a good way to make a direct transit connection.

He said commuters brought up the idea of an interchange further east in Montlake. He explained the layout as shown by the images.

He said 70% getting on and off the interchange currently are from North Seattle.

He said the Council came to the conclusion that it worked well from a transportation and environmental standpoint, and it creates great pedestrian connection due to the lid crossover. He said cars would not be bottlenecked.

He said the major downside is that the western park arboretum is very close by. He said they want full mitigation of effects on the arboretum. He said any change is going to have impacts. He said keeping things the same is not an option because it is unsafe, and the current bridge does not filter its polluted water run-off.

Jon Stevens asked if there would be a one-way or two-way toll, and if it would be electronic or another system. He also asked about the light rail station and asked where the transit center will be for buses to drop off pedestrians. He said it seems like there will be a lot of congestion to get all the buses and cars in the one intersection.

Conlin said they have not designed the exact bus system. He said they must get that to work or the whole thing won't work. He said there will be an electronic tolling mechanism, and he said many people argue that

polls should be continued even after construction. He said it could be useful to develop funds for other projects.

Stephanie Adler quoted a section of the proposal legislation and asked about the effect of columns on the wetlands.

Conlin said there will not be many columns, and said that passage plan was actually created by a rower to allow for rowing in that area. **Conlin** demonstrated on the map. He said there many fewer than there are right now.

Everett asked to clarify that this is or is not the only option that the City Council is considering.

Conlin said the four lane alternative is the only other they would consider if they couldn't get the 6-lane with intersection to work.

Everett asked about to mitigation of parking spots lost. He said they filled in marshes the last time to make more parking.

Conlin said there will be only about 180 impacted during construction period, and he said there are ideas to make additional structures.

John Naughton moved to extend public forum by 10 minutes. *Seconded. Objection.*

John said we have not addressed enough questions, and he said 10 minutes would allow for at least two more speakers.

Gary Stute said he wants senate to move along in timely fashion.

Motion to extend time by 10 minutes passes 39-2-0.

Everett asked about 4-lane alternative and what is happening with that, and he asked about the intersection, saying that it will totally remake the nature of UW community.

Conlin said the advantage of the 6 lane with intersection plan is that it allows for improvement.

Everett asked about the challenge of not encouraging more cars.

Conlin said they are aiming overall to limit numbers of cars by good access to transit.

Erin asked about the intersection, saying it promotes more usage of single occupancy vehicles and has large environmental impacts, costs more, and uses more land. She said it take 2.34 acres of new land versus less than 1 acre for another plan.

Conlin said it does not encourage single occupancy vehicles, according to computer models. He said yes, there will be more environmental impacts, but similar to impacts if they were to the west. Some environmental advantages of the pacific interchange are that it can be just 6 lanes wide, whereas with a Montlake interchange there would have to be 9 lanes. He said the land has no current proposal for use by the university, and only parking space is there currently.

Rod asked for elaboration about impact on the Foster Island area, and asked how mitigation would happen there.

Conlin said the impact on Mark Island is pretty small. And said the Foster Island impact is confined mainly to existing impact. He said it will be quieter because it is higher, and would allow more light and rain for better environment underneath. He said they are insisting that there must be full mitigation of arboretum, including 1-1 replacement of any land taken. And additional funding for arboretum.

Austin Young said that people already carpool from the Eastside or use public transportation. He asked if there is less congestion that will encourage single occupancy.

Conlin said that transit is currently not predictable enough. He said there must be a transit-only lane, so people are much more likely to take it.

Austin asked if there will be a bike or pedestrian lane.

Conlin said yes.

Matt York asked how a toll would reroute traffic to I-90. Asked for numbers about traffic impacted to increase over the next 20 years.

Conlin said he does not know the forecast for I-90. He said the toll can be flat, or they can toll both bridges, or they could raise the toll depending on congestion, which can be done electronically. He said the forecast for growth in traffic with the pacific interchange is that there would about the same number of vehicles by 2030, yet could carry 20-30% more people because of greater use of transit.

Doug McManaway asked about bus and transit and if they would be expanding the number of buses to have more routes. He also asked what the plans are for aesthetic impact on campus, saying he was concerned about obstructing the view.

Conlin said the height of the interchange is designed to prevent that, and he said there is a design manual being created. He said it must look a lot better than it is right now.

Doug said many will be going to the IMA and stadium, and asked what the traffic will look like for that.

Conlin said the computer model is the closest people have at this point. Don't know exactly what it will look like.

Conlin said there would need to be an increase in the number of buses. He said right now the Department of Transportation is unwilling to add additional buses to Montlake because the traffic is bad.

Alex (?) asked if the station will be under the lid.

Conlin said the exact location has not been determined.

Conlin said the goal would be to get off the bus and then go to the light rail station.

Jono asked how the current traffic will be affected on 25th and 45th and other roads?

Conlin said the model shows the 20 minute wait will be alleviated. He said some more cars would be using them, but would go through much faster.

John Naughton asked about the impact on I-5, and if it would be easier to get to I-5. He asked if traffic will be diverted away from 45th. He asked if it would be better to use the I-5 onramp to 520.

Conlin said most congestion is by cars breaking down. With the shoulders planned the flow should remain more smooth, and HOV transit lanes are directly connected to reversible lanes.

Travis Grandy said he was concerned that the interchange will take up a lot of space on university land, and asked if any other option like putting it partially underwater or underground had been considered, to mitigate the land use aspect.

Conlin said it has to be high enough to get across, and only a maximum of 6-7 % grade could be established, so that would be a very steep dive. **Conlin** said the state of Washington determines mitigation.

Gary Stute said he was concerned it was a faulty traffic model that there would be just a few thousand more cars in 25 years, in context of population doubling.

Conlin said the increase in walkable communities could assist traffic issues, and he said he doubted there would be a doubling. He said people will need to drive much less.

Hala thanked the councilmember. **Hala** said that any comments on discussion today could be forwarded to him.

X. Orders of the Day

A. Nominations and Elections of Senate Liaison

a. Student Activities Fee Committee

Sameer Kanal is currently nominated.

Gary Stute nominated himself.

Alvin Chen nominated **Austin Young**.

Hala asked if **Sameer** is present.

Laura Baird said **Sameer** is in a meeting in the ASUW office, LSC.

Travis Grandy said he had campus affair placards.

Matt York nominated himself.

Mikhail said **Sameer** is not available.

Hala asked for a person to speak for **Sameer**. In response to no volunteer, she said we can still vote for him although no-one will speak on his place.

Gary said he has been a senator for 3 or 4 years. He said he served as **Cullen White's** proxy for Finance and Budget. He said he could bring his senate position as well as an idea of the actual financial position.

Matt said he is a first year student. He said they are looking for institutional memory, and he would like to continue in the future.

Hala asked what criteria they will use when they the review budget of campus entities on the behalf of Senate.

Matt said he would look for those that benefit the entire student body rather than just specific areas.

Gary said he would look if Senate had a standing opinion. Would try to ensure purpose of the bodies as created on campus.

Alex Kim asked that besides crunching numbers, one would also serve as a liaison. He asked what experience and philosophies they have in working as a liaison.

Gary said that although he is more conservative than most students at UW, but representation will work well anyway because they are all students. He said he has been involved in almost every part of the university, including club sports and ASUW.

Matt York said he will get active as he goes along.

Mikhail announced that **Sameer** withdrew.

Mikhail said that this position is both ASUW and GPSS but independent from both. He asked that in spite of close affiliation with ASUW how they will ensure that they approach responsibilities with a fair and objective, if not sometimes critical, view of ASUW in order to promote fiscal responsibility of student fees.

Matt York withdrew and said he would prefer Gary to be elected. He said he has already applied as an At-large member.

Gary said (?)

Charles moved to appoint **Gary Stute** by acclamation. *Seconded. Objection.*

Motion to appoint Gary Stute by acclamation passes. 39-2-4.

B. New Business

a. 1st Readings – R-13-5: A Resolution In Opposition to the Pacific Street Interchange as Proposed by the Washington Department of Transportation Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Erin gave first readings.

Erin said they have heard pretty much all the background. She said this resolution is specifically in regard to the draft environmental impact statement released by the Department of Transportation.

Mikhail moved to adjourn with announcements. *Seconded. Objection.*

Mikhail said he does not think there is quorum now, although it has not been called officially.

Alex Kim said it cannot be said there is a lack of quorum until it is called.

Austin asked if any voting is taking place.

Hala said no, the first readings are just info to take back to the constituencies.

Rod asked if it can be moved to second readings.

Mikhail said he cannot say if they do or do not have quorum, but said many people have left. He said it would no longer be a democratic process with limited numbers of people.

Travis Grandy said they should finish first readings and then adjourn.

Jono asked if 1st readings would continue next week if tabled.

Hala said yes.

A senator asked a question (?)

Hala called it out of order in relation to the motion to adjourn, which is non-debatable.

Motion to adjourn with announcements fails 13-18-3.

Travis Grandy asked what is required for quorum.

Charles said it is currently 38.

Mikhail called for quorum.

Quorum is not had, at 37 members.

Erin said she can submit feedback last year's resolution which is less specific.

Mikhail said the only motion in order now is to adjourn.

Hala said she will allow for announcements as well.

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment

Adjourned at 7:11 PM.
