

GPSA Assembly Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2011

PRESENT: Ackman, Boyd, Bradley, Hermes, Hertzog, Jain, Kumar, Mercer, Monroe, Nagarkar, Nogueron, Peters, Polansky, Reitzel-Rivera, Rutkowski, Salazar, Salihu, Savage, Stahl, Tsai, Tucker

ABSENT: Adams, Burnley, Calloway, Coplan, Firestone, Hallmark-McKellar, Kanchan, Lei, Richardson

BY PROXY: Jennifer Auer for Bashir, Ileana Baeza for Estevez

ATTENDING: Kelley Stewart, Conrad Ottey, Kendra Knight, Rhian Stotts, Andre Denham, Annette Jecker, Dr. Webber, Deborah Crusoe

- I. Call to Order at 3:14 P.M.
- II. Approval of Minutes: A friendly amendment was suggested to correct the spelling of Kelley Stewart's name, no opposition.
- III. Amendments to the Agenda: none
- IV. Executive Reports
 - a. Ryan Polansky, Assembly President- Please see the published report on the GPSA website located at: <http://www.asu.edu/gpsa/assembly>. Mr. Polansky welcomed the assembly back for the beginning of the spring semester and reported that one assembly seat for CTI (at Poly) was vacant, making 32 of the 33 assembly seats filled. Mr. Polansky reported 2 graduate student organizations were approved for funding by the Assembly Operation Committee for January. Assembly Bill #25 concerning seat allocation will be discussed in the New Business section of the agenda
 - b. Kelley Stewart, President: Please see the published report on the GPSA website located at: <http://www.asu.edu/gpsa/assembly>. Ms Stewart reported the facility fee allocations plans for the Polytechnic and West campuses are scheduled for fall of 2011. She also said a letter will be out next week concerning the boards and committee appointments. Ms. Stewart said the health center renovations are going smoothly. She also mentioned there are tickets to the basketball games still available. Ms. Stewart wanted to recognize Rhian Stotts and Matt Savage for volunteering to participate with ASA in Tucson when President Obama came to speak. Lastly, Ms. Stewart welcomed Ms. Elizabeth Cantu. Ms. Cantu is the Executive Director of Communication and Campus Relations for GPSA. She is promoting a TEA event on January 29th to encourage students to nominate their favorite teachers for the TEA award. As part of her goals for Exec. Director, Ms. Cantu expects to hire campus directors for the Polytechnic, West and Downtown graduate student centers by mid February. Ms. Cantu said she is looking forward to working with the GPSA assembly in the future.
 - c. Tyler Barratt, VP of Internal Affairs: Please see the published report on the GPSA website located at: <http://www.asu.edu/gpsa/assembly>. Ms. Knight reported on current travel numbers.
 - d. Conrad W. Ottey, Jr., VP of External Affairs: Please see the published report on the GPSA website located at: <http://www.asu.edu/gpsa/assembly> Mr. Ottey reported a possible AZ government budget cut of \$80 million from ASU, there is a need for

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volunteers from the assembly's constituents to lobby the legislature. The next ABOR meeting will be held at ASU on February 17th. The external affairs committee and ASA are planning a lobby kickoff event to gather lobby volunteers.

- e. Kendra Knight, VP of Professional Development: Please see the published report on the GPSA website located at: <http://www.asu.edu/gpsa/assembly>. Ms. Knight reported professional development travel numbers are consistently increasing over last year. She reported the December winter interdisciplinary social was a success. Ms. Knight let the assembly know that a workshop on negotiation was going to be on February 24th and hosted by Dr. Joan Brett. She also mentioned that the grad picnic planning was moving forward. Ms. Knight concluded with mentioning a change in travel reviewing procedure and that training is a requirement.

V. Committee Reports

- a. ASASU Conference Committee: Mr. Polansky discussed the new elections director will hold 2 information sessions in February to present any aspiring GPSA assembly members and executives. There are 2 weeks to apply for the positions and after that. The seat allocation will be discussed in New Business.
- b. Government Operations: Mr. Rutkowski said that discussion of Gov Ops committee will be held in Graduate Student Forum
- c. International Students Committee: Ms. Tsai asks the assembly members to volunteer to be a part of this new committee.

VI. External Reports

- a. Academic Senate: none
- b. Graduate College- Dr. Webber asked the assembly members to remind constituents to go to the Graduate College website to become aware of new opportunities in the form of fellowships, scholarships, etc. Assembly members expressed concerns about scholarship distribution, number of credit hours, etc. and Dr. Webber suggested contacting Ms. Saldivar with the Graduate College for help.
- c. Undergraduate Student Government: Ms. Stewart shared an email concerning an undergraduate, Courtney Dash (West campus). Courtney is a very strong campus advocate and has been called to active duty immediately.
- d. Arizona Students Association: Kirby Weatherford, ASA Organizing Director and Amy Williams, ASU-Tempe Campus Organizer provided a handout discussing the legislative approach to the AZ government budget (see attachment). Ms. Weatherford gave a brief overview saying that there is approximately a \$600 million shortfall statewide with a \$1.1 billion deficit which affects universities by a possible cutting of up to \$170 million of university funding statewide. She also reported that when the various programs that brought in funding (stimulus package, etc) end, the legislature does not have a plan B in place to make up these funds. Ms. Williams invited the assembly members to the February 4th ASA/EA

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kickoff event at the Graduate Student Center-Tempe to try to gain more lobby volunteers. She mentioned Lobby Day at the state capital is held on February 16, 2011. Be sure to read all ASA reports on the website,

www.azstudnets.org

- VII. Old Business – none.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. AB #25: 2011-2012 Assembly Seat Allocation –Due to the delay of receiving the fall enrollment report from the University’s Office of Institutional Analysis, Mr. Polansky motioned (1st) and 2nd Ms. Hertzog that AB #25 be tabled until Mr. Polansky receives the new fall enrollment report. At that time, Mr. Polansky will make any revisions necessary in the Assembly Bill to comply with the GPSA Bylaws Title III, Article 3, Section A for the 2011-2012 academic year. Then the Bill will be electronically sent to all Assembly Members for an electronic vote. Due to the elections timetable and the need to have the information sessions held in February, this voting procedure is necessary. A time frame of 48 hours was set from the circulation of the Bill until the close of voting. –Motion passed
 - b. AB #26: INCOSE International Workshop –1st Mr. Nagarkar and Mr. Polansky 2nd proposed the adoption of AB #26 for \$2000.00. This is an increase from \$1467.00 originally proposed. Bill Passed
- IX. Graduate Student Forum
 - a. Volunteers for TEA event – Ms. Cantu is asking for assembly member volunteers for the upcoming TEA event. A signup sheet was circulated.
 - b. Academic Calendar Changes – Ms. Stotts spoke about the 2011-12 year winter and spring semester changes in the academic calendar. The calendar changes have already been put in place and the discussion was about how graduate students who are TAs /RAs/GAs will have to adjust.
 - c. Firearms on Campus – Ms. Stotts asked if the Assembly Members were still supportive of the formal stance that GPSA published last year stating GPSA is against any firearms on campus. Ms. Stewart reminded the members that ABOR and ASA have spoken out against firearms on campus as well. A straw poll was taken and the former GPSA stand on firearms was unanimously upheld.
 - d. International SEVIS costs – Ms. Tsai and Ms. Nogueron spoke on SEVIS costs facing international students.
 - e. Government Operations – Mr. Rutkowski solicited the opinions of Assembly Members regarding several proposed changes to the Bylaws.
 - f. Law School Privatization - Mr. Hermes and Ms. Hertzog solicited knowledge and opinions from GPSA participants regarding the potential privatization of the Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law.
- X. Announcements: Ms. Cantu reiterated the need for TEA volunteers and Mr. Polansky again called for interested Assembly Members to contact him regarding membership in the International Students Committee.
- XI. Adjournment at 5:35 P.M.

The handout distributed by ASA representatives follows on the next page:

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JLBC Baseline Summary

January 2011

The JLBC Baseline provides an estimate of the General Fund budget shortfall for the current and upcoming budget year. The General Fund revenue estimate is based on a consensus forecast, while spending reflects the cost of currently active funding formulas. The Baseline is a starting point for discussion on the budget and does not include any solutions to the shortfall.

General Fund Balances

- Given FY 2011 revenues of \$7.91 billion and spending of \$8.44 billion, the state has a projected current year shortfall of \$(530) million. The shortfall is largely due to the failure of the 2 fund transfers in the November election.
- In terms of FY 2012, the Baseline revenue estimate is \$8.31 billion, compared to Baseline spending of \$9.28 billion. The Baseline cash shortfall is \$(975) million.
- The FY 2011 and FY 2012 shortfall estimates have declined since this fall due to an improving economy that has increased revenues and reduced low-income entitlement spending.
- If no permanent solutions are enacted in FY 2012, the estimated shortfall is near \$(612) million in FY 2013 and then grows to \$(1.12) billion in FY 2014 as the 1-cent sales tax expires.
- The shortfall estimates do not include over \$1 billion in funding formula costs that are suspended annually, but have not been permanently repealed.

General Fund Revenues

- Base revenues are expected to grow by 5.2% in FY 2011. Using the 4-sector consensus, base revenues are projected to grow another 5.4% in FY 2012. Base revenues exclude tax law changes (like the 1-cent sales tax) and one-time adjustments, so as to provide a perspective on the underlying growth in the economy.
- The General Fund revenue diversion to the cities (urban revenue sharing) will decline from \$474 million in FY 2011 to \$424 million in FY 2012 under the statutory formula.

General Fund Spending

- Spending would increase by \$842 million, or 10.0%, above the FY 2011 budget. Excluding one-time Federal Funds backfill, however, spending would decrease by (0.4)%.
- The main FY 2012 changes are:
 - ⇒ \$876 million to backfill the use of one-time Federal Funds for statutory funding programs in FY 2011.
 - ⇒ \$80 million for the one-time cost of an additional 2-week state employee payroll occurring in FY 2012.
 - ⇒ \$(171) million for lower-than-budgeted FY 2011 Medicaid caseload growth and provider rate reductions offset by 1.9% caseload growth in FY 2012.
 - ⇒ \$55 million for K-12 formula growth.
 - ⇒ \$97 million for higher School Facilities Board lease-purchase payments on prior K-12 school construction.
 - ⇒ \$(53) million in University savings due to the statutory requirement for a pay reduction and furlough to begin in FY 2012.
 - ⇒ \$(42) million in other savings, primarily due to the statutory end of the deposits to the Land Conservation program and lease-purchase savings on state office buildings.

Executive Comparison

In comparison, the Executive budget has a baseline shortfall of \$(764) million in FY 2011 and \$(1.1) billion in FY 2012. The JLBC and Executive baseline shortfall estimates are not directly comparable as they have been constructed in a slightly different manner. After adjusting for those methodological differences, the Executive estimates would be comparable to the JLBC Baseline. Unlike the JLBC Baseline, however, the Executive also proposes a set of solutions to bring the budget into balance.

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Last Name	First Name	Assembly Seat	Roll Call	Approval of Minutes	Table AB-25	AB-26	AB-25 E-vote
Ackman	Emily	Education 4	1	1	1	1	1
Adams	Heidi	Public Programs 2	-	-	-	-	1
Bashir	Mohsin	Public Programs 1	1	1	1	1	1
Boyd	Jeff	Engineering 1	1	1	1	1	1
Bradley	Jamin	Business 1	-	-	1	1	
Burnley	Josie	Nursing Health 1	-	-	-	-	1
Calloway	David	Public Programs 3	-	-	-	-	1
Coplan	Becky	New College 1	-	-	-	-	
Estevez	Dulce	CLAS Humanities 2	1	1	-	-	1
Firestone	Jonah	Education 1	-	-	-	-	
Hallmark-McKellar	Kim	Journalism 1	-	-	-	-	
Hermes	Ed	Law 2	1	1	1	1	1
Hertzog	Erin	Law 1	1	1	1	1	
Jain	Vishant	Business 2	1	1	1	1	
Kanchan	Raghav	Business 4	-	-	-	-	
Kumar	Shamanth	Engineering 4	1	1	1	1	1
Lei	Nyomi	Engineering 3	-	-	-	-	
Mercer	Christy	Sustainability 1	1	1	1	1	1
Monroe	Adam	CLAS Natural 1	1	3	1	1	1
Nagarkar	Parth	Engineering 2	1	1	1	1	
Nogueron	Silvia	Education 2	1	1	1	1	1
Peters	Lacey	Education 3	1	1	1	1	
Polansky	Ryan	Business 3	1	1	1	1	1
Reitzel Rivera	Hannah	CLAS Social 2	-	-	1	1	1
Richardson	Justin	At Large 2	-	-	-	-	
Rutkowski	Michael	CLAS Natural 2	1	1	1	1	1
Salazar	Anne-Marie	At Large 1	1	1	1	1	
Salihu	Flurije	CLAS Humanities 1	1	1	1	1	
Savage	Matthew	CLAS Social 1	1	1	1	1	1
Stahl	Jessica	Letters Sciences 1	-	-	1	1	1
Tsai	YiRen	Arts 2	1	1	1	1	
Tucker	Ebony	Arts 1	1	1	1	1	