General Council Meeting  
Tuesday, 16 February 2016, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
College of Law, Room 135

I. Call to Order  
At 6:01 pm  
Attendance: Jasmine Sears, Mariia Khorosheva, Juhyung Sun, Sarah Netherton, Jared Brock, Victoria Moses, Jennifer Sedler, Chandni Parikh, Thomas McClintock, Sierra Fung, Usir Younis, Caitlin Harrison, Jim Collins, Adam Meier, Anne Myers, James Carlson, Justin Ostrowski, Alexander Karaman, Ankush Nayak, Ryan Fagan, Delaney Stratton, Katie Straw, Vic Keschrumrus, Brandon Smith, Sarah Seavey, Mark Ryan, Preshit Ambade, Jahaira Vera (proxy by Mariia Khorosheva), Karthik Srinivasan (proxy by Ankush Nayak)  
Guests: Greg Byrne, Kris Kreutz, Zachary Brooks, Daniel Kagper.

Breathing Exercise

II. Call to Audience  
Greg Byrne, Athletics  
i. G. Byrne: You will be the first to hear this today.  
1. We got feedback from GPSC, ASUA, and the campus community.  
2. We will hit the pause button, but not hitting the stop button.  
3. We are still very passionate to find solutions for the Arizona Stadium.  
4. I want to update you on our thought process right now.  
5. We think the conversations have been very productive.  
6. We believe we need further internal research based on the feedback we received.  
7. We need to do a better job at explaining why we need a stadium renovation.  
8. I would like GPSC come through the stadium. We can do open public stadium tours.  
9. One of the questions is can we just take the renovation process one step at a time: the concession stands, then seating, then restrooms, and not anything else.  
10. We think there is some potential for phasing, such as on the east side.  
11. I would find a hard time just taking care of east side, and not the west side of the stadium.  
12. We will look at renovation plans and ideas, and funding models.  
13. We will continue to evaluate the three-pronged approach.  
14. We are still focused on private donations.  
15. One family committed 10 million dollars recently, and we think there may be other opportunities.
16. **We will be more concrete—** we are looking into the stadium renovation fee in ticket purchases.

17. I want to have the cheaper tickets in the pack-12.

18. We will continue looking into the student athletics fee.

19. **Beer sales could be possible but we need restrooms and concessions to support it.**

20. I don’t know if we can do restroom and concessions in different phases.

21. **We will communicate a revised timeline to both the University and student leadership, communicate it to local media, provide updates to the Daily Wildcat, and continue communicating with GPSC.**

22. **We will determine future needs of the Arizona stadium, and the RFP for architectural design.**

23. **We need a hybrid model for the stadium, the current design of the new stadium is too expensive.**

24. We will develop surveys to gather feedback.

25. **We will continue to evaluate the next steps, the renovation and the funding model.**

26. Our goal is to bring something next year in more concrete terms.

ii. **J. Collins:** When you put together the survey, did you run it past us?

iii. **G. Byrne:** The GPSC and ASU leadership was initially involved in the survey.

iv. **A. Karaman:** Maybe you can come again to our next meeting?

v. **G. Byrne:** Will be happy to do it.

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**Kris Kreutz, Campus Health**

i. **K. Kreutz:** I am from the Health Services.

1. We have had premium increases over the years.

2. The portion of the premium, or the costs of the provision of medical services, has recently dropped.

3. The Aetna Student Health reviewed all the accessible information.

4. Observations were that shock-claims (any claims over 20 thousand dollars) had dropped over 37 percent year after year.

5. In-patient hospital care has also dropped over the years.

6. There have been changes in use of the university health services.

7. They hired an outside consultant to double check.

8. The results affect the renewal of the plan.

9. One year of course is not trend worthy.

10. Is this continuing this year? Yes, it is, in the 60%.

11. The reason it has changed is the cost of pharmaceuticals.

12. This is good news, not something we can act rationally on.

13. 2 issues have come forth.

14. The first issue is the windfall in the 2015-2016- 2 million dollars across 3 universities has been refunded to self-pay students.
15. We have made a recommendation that self-pay individual should receive a refund of 4 thousand dollars.
16. We vetted this with university administration, and agreed that self-pay student should receive a refund.
17. The second issue is that going into renewal, AETNA was offering a 14, 5 reduction in premium.
18. The recommendation at the UofA was to improve benefits, particularly the out of pocket costs.
19. The recommendation was to elect to move the plan from a gold to platinum level plan.
20. Moving to platinum level has no ramification.
21. In-network care will reduce from 3 thousand to 2 thousand.
22. The reduction of the cost of physicians from 35 to 25 thousand.
23. This will remove the deductible for prescriptions and lower the prescription co-payments.
24. All the changes still result in a premium reduction in 8.7 percent, and a dramatic increase in benefits for out-of-pocket costs.
25. The last recommendation is that we agree to keep this in forefront in terms of what we are experiencing as the trend.
26. If the trend we see does not last, the administration does not want to add to the plan what won’t be later necessary.
27. But we are focused on the out of pocket.
28. The predication of reductions in premiums should stand.
29. We think those who paid should get paid back in terms of a refund.

ii. A. Karaman: What are the current co-pays?

iii. K. Kreutz: They were 20, 60, 80, 100
1. They would drop to 10, 40, 60, 80 respectively.

iv. A. Karaman: Are out of pocket maxes still not separate?
v. K. Kreutz: This year we have a combined max of 3 thousand, 2 thousand for inside network.

vi. A. Karaman: Is there any connection between the increased cost of healthcare and decrease in use?
1. Are there students that won’t be able to afford procedures?
2. Has member enrollment dropped?

vii. K. Kreutz: Member enrollment has remained similar year after year.
1. The percentage of international students has risen.
2. Dependents were not participating in the plan in 2015 and 2016.
3. We asked the outside consultant 75 different questions, all were answered as effectively as possible.
4. The outside consultant provided us with observations, but not with causes.
5. There is not rational explanation of this.
6. It’s an interesting dilemma, we are all thinking about it, and there is no clear explanation.
7. Perhaps people with more challenges moved to the marketplace or graduated.

viii. J. Sedler: Can there be more assistance of low income students?
ix. K. Kreutz: This is not something that we as a health service or group necessarily engage with.
   1. This is a university policy question, I don’t have a ready answer for that.
   2. From a premium perspective, we are getting to a very affordable premium.
   3. The experience in this plan is so good, that the insurance companies can’t justify a higher premium.
   4. If they are true low income individuals, they can qualify for Medicade.
   5. But that system has its requirements and challenges.

x. J. Collins: The University said they cannot refund fees.
   1. Could you give us some documentation?
   2. It would be useful to have documentation to show they could refund premiums, and not fees.

xi. K. Kreutz: We manage enrollment on behalf of AETNA students, I don’t have that documentation.

xii. S. Seavey: When do the trends start influencing decision making?

xiii. K. Kreutz: Until such a time that we can demonstrate that it is a trend, that it is sustainable, it is foolhardy to think about benefits that have not been historically requested.
   1. We should add things based on limited experiences.
   2. The trend continuing for 2 or 3 years (3 years preference) would be what we would need to see.
   3. But in 2 years it would be challenging not to increase benefits if we have proof.
   4. We have a couple of years minimum of platinum, and maybe it’s sustainable.

xiv. J. Ostrowski: Before I came to the UofA I studied actuarial science.
   1. Maybe if there is any way to get some numbers/surveys, that actuaries can answer our questions.

xv. K. Kreutz: This is the only plan that the UofA has seen a reduction in.
   1. 10.7 and 10.8% increases are projected for next year, it is rising.
   2. If we stayed static we would get 10.7% premium increase, that why we arrived at reduction.
   3. We have been asking the same questions you have been asking.
   4. Its difficult to know how to find out the answers we need.

xvi. A. Nayak: The Uof plan is mandatory for all international students.
   1. Medical coverage starts in August 16.
   2. But mandatory graduate orientation is a week prior to that.
   3. Its usually the first several weeks that international students feel sick.
   4. There is a lot of things international students need to deal with in first week, could we consider adding this one week extra for students free of cost?
xvii. **K. Kreutz:** The insurance carrier is not going to offer anything for free.
1. The question becomes “what can international students do?”
2. We do offer early enrollment.
3. Depending on when the international student arrives, they should have insurance.
4. We offer early enrollment at a prorated-offered coverage before August 16.

**Zachary Brooks, GPSC President 2012-2015**

i. **Z. Brooks:** I have a few concerns.
1. It has come to my attention that EB has their own travel grants.
2. This has not been shared with the General Council.
3. There are two items in the proposed budget that are of interest.
4. There is a golf cart, which is 10 thousand dollars.
5. There is a 15 thousand dollar fundraiser.
6. Money isn’t being spent very well.
7. I have previously provided Sarah with suggestion on how to spend the extra money via email.
8. In the minutes a few weeks ago, I noticed that in the newly approved Governing Docs GPSC no longer recognizes itself as the sole organization representing graduate students on campus.
9. It took us years to be recognized by ASUA as an organization primarily responsible for representing graduate and professional students.
10. Multiple leaders really worked hard to have GPSC recognized.
11. Where are the EB Travel Grants located in the Budget?

ii. **S. Netherton:** The EB Travel Grants are located in the operations portion of the budget.

**III. Approvals**

a. February 2, 2016 minutes

*Vote: 29 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain*

**VI. Early Reports**

a. Social Chair – J. Veluz

i. **S. Netherton:** Joy is not here today, I will make the announcement.
1. This Friday at the happy hour we are doing an elections event.
2. We want to make sure that as many reps as possible can come.
3. We will double the food budget.
4. Its 5:30-7:30 at Gentle Bens.
5. Invite all your constituents.
7. This will be my first Friday.
8. People interested in running for a position can come, and they can talk to people in the position currently.
V. Old Business
a. Representative Reports
   a. Green Fund – R. Fagan
      i. **R. Fagan:** This is a 10 member committee
         1. We have annual grants for sustainability.
         2. We have application for different things such as crops, etc.
         3. Faculty and students can apply for grants.
         4. If anyone has any questions, let me know.
   j. Officer Reports
      a. President – S. Netherton
         i. **S. Netherton:** If you are interested in going to Phoenix tomorrow, we will be meeting with legislators in the afternoon.
            i. We will leave at 7 am, and won’t be back till 7 pm.
            ii. Let me know before you leave this evening if you intend to go.
            iii. I will try to email you the rest of my report, it was almost ready for this meeting.
         iii. **J. Brock:** Are you planning to give us a summary of what happened at ABOR?
         iv. **S. Netherton:** Yes, I would love to bring you up to date on that.
      b. Vice President – J. Sun
         i. **J. Sun:** I have a committee update about the IT advisory board.
            i. I proposed we needed more say.
            ii. When students join the IT advisory board, people are sympathetic to idea that we should have more say over it.
            iii. I’ve been with IT advisory board for a little while and I understand the frustrations.
               ii. **J. Collins:** The ITSAB was created as an oversight committee for a fee.
      c. Assembly Chair – J. Sears
         i. **J. Sears:** We are back in the Student Union for our next meeting
            i. The Committee of 11 will no longer be speaking with Greg Byrne.
      d. Treasurer – J. Brock
         i. **J. Brock:** I don't have much to say on the budget.
            1. There is a delay on stipends.
            2. We are almost done, they should be sent out tomorrow.
      e. Secretary – M. Khorosheva
         i. **M. Khorosheva:** Please make sure you are signing the attendance sheet at each of our GC meetings independent of whether you come earlier or later to the meetings.
            1. Also make sure to check your attendance in the minutes when they get sent out.
2. I am monitoring your attendance during meetings as well.

3. Hopefully, this 3-way attendance monitoring system will ensure that your attendance is marked accurately.

4. My internal committee this year was in charge of the governing docs.

5. Because I was not informed by Sarah of the upcoming elections and the change in elections timing this year, we had to finish the governing documents in a rush.

6. I was informed about upcoming elections on January 20, and informed the governing documents had to be sent out to GPSC on January 26.

7. This is why there is a need for amendments.

8. My external GPSC committee has finished its work last semester.

9. My external committee was responsible for reviewing what provider instead of d2l we would have in the next several years.

10. I apologize for not being able to give you detailed record of our discussions at this committee, as we were told to keep the information secret.

11. When providers started arriving on campus and making presentations before and during Winter Break, I sent an email to everyone on GPSC informing you what was happening and inviting you to come to the presentations or watch them online.

12. The UofA has decided to stick with D2l as our provider in the upcoming years.

f. Elections Code Amendment Vote – S. Netherton

i. S. Netherton: I move to amend the agenda.

1. I move to move the budget vote after the election code.

2. For the 25 anniversary we have donation letters to benefit GPSC, please take a letter.

ii. A. Karaman: Who oversees the elections?

iii. S. Netherton: Claudia and Chris Hargraves.

iv. J. Sears: The Arizona revised statutes should be removed.
1. The Assembly chair is not the one who should time the elections as we have internally elected Execute board members running, including the Assembly Chair.

2. Previously it was not possible to run for a president and a vice president position simultaneously.

3. I am proposing we change it to president and both vice president positions simultaneously.

4. We are removing all ARS.

5. The representative orientation is taken out.

6. Also removing things that do not apply any more.

v. **M. Khorosheva:** I have an issue with the elections director determining the elections procedure if something is not mentioned in or regulated by the elections code.

vi. **J. Collins:** Many of the people assigned as the elections director have not been particularly bright.

   1. Elections directors are often hired but not really trained, and so things go badly most of the time.

vii. **J. Brock:** The election director is hired not elected.

   1. I would say the elections director gets to make those decisions unless 2/3 majority strike them out.

viii. **A. Karaman:** If majority disagrees, this new position about the elections director should be changed.

ix. **J. Sears:** An amendment has been proposed to the amendment.

x. **J. Sun:** Who is responsible to fire an elections director?

   1. We should add “unless overwritten by majority vote”.

xi. **A. Karaman:** It should say “with approval of the majority”.

xii. **M. Khorosheva:** I think the General Council should be informed of all decisions made by the elections director and approves of them.

xiii. **J. Sears:** We are voting on initial amendment

**Vote: 6 for, 3 opposed, 20 abstain**

xiv. **J. Sears:** Now we are voting on the amended amendment.

**Vote: 23 for, 5 opposed, 1 abstain**

xv. **A. Karaman:** The GC majority voted “with approval of the majority”.

xvi. **M. Khorosheva:** I also want to call attention to the fact that historically it was only the President and Vice President that could not run against each other simultaneously.

   1. That made sense.
2. However, we have many EB positions that people can run for simultaneously.

3. I propose that people can run for the two Vice president positions simultaneously as well.

xvii. **J. Sun:** If you are running for two positions that could mean you don’t know what position you want and have a general lack of focus.

xviii. **S. Netherton:** I am in favor of this wording. Because if we have someone who chooses to run for President and Vice president, they can get elected for both.

1. There is nothing to tell us if they chose to take the vacant position or not.

2. I would rather us have good candidates get voted into positions.

xix. **A. Karaman:** I believe that graduate students could run for both positions.

1. People are not stealing votes from second positions they are running for.

xx. **J. Collins:** We could go with what Mariia is suggesting, although I respect Juhyung’s strong position.

1. I don’t think there is anything wrong with running for two positions.

2. We don’t have the wording for what happens if a person would win both Vice President positions.

3. We should define it.

4. If someone will run for both positions, do they just want a GA ship, or do people want to be a good officer and do a good job?

5. The thinking of people who want to run for both positions is that they want to help GPSC.

6. So the decision we are looking for in here is letting people run for both vice president positions.

7. In the past, people have been able to run for both Vice President positions simultaneously.

xxi. **J. Sears:** We don’t have the language in place for Governing Docs in case someone wins both Vice President positions.

1. Therefore we should approve the current language as is.

xxii. **M. Khorosheva:** The Governing Docs could come up with that language.

xxiii. **J. Sears:** I don’t believe the Governing Docs committee can. I move that we vote on the language as is.
xxiv. **A. Karaman:** So people are supposed to vote for this despite the fact that they would vote against this amendment if the language existed.

**Vote: 21 for, 2 opposed, 6 abstain**

b. **Governing Docs Discussion**
   a. Codifying onboarding
   b. Stipend changes
   c. Removal/replacement of reps in dereliction of their duties
   d. Scheduling and minutes timelines

c. **Budget Vote – S. Netherton**
   i. **S. Netherton:** I met with our financial team and we might realistically have more money, and we might need more suggestions and ideas.
      1. We approved 63 thousand for Travel and Reap.
      2. Nobody sent me ideas on how to spend money in the last 2 weeks.
      3. I had had a few people talk to me in the past few weeks.
      4. I am figuring out which of the things I can do.
      5. *Maybe* we can put water bottle refillers in the colleges.
      6. We are trying to get colleges what they can use.
      7. We have 15 thousand dollars for fundraiser.
      8. In regards to anniversary funds, Joy would like to give 3 thousand dollars to grad students choreographers.
      9. That money will effectively be put into the foundations account.
      10. Every dollar is going straight into foundations, not the UA account.
      11. We will cover every single cost from the fundraiser.
      12. I was a professional fundraiser in my past life.
      13. We have the potential to raise money on an annual basis.
      14. Here on the screen are the proposals to spend money that are up for voting.

   ii. **J. Collins:** One quick comment.
      1. I am really glad Zach is here, he was president when we raised the original 2 hundred thousand dollars for GPSC.
      2. He mentioned he had sent you many ideas on how to spend the money.
      3. Can we get those proposals?

   iii. **S. Netherton:** Zach left me the email from last year in the president's email account. Some of the proposals will take more creativity to come up with solutions for, some of them were refused.

   iv. **J. Collins:** Could you send this information out?

   i. Regarding the 15 hundred dollar fundraiser, can we actually make money on this?

   v. **J. Brock:** Point of information. The Gala is a celebration of GPSC and its contributions.
      1. This is a celebration of success.
2. Maybe we can reassign some money.
3. The primary goal of this is not a fundraiser.

vi. **S. Netherton:** We have to be looking to outside sources at this point.
1. Our funding will go down not this next year.
2. We should be asking the administration to fund GPSC.
3. We should get their attention.
4. This was not intended as a fundraiser to begin with.

vii. **J. Ostrowski:** What is this budgets for 15 thousand dollars going to fund?
1. Is it the location, food, entertainment?

viii. **A. Karaman:** I was curious about how much money is it for the EB travel grant?
1. Did we approve this large sum of money in operations?

ix. **J. Sears:** It not a zero sum game.
1. It’s a 15 thousand dollars for whatever we want.
2. We are losing GPSC money for sure this year.
3. We are out of luck on these accounts.
4. There is no existing account we can dump the money into.

x. **J. Sun:** We are not trying to pull a fast vote.
1. We have been talking about ways to spend money for a long time.
2. We are funding college libraries.
3. We have also increased travel grants and REAP money to the maximum.

xi. **S. Seavey:** Nobody doubts travel grants are important, but we can’t fund them with more money.

xii. **A. Karaman:** This is nothing but a sheer direct payment to individuals.
1. It is a significant amount of money.
2. I didn’t think it would be checks written out to dancers

xiii. **M. Khorosheva:** I would like to comment on EB Travel Grants.

xiv. **J. Sears:** No, you can’t, this is not what we are currently discussing.

 xv. **S. Netherton:** No, you can’t.

xvi. **J. Brock:** I don’t feel there is enough consensus to pass this, people don’t have enough information.

xvii. **M. Ryan:** Maybe we can at least pass the amounts.

xviii. **A. Karaman:** I am sure our colleges could come up with ways to spend money in a heartbeat
1. We should be putting money into international student work.
2. I would be willing to put money to the cultural centers.

xix. **J. Sears:** We can’t give money to cultural centers.

xx. **A. Karman:** How can we give money to cultural centers?

xxi. **S. Netherton:** We can just buy stuff, such as for the LGBTQ events.
1. However, there is a limit on what we can spend money on.

xxii. **T. McClintock:** If things get passed, can we still make edits?

xxiii. **S. Seavey:** Maybe we could get a list of what has been successfully funded in the past.
1. We could give colleges a survey.
2. I know LGBTQ centers bring a lot of speakers.
3. That survey should go out this week.
4. I think its a good way to spend this money, but not all of it.

xxiv. **J. Sun:** We would appreciate any help we could have in terms of concrete items.
1. The bureaucratic system is killing us.
2. If only we could have specific items to fund.
3. I am not trying to admonish anyone.
4. It is difficult to spend money on purposes.

xxv. **J. Collins:** Can you send out some facts.
1. So people could evaluate things.

xxvi. **M. Khorosheva:** I wish GC members could be informed about this earlier.
1. I was prohibited by Sarah to write detailed EB minutes.
2. Sarah told us all during an EB meeting at the beginning of the semester that she was our boss.

xxvii. **J. Sears:** That is not true.

xxviii. **S. Netherton:** That is not true.

xxix. **M. Khorosheva:** Yes, that is true.

xxx. **S. Netherton:** Even if we approve what is currently being suggested, that still leaves 75 thousand dollars that can’t be spent.
1. We can have this discussion on months on end.
2. There is no more time to talk about.
3. I gave you two weeks to come up with suggestions to spend money.
4. None of the suggestions were emailed to us.
5. We are at the deadline for getting stuff through facilities management.

xxxi. **J. Sears:** I move to approve everything except for the golf cart.
xxxii. **A. Karaman:** Things could be voted on individually.
1. I am concerned about the conversations in meetings we aren’t getting.
2. We are not getting any consistent information.
3. We are bad at communication, however it shouldn’t be collectively used to prevent us from sharing our opinions.
4. We don’t need to pass money on a golf cart.
5. How many weeks does it get to get things processed?

xxiv. **S. Netherton:** I second Jasmine’s motion.
1. All in favor of approving everything in the email as is except for golf cart?
   Vote: 15 for, 5 opposed, 9 abstain

xxv. **J. Brock:** If this discussions was just such a smoking gun, why couldn’t we have talked about this earlier?

VI. New Business
a. Tuition Discussion – S. Netherton
VII. Staff Reports  
a. President’s Chief-of-Staff – J. Harris

VIII. Other Business

IX. Call to Adjourn
At 8:36 pm.