

Process for Appointing Students to Shared Governance Committee Geoduck Student Union

**Drafted by: Kayla Mahnke Hargett, GSU Advisor
Winter 2024**

Summary: This proposal outlines a new system for appointing students to shared college governance committees with the stewardship of the Geoduck Student Union (GSU).

Purpose: The GSU is seeking to seat students on college governance committees to represent the student perspectives. By developing a new appointment process and meeting learning allotment system, the GSU is hoping to increase student awareness and participation in college governance.

History & Context: The GSU has worked to appoint students to voluntarily serve on college governance committees. The result was mixed, with consistent student engagement varying depending on the committee. In recent years, most student participation in college governance has been the result of relational recruitment by staff and faculty committee members. In the aftermath of the December 2023 campus tragedy resulting in the carbon monoxide poisonings and a death of a student, the GSU has elevated student participation in shared governance as a key component of a comprehensive college response.

Proposed New Process for Student Appointment

This new process has three main goals: (1) promoting a consistent way for students to enter and engage in shared governance, (2) developing a mechanism for reporting back to the GSU and (3) paying students learning allotments for committee participation.

(1) Student Appointment Process

a. Student Criteria for Serving

- Currently registered Evergreen student
- In good academic/conduct standing

b. Student Responsibilities

- Attend governance meetings
- Represent student experience voice in governance decisions
- Work with committee chair to understand the purpose, foundational documents, and processes of the committee
- Submit *College Governance Report* of relevant meeting notes, actions taken, and questions for follow-up to the GSU
- Attend following GSU meeting to report out on meeting

c. Process for Student Appointment

- i. Student completes application form
 1. Name
 2. A#
 3. Class Standing
 4. Current Path of Study or Program

5. Why are you hoping to represent the student body in shared governance meetings?
 - ii. GSU VP of Internal Affairs reviews application and makes appointment recommendation (per bylaws)
 1. Should develop consistent metrics for recommendation
 - iii. GSU Advisor confirms recommendation after conduct/academic standing check
 - iv. GSU Board of Representatives approves appointment
 - v. GSU Advisor sends compensation information to Student
 - vi. GSU VP of Internal Affairs emails the committee chair, appointed Student, and GSU Advisor to confirm their appointment to the committee

(2) Meeting Attendance Compensation

- a. Appointed students will receive compensation of \$50 per meeting attended
- b. Once the *College Governance Report* is completed, GSU Advisor will issue a payment.
- c. Current GSU Representatives will not receive additional meeting compensation. Any additional shared governance committee work is considered a part of their weekly GSU time commitment.

(3) College Governance Report

- a. After each meeting, the students appointed to committees will complete a *College Governance Report* including:
 - Student Name
 - Committee Name
 - Meeting Date
 - Summary of meeting agenda, notes, and major decisions
 - Support or additional information needed

Proposed New Process for Committees Requesting Student Representation

This new process has 2 main goals: (1) identifying the shared governance committees that are seeking student representation (2) preparing the committees to genuinely support student engagement in shared governance

(1) Identifying Shared Governance Committees

- a. The GSU Advisor will notify the campus community of the opportunity to request new student appointments to shared governance via form:
 - i. **Student Representative Request Form**
 1. Name of Committee
 2. Committee Chair or Lead Contact
 3. Email Address
 4. Summary of Committee Purpose
 5. Frequency of Committee Meeting
(Weekly/Biweekly/Monthly/Quarterly/Other)
 6. Length of Meetings

7. Day of Meetings
 8. Time of Meetings
 9. Time commitment outside of meeting attendance
 10. How many students would you like to have seated?
 11. *How would you incorporate student input in your committee work?*
- b. GSU Advisor will maintain an annual list of Student Governance appointments based on requests and appointments
 - i. The GSU will develop a top priority list of committee appointments annually
- (2) Preparing committees to support student engagement
- a. The GSU/GSU Advisor will develop a student onboarding checklist for committee chairs

Performance Measures

We will know how successful this program is by the following:

- Increased awareness of college governance decision making
- Increased number of committees seeking student representation
- Increased number of appointed students
- Increased number of *College Governance Reports* received
- Increased networking and mentorship opportunities for students

Communication Timeline

- Annual email promotion to college about requesting student representatives
- Quarterly promotion to students for applications
- Weekly report in Geoduck Student Union meetings
- Regular College Governance Reports due to the GSU

Budget

The GSU will allocate \$2,500 annually for meeting compensation. The FY24 budget allocation was approved by the GSU in Winter 2024.