

## **Statement of Objectives**

**My name is Pavandeep Singh Josan, and I am standing for election to the position of GPSS**

**Vice President of Equity and Inclusion.** I believe that my previous experience, my achievements this academic year, and my plans for the next academic year make me the ideal candidate to be successful as your VP of Equity and Inclusion.

### **1. My previous experience:**

I was elected as an executive senator at the first senate meeting of this academic year. Since then, I have been heavily involved in the GPSS Executive Committee, attending every meeting.

I play an active role in three different GPSS committees: the Diversity Committee, the Committee for Senator Motivation and Recruitment (CSMR), and the Finance and Budget Committee (F&B). I have attended multiple meetings of these committees, building up the skills, experience, and networks necessary to succeed in the role of VP of Equity and Inclusion.

Outside of the GPSS, I was a policy advisor in the British government for two years before coming to UW. In this role, I advised government ministers on education policy and worked closely with the Prime Minister's Office to reform the education system in the UK. By working in the largest public institution in the UK, I have gained experience and understanding of how large public institutions operate, and how best we can make change through these institutions.

### **2. My achievements this academic year:**

As part of the Diversity Committee, I have developed relationships with key figures within UW admin, such as the Vice President of Diversity, and the Vice President of Campus Safety. As a result, I am working to invite both figures to join us at a senate meeting, where they can answer some of your questions and concerns.

I have been designing proposals to provide mandatory emergency preparedness training for all new international students, to ensure that they are trained in the same life-saving knowledge as

their US counterparts. I have been meeting with CIRCLE and members of UW admin in order to make this a reality.

As part of the CSMR, I have been helping to design a handbook full of advice and support on adjusting to life in the US, which we intend to publish and circulate to all international students.

As part of F&B Committee, I have helped to award GPSS funding to RSOs who support underrepresented and diverse student communities.

I have also been involved in supporting my constituents in the Jackson School of International Studies with several equity and inclusion related issues that they have been facing this year.

### **3. My plans for the next academic year:**

- Continue the great work that Edith has done this year as VP of Equity and Inclusion, including social events, workshops, and advocating for vulnerable student communities.
- Continue to plan a program of emergency training for all international students, and work with UW to get it implemented as part of the new student welcome program.
- Invite UW's VP of Diversity to speak to our senators at the beginning of every quarter.
- Establish an RSO spotlight, where a different RSO that represents diverse student voices will be invited to each senate meeting in order to explain their work, to increase grad student attendance at RSO events.
- Establish a mentoring scheme for first-gen grad students, where first-gen grad students will be paired with a UW alum in the field they wish to enter, in order to improve social mobility and open doors for grad students who otherwise would not have opportunities due to lack of a network.
- Continue to work with my JSIS constituents to support them and support other grad students who are facing equity and inclusion related issues within their department.