

## **The Graduate and Professional Student Senate**

Meeting of 21 May 2025 at 5:30pm  
In-person and remotely via Zoom

### **The following GPSS members and staff attended the meeting:**

Richard Schure, GPSS President  
Kana Saarni, GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs  
Mykhail Lembke, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs  
Edith Dale, GPSS Vice President of Equity & Inclusion  
Noah Hough, GPSS Vice President of Administration  
Ryan Wicklund, GPSS Vice President of Finance  
Annika Peterson, Senate Director  
Franco Carlos, GPSS Office and Budget Director, Executive Senator  
Vidya Venkappa, GPSS Web Developer  
Miles Parker, GPSS Policy Director  
Franco Carlos, GPSS Office and Budget Director  
Juan Contreras Mora, GPSS Events Director  
Claudia Chan, GPSS Communications Director  
Jordynn Hays, University Affairs Director  
Zoe Stylianides, ASUW Director of Internal Policy  
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator  
Francis Choe, Executive Senator  
Beth Fawcett, Executive Senator  
Pavandeep Josan, Executive Senator  
Hannah Shipman, Executive Senator  
Gaurav Joshi, Executive Senator  
Renee Infelise, SAO Advisor  
Christina Cook, SAO Advisor  
Carrie Moore, SAO Advisor  
Bill Mahoney, Associate Dean of Student and Postdoctoral Affairs  
Marshall Traverse, SAO Advisor

### **1. [Action] Call to Order 5:46pm**

**Richard Schure** called the meeting to order at 5:46pm.

### **2. [Action] Approval of the Agenda 5:46pm**

**Beth Fawcett** proposed to amend the sponsor for agenda item 9. **Selbi Orayeva** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 5:47pm

**Noah Hough** moved to approve the agenda as amended. **Pavandeep Josan** seconded. No objections. 5:48pm

### **3. [Information] Land Acknowledgement 5:48pm**

**Pavandeep Josan**, on behalf of GPSS, gave the land acknowledgement.

“Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed to making the history that led to this moment. Indigenous people have lived here continuously since time immemorial, and Seattle is now a highly cosmopolitan territory with overlapping sovereignties and fidelities. Acknowledging the land we are on is only the first step. Therefore, the Graduate and Professional Student Senate at the University of Washington in Seattle acknowledges the coast Salish people of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Squamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations and all traditional lands on which we learn and work.”

She shared resources within UW and the community; these include Legislative Advisory Board, Washington Student Association, UW Intellectual House, ASUW American Indian Student Commission, Native and Strong Lifeline-988, Stand with the Duwamish, and Real Rent Duwamish.

#### 4. [Information] Announcements & Public Comment 5:49pm

**UW Alumni Association Representative** shared an update to GPSS.

#### 5. [Information] GPSS 2025-2026 Special Election Candidate Presentations 5:57pm

**Alec Solemslie** presented the Elections procedure.

**Alec Solemslie** opened the floor to nominations.

**Margarita Smagina** nominated Yoseph Ghazal. (indiscernible) seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 6:01pm

**Stephen Dada** self-nominated. **Janet Olaolu** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 6:03pm

**GPSS Officer Candidates** presented their campaign speeches and answered questions from the senate.

**Mykhail Lembke** moved to table officer questions indefinitely. **Noah Hough** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:26pm

**Joe Rogge** moved to recess for five minutes. **Mykhail Lembke** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:29pm

#### 6. [Information] GPSS Election Candidate Discussion 7:35pm

**Alec Solemslie** presented the candidate discussion procedure and opened the floor for deliberation.

#### 7. [Action] GPSS 2025-2026 Election Voting 8:01pm

**Alec Solemslie** presented the voting procedure.

#### 8. [Information] Approval of the Minutes

This agenda item is tabled.

9. [Action] Bylaws Amendment 8:39pm

**GPSS Officers and Senators** presented proposals for bylaw revisions.

10. [Action] GPSS FY 2026 Budget Projection 8:47pm

**Ryan Wicklund** presented the budget projection.

11. [Information] GPSS 2025-2026 Special Election Result 9:05

**Alec Solemslie** presented the election result.

12. [Information] Senator of the Month 8:58pm

**Edith Dale** announced Janet Olaolu as GPSS May senator of the month. She read the proclamation celebrating her work.

13. [Action] Senator of the Year 9:01pm

**Noah Hough** shared the voting form for senator of the year.

11. [Action] Adjournment 9:07pm

**Mykhail Lembke** moved to adjourn the meeting. **Noah Hough** seconded. No objections.  
9:07pm

Meeting minutes prepared by **Annika Peterson**, GPSS Senate Director