



**GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL  
STUDENT SENATE**

# **SPECIAL ELECTIONS GUIDE**

FOR THE  
**2025-2026**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**OF**  
**FINANCE SPECIAL**  
**ELECTIONS**

Distributed by the 2024-2025 GPSS Elections Committee

# BECOME A GPSS OFFICER!

On May 7, 2025, following the GPSS 2025-2026 Officer Election senate meeting, the Elections Committee called for a Special Election for the Vice President of Finance after the vote resulted in a vacant position. In this announcement, the Elections Committee set the Special Elections to occur on May 21, 2025, the immediate next Senate meeting that was 14 days from the announcement of a Special Election, in accordance with the By-Laws Section I Clause 5 Subsection a. This guide was created in preparation for the Special Elections.

Thank you for your interest in being the GPSS Vice President of Finance officer. Serving fellow students is a significant responsibility, and working to represent the needs and demands of graduate and professional programs at the University of Washington is an extremely rewarding endeavor.

## THE SPECIAL ELECTIONS GUIDE

This special election guide was prepared by the Elections Committee and serves to assist you in developing your campaign. Running for an officer position in the GPSS is designed to be as efficient as possible and should require very little of your time and money. Most candidates limit their campaigns to the candidate materials posted on the GPSS website and a speech at the election meeting, although candidates are free to do more within the limits outlined below.

The GPSS Elections Committee is charged with creating, implementing, and monitoring the election procedures to ensure that this process is fair for all participants. These GPSS Special Elections Rules are derived from the GPSS Constitution and Bylaws. If any material in this packet conflicts with the GPSS Constitution or Bylaws, the Constitution and Bylaws prevail.

Complaints or challenges regarding the Officer Special Elections process or results must be submitted in writing to the Elections Committee Chair ([gpsselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpsselect@uw.edu)) within 72 hours of the adjournment of the Special Elections Meeting on May 21, 2025.

## OVERVIEW

The GPSS, composed of approximately 100 registered Senators from a vast array of programs, is an advocacy organization dedicated to improving graduate and professional student life at the University of Washington. The Senate works to maintain academic freedom for graduate and professional students, improve the quality of graduate instruction, develop and strengthen the University's diversity programs, maintain graduate and professional student representation through appointments to University committees, and ensure that quality student services are maintained at the UW.

The GPSS officers set the organization's goals, implement Senate directives, communicate goals and actions to the University and students, and report on progress toward achieving these directives. To that end, the GPSS Officers hold regular meetings of the Senate, a forum for graduate and professional students to voice their concerns and give direction to the GPSS.

GPSS officers are accountable for managing a budget of nearly half a million dollars and ensuring GPSS representation on over 70 University committees. GPSS officers also provide a critical link connecting students, administrators, faculty, community, the state legislature, Congress, and state and national associations such as the Washington Student Association (WSA) and Student Advocates for Graduate Education (SAGE).

To ensure that all officers have the capacity to complete these responsibilities, each position is compensated for working 19.5 hours a week for the entire year, starting in June. Officers earn a wage equivalent to the salary of a TA or RA, receive graduate appointment health insurance, and their tuition is paid by the GPSS. Due to the significant obligations of the positions, officers may not concurrently hold a TA/RA appointment.

## Table of Contents

§ 1.1: ELECTIONS COMMITTEE .....	5
§ 1.2: INDEPENDENT WITNESSES .....	5
§ 2.1: GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS .....	6
§ 2.2: KEY DATES & DEADLINES .....	7
§ 3.1: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS .....	8
§ 3.1.1: VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE .....	8
§ 4.1: GPSS SPECIAL ELECTIONS RULES FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE OFFICER CANDIDATES .....	9
§ 4.2: TIME & PLACE .....	9
§ 4.3: ELIGIBILITY FOR CANDIDACY .....	9
§ 4.4: FILING FOR CANDIDACY .....	10
§ 4.5: CAMPAIGNING .....	11
§ 4.6: THE BALLOT AND REQUIRED VOTES .....	12
§ 4.7: ELIGIBLE VOTERS .....	12
§ 4.8: ABSENTEE VOTE .....	13
§ 4.9: THE ELECTIONS MEETING .....	13
§ 4.10: ELECTIONS RESULTS .....	14
§ 4.11: ELECTIONS CHALLENGES .....	14

## § 1.1: ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The Elections Committee plans and orchestrates the annual GPSS Officer Elections. It currently consists of the following Senators:

- Alec Solemslie, **Elections Committee Chair**, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, [solema@uw.edu](mailto:solema@uw.edu)
- Hannah Shipman, **Executive Senator**, Aeronautics and Astronautics, [hship2@uw.edu](mailto:hship2@uw.edu)
- Melody Vahadi, **Student Senator**, Computational Linguistics, [mvahadi@uw.edu](mailto:mvahadi@uw.edu)
- Muhammad Abu Bakar Tariq, **Student Senator**, College of Built Environments, [matariq@uw.edu](mailto:matariq@uw.edu)

The purpose of the Elections Committee is to ensure a fair process for all participants. Please submit all questions or concerns about the elections process to the Elections Committee Chair, [gpssselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpssselect@uw.edu). Please do NOT contact the GPSS Office regarding elections procedures; you will be referred to the Elections Committee.

The 2024-25 Elections Committee developed these Special Elections rules based on the rules and experiences of past Elections, the Bylaws and Constitution of GPSS, and a set of values and principles developed by the committee. The rules and processes in this Elections Guide are intended to:

- I. Facilitate legitimacy and transparency for the election itself and for GPSS;
- II. Be fair for candidates and GPSS as an institution;
- III. Be clear and simple to understand, follow, and enforce;
- IV. Be realistic considering GPSS's resources and institutional capacity;
- V. Integrate lessons learned from previous elections to improve upon the Elections process;
- VI. Be generally permissive, prohibiting or limiting conduct only to the extent necessary to serve the Constitution, Bylaws, and these values and principles.

## § 1.2: INDEPENDENT WITNESSES

To ensure complete fairness for all candidates participating in the elections process, the GPSS enlists independent witnesses. For the 2025-26 GPSS Officer Elections, the independent witnesses will be advisors designated by the Associated Director for Student Activities:

- **Brendan Chang**, SAO advisor
- **Christina Coop**, SAO advisor
- **Marshall Traverse**, SAO advisor

Challenges to the impartiality of the witnesses must be submitted in writing to the Judicial Committee at least **48 hours** before the Elections Meeting on **May 21, 2025**. To contact the Judicial Committee, communicate with VP of Equity and Inclusion, Edith Dale, at [gpssvpei@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpei@uw.edu) or to the Judicial Committee Chair, Alexandros Peltekis, at [gpssjudi@uw.edu](mailto:gpssjudi@uw.edu).

## § 2.1: GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Read the entire Elections Guide, paying particular attention to the GPSS Election Rules.

Familiarize yourself with the agendas and minutes of past GPSS meetings, as well as the GPSS Constitution, By-Laws, Memoranda, and Resolutions. All of these materials are available on the GPSS website (<http://depts.washington.edu/gpss/>) under the About GPSS section.

Attend at least three GPSS meetings during the 2024-25 academic year prior to the Elections Meeting. If a candidate is unable to attend three meetings prior to the Elections Meeting, please contact the Elections Committee to discuss the option of an exception, including a substitution of these meetings being a meeting with the current officer for the position you are interested in ([gpssselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpssselect@uw.edu)). At least one of the meetings attended must have been governed by rules of parliamentary procedure. The requirement to attend at least one meeting governed by rules of parliamentary procedure can be satisfied by attending Senate meetings, Executive Committee meetings, and Finance & Budget Committee meetings.

In addition to attending at least one of the previously mentioned meetings conducted under parliamentary rules of procedure, it is recommended that candidates attend the meetings of the following committees for the Vice President of Finance position.

**Vice President of Finance:** It is recommended that Candidates for Vice President of Finance attend one meeting at minimum of the Finance & Budget Committee (the meeting used to satisfy the parliamentary procedure requirement may also be counted here if applicable).

The remainder of the requirement to attend at least three meetings may be satisfied by any of the GPSS meetings listed in this section. It is strongly recommended that candidates attend at least one of the above meetings associated with their position of interest.

In the case of a scheduling conflict, the candidate may petition the Elections Committee for an exception that may be granted by a majority vote of the Elections Committee.

Talk with the current officers about the position you are interested in. The current officers are:

- President: Richard Schure; [gpsspres@uw.edu](mailto:gpsspres@uw.edu)
- Vice President of Internal Affairs: Kana Saarni; [gpssvpin@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpin@uw.edu)
- Vice President of External Affairs: Mykhail Lembke; [gpssvpex@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpex@uw.edu)
- Vice President of Finance: Ryan Wicklund; [gpssvpfb@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpfb@uw.edu)
- Vice President of Equity & Inclusion: Edith Dale; [gpssvpei@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpei@uw.edu)
- Vice President of Administration: Noah Nguyen Hough [gpssvpadmin@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpadmin@uw.edu)

While being available to work at least part time during the Summer Quarter is strongly recommended, exceptions have been granted (see existing officers for details). As very important work occurs over the summer that sets the stage for the success of the rest of the year, candidates who cannot commit to working over the summer on at least a part-time basis

should consult the existing officer to make sure they could still be successful in the position. It is strongly encouraged that candidates meet with the existing officers and arrange a time to shadow them to learn more about the role, ideally before the election and definitely before newly elected officers officially begin to ensure a smooth transfer of responsibilities. Current officers have an obligation to answer all candidates' questions fairly and honestly without bias toward anyone interested.

## § 2.2: KEY DATES & DEADLINES

For Special Elections, nominations will be received from the floor during the Special Elections Senate meeting. This means there is no nomination deadline until nominations close on the night of Special Elections.

However, the Elections Committee has elected to allow candidates to announce their candidacy early. Candidates may self-nominate through the following form (<https://forms.office.com/r/YYL2iPgPD8>) and submit materials to the Election Committee for distribution to the GPSS Senate. The early nomination and material submission deadline is:

- **Monday, May 19, 2025, 5:30 PM** - Last day to file **early nomination** to the Elections Committee Chair and have a candidate's information published on the GPSS website. Submissions are available through the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/YYL2iPgPD8>

The Elections Committee recommends that materials are submitted early so that the Elections Committee has time to ensure materials are in compliance with guidelines. Materials that are not in compliance will not be published by the Elections Committee. Resubmission of materials to meet compliance will not be accepted after the deadline.

Reminder: **Special Elections allow for nominations from the floor**, even when there are early candidates for the position up for special election. This differs from the standard GPSS Officer Election procedures.

- **Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 5:30 PM – in HUB 332/Zoom – GPSS Vice President of Finance Special Elections**  
The Special Elections will occur at the immediate beginning of the Senate meeting.
- **Wednesday, May 21, 2025** - Digital ballots will be made available online by the GPSS Elections Committee.

All candidates must attend the Special Elections meeting in person or via online conference mechanisms. Candidates will be given 3 minutes to speak and may present up to one PowerPoint slide detailing their positions and experience. If presenting a slide, it must be submitted to the Elections Committee ([gpssselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpssselect@uw.edu)) by email no later than **2:30 PM on Wednesday, May 21, 2025**. After all the candidates for a given position have presented, there will be a period of time for Senators to ask questions of those candidates (set at 5 minutes per candidate).

The election results will be announced after the voting window has closed and after the Elections Committee with the two independent witnesses have analyzed the results (within seven (7) days of the Officer Elections Meeting). Any preliminary results will be announced at the end of the Officer Elections Meeting should any preliminary results be final.

- **Saturday, May 24, 2025** - Last day to file challenges to the election.

Challenges to the election must occur within **72 hours** of the election meeting. All challenges must be submitted to the Elections Committee in a written form (preferably email: [gpssselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpssselect@uw.edu)). Complaints will initially be adjudicated by the Elections Committee, and if necessary, by the Judicial Committee as per the GPSS Bylaws.

## § 3.1: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

The GPSS Bylaws, Article V, Section B, outline the general duties of all officers. All the officers are responsible for setting GPSS goals and implementing specific actions based on the directives of the GPSS and the Executive Committee. Officers communicate these directives, goals, and actions to the graduate and professional student body, University administrators, University faculty, and the community at large. Officers make reports to the Executive Committee and the Senate on progress made toward achieving these directives. A year-end summary report is presented to the Senate. Officers meet with each other on a weekly basis to keep current on the status of GPSS projects.

All officers are paid to work 19.5 hours per week with a minimum of 8 hours in the office (4 hours for the President) between the standard business hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The remaining hours may be spent attending meetings and holding appointments outside of the office. The office hours requirement does not apply to the Vice President of External Affairs during the months in which the State Legislature is in session. Officers may not hold any other Graduate Student Service Appointment (herein referred to as a GSSA) while in office. The GPSS Officers serve a 12-month term, which begins June 23, 2025 and continues until the end of the 2026 Spring Quarter.

A graduate or professional student may only serve three (3) consecutive terms as an elected GPSS officer, of any officer position. All GPSS officers must attend an orientation by the GPSS advisors, held during the first month of their term. Additionally, the GPSS Bylaws outline the specific duties of each officer.

### § 3.1.1: VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

Overview of the Role within the Organization: The primary role of the Vice President of Finance is 1) to serve as the Chief Financial Officer for the organization; and 2) to administer all aspects of the GPSS budget.

#### Responsibilities:

- The Vice President of Finance oversees all GPSS expenditures and keeps accurate financial records of spending for all officers and committees in collaboration with the Student Activities Office (SAO) to ensure that the GPSS records match what is reported in the administrative budget.
- The Vice President of Finance administers all funding and transfer requests as described in the GPSS Bylaws. As a general guiding principle, all monetary transactions of the GPSS should be handled, tracked, and monitored through the Vice President of Finance.



- The Vice President of Finance shall be prepared to respond to any internal or external inquiries regarding the organization's financial status by maintaining accurate records at all times.
- By the second meeting of each academic year, the Vice President of Finance shall present the current budget of the GPSS; quarterly, they shall report on the GPSS' financial status to the Senate and Executive Committee.
- The Vice President of Finance assists Senators and other graduate students in their application for special, departmental, and travel funds.
- The Vice President of Finance drafts all officers' proposed budgets for each pending fiscal year and facilitates their approval.
- The Vice President of Finance provides a fiscal perspective when needed on legislative/policy issues for the Vice President of External Affairs.
- The Vice President of Finance provides a student voice when fiscal issues arise on campus.
- The Vice President of Finance manages the endowment of the GPSS by ensuring that the organization receives dividends from the initial endowment investment.

**Internal Committees:** Executive Committee, Finance and Budget Committee (Chair), and Travel Grants (Chair).

**University Committees/Affiliates:** Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAF, voting member); Student Technology Fee (STF, voting member), and various financial and hiring committees as needed.

## § 4.1: GPSS SPECIAL ELECTIONS RULES FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE OFFICER CANDIDATES

The GPSS Elections are governed by the GPSS Bylaws. Elections regulations are covered in Article V, Section H. A brief summary of these regulations is provided here for your convenience. In the event of any conflict between the rules as published here, and the rules published in the Bylaws, those published in the Bylaws take precedence.

## § 4.2: TIME & PLACE

GPSS Officer Elections will be held on **May 21, 2025 at 5:30 PM, HUB 332/Zoom.**

Subject to change in the event of scheduling conflicts. Any changes will be announced by the Elections Committee.

## § 4.3: ELIGIBILITY FOR CANDIDACY

- A candidate must be in good academic standing as defined by the graduate school as maintaining a cumulative 3.00 GPA.
- A candidate need not be a current Senator to be eligible to run, but all candidates must have (1) attended at least three GPSS Senate, Executive, or qualifying committee meetings during the 2024-25 academic year prior to the Elections Meeting or (2) sought an exemption with the Elections Committee to only meet with

- the officer of the position for which the candidate is seeking candidacy.
- A candidate must intend to maintain their status as a graduate or professional student and be on campus throughout the 2025-26 academic year.
- A candidate cannot be a member of the Judicial or Elections Committee. A candidate must be able to work for GPSS for 19.5 hours per week during the 2025-26 academic year, including 8 hours per week in the office (4 hours for the President) between the standard business hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The VP of External Affairs is exempt from this requirement during active legislative sessions.
- A candidate must be available to attend Senate and Executive meetings and other required meetings.
- Incoming students in a graduate or professional program are also eligible to run for office, but they must provide either proof of registration or proof of enrollment in the upcoming Summer or Fall term to the Elections Committee.

## § 4.4: FILING FOR CANDIDACY

Candidates may announce their intention to run for the GPSS Vice President of Finance Officer position at any time until the end of floor nominations during the Special Elections meeting. Candidates may file to run early by submitting the required information to the Elections Committee. Candidates may also self-nominate or receive and accept a nomination from the floor during the Elections Meeting. Any person eligible to run can also receive write-in votes. However, candidates are encouraged to communicate their intentions to seek office to the Elections Committee as early as possible.

Candidates are urged to file by providing the Elections Committee with the following materials:

- The Officer Candidate Nomination Form contained in this guide including:
  - A statement that includes any academic, employment, or personal responsibilities that might prevent the candidate from fulfilling their responsibilities as an Officer.
- An affirmative statement that they meet the eligibility requirements outlined above.
- An affirmative statement that they have reviewed all elections-related materials and, if necessary, have sought clarification from the Elections Committee Chair.
- Statement of objectives (1-2 pages)
  - 11pt font, double spaced
- Optional: Resume (1-2 pages)

Materials are to be submitted to the Elections Committee via Microsoft Forms using this link <https://forms.office.com/r/YYL2iPgPD8>. If there are any questions or concerns using the form for submission, contact the Elections Committee Chair ([gpsselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpsselect@uw.edu)). If the materials are received by **Monday, May 19, 2025, 5:30 PM** the Elections Committee will notify each candidate of the receipt of his or her materials and distribute each candidate's resume and statement of objectives to the full Senate body via email on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**.

## § 4.5: CAMPAIGNING

All campaigning from candidates will be conducted with respect for all candidates involved. We hold our officers and elected officials to the highest ethical standards and expect candidates to conduct themselves accordingly.

GPSS, for purposes of publishing and managing elections, does not indicate affiliated relationships of candidates.

Campaigning must not begin before the Campaign Start Date, **Wednesday, May 7, 2025**.

Campaigning may include, but is not limited to, the following activities, when such activities are undertaken by a candidate or a candidate's affiliates:

- A. Distributing flyers or other printed materials to promote a candidate.
- B. Addressing individuals and/or groups of students to promote a candidate.
- C. Placing signs, sandwich boards, and/or lawn signs with the intent of promoting a candidate.
- D. Use of electronic or social media to promote a candidate.
- E. Any other public activity intended to promote a candidate.

No candidate or candidate's affiliate may, in the course of campaigning:

- F. Campaign in the ASUW or GPSS offices;
- G. Campaign in the HUB;
- H. Store campaign materials within ASUW or GPSS offices;
- I. Campaign at any event or meeting that is conducted, funded, or sponsored by the GPSS, with exception of election forums;
- J. Violate the Facility Services Policy, the Residence Hall Solicitation Policy, or any UW IT policies, including the improper posting of campaign signage;
- K. Interfere with the neutrality of the ballot;
- L. Remove or deface any lawfully placed political advertising without authorization;
- M. Interfere with the academic instruction and mission of the University, including;
  - a. Campaign in University buildings without the permission of the building supervisor;
  - b. Campaign in a classroom without the permission of the instructor, or;
  - c. Violate any applicable federal, state, or local laws;
- N. Offer unfair advantages or privileges in exchange for support.

Candidates will not appeal to prejudices based on race, creed, sex, caste, national origin, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, disability, or citizenship status. Candidates will not participate in personal vilification, defamation, and other attacks on any opposing candidate, party, or ballot measure advocate.

Candidates will not use their current position within GPSS (including but not limited to Senators, Executive Senators, GPSS Officers, GPSS office employees, and GPSS Committee Chairs) to solicit votes through bribery, threats, or any other form of improper inducement.

Candidates must not seek endorsements prior to the Campaign Start Date of **Wednesday, May 7, 2025**. Candidates must not imply or refer to the endorsement of a person, group, or entity without the consent of that endorsing person, group, or entity.

GPSS Senators may endorse candidates in either their official or personal capacity.

Sitting GPSS Officers, Executive Senators, members of the Judicial Committee, and members of the Elections Committee may not endorse any candidates in an official capacity (as defined as the use of titles or GPSS email) and are strongly discouraged from doing so in a private capacity.

GPSS employees, volunteers, appointees, entities, and committees may not endorse a candidate in an official capacity.

No GPSS equipment or supplies, including employment time or office hours, phones, office machines, office space, and email accounts, may be used for campaign purposes.

## § 4.6: THE BALLOT AND REQUIRED VOTES

The Elections Committee will prepare a digital ballot with the officer positions and ability to rank candidates. Names of candidates running from the floor will be presented at the election meeting and available for voters. All names of candidates will be displayed for senators in randomized order by the position they are running for. The ballot will allow for ranking of the candidates so that an instant run-off can be made until the person with a simple majority of the GPSS Senators who vote synchronously or asynchronously has been determined. Exact details of this process are given in the By-Laws (Article V, Section I, Clause 4). In the event that there is still a tie after the instant run-off, the winner will be determined by a tiebreaker process detailed in the By-Laws.

## § 4.7: ELIGIBLE VOTERS

Senators who have registered with the GPSS Vice President of Administration ([gpssvpadmin@uw.edu](mailto:gpssvpadmin@uw.edu)) by **Friday, May 16, 2025**, and who are in good standing, will be allowed to vote in the Officer Elections. Voters eligible to vote in Officer Elections include sitting GPSS Officers and all registered Senators, including Executive Senators and all Senators sitting on the Judicial and Elections Committees. Voters can vote at the Elections Meeting synchronously or asynchronously.

Proxies may attend the Elections Meeting, but proxies are not allowed to vote.

## § 4.8: ABSENTEE VOTE

Any registered senator who is unable to attend the elections meeting in real-time may submit their vote through the digital ballot link that will be provided to them via their registered email.

The Elections Committee will keep the identity of each voter confidential; it will only be used to verify that the voter was an eligible voter. The Senate may elect to change the process for determining a winner in the event of a tie by amending the Bylaws before the Elections Meeting.

## § 4.9: THE ELECTIONS MEETING

The Elections Meeting shall convene **May 21, 2025 at 5:30 PM, HUB 332/Zoom**. The Elections Chair shall preside over the Elections portion of the Elections Meeting. The Elections Committee Chair will announce each position and the candidates who have shared their intentions to run for that position.

After the candidates who have already filed to run for a position have been announced, the Elections Committee Chair will allow candidates to be nominated from the floor. Nominees that accept a floor nomination will be ordered alphabetically by last name with the pre-filed candidates for that position, and all candidates will have the same amount of time to deliver a campaign speech. The Elections Committee Chair has discretion in special circumstances.

Each candidate will get 3 minutes to deliver a campaign speech. Candidates are permitted one PowerPoint slide to be displayed during their speech, to be submitted to the Elections Committee ([gpsselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpsselect@uw.edu)) no later than **2:30 PM on May 21, 2025**. At the end of the speeches for a given officer position there will be a period for all candidates to take and answer questions from the floor.

During the question and answer session, the Elections Committee will conduct a moderated session through soliciting questions from the senate via an online platform. Each candidate will be given the opportunity to answer the same question. The Elections Committee Chair may limit the time that candidates have to answer.

Following the question and answer session, the Senate will enter deliberations. The Elections Committee Chair will ask all candidates to leave the room. Once all candidates have left the room, the Elections Committee Chair will conduct a moderated deliberation of candidates. During the deliberations, senators and executive officers may discuss the quality and merits of each candidate. Privileged information about candidates will not be permitted by the Elections Committee Chair.

Following the question and answer session, candidates will be invited to return to the senate meeting. The Elections Committee will announce the opening of the ballot and when the ballot is set to close. The Elections Committee will distribute ballots to all eligible voters present and will collect complete ballots as outlined in the By-Laws. For this Special Election, the Elections Committee has elected to use the voting procedure set forth for standard elections. All eligible voters will receive a link to enter the digital voting platform. Candidates who are eligible to vote are allowed to participate in the vote to represent their constituency.

Voters must rank their preferences for all candidates in each position. Any candidate(s) not listed on a particular ballot will be considered to be tied for last ranking on that ballot. Once the Elections Committee has collected the ballots, they will immediately count the votes. The officers are elected by ranked-choice tabulation, as outlined in the By-Laws, where, upon rounds of ranked-choice tabulation resulting in two candidates, a simple majority is needed to secure the position.

The GPSS President will preside over the Senate Meeting while the Elections Committee counts the votes. During this time, the President may not entertain any motions that would interfere with the ability of the Elections Committee to count votes and report results to the Senate before the meeting adjourns. The Elections Committee Chair will continue presiding over the meeting when the Elections Committee is finished counting votes.

In the event that no candidate for a particular office receives the required majority vote in a race with three or more candidates, Instant Run-Off Vote Counting procedures will be used, as outlined in Article V, Section H, Clause 4, of the Bylaws. In the event that a winner cannot be determined through Instant Run-Off Vote Counting, the tie shall be resolved by the process prescribed in the Bylaws.

Candidates will respect the privacy of individual voters while ballots are being completed and will not interfere with voters' ability to complete their ballot privately and in a timely manner. Candidates will respect the neutrality of the vote counting process and the role of the Elections Committee to administer the elections process. Candidates will not in any way interfere with the ability of the Elections Committee to count the votes accurately, fairly, and according to the processes prescribed in this Elections Guide, or the Constitution and By-Laws of GPSS.

After the election results have been announced, candidates may challenge the election procedures or results in the process described in Section 4.11 of this Elections Guide.

## **§ 4.10: ELECTIONS RESULTS**

Once the Elections Committee has counted all votes and verified the winner, they will announce the results in person at the Elections Meeting, via email to all Senators, and on the GPSS website.

## **§ 4.11: ELECTIONS CHALLENGES**

Any challenge of the elections procedures or results must be received by the Elections Committee Chair in a written form (including an email) within 48 hours of the adjournment of the Elections Meeting. Challenges are to be sent to the Elections Committee for consideration by the Elections Committee. The Elections Committee will respond to the complaint within seven (7) calendar days and release a written decision to all involved parties as well as the Senate. Further challenges to the elections process must be addressed to the GPSS Judicial Committee within 48 hours following the Elections Committee's decision.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN A GPSS OFFICER POSITION. WE LOOK**

FORWARD TO FAIR AND ORGANIZED ELECTIONS AND WISH YOU THE BEST OF  
LUCK.

This form needs to be filled out in its entirety using the above provided Microsoft forms link (<https://forms.office.com/r/YYL2iPgPD8>) (this form is for reference only).

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## **OFFICER CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM 2025-2026**

This form is to be completed by the candidate and submitted to the Elections Committee ([gpsselect@uw.edu](mailto:gpsselect@uw.edu)), by **Monday, May 19, 2025, 5:30 PM** in order for candidate information to be posted on the GPSS website and by **Tuesday, May 20, 2025** to be distributed via email to Senators. Nominations from the floor will only occur at the Officer Elections Meeting on May 21, 2025 in the event that a position does not have any candidates. Potential candidates wishing to nominate themselves from the floor for the Vice President of Finance must provide this information at time of nomination.

1. Full Name:
2. Graduate or professional program of study:
3. Are you currently a registered student? **Yes** ( ) **No** ( )
4. Do you expect to be a registered graduate or professional student during the 2025-2026 academic year (Fall, Winter & Spring Quarters)? **Yes** ( ) **No** ( )
5. The position you are running for is:
6. Indicate at least three GPSS Senate or committee meetings, including at least one meeting conducted under rules of parliamentary procedure, that you have attended during the 2024-25 academic year prior to the election meeting.
  - See Section 2.1 of the Elections Guide for a list of qualifying committee meetings.
7. Do you understand and acknowledge that you should be able to work for GPSS for 19.5 hours per week during the 2025-26 academic year, including 8 hours per week in the office (4 for President) between the standard business hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday? **Yes** ( ) **No** ( )
8. If 'No' to question 7, please explain:

### **Affirmative Statements**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do not have any responsibilities (be them academic, employment, or personal) that might prevent me from fulfilling the responsibilities as a GPSS Officer. I affirmatively declare that I meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the GPSS Election Guide.



The requirements as stipulated are:

- I am enrolled part-time/full-time as a graduate or professional student at the time of the election or will be enrolled full-time during the Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters of 2025-26.

**Yes ( ) No ( )**

- I am not a member of the Elections Committee.

**Yes ( ) No ( )**

- I have attended at least 3 GPSS Senate or qualifying committee meetings, including one conducted under rules of parliamentary procedure, prior to the Elections meeting during the 2024-25 academic year.

**Yes ( ) No ( )**

- I will intend to maintain full-time student status during the term if elected, and be on campus through the 2025-26 academic year (Fall, Winter and Spring). *The Vice President of External Affairs is permitted to take a reduced course load during Winter Quarter.* **Yes ( ) No ( )**

- I will be able to work 19.5 hours per week during the 2025-26 academic year, including 8 hours per week in the office (4 hours per week for the President) between 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

**Yes ( ) No ( )**

- I have reviewed all election related materials and have sought clarification from the Elections Committee if needed.

**Yes ( ) No ( )**

- I consent to allow the Student Activities Office to check my grade point average (GPA) to ensure that I am eligible to serve as a GPSS Officer.

**Yes ( ) No ( )**