

The Graduate and Professional Student Senate
Regular Meeting of 3 December 2025 at 5:30pm
In-person and remotely via Zoom

The following GPSS members and staff attended the meeting:

Ryan Wicklund, GPSS President
Annika Peterson, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs
Juan Andres Contreras Mora, GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs
Noah Nguyen Hough, GPSS Vice President of Administration
Pavandeep Josan, GPSS Vice President of Equity & Inclusion
Riley Talamantes, GPSS Vice President of Finance
Anne Rizvi, GPSS Budget & Office Director
Claudia Chan, GPSS Creative & Communications Director
Maitri Karia, GPSS University Affairs Director
Richard Boyechko, GPSS Senate & Web Director
Yujin Yang, GPSS Community Outreach & Events Director
Zoe Love, GPSS Policy Director
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator
Fateme Hosseinzadeh, Executive Senator
Gaurav Joshi, Executive Senator
Hallah Kassem, Executive Senator
Muhummand “AB” Abubabkar, Executive Senator
Tricia Jenkins, Executive Senator
Zehra Khan, Executive Senator
Renee Infelise, SAO Advisor

1. [ACTION] Call to Order

Ryan Wicklund called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

2. [ACTION] Approval of the Agenda

Carmelita Romendez moved to approve the agenda. Zoe Hall seconded. No objections. Motion passed 5:46pm.

3. [ACTION] Approval of the Minutes

- Motion was made and seconded (Annika Peterson/Zehra Khan) to **approve the minutes from October 22nd, 2025**. Motion passed 5:47pm.
- Motion was made and seconded (Riley Talamantes/Pavandeep Josan) to **approve the minutes from November 5th, 2025**. Motion passed 5:47pm.

4. [INFORMATION] Land Acknowledgment

On behalf of GPSS, **Pavandeep Josan** acknowledged our presence on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples.

5. [INFORMATION] Announcements & Public Comments

- **Ayush Goyal** shared an announcement about Green Lake Elementary School's Holiday Tree Sale fundraiser (November 28th to December 20th). See the flier in meeting slides.
- **Riley Talamantes** shared an announcement about the GPSS Masquerade Ball happening on December 5th.
- **Annika Peterson** shared about Huskies on the Hill event happening on February 10th, 2026. Lunch and transportation to Olympia will be provided.
- **Riley Talamantes** shared about the department allocations opening on Friday, December 5th, 2025. The application is available on the GPSS website.
- **Ryan Wicklund** shared a special elections announcement: Noah Hough, the VP of Administration, is resigning. Any graduate student at UW can run for the vacancy, but the selection will be done by a vote of the senate. Special elections will be held on January 14th, 2026 at 5:30pm.

6. [ACTION] Elections Committee Appointment

Pavandeep Josan shared that there is need for one more at-large Senator to make up our composition of the four at-large senators. There is a stipend attached of \$1,350 per academic year. Those serving on the Elections Committee cannot be on the Judicial Committee nor stand for officer position elections.

The floor was opened for nominations. Kylie Jones nominated themselves. Pavandeep Josan moved to **approve Kylie Jones as the at-large senator on the Elections Committee**. Zoe Hall seconded. Motion passed 6:03pm.

7. [ACTION] Legislative Agenda Amendment

Annika Peterson shared feedback received about the legislative agenda. Motion was made and seconded (Riley Talamantes/Pavandeep Josan) to **remove the legislative agenda item about providing tuition waivers to Native American and Indigenous students**. Motion passed at 6:05pm.

8. [ACTION] Suspending the Bylaws for the Budget Timeline

Riley Talamantes explained that GPSS gets 95% of funds from the Student Activities Fee (SAF). The bylaws are currently asking GPSS to approve the budget before GPSS knows how much funding we are receiving. When the bylaws were drafted, the timelines involved were different. F&B Committee will focus on figuring out how to reword the bylaws to be more flexible.

Motion was made and seconded (Riley Talamantes/Pavandeep Josan) to suspend Article 8, Sections B-C. Motion passed 6:10pm.

9. [INFORMATION] Ice Breaker

Tricia Jenkins led an ice breaker on Zoom and in person, asking the senators to name some things for which they are thankful this year.

10. [ACTION] A Joint Resolution for a Graduate and Undergraduate Student Regent (Second/Third Reading)

Ryan Wicklund shared that while the resolution technically passed the ASUW senate, but there was an issue, and the resolution will need to be voted on again. The next time the resolution will be up for a vote is January 6th, 2026, so there is ample time for amendments to be made.

Motion was made and seconded (Carmelita Romendez/MJ Mencias) to table this agenda item until Eric shows up. The motion passed 6:21pm.

Motion was made and seconded (Pavandeep Josan/MJ Mencias) to approve the resolution (Appendix A). Motion passed 6:34pm.

11. [ACTION] A Resolution Against the Dissolution of the Executive Master's in Healthcare Administration Program (First/Second/Third Reading)

Ryan Wicklund did the first reading of A Resolution Against the Dissolution of the Executive Master's in Healthcare Administration (EMHA) Program (Appendix B). A discussion of the resolution and the details about the EMHA program took place on the senate floor.

Motion was made and seconded (Pavandeep Josan/MJ Mencias) seconded to suspend the rules. Motion passed 6:27pm.

Motion was made and seconded (Zehra Khan/Pavandeep Josan) to **approve the resolution immediately**. Motion passed 6:32pm.

12. [INFORMATION] Senator of the Month

Pavandeep Josan announced the **recognition of Sophia Chima as a senator who has gone above and beyond their duties during the month of October 2025**. He then read the proclamation (Appendix C).

13. [INFORMATION] Liaison of the Month

Ryan Wicklund shared about the new tradition GPSS is starting to recognize a liaison of the month. Maitri Karia then read the proclamation to **recognize Bintang Wicaksana as the GPSS Liaison of the Month for October 2025**. Ryan Wicklund then read the proclamation to **recognize Sheila Gray as the GPSS Liaison of the Month for November 2025**.

14. [ACTION] Adjournment

Zehra Khan moved to adjourn the meeting. **MJ Mencias** seconded. No objections. **Ryan Wicklund** declared the meeting adjourned at 6:46pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by **Richard Boyechko**, GPSS Senate and Technology Director. Minutes approved during 2026-01-28 senate meeting.