

The Graduate and Professional Student Senate
Regular Meeting of 11 February 2026 at 5:30pm
In-person and remotely via Zoom

The following GPSS members and staff attended the meeting:

Ryan Wicklund, GPSS President
Pavandeep Josan, GPSS Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion
Annika Peterson, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs
Juan Andres Contreras Mora, GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs
Maitri Karia, GPSS Vice President of Administration
Claudia Chan, GPSS Creative & Communications Director
Richard Boyechko, GPSS Senate & Technology Director
Zoe Love, GPSS Policy Director
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator
Gaurav Joshi, Executive Senator
Muhummand “AB” Abu Bakar, Executive Senator
Renee Infelise, SAO Advisor

1. [ACTION] Call to Order

Ryan Wicklund called the meeting to order at 5:54pm.

2. [ACTION] Approval of the Agenda

Matthew Benson moved to approve the agenda. **MJ Mencias** seconded. No objections. Motion carried 5:55pm.

3. [ACTION] Approval of the Minutes

Carmelita Romendez moved to approve the minutes. **Alina Voitenko** seconded. No objections. Motion carried 5:56pm.

4. [INFORMATION] Land Acknowledgment

On behalf of GPSS, Ryan Wicklund **acknowledged our presence on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples:**

“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. But acknowledging the land we are on is only the first step. Therefore, the Graduate and Professional Student Senate of the University of Washington in Seattle acknowledges the Coast Salish people of this land, the land that touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations, and all traditional lands on which we live and work.”

5. [INFORMATION] Announcements & Public Comments

- Maitri Karia shared about the process of becoming a GPSS senator.

- Ryan Wicklund shared about the upcoming GPSS Puppy Love event.
- Pavandeep Josan shared about the 2026 Diversity Leadership Conference. All UW students and community members are welcome to join. Food will be provided.
- Ryan Wicklund shared about the Student Health Fee results. 2290 graduate students responded, and they were against it.
- Ryan Wicklund also shared about the launch of the GPSS Library Survey, which is now open to be filled out by academic senators.
- Annika Peterson shared updates about the ongoing Washington State Legislative Session.
- Maitri Karia shared about the upcoming events from the Q Center: Color Mode, Valentine's Day, and the Q Book Club.

6. [INFORMATION] Green Labs Program Presentation

Ryan Wicklund introduced Marilyn Ostergren, who presented about the opportunities for grad/professional students to participate in XXX. She requested that GPSS . Ostergren can be reached via YYY.

7. [ACTION] STF Annual Funding Plan

- Nick Oh from the Student Technology Fee Committee Chair gave a presentation about the STF Annual Funding Plan for fiscal year 2026, which requires approval from GPSS.
- Motion was made and seconded (Zoe Hall/Alex Williams) to approve the packet. No objections. Motion passed 6:23pm.

8. [ACTION] Adjournment

MJ Mencias moved to adjourn the meeting. **Gaurav Joshi** seconded. **Ryan Wicklund** declared the meeting adjourned at 6:24pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by **Richard Boyechko**, GPSS Senate and Technology Director. The minutes were approved on 25 February 2026 on the senate floor.