

The Graduate and Professional Student Senate Regular Meeting of 25 February 2026 at 5:30pm

The meeting was held in person in HUB 332 and online on Zoom.

Attendance

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~~
Maitri Karia, 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
Richard Boyechko, GPSS Senate & Technology Director
~~Yujin Yang, GPSS Community Outreach & Events Director~~
Zoe Love, GPSS Policy Director
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator
Fatemeh 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 5:43pm.

2. [ACTION] Approval of the Agenda

MJ Mencias moved to approve the agenda. **Zehra Khan** seconded. No objections. Motion carried.

3. [ACTION] Approval of the Minutes

Zoe Hall moved to approve the minutes from 11 February 2026 senate meeting. **Maitri Karia** seconded. No objections. Motion carried.

4. [INFORMATION] Land Acknowledgment

On behalf of GPSS, Pavandeep Josan **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

- Pavandeep Josan congratulated Nick Klop on being elected as the chair of the GPSS Judicial committee.
- Pavandeep Josan also thanked everyone who attended the Diversity Leadership Council last Friday at the ECC.
- Maitri Karia thanked Chula Chhay for pointing out an issue with the GPSS website. She also encouraged everyone to keep using the website and keep the feedback coming.
- Maitri Karia reminded the senators about the onboarding process to share with classmates in their department who might be interested in becoming a GPSS senator.
- Juan Mora shared that today we had Sizzle & Crunch cater the food rather than pizza. He also encouraged everyone to continue speaking up about problems or suggestions, as well as to be on the lookout for a senate food survey. Juan aims to bring to the senate meetings a wider range of foods from local restaurants, so needs recommendations from people who know the food scene in Seattle better than he does.
- Juan Mora also shared about several upcoming events:
 - GPSS Puppy Love taking place this Friday, February 27th 1–3pm in HUB 250
 - Graduate Research Symposium taking place on May 13th, 2026
 - Free yoga class and smoothie on March 12th, 3–4pm in IMA Studio 316
 - Drag show on March 28th, 6:30–7:30pm (doors open at 6pm) at ECC Theater
- Nila Cibu shared about Grad Student Arts & Crafts Club meeting on Mondays 5–7pm in Padelford C301.
- Maitri Karia shared about President Anna Mari Cauce Welcome Center and the upcoming UWAA presentation that will take place on April 8th.

6. [INFORMATION] The Right to Affordable Parking Information, First Reading

Tarik Brown read the resolution co-sponsored by Tarik Brown, MJ Mencias, Ryan Wicklund, and Riley Talamantes. Ryan Wicklund encouraged senators to share feedback within the next week so that revisions can be made before the next senate meeting.

7. [INFORMATION] Senator of the Month

Pavandeep Josan read the proclamation celebrating the work of senator Tarik Brown, who was selected as the GPSS Senator of the Month for January 2026.

8. [INFORMATION] Liaison of the Month

Ryan Wicklund recognized Hamilton Brooks as the Liaison of the Month for January 2026.

9. [ACTION] Adjournment

Riley Talamantes moved to adjourn the meeting. **Zehra Khan** seconded. **Ryan Wicklund** declared the meeting adjourned at 6:08pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by **Richard Boyechko**, GPSS Senate and Technology Director.