UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

GPSS SENATE MEETING
October 14th, 2026

Attendance!

- https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n
- Word of the Day: HUSKY



https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

Resources

SafeCampus (206-685-7233)

Call SafeCampus anytime to anonymously discuss safety and well-being concerns for yourself or others.

uw.edu/safecampus

Childcare Assistance Program

UW Seattle program designed to assist students in covering the costs of licensed childcare for their children (ages birth–12 years old).

tinyurl.com/uw-childcare

Student Technology Loan Program

The Student Technology Loan Program (STLP) is a free, student-led program that supports the academic technology needs of UW Seattle students.

STLP.uw.edu

UW Food Pantry

The program provides food to students, staff, and faculty who may be experiencing short-term food insecurity.

tinyurl.com/uw-food-pantry

https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

Call To Order

Approval of the Agenda

- Sent on Mail and available on GPSS Website
- **Total Time:** 110 minutes
- **Anticipated End Time:** 7:10 pm

https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

Land Acknowledgement

The term "Red Indian" originated from a combination of historical error and European racial categorization. The label Indian stems from Christopher Columbus's mistaken belief in 1492 that he had reached the East Indies, a misnomer that persisted despite his later realization of the error.

> https://www.britannica.com/topic/Why-Are-Native-Americans-Called-Indians

https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

Resources for Action

Within UW:

- Get involved with LAB and the WSA! GPSS has advocated for a tuition waiver program for Native American students

- wəɬəbʔaltxʷ - UW Intellectual House - https://www.washington.edu/diversity/intellectual-house/

- ASUW American Indian Student Commission (AISC): http://aisc.asuw.org

Community:

- Native and Strong Lifeline – 988 (option 4)

The Native and Strong Lifeline is the first program of its kind in the nation dedicated to serving American Indian and Alaska Native people. Operated by Volunteers of America Western Washington, this line is available for people who call the 988 Lifeline and choose option 4. It is specifically for Washington's American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Calls are answered by Native crisis counselors who are tribal members and descendants closely tied to their communities. Native and Strong Lifeline counselors are fully trained in crisis intervention and support, with special emphasis on cultural and traditional practices related to healing.

- Stand with the Duwamish: https://www.duwamishtribe.org/stand-with-the-duwamish

- Real Rent Duwamish: https://www.realrentduwamish.org

Other resources:

Find out whose traditional land you live on with this interactive map: https://native-land.ca/

What is the purpose of a land acknowledgement? https://retirees.uw.edu/event/from-recognition-to-action-understanding-land-acknowledgments/

- Article from Patagonia: All Trails Belong to Mother Earth, Following in Indigenous Footsteps on the Ute Pass Trail

Documentary on "The Rights of Nature: A Global Movement"



GPSS



https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

Announcements & Public Comments

https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

GPSS Senator Onboarding & Q/A

- Ask Program Advisor to send gpssvpadmin@uw.edu an email nominating you as the Senator for your program
- Get added to the Teams chat
- Get added to the Senate Email List
- Take the Senator Onboarding Course

https://tinyurl.com/56nbwr5n

GPSS Senator Onboarding & Q/A

- **Sponsor:** Maitri Karia
- https://uofwastudents.my.canva.site/gpss-senator-onboarding-course
- Senate and GPA Roster; SharePoint; Senator Resources
- Senate Meeting Details

GPSS Committees for Senators

- **Executive Committee**

Seven seats on the Executive Committee, alongside the Officers and an ASUW representative. Executive Senators act for the Senate between meetings, review and recommend the annual budget, approve appointments to University committees, and chair ad hoc committees. The Executive Committee meets at least four times a quarter and monthly over the summer, so summer availability is part of the role.

STAND FOR ELECTION

Executive Senator

Seven seats on the body that acts for the Senate

What Executive Senators do

- Sit on the Executive Committee alongside the Officers and an ASUW representative.
- Act for the Senate between meetings and carry out what it decides.
- Review and recommend the annual GPSS budget.
- Approve University committee appointments and chair ad hoc committees.

Who can run

- Any seated Senator in good standing.
- You cannot also sit on the Judicial Committee.
- Seats run two years, and you can stand again afterwards.

What it asks of you

The Executive Committee meets at least four times a quarter and monthly over the summer, so summer availability is part of the role. Missing more than two meetings in a quarter without approval vacates the seat, as does being replaced as Senator by your program.

Nominations are taken from the floor, including your own. Each candidate speaks briefly, then the Senate votes.

Questions: gpssvpadmin@uw.edu

GPSS Committees for Senators

- **Judicial Committee**

The Judicial Committee shall act as a standing investigative body. The Judicial Committee shall investigate any grievance that arises concerning an interpretation of the GPSS Constitution and Bylaws, or concerning any procedure, committee, Officer, Officer candidate, or Senator of the GPSS.

Meets once every two weeks, as per the availability of members.

JOIN A GPSS COMMITTEE

Judicial Committee

Six seats for Senators who want to get the rules right

What the committee does

- Investigates grievances about how the Constitution and Bylaws are interpreted, and about any GPSS procedure, committee, Officer or Senator.
- Reviews proposed Bylaw amendments before they reach the Senate floor.
- Hears appeals on Senate representation decisions.
- Can call a special meeting of the Senate to hear its recommendations.

Who can join

- Any seated Senator in good standing. Six seats.
- You cannot also sit on the Executive, Finance and Budget, or Elections Committees.
- Your term runs alongside your term as a Senator.

What it asks of you

The committee meets at least once a quarter and chooses its own Chair at its first meeting. Four voting members make quorum. The Vice President of Equity and Inclusion and a Student Activities Office advisor sit as non-voting members.

Nominations are taken from the floor at the Senate meeting.
You can nominate yourself. Just raise your hand.

Questions: gpssvpadmin@uw.edu

GPSS Committees for Senators

- **Elections Committee**

At least four at-large Senators plus one Executive Senator. The committee runs every GPSS election, writes the Elections Guide and the rules candidates run under, takes nominations, and counts the ballots. Members are appointed by the Senate and approved by the Executive Committee rather than elected from the floor, so let me know if you are interested.

JOIN A GPSS COMMITTEE

Elections Committee

The Senators who make sure every GPSS election is fair

What the committee does

- Runs every GPSS election, from Executive Senators to the Officer elections in spring.
- Writes the Elections Guide and the rules every candidate runs under.
- Takes nominations, counts the ballots, and announces the results.
- Can end a candidacy if the election rules are broken.

Who can join

- At least four at-large Senators, plus one Executive Senator.
- You cannot be a current Officer or an Officer candidate.
- You cannot also sit on the Judicial Committee.

What it asks of you

The committee meets as often as its Chair decides, with at least one meeting before each election. It elects its own Chair, who cannot be the Executive Senator. If you decide to run for office yourself, you resign from the committee first.

Members are appointed by the Senate and approved by the Executive Committee. Let me know if you are interested.

Questions: gpssvpadmin@uw.edu

GPSS Committees for Senators

- **Finance & Budget Committee**
- Bi-weekly on Tuesdays
- Special & Departmental Allocations
- GPSS Budget
- gpssvpfb@uw.edu

Application Form

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE
FY27 BUDGET | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

	FY 26	FY 27 BUDGET
SUMMARY		
OPERATING REVENUES		
SAF ALLOCATION	548,351	576,252
PROVOST BENEFIT LOAD FUNDS	-	40,000
DISCRETIONARY FUND	-	12,900
STF FUNDING	7,690	8,112
GPSS GENERAL RESERVE FUND	19,014	-
TOTAL REVENUES	**$ 575,054**	**$ 637,264**
OPERATING EXPENSES		
PERSONNEL	432,765	506,748
GRANTS	40,500	40,500
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	5,122	6,023
SENATE	3,000	14,130
PROGRAMMING	38,300	34,091
SHARED SERVICES		26,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 519,687**	**$ 627,992**
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**$ 55,367**	**$ 9,272**
NON-OPERATING REVENUE		
ENDOWMENT DISTRIBUTIONS	5,000	-
TOTAL (NON-OPERATING REVENUES)	**$ 5,000**	**$ -**
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**$ 60,367**	**$ 9,272**

GPSS Committees for Students

- **Legislative Advisory Board**

- Chaired by the Vice President of External Affairs. The Board develops the annual legislative agenda, which the Senate approves each Fall quarter and which then guides all of GPSS's advocacy work at the state and federal level. If you care about tuition, funding, housing policy or anything else decided in Olympia rather than on campus, this is where that work starts. If you are interested connect with the Vice President of External Affairs

GPSS Committees for Students

- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee**

- Chaired by the Vice President of Equity and Inclusion, with no cap on membership. The committee functions as the Senate's accountability branch: it awards grants from the GPSS Diversity Funds, runs the annual GPSS Composition Survey, hears grievances about inequities and refers them to Judicial where applicable, and plans campus-wide programming on diversity issues. Any student can join, with no election and no application!

GPSS Committees for Students

- **Travel Grants Committee**

- Open to all grad + professional students
- Bi-weekly on Tuesdays (alternating with F&B)

- To apply: fill out the liaison application form



Senator Roles, Responsibilities & Expectations

- **Sponsor:** Maitri Karia
- https://www.gpss.uw.edu/senate/become-a-senator/

Senator Duties

How to be an impactful Senator

DUTIES

Attend Senate meetings	Come to at least half the Senate meetings each quarter, usually two or three. One of those can be covered by a proxy from your program. Meetings start at 5:00 pm in HUB 332, and dinner is provided.
Read the information	Read the emails, agendas, minutes and resolution drafts GPSS sends. Knowing the Bylaws and Constitution makes meetings much easier to follow.
Represent your program	Share GPSS updates with your cohort, and give people an easy way to bring issues to you. What you hear from them is what you bring into the room.
Join a committee	Sit on a GPSS committee, or serve as a GPSS liaison on a University committee. This is where most of the hands-on work happens.
Write a resolution	Put forward a resolution on something that matters to your program, or to graduate and professional students across campus.
Office hours and events	Drop by office hours to ask questions and meet your Officers. GPSS social and programming events are how this community comes together.

GPSS Judicial, Executive, and Elections Committee Floor Nominations

Advocacy and Lobbying

Legislative Agenda Survey



Huskies on the Hill Advocacy Day

Legislative Advisory Board Email List

GPSS Social & Community Events

Sponsor: Zehra Khan

- ~~Graduate Students for Mariner's~~
- ~~Paint and Sip~~
- ~~Student Activities Fair~~
- ~~Graduate Students for Huskies~~
- ~~Movie Screening – Mustache~~
- South Asian Students Mixer @ Janta
- Halloween at the HUB



- Fall Quarter UW Wellness Center Focus Group for Graduate Students

Office of Equity & Inclusion Updates

Sponsor: Zehra Khan

- Hub Safety Resources
- Land Acknowledgement Changes
- Meeting Hours
- GPSS Anonymous Feedback Form
- Senator/Liaison of the Month/Year

UW Student Code of Conduct

- **Sponsor:** Zoe Hall
- Overview
- Faculty Senate Updates
- GPSS Ad Hoc Committee

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Adjournment