1. Call to Order

Dave Brown called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Dave Brown entertained a motion to approve the agenda

Anna Batie (Sociology) so moved

Jake Falaschini seconded.

Motion passed.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Dave Brown entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

Richard Nobles (Psychology) so moved

Anna Batie (Sociology) seconded.

Motion passed.

4. Resolution 8.07-09
Yutaka Jono presented the resolution to the Senate. He then entertained a motion to adopt the resolution.

Kara Main (Microbiology) made a motion to adopt the resolution.

Alex Berezow seconded.

Dave Iseminger we need to make the amendment more explicit so the people could vote in the elections taking place that day.

Anna Batie (Sociology) so moved.

Jake Faleschini seconded.

Dave Iseminger’s motion passed.

Amy Underkofler (Jackson School) asked what the point of the resolution was if the person was not there.

Yutaka Jono said if and when he showed up.

Wes Brenner (Law) asked if he had to vote and why they were making the decision so fast.

Kara Main (Microbiology) said the program that there were a lot of students that weren’t represented yet so the bylaw was important.

Yutaka Jono said they were speeding through it because this was the last senate meeting.

Amy Underkofler (Jackson School) said she did not understand why this specific case had to be special.

Alex Berezow called to question.

All in favor of adoption

One opposed.

 Majority two to eight.

Motion Passed.

5. GPSS officer Elections
Emily Spahn said she had a resolution in regards to resigning from Judicial committee. She said members were supposed to have resigned 35 days in advance but this was being looked at as an honest mistake. She said also that the elections committee changed the ballots and that was against the bylaws. She wrote up a resolution that would suspend these bylaws for the 2008 elections. She then went over the process of elections.

Wes asked what the rational for him resigning from Judicial 35 days in advance was.

Yutaka Jono said if there was a challenge about the candidacy taking place before the elections they would go to judicial.

Wes Brenner (Law) asked who the person was.

Jake Falaschini said it was him and that he had overlooked it when reading.

Krislyn McWilliams asked how ballots were being picked up.

Emily Spahn said she would collect them from everyone.

Yutaka Jono made a point of order. He entertained a motion to approve the bylaws.

Dave Brown said no, which was the whole point of the above conversation.

Emily Spahn said anyone could nominate themselves up until the time she says they cannot. She said candidates would give their speeches. She asked if anyone wanted to nominate themselves for secretary. She said Julia Vinson was not feeling well so she would not be speaking.

Yutaka Jono gave his speech.

Emily Spahn asked for questions. There were no questions so they proceed to the next candidate.

Danielle Magunuson gave her speech for the treasurer position.

Dave Iseminger gave his speech for vice president.

Yutaka Jono asked if the degrees Dave was working on required writing a thesis.

Jake Faleschini gave his speech for president.

Alex Berezow asked where his position was on the Southlake union trolley.
Jake Faleschini said that the U district was better with transportation that tied campus into the city. He said he felt that if they moved forward he would be in support of transportation that ties the school into downtown.

Yutaka Jono asked if Jake thought student fees should be used for the stadium renovation.

Jake Faleschini said he had not thought about it much. He said he knew that the stadium needed renovation. He said that because it would be a benefit to the students and community as well, but he said he thought it made sense for it to be paid with student fees if students were benefiting from it.

Emily Spahn told the senate to fill out their ballots and give them to her when they were done.

6. Resolution 9.07-08

Yutaka Jono read the resolution 9.07-08 concerning the support and reconciliation of bilingual non-native English speakers and speakers endangered languages at the University.

Dave Brown asked for a motion.

Jeff (Linguistics) made a motion to adopt the resolution

Lee Bouden seconded.

Amir Rahmani (Aeronautics and Astronautics) asked if this discouraged linguistic discrimination.

Yutaka Jono said there had been specific instances that sometimes of an overt or subconscious preference. Depending on what a person’s native language is, there are certain dialects that are more prestigious than others.

Anna Batie (Sociology) asked if linguistic discrimination had any baring on grading for TA’s.

Yutaka Jono said they would not affect grading.

Alex Berezow asked what the point of creating and maintaining a database of languages.

Yutaka Jono said there were three reasons:
Statistical for UW to know gaps
Second is for research purposes
Third was for all of the non native English speakers.
Olivia Perwitasari (FIUTS) asked, regarding TA’s, if they had to take a speak test before they started, she asked if the resolution would be on that too.

Yutaka Jono said there was a concern because there had been people with equal scores on their speak test and there had been a preference leaning towards certain dialects.

Olivia Perwitasari (FIUTS) asked if the speak tests grading was specific.

Yutaka Jono said it was subjective.

Jake Faleschini asked who was demanded or encouraged to keep the database. He then asked where GPSS got the authority to make decisions like this.

Russell Hugo (Linguistics) This is merely a resolution to say that GPSS is for linguistic diversity and also the idea for a database for these ideas discussed.

Jake Faleschini said they had heard this was going on in the community and they wanted it all to be recognized.

Alex Berezow said that this might send a message that learning English is not important in this country and that was not true.

Yutaka Jono said that the test was specifically for people that can participate in ELP programs. He said the English proficiency goal should have already been met.

Dave Brown said the language was very loose.

Jason Benchimol (Philosophy) said he thought discouraging linguistic discrimination is good. He said some of the language promotes linguistic diversity. He thought that maybe these two ideas could be pulled apart.

Aaron Naumann said the pushing the resolution seemed too drastic from their position because he thought it sounded like they were trying to push a policy change. He thought it should be made a statement instead of a resolution.

Yutaka Jono said that the resolution states that GPSS supports it not demands it. He said it should stay a resolution because then it is on paper and once it is on paper actions can be taken.

Aaron Naumann said he was just talking about the classification of the document. He said presenting the document as a resolution gave it a lot of power.

Russell Hugo (Linguistics) asked if they could issue statements.

Dave Brown said yes.
Russell Hugo (Linguistics) said it sounded like this was just saying these were ideas worth looking at.

Dave Brown said if they looked at the language they would potentially be able to amend it.

Scott Mackenzie (Neurobiology and Behavior) suggested as a final point that ideas be resolved. He asked how this did not discriminate against English speaking students where English is there only language

Russell Hugo (Linguistics) said that a second fluent language should be created equal. He said all languages were raised to an equal ground.

Beth Curry (Oceanography) said that people that do not want to be recognized did not have to be.

Russell Hugo (Linguistics) said they would put themselves in voluntarily.

Richard Nobles called for quorum.

Yutaka Jono said they had quorum.

Dave Brown asked if all were in favor of adopting the resolution.

One apposed.

Seven abstained.

The resolution passed

7. Programming

Krislyn McWilliams said the social was next week. Doors were going to open at 5:30 pm. She said volunteers were needed.

8. Senator Awards

Dave Brown read Thank You’s to senators that contributed their time and effort throughout the year. He then said executive and judicial members needed to be elected.

Aaron Naumann
Noah Benson
Richard Nobles
Ching-Ping Lin
All were in favor.
Mike Vannatta
Amir Rahmani
Beth Curry
Johnathan Tomhave

**Dave Brown** made a motion to adopt the new committees.

**Anna Batie** (Sociology) so moved.

**Kara Main** seconded.

Motion passed.

**9. Officer Reports for 2007-08**

**Dave Brown** wanted to give the senators a review of the year.
He said there was a 10% increase for tuition for graduate students. He said they got an extra counselor which is what they had strived for during the year.
He said the elimination of the counseling fee was a big deal for GPSS and ASUW. He said parity was achieved with five counselors. GPSS and ASUW were invited to participate in budget which has never happened before.
He said he and Saran were going to be sitting in with the Vice Provost Eric Godfrey to look at data being analyzed in regards to health insurance. We thought we knew what was wrong but this data allows us to move forward. He said a shared policy statement was going to be signed at the end of the year with data from the surveys. He said Aaron Lennon had been a great advocate for them and he wanted to thank her. He thanked everyone for their hard work.

**Krislyn McWilliams** said as a point of importance for people serving next year. As a SAF member she had been presented with this fact: a policy has been passed in SAF. Three major renovations are taking place on campus at the HUB, Hall Health and the ECC. She said resolutions had to be made in support of the renovation schemes.

**Sarah Reyneveld** said that they had 90% involvement in committees the past year. Lobbying they had three big priorities; child care, campus safety and restoration of out of state tuition subsidies. She said child care made a lot of progress during the year. She said it was great that it passed legislation and a solid ground work had been laid for funding to student parents. She also thought good strides had been raised with legislature surrounding mental health. Having money in the budget for both issues was a great accomplishment.

**Krislyn McWilliams** said thank you to Savanna, Beth, and Andy.

**Yutaka Jono** said thanks to everyone.
He said ASUW elections going on next week.
10. Elections Results

All candidates ran unopposed.

11. Adjourn

Dave Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Yutaka Jono so moved.

Anna Batie (Sociology) seconded.

Meeting adjourned 6:03 p.m.