

Dear Graduate and Professional Students of the UW,

As many of you know, I have been fortunate this past school year to operate as Secretary within GPSS. I have worked behind the scenes to manage the GPSS roster, attendance, communications, Diversity Committee, Office Manager, Clerk, and Creative Director, among other responsibilities. It has been an honor and mutually rewarding relationship as I have shaped and been shaped by my position. Being a part of the GPSS office, connected to organizations and people across campus, has taught me an immense amount regarding the roles and potential of graduate and professional students in the UW community. It is for these reasons, as well as my deep respect for GPSS as a campus organization, that I am running for President.

I was a Senator for two years before I was elected Secretary, and during my first quarter I drafted and passed a resolution requesting improved and more accessible training resources in the event of an active shooter on campus. After three years in GPSS I want more opportunities to represent all of us who work hard to enact innovative and transformative research and scholarship within our disciplines because I see the ways in which my skills and strengths can make a positive impact on this organization and our presence on campus. As GPSS President I will operate with a **priority toward diversity and mental health advocacy on behalf of graduate and professional students**. Within these scopes, and those of the overall position, I will:

- Ensure a more productive and informative first quarter of GPSS so Senators understand their potential within our organization, their department, and on campus
- Work to connect with the needs and wants of graduate students through more formalized communication with GSAs and Senators via their constituents, utilizing our website and adaptable surveys for each Senator and their departments
- Build on the cross-campus relationships I have already forged as Secretary before next year so that I am already integrated into my position by fall, with considerably less needed adjustment
- Delegate and streamline communication within the office to enact more frequent and efficient understand of each Officers' goals, progress, and needs in relation to those of GPSS as a whole
- Implement a more cohesive and constructive orientation for incoming graduate students
- Incorporate more fun into Senate meetings while also allowing more time for Senator voices
- Work to diversify our Senate body so it more accurately reflects our student body as a whole
- Seek out underrepresented and marginalized voices to ensure we indeed work for *every* student
- Undergo and implement within the office implicit bias and equity training
- Continue to develop GPSS's relationship with ASUW for more holistic student representation

Considering my historical knowledge within GPSS, experience working with and watching two previous Presidents, and familiarity with campus systems, I am fully confident in my capacity to successfully fulfill the duties of the GPSS President. Every position has its strength, and I see that of the President being facilitation and delegation, two skills with which I have extensive experience.

I am constantly blown away by the dedication, passion, and humility of our graduate and professional students. I would love the opportunity to help make your experience at UW as positive and mutually beneficial as possible. We play a vital role on campus, one that can often silo us in our respective hallways, but through GPSS we have an opportunity to collectively decide what matters most and enact the change and advocacy we deem necessary. As President I vow to listen to, communicate with, and represent our student body as accurately and efficiently as possible, with special focus on mental health and diversity, and with unwavering kindness and dedication.

Sincerely,
Giuliana Conti

