

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF  
THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE

Meeting of 09 November 2022 at 5:30pm

In-Person and Remotely via Zoom

**The following GPSS members and staff attended the meeting:**

A.J. Balatico, GPSS President  
Davon Thomas, GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs  
Joel Anderson, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs  
Marty Varela, GPSS Vice President of Equity & Inclusion  
Jack Flesher, GPSS Vice President of Administration  
Van Mai, GPSS Vice President of Finance  
Pratima K.C., Executive Senator  
Maleen Kidiwela, Executive Senator  
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator  
Sachin Nayak, Executive Senator  
Charles Bugre, Executive Senator  
~~Raj Shekhar Dewangan, Executive Senator~~  
Devon Woodley, Executive Senator  
Brent Seto, ASUW Director of Internal Policy  
Rene Singleton, SAO Advisor  
Carrie Moore, HUB Executive Director  
~~Bill Mahoney, Graduate School Advisor~~  
CJ Bermudes, GPSS Senate Director

**The following persons also attended the meeting:**

1. [Action] Call to Order 5:45pm

**A.J. Balatico** called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

2. [Action] Approval of Agenda 5:46pm

**Pratima K.C.** motioned to approve the agenda. Sachin Nayak seconded.

No further objections. The motion to approve the agenda passed.

3. [Action] Approval of Minutes 5:46pm

**Jack Flesher** motioned to approve minutes. Maleen Kidiwela seconded.

No further objections. The motion to approve the agenda passed.

4. [Information] Announcements 5:47pm

**Jack Flesher** informed the committee about the UW Maker's Fair, outside the Husky Union Building.

**A.J. Balatico** said that there will be a DACA information session on November 17th in the ECC Pacific Islander Room. He also said that the Board of Regents meeting will be on November 10th in Tacoma. He said that they will be appointing new UW-Tacoma leadership. He also said that there are new Regents on the board, including Alexa Harris.

5. [Information] ASUW Fall Update 5:50pm

**Brent Seto** said that the Student Senate has not received too much legislation. He said that there is a task force being created to investigate a desire to bring back the Experimental College.

**Davon Thomas** asked if information regarding the task force can be included in the Senate Materials email.

6. [Information] Executive Senator and Officer Updates 5:53pm

**Pratima K.C.** asked what the status of Executive Senator Matthew Mitnick was.

**A.J. Balatico** responded that Matthew Mitnick resigned as an Executive Senator during the October 19th Senate meeting.

**Marty Varela** said that the Diversity Committee has now met on two occasions.

**Jack Flesher** said that the Arts Council has now met on two occasions and is planning to host a crafting session. He said that he has received interest regarding a new Senator orientation.

**Sachin Nayak** asked if announcements are still being made to departments regarding vacant GPSS Senate seats.

**Jack Flesher** responded in the affirmative, describing plans to reach out to more departments.

**Davon Thomas** said that the Science & Policy Committee met for the first time. He said the Executive Senator Ella Spurlock was appointed Committee Chair.

**A.J. Balatico** welcomed the committee's newest Executive Senators.

The Committee entertained AY 2022-2023 appointments to SAF, STF, UPASS, and TABS. Marty Varela moved to approve the appointment nominations. Jack Flesher seconded. No objections, the motion moved to a vote.

The vote passed; 11 in the affirmative, zero (0) in the negative, two (2) abstentions.

**Joel Anderson** provided an update on the GPSS Legislative Agenda and outlined his plan for the Senate Meeting agenda presentation on November 16th.

7. [Information] Town Hall on Campus and Community Safety Debrief 6:15pm

**A.J. Balatico** provided a debrief on the Town Hall event held on November 3rd. He said that there were many things that could be improved.

**Brent Seto** asked what the undergraduate turnout was at the Town Hall event.

**A.J. Balatico** responded that it was approximately 10-12 undergraduate students.

**Davon Thomas** said that he found it acceptable to have Sally Clark at both the Senate meeting and the Town Hall event. He added context into the confusion regarding the Black Student Union and ASUW.

**A.J. Balatico** provided context into Faculty Senate Chair Gautham Reddy's role in the Town Hall event.

**Amanda Chin** asked if the panelists knew about the Black Student Union's plan to attend the event.

**Jack Flesher** said that University administrators should be prepared for such commentary.

**Rene Singleton** provided logistical feedback, especially regarding the question fielding format, microphone placement, venue selection, and accessibility.

**Ella Spurlock** said that she was unable to attend the Town Hall event due a previous commitment. She asked what occurred at the Town Hall event that led to the discussion of combativeness within the meeting.

**A.J. Balatico** provided an overview of the sequence of events that occurred during the November 3rd Town Hall event.

## 8. [Action] Senate Agenda Setting 6:35pm

**A.J. Balatico** presented the proposed agenda for the November 16th GPSS Meeting. He said that item six (6) would entertain appointments to the Judicial Committee and the Elections Committee.

**Ella Spurlock** asked if item seven (7) was still relevant, as it was entertained at the November 2nd Senate meeting.

**Davon Thomas** asked what the Working Group topics were.

**Jack Flesher** responded that the Working Group topics were healthcare, arts and humanities, legislative agenda work, DEI, finance/budget/planning, and any additional ad hoc groups. He presented the possibility of increasing the Working Groups item from 15 minutes to 20 minutes.

**Jack Flesher** motioned to extend time by three (3) minutes. Pratima K.C. seconded. No objections, motion carried.

**Jack Flesher** motioned to vote on the agenda. Pratima K.C. seconded. No objections, motion moved to a vote.

The vote passed; 10 in the affirmative, zero (0) in the negative, two (2) abstentions.

## 9. [Information] Good of the Order 6:59pm

Good of the Order item was expedited.

## 10.[Action] Adjournment 6:59pm

**Jack Flesher** motioned to adjourn the meeting. Maleen Kidiwela seconded. No objections, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

*Meeting minutes prepared by **Clement “CJ” Bermudes Jr**, GPSS Senate Director.*

