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 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 5:32pm

   A.J. Balatico called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

   Attendance vote (via GPSS website) was initiated.

2. [Action] Approval of Agenda 5:36pm

   Kaustubh Yadav motioned to approve the agenda. Sachin Nayak seconded.

   No objections. The motion to approve the agenda passed.
3. [Action] Approval of Minutes 5:37pm

A.J. Balatico presented the minutes of the academic year, along with the minutes from May 18th, 2022 and June 1st, 2022.

Jack Flesher motioned to table the June 1st, 2022 minutes approval for a later meeting and to approve the minutes from May 18th, 2022 and the 2022-2023 academic year. Grace Crowley seconded. No objections, the motion moved to a vote.

4. [Information] Land Acknowledgment 5:44pm

Marty Varela, on behalf of the GPSS, gave the land acknowledgement. She included resources for action involving tribal lands and indigenous awareness.

5. [Information] Announcements 5:44pm

A.J. Balatico said that UW is hosting Tent City 3 in Winter 2022. He said that the university is seeking volunteers for the event on Saturday, December 17th, 2022. He also said that there were appointment priorities for the SAF, STF, and U-PASS committees, along with the HUB Board of Representatives.

6. [Action] Formation of an Ad Hoc Committee 5:47pm

Nathan Mitchell presented his proposal for the formation of an ad hoc committee. He said that the committee will cover health policy on campus, specifically the possible addition of sharps disposal areas in UW buildings and facilities.

Kristina Sawyckykj supported the proliferation of sharps disposal areas on campus, citing safety concerns surrounding the disposal of needles in general waste bins.

A.J. Balatico discussed the fiscal concerns surrounding the implementation of sharps disposal areas.

Tripti Sinha offered her assistance in support of the implementation of sharps disposal areas.

Nathan Mithell provided resolution language for the formation of an ad hoc committee covering health policy, and specifically sharps disposal. He asked for positions as to the scope of the committee.
Kaustabh Yadav motioned to move the action to a vote. Ella Spurlock seconded. No objections, the motion moved to a vote.

The vote to form an ad hoc committee passed; 30 in the affirmative, zero (0) in the negative, one (1) abstentions.

7. [Information] Legislative Update 6:02pm

Joel Anderson provided a legislative update, discussing the recent “committee days” at the Washington State Legislature that GPSS participated in and issues including FAFSA and WASFA state completion rates, child care subsidies for students, and the Washington College Grant. He also spoke about the legislative reception held with ASUW on December 5th.

Marty Varela applauded Joel Anderson’s clarity and execution of the GPSS legislative agenda.

Joel Anderson recognized Kaustabh Yadav’s work in designing the legislative agenda resources.

Kaustubh Yadav updated the Senate on GPSS’s work within the Student Advocacy for Graduate Education (SAGE) national legislative organization. He said that SAGE white papers focus on higher education funding, international student issues, and research funding.

8. [Information] Compensation of Senate Roles 6:21pm

Charles Bugre presented the possibility of compensating Senators for service on GPSS committees, similar to that of Executive Senators.

Kristina Sawyckyj discussed SB 5793, a state bill that covered lived experience compensation within Washington state committees and commissions.

A.J. Balatico presented Senator compensation projections (GPSS Senate Meeting 07 December Slide #20).

Chianaraekpere Ike motioned to extend time by five (5) minutes. Charles Bugre seconded. No objections, the motion passed.
Charles Bugre presented the possibility of non-monetary forms of compensation, especially for international students.

Chianaraekpere Ike asked if an ad hoc committee regarding Senator compensation can be created for further discussion.

9. [Action] GPSS Committee Appointments 6:43pm

A.J. Balatico presented the need for one (1) Senator nomination for the GPSS Elections Committee. He defined the roles and responsibilities of the Elections Committee and the importance of the Elections Guide.

Jessica Caruso nominated herself for the GPSS Elections Committee.

Jack Flesher announced the current Elections Committee composition for Senate approval. He motioned for the approval of the Elections Committee. Van Mai seconded. No objections, the motion moved to a vote.

The vote to approve the Elections Committee passed; 31 in the affirmative, zero (0) in the negative, zero (0) abstentions.

A.J. Balatico said that all GPSS committees are formed.

10. [Information] Working Groups 6:50pm

A.J. Balatico introduced the meeting working groups, which included university affairs, new Senator orientation, science and policy, legislative strategizing, DEI, F&B and planning, and the new ad hoc committee for public health and sharps disposal.

11. [Information] Good of the Order 7:14pm

Jack Flesher asked Senators that did not utilize the attendance vote to message him to notate their attendance.

Davon Thomas said that the GPSS strike night was a success. He recognized Amanda Chin and Kaustubh Yadav for their assistance.

Joel Anderson said that the final Legislative Advisory Board meeting for this year was on December 8th.
12. [Action] Adjournment 7:19pm

Marty Varela motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kaustabh Yadav (Human Centered Design & Engineering) seconded. No objections, the motion moved to a vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

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