

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE

Meeting of 29 March 2023 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 5:34pm

A.J. Balatico called the meeting to order at 5:34pm.

2. [Action] Approval of Agenda 5:34pm

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) motioned to approve the amended agenda. Brent Seto seconded. No objections, the motion to approve the agenda passed.

3. [Action] Approval of Minutes 5:35pm

Jack Flesher motioned to approve minutes. Maleen Kidiwela seconded.

No objections. The motion to approve the minutes passed.

4. [Information] Announcements 5:38pm

Jack Flesher said that M3D has designated two (2) new GPSS Senators. He also said that he sent an email regarding the Arts Council.

A.J. Balatico said that the three (3) minute thesis event occurred prior to the Executive Committee meeting. He also said that June 1st, 2023 is the inauguration date for GPSS and ASUW. He added that the UW Provost search was still ongoing and that GPSS has an open seat on the HUB Board of Representatives.

5. [Information] ASUW Winter Update 5:41pm

Brent Seto (ASUW) said that the SHARPS Resolution has a four (4) week timeline. He also said that ASUW elections are ongoing, with a student from the Law School running for ASUW President.

A.J. Balatico emphasized the importance of graduate students interacting with and mentoring undergraduate students.

6. [Action] Senator of the Month 5:44pm

A.J. Balatico said that there were no formal nominations for the March Senator of the Month. He added that March was an interesting case, as there were only two GPSS meetings scheduled due to spring break.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) motioned to recognize Kristina Sawyckyj (D-Center) as the GPSS Senator of the Month for March. Jack Flesher seconded. No objections, the motion passed.

7. [Information] Legislative Session Update 5:47pm

Joel Anderson provided a legislative session update from Olympia. He said that March 29th, 2023 was the legislative deadline for bills to clear policy committees. He added that GPSS-backed legislation, including the basic needs bill, was progressing. He also said that GPSS was continuing to monitor the possible expansion of the Washington College Grant.

A.J. Balatico asked about Intellectual House funding.

Joel Anderson responded that the funding requested for the Intellectual House was included in the Senate Capital Budget, but not in the House request. He said that his understanding was that the Senate provided adequate funding for capital projects.

8. [Information] Executive Senator and Officer Updates 5:54pm

Charles Bugre (Information Science) provided an update into STF proposal awards and disbursements.

Maleen Kidiwela (Oceanography) said that the STF spring quarter rolling deadline was April 6th, 2023.

Davon Thomas announced that GPSS Officers were currently producing quarterly reports. He also said that official information into the comedian event would be released shortly. He added that the event would be allocated tickets for the public.

Jack Flesher said that he has communicated with all departments with GPSS Senators who did not meet the attendance requirements for winter quarter.

Davon Thomas emphasized the importance of the working group item, which was often expedited due to prolonged Senate Meeting durations.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) provided her support to Davon Thomas' statement.

Jack Flesher provided clarification into the GPSS Senator attendance requirements.

Matthew Moran, on behalf of Marty Varela, announced that the Diversity Committee meeting time has changed to Tuesdays at 10:00am.

A.J. Balatico said that the Tri-Campus Advisory Board (TABS) met on March 29th, 2023 and decided to maintain its chair, Janis Shin, and meeting tempo. He also said that the STF rate was currently zero (0) and would most likely stay zero (0) for the 2023-2024 academic year. He added that the STF Committee was searching for a chair. He said that there was a push to reduce or maintain the current U-PASS rate.

Jack Flesher asked what the University reasoning was for registration late fees.

A.J. Balatico responded that it was related to financial aid and manual work by the Registrar's office. He said that the late fee was incurred upon 8000 students last year. He also provided updates into tuition increases across the University, including the School of Law and School of Nursing. He said that GPSS was sending a delegation to DC for SAGE from April 16th-18th, 2023. He reminded GPSS Committee Chairs that there was Provost funding for committee needs.

Jack Flesher announced that Kaustabh Yadav resigned from the GPSS Elections Committee with the intention to stand for the upcoming GPSS election.

9. [Action] Senate Agenda Setting 6:19pm

A.J. Balatico presented the tentative Senate agenda for April 5th, 2023.

Rene Singleton recommended that all election-related items be moved to the beginning of the meeting to ensure inclusivity.

A.J. Balatico reminded the Executive Committee that there were several resolutions to be addressed during the spring quarter.

Jack Flesher motioned to approve the agenda. Charles Bugre seconded. No objections, the motion passed.

10. [Information] Good of the Order 6:32pm

Jack Flesher asked Pratima K.C. if the Elections Guide needed to be addressed.

Pratima K.C. responded in the negative, stating that the Elections Committee will be meeting.

11. [Action] Adjournment 6:34pm

Charles Bugre motioned to adjourn the meeting. Davon Thomas seconded. No objections, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

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