

The Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Meeting of 18, October 2023 at 5:30pm

In-person and remotely via Zoom

The following GPSS members and staff attended the meeting:

A.J. Balatico, GPSS President
Amanda Chin, GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs
Nicholas Juno, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs
Matthew Moran, GPSS Vice President of Equity & Inclusion
Jack Flesher, GPSS Vice President of Administration
Jon Choi, GPSS Vice President of Finance
Pratima K.C., Executive Senator
Maleen Kidiwela, Executive Senator
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator
Charles Bugre, Executive Senator
Raj Dewangan, Executive Senator
Devon Woodley, Executive Senator
Francisco Dojenia, ASUW Director of Internal Policy
Rene Singleton, SAO Advisor
Carrie Moore, HUB Executive Director
Bill Mahoney, Graduate School Advisor
Daniel Cook, GPSS Senate Director
Madeline Nicole Valdez, GPSS University Affairs Director
Mykail Lembke, GPSS Policy Director
Linh Pham, GPSS Budget Director
Kana Saarni, GPSS Communications and Creative Director

The following persons also attended the meeting:

1. [Action] Call to Order 5:30pm

A.J. Balatico called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. He reminded the Senate that all votes will be public. He said that zoom attendees should privately message Senate officers with questions. He mentioned that there will be CART captioning for the meeting.

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

A.J. Balatico mentioned that there were updates to the agenda.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) moved to approve the agenda. **Nicholas Juno** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 5:34pm

3. [Information] Land Acknowledgment 5:34pm

Jon Choi, on behalf of GPSS, gave the land acknowledgment.

“Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed to making the history that led to this moment. Indigenous people have lived here continuously since time immemorial, and Seattle is now a highly cosmopolitan territory with overlapping sovereignties and fidelities. Acknowledging the land we are on is only the first step. Therefore, the Graduate and Professional Student Senate at the University of Washington in Seattle acknowledges the coast Salish people of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Squamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations and all traditional lands on which we learn and work.”

A.J. Balatico acknowledged that land acknowledgements are just the first step in providing resources to and advocating for indigenous students. He said last year in the Washington Student Association, GPSS advocated for a tuition waiver program for Native American students modeled after the UC system. He mentioned the wələbʔaltx^w – Intellectual House, the ASUW American Indian Student Commission, the Native and Strong Lifeline, Stand with Duwamish, and Real Rent Duwamish as additional resources for getting involved. He said these resources will be sent to the Senate tomorrow morning. He extended the offer to volunteer to extend or reform the land acknowledgement to the Senate.

4. [Information] Senate Icebreaker 5:37pm

A.J. Balatico, Jack Flesher, Matthew Moran, Amanda Chin, Nicholas Juno, and Jon Choi introduced themselves as the GPSS officers to the Senate.

Ella Spurlock invited Senators to introduce themselves to their colleagues in small groups using the following Icebreaker question: If you could live in any fantasy world, where would it be?

5. [Information] Announcements 5:46pm

Amanda Chin provided the GPSS Instagram QR code for the Senate. She announced bowling night on November 7 from 6:00pm-8:00pm with free snacks and beverages. She mentioned that the event is for students 21 and older. She announced a tofu curry cooking demo. She mentioned there is a weekly GPSS coffee chat on Wednesdays at noon in the GPSS office. She said Huskies at Work with the UW Alumni Association are providing the opportunity to connect with alumni for job shadowing and mentoring opportunities. She said students will need to sign up by this Sunday to get matched with someone.

Ella Spurlock gave a presentation on the Science and Policy Committee. She said the committee has 3 goals this year. She said the first goal is outreach. She said the committee is partnering with the Science Outreach and Policy for Adults (SOPA) program, which involves outreach to local senior centers and assisted living facilities. She said the Science and Policy Committee will host a miniseries of 4 1-hour talks on possible topics like climate change and microplastics. She invited Senators with ideas or knowledge in these areas to help. She said the Science and Policy Committee will host an interdisciplinary graduate research symposium. She invited Senators to help plan the research symposium. She said the Science and Policy Committee will focus on policy

work and coordinate with the Legislative Advisory Board to develop a Science and Policy lobbying agenda. She said the Science and Policy Committee hopes to submit an article to the Journal of Science, Policy, and Governance. She provided a QR code for interested volunteers to provide their contact information.

Jack Flesher gave a presentation on the HUB Excellence and Student Leadership Scholarship. He said the scholarship is worth \$1,500 and that the deadline to apply is October 31. He invited Carrie to provide more information.

Carrie Moore encouraged Senators to apply. She said HUB never receives enough applicants from GPSS.

Jack Flesher said GPSS will send out the information for the HUB scholarship. He said the D Center has a Memorial Scholarship opportunity and provided the QR code for information on how to apply. He said the Memorial Scholarship consisted of 3 \$1,000 awards for students with demonstrated financial need who identify with having a disability. He said the D Center is the center for Deaf/deaf culture and people involved in disability work. He said the D Center is located on the third floor of the HUB.

Charles Bugre asked what the HUB Excellence and Student Leadership Scholarship funds can be used for.

Carrie Moore said she will reach out to Financial Aid to find out. She said she thinks the funds are applied to tuition. She said she will need to find out if students would receive a check if their tuition were already covered prior to receiving the scholarship.

Charles Bugre said he was asking to see if it would be worth applying for someone whose tuition is already covered.

Jack Flesher said he oversees the Arts Council and the Committee for Senator Motivation and Retention. He said he is planning the first meetings for these committees. He provided a QR Code for interested Senators to fill out a When2Meet form. He repeated the conversation between Charles and Carrie for the zoom attendees.

Mathew Moran discussed the Diversity Committee's partnership with the Evans School's Race and Public Policy forum. He said conversations with the Race and Public Policy forum will begin once GPSS officially forms the Diversity Committee. He said there is an opportunity for partnership with the Evans School's conversation with the White House's chief economist on October 30. He provided a QR code for the Senate to RSVP for the conversation. He invited Senators to email him at gpssvpei@uw.edu if they are interested in being part of a small cohort of students to talk with the White House Chief economist over a free lunch from 1:30pm to 2:00pm on October 30. He provided a QR code for interested graduate students to become a mentor or mentee through the Queer Mentorship and Peer Program opportunity with the Q Center.

A.J. Balatico said the Graduate School will be hosting UW Public Lectures throughout the year at Town Hall Seattle. He said GPSS will send out the link for signing up.

6. [Information] Introduction to GPSS 5:56pm

A.J. Balatico gave a presentation on the history and mission of GPSS and emphasized the centrality of eradicating institutional inequities in the GPSS mission statement.

Mission: GPSS amplifies the voices and experiences of graduate and professional students at the University of Washington, builds community, and advocates for the eradication of inequities that exist within institutionalized academic settings.

A.J. Balatico gave a presentation on the structure of GPSS. He explained the 6 officer roles and how the 9 staff member positions help support the mission of GPSS by helping fulfill officer roles. He said GPSS has liaisons that represent the Senate across the university. He said the GPSS received 150 applications for liaison positions. He mentioned Executive Senators and presented an institutional organization chart.

Nicholas Juno gave a presentation on the responsibilities of the Legislative Advisory Board (LAB). He said LAB will develop a Legislative Agenda and present it to GPSS for amendments and approval. He said he will then bring the Legislative Agenda to the state government in Olympia. He discussed the lobbying responsibilities of LAB. He provided QR codes for Senators to access and fill out the Legislative Interest Survey.

Matthew Moran gave a presentation of the Diversity Committee. He said the Diversity Committee distributes funds to students who apply for diversity funds for events and workshops among other activities to accomplish diversity, equity, and inclusion principles. He said it is a place where students can discuss key issues, build community, and write resolutions. He said he is working on establishing a partnership with the Evans School. He gave a presentation on the Judicial Committee. He said he is an ex-officio member of the Judicial Committee, meaning that he will operate as an advisor to the committee. He mentioned that he hopes to see more consistent meetings and deliverable work in the Judicial Committee this year. He encouraged Senators to offer to serve on the Judicial Committee.

Amanda Chin gave a presentation on the Science and Policy Committee. She said the Science and Policy Committee is focusing on planning the Graduate Research Symposium, which will take place on April 4. She encouraged Senators interested in getting involved to plan, attend, review applications, or present at the symposium. She said the Science and Policy Committee is working with LAB to publish an article. She said the Science and Policy Committee is working on creating a miniseries of 4 1-hour talks. She invited Senators passionate about presenting on certain science topics to fill out the survey provided earlier in the meeting.

Jon Choi gave a presentation on the Finance and Budget Office. He said the Finance and Budget Office handles funding opportunities for students through different funds like the Special Allocations Fund, the Departmental Allocations Fund, and the Travel Grant Fund. He said the Finance and Budget Office forms committees to review student and organization applications for funds. He said GPSS has set aside about \$57,000 to provide funding opportunities for students.

Jack Flesher gave a presentation on the Arts Council and Committee for Senator Motivation and Retention. He said the Arts Council is a great place to find community and project collaborators. He said the Committee for Senator Motivation and Retention is a committee for finding Senators and incentivizing them to stay involved. He said the Elections Committee oversees elections to ensure they are fair. He mentioned there is an election next month for an Executive Senator position.

7. [Information] Senate Overview 6:12pm

Jack Flesher moved to suspend parliamentary procedure for this information item. **A.J. Balatico** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 6:13pm

Jack Flesher gave a presentation on general Senate guidelines and procedures. He said Senators raise their hands to be recognized by the chair if they wish to speak. He said Senators should say their name and program for the public record when they are recognized. He asked Senators to keep their comments relevant to the topic at hand and to try to avoid repeating what other Senators have already said. He said GPSS follows the guidelines of Sturgis's Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure. He encouraged Senators not to feel discouraged from participating in Senate meetings if they do not feel familiar with parliamentary procedure. He gave a presentation distinguishing between Information and Action items on an agenda. He directed Senators to the "cheat sheet" for motion verbiage. He gave a presentation on the meanings and uses of "Point of Information," "Point of Order," "Point of Privilege," making a motion, and the power to object.

(Indiscernible) asked what "second needed" means.

Jack Flesher responded that it means that after someone makes a motion, at least one other person needs to second that motion for it to be considered. He instructed Senators on how to make a motion. He reminded the Senate that Senators have the power to object. He reminded Senators that motions come in a certain order. He said the highest motion is a motion to adjourn, meaning it must be addressed before the Senate can move on to another issue. He reminded Senators that they have access to cheat sheets on parliamentary procedure.

(Indiscernible) asked if Senators had to wait to be called on when objecting.

Jack Flesher responded that the chair asks for objections after a motion is made. He went through some scenarios with the Senate on what types of actions they can take in hypothetical situations.

Simon Hans Edasi (Earth and Space Sciences) made a Point of Information and asked what a privileged motion is.

Jack Flesher responded that a privileged motion is one that takes priority and must be acted upon before the Senate can move on to another motion.

Jack Flesher gave a brief presentation on writing and sponsoring resolutions. He said there is a template for resolutions that he will send to the Senate for writing resolutions. He said resolutions must be submitted to him by no later than the Monday preceding a Senate meeting. He said resolutions cannot be amended in the time after they are sent to the Senate for consideration and before the Senate meeting at which they will be read and considered. He said that changes and amendments can be made after a first reading of the resolution at a Senate meeting. He noted as parliamentarian that his presentation took exactly 20 minutes, and that parliamentary procedure will resume with the next agenda item.

8. [Action] Resolution to Support Seattle Housing Levy 6:33pm

Nicholas Juno said he and Mykail Lembke co-authored and that Raj Dewangan sponsored the Resolution on 2023 Seattle Housing Levy. He gave a brief presentation on the Resolution on 2023 Seattle Housing Levy. He provided a first reading of the Resolution on 2023 Seattle Housing Levy. He explained that the Senate can make a motion to move to a second reading so that the Senate could vote on the Resolution on 2023 Seattle Housing Levy tonight.

Jack Flesher made a Point of Order. He explained that normally the Senate would discuss and amend a resolution after the first reading, and that a second reading and subsequent Senate vote on a resolution would happen at the next Senate meeting after a resolution's author makes the agreed upon revisions. He explained that because this resolution is time-sensitive, the officers prefer to move to a second reading so that the Senate can vote on the Resolution on 2023 Seattle Housing Levy tonight.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) moved to put the resolution on the second reading. **Michael Zamudio (Museology)** seconded. No Objections. Motion passed. 6:43pm

Nicholas Juno invited Senators to ask questions about the resolution.

Ardhra Sivasankaran (Communication Leadership) asked why the resolution was time sensitive.

Nicholas Juno responded that the resolution is time sensitive because the election date is November 7, but the next GPSS Senate meeting is not until November 15. He said if GPSS did not approve the resolution now, the second reading of the resolution and subsequent vote would not take place until after election day. He said the point of the resolution in this case would be null.

Jon Choi asked for more information on the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy.

Nicholas Juno said the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy consists of money collected from homeowners in Seattle since 1986 to help fund services for homelessness prevention and low-income housing opportunities. He said the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy helps fund the construction of new affordable housing and rental opportunities. He said those rental opportunities are offered to families who make 30% or less of AMI.

Jack Flesher raised a Point of Information and asked what AMI is.

Nicholas Juno responded that AMI stands for Average Median Income. He said the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy allows people making a certain percentage of AMI access to more affordable housing opportunities.

Nikoloz Nadirashvili (Art History) asked what the practical applicability of the resolution would be.

Nicholas Juno said that the resolution will send information about the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy to graduate students around campus and inform them that GPSS officially supports the 2023 Housing Student Levy. He said this is intended to make graduate students aware of the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy for the November ballot.

Melody Vahadi (Computational Linguistics) asked if there is a dollar amount attached to the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy.

Nicholas Juno responded that the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy has been adjusted for inflation and the cost of home construction and ownership since the passage of the 2016 Levy. He said the increased amount reflects the increased cost of construction, homeownership, and rentals since 2016.

Simon Hans Edasi (Earth and Space Sciences) motioned to extend the time by 5 minutes. **(Indiscernible)** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 6:45pm.

(Indiscernible) asked how much the cost of the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy would increase from 2016.

Nicholas Juno clarified that the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy will cost \$970 million.

(Indiscernible) asked if funds from the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy are acquired from Seattle property owners.

Nicholas Juno responded that the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy is funded with money obtained from Seattle property taxes.

(Indiscernible) asked how much each homeowner would pay per year to fund the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy.

Nicholas Juno responded that each Seattle homeowner would pay about \$320 per year to fund the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy.

Maeve Riley (Drama) asked if GPSS knows how many UW graduate students are homeowners.

Nicholas Juno said no.

Simon Hans Edasi (Earth and Space Sciences) raised a Point of Information asking for data on how many students are rent-burdened.

Nicholas Juno said GPSS does not currently have that data, but that most students are full-time students and that student employees generally only work part-time. He explained how much some student positions make on average. He said student employee pay does not amount to the \$1,800 average monthly rent in Seattle. He explained that rent varies by area in Seattle. He said the average cost of studio housing in Seattle is about \$1,520 per month.

A.J. Balatico mentioned that someone is considered rent-burdened when 33% or more of their monthly income goes toward paying rent. He mentioned that fixing grammatical errors or URLs in resolutions are technical problems that do not require substantive changes.

Mykail Lembke (Policy Director) said the housing Levy would charge 0.45c per \$1,000 of assessed home value, costing the owner of the median \$866,000 Seattle home \$390 per year.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) suggested minor wording amendments to the second-to-last “whereas” clause. She asked if Nicholas Juno could explain what the “1 year survey” means.

Nicholas Juno explained that the American Communities Survey is put out by the U.S. Census Bureau annually to collect information on American lifestyles.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) suggested changing “1 year survey” to “annual American Community survey.”

Nikoloz Nadirashvili (Art History) raised a Point of Information asking whether Senators can only vote for or against resolutions, or if there is an option not to vote.

Jack Flesher responded Senators can abstain, but they must specify that they are abstaining and that GPSS must meet a minimum voting threshold to pass a resolution.

Franco Carlos (Applied Mathematics) asked if the \$1,520 average rent for a studio includes 100 square-foot micro apartment studios.

Nicholas Juno said he does not have information distinguishing between the two. He said the average cost of a studio apartment in Seattle is \$1,564 per month.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) asked what the \$970 million allocation was for.

Nicholas Juno said it was for 2023 Seattle Housing Levy. He said it is a 7-year Levy.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) suggested adding that the \$970 million amount mentioned in the resolution refers to the cost of the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy.

Maeve Riley (Drama) moved to vote on the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy. **Simon Hans Edasi (Earth and Space Sciences)** seconded. No Objections. Motion passed. 6:55pm

2023 Seattle Housing Levy Resolution passed 42-1-6.

[Action] Resolution to Support Student Wellbeing and Academic Success 6:57pm

A.J. Balatico explained that he is the sole author of the Resolution to Support Student Wellbeing and Academic Success and reminded GPSS that context of this resolution demands that the Senate address it respectfully and with the well-being of UW students in

mind. He gave the first reading of the Resolution to Support Student Wellbeing and Academic Success. He explained that the resolution is calling for the university to meet the increased demand for student resources, like counseling services, on campus. He mentioned that Let's Talk is a resource for students. He said that the intent of the resolution is to ask faculty, course instructors, pre-doctoral instructors, and teaching assistants to practice flexibility.

Matthew Moran raised a Point of Information to clarify that this was the first reading.

A.J. Balatico confirmed that this was the first reading. He clarified that the resolution will only be sent to the listed recipients and not to the student body. He said the resolution was written in consultation with university leadership. He mentioned that an extraordinary circumstances quarter is up for consideration.

Jack Flesher raised a Point of Information asking for clarification on what an extraordinary circumstances quarter means.

A.J. Balatico said an extraordinary circumstances quarter means that students may request a grade change to S/NS any time after the quarter ended but before graduation. He mentioned that the last extraordinary circumstances quarter was declared in Spring 2022 in response to the OMICRON COVID variant. He clarified that the university has not decided whether to declare an extraordinary circumstances quarter. He said there has been a measurable increase in the number of services being requested at Hall Health.

Bill Mahoney said that student mental health is important to the university. He said that if anyone is struggling to access resources to go to the program director for resources and connections. He said not to allow lack of a policy or practice to prevent students from accessing the resources they need. He said Senators should bring this information back to their programs.

Nikoloz Nadirashvili (Art History) asked if the items that the resolution calls for would not be carried out by the university if it were not to pass.

A.J. Balatico responded that the resolution represents the opinions of the student Senators who voted for it. He said that he as acting President would need to represent the resolutions that GPSS passes at university functions and in meetings with leadership. He said GPSS is an official governing body of UW.

(Indiscernible) raised Point of Personal Privilege to say that zoom attendees are having difficulty hearing what people are saying at the in-person meeting.

A.J. Balatico said the resolution will represent the formal opinion of the GPSS and will be part of the public record if it passes. He said this does not preclude any further resolutions on this topic in the future. He said GPSS can write another resolution or amend the existing one in the future.

Nikoloz Nadirashvili (Art History) asked if there is any mechanism for GPSS to follow up with the university to ensure the university implements the resolution.

A.J. Balatico responded GPSS cannot legislate with this resolution. He said it is instead a very strong message to the university. He said the resolution would come at no additional cost to the university. He said he considers the resolution urgent because the Board of Regents meeting is before the next Senate meeting.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) motioned to extend the time by 5 minutes. **Amanda Chin** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:11pm

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) suggested adding a “whereas” clause to acknowledge the atrocities and humanitarian crisis occurring in Gaza. She said she worries that not acknowledging the atrocities and humanitarian crisis occurring in Gaza might alienate Muslim and Palestinian students on campus who may have loved ones in Gaza.

A.J. Balatico asked if Ella has specific wording, additions, or amendments she would recommend.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said she will begin working on a wording amendment.

Kenza Oualim (School of Marine and Environmental Affairs) suggested changing the resolution’s wording to “Israeli-Palestinian conflict escalation” instead of “ Hamas attacking Israeli towns.”

A.J. Balatico said the characterization of the conflict as an attack was a direct quote from the United Nations (UN) Secretary General.

Simon Hans Edasi (Earth and Space Sciences) suggested that the wording remain as it is.

Zachary Espinosa (Atmospheric Sciences) mentioned that there is a more recent statement from the UN Secretary General from October 13 that could be used to substitute the existing wording.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said she agreed with rewording the resolution to reflect the more recent statement from the UN Secretary General.

A.J. Balatico read aloud the amended wording. He said the Senate was engaged in productive discussion. He adopted the suggestions from the Senate as friendly.

Maeve Riley (Drama) raised a Point of Information asking whether the Senate must have the wording of a resolution completely finalized before moving on to a second reading and a vote.

Jack Flesher responded that GPSS must agree on the substance of the motion but can correct small grammatical errors or wording technicalities after passing a resolution. He said resolutions are available to GPSS in case anyone is concerned about corrections.

(Indiscernible) raised a Point of Order to summarize the previous question and response for people on zoom.

A.J. Balatico repeated the question and response for the Senators on zoom.

Jack Flesher explained GPSS can move to a second reading and a vote on the resolution tonight. He said the resolution would not be voted on until the next Senate meeting if the Senate did not move the resolution to a second reading.

(Indiscernible) moved to second reading. **Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics)** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:19pm.

Kaiyin Zhang (Asian Languages and Literature) raised a Point of information about whether the resolution would be mandatory if it passes?

A.J. Balatico said the resolution would be a very strong suggestion to the university and the Board of Regents as a student-supported statement. He said the resolution will be perceived as a message from the main university body.

(Indiscernible) moved to vote on the resolution. **(Indiscernible)** seconded the motion. No objections. Motion passed. 7:20pm

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) requested a new reading of the resolution.

A.J. Balatico provided a new reading of the amended section of the resolution.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) raised a Point of Information asking whether the suggested title change will be implemented.

A.J. Balatico responded yes.

Resolution passed. 39-0-4.

9. [Information] Officer Updates 7:23pm

Jack Flesher said he has been confirming Senators. He attended 37 orientations for new graduate students and interacted with 1300-1400 new graduate students. He said this constitutes 1/8 of the graduate student population. He said there are currently 72 confirmed Senators.

Nicholas Juno said he is building the Legislative Agenda. He said the Legislative Survey has surpassed 200. He said he is building the Legislative Agenda in collaboration with ASUW. He said there will be more information on the Legislative Reception at the next Senate meeting. He said the Legislative Reception will take place on December 2 at 5:00pm. He said representatives from the legislature will be there.

Amanda Chin said Internal Affairs looked over 360 applications for staff. She said GPSS is now fully staffed. She mentioned the Graduate Research Symposium on April 2 and the Cultural Showcase on April 4. She said there will be a comedy show on April 20.

Matthew Moran said the Diversity Summit will include a cultural showcase in April in the HUB. He said later there will be a resource and student research fair in the Intellectual House later in April. He encouraged Senators to join Judicial and Diversity Committees. He said that anyone who is interested in having lunch with the White House Chief Economist should email him. He said GPSS has a new partnership with the UW Alumni Association. He said GPSS will be working with the Alumni Association later in December on a networking and Women's Basketball game night. He said the Women's Basketball game is free.

Jon Choi said that many graduate students have applied to the Travel Grant program. He said 5 graduate students have received funding. He said the Finance and Budget Committee is having its first meeting this Friday at 11:00am. He said the Finance and Budget Committee is still taking nominations.

A.J. Balatico thanked everyone for being at the meeting. He said UW Football is undefeated. He said Homecoming and the university's 162nd birthday is on Friday. He said he will send out an all-graduate student email including the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy Resolution and encouraging students to vote. He said the deadline for registering to vote online is October 30 and that November 7 is Election Day. He said this information will go out to graduate students tomorrow. He encouraged the Senate to read the Seattle Times and communicate with faculty to stay connected with events on campus.

10. [Possible Action] Committee Formation 7:29pm

A.J. Balatico said GPSS needs people on the Judicial Committee, the Elections Committee, and the Finance and Budget Committee.

Jack Flesher said there must be enough people to form the Committees and they must be voted on. He gave a brief presentation on the different committees and emphasized their importance for making GPSS function. He mentioned that GPSS Officers and Executive Senators cannot sit on the Judicial Committee. He mentioned that GPSS has set aside \$1,350 per year per committee as financial compensation for being involved in the Judicial and Elections committees.

Jon Choi gave a brief presentation on the Finance and Budget Committee and the Travel Grants Committee.

Jack Flesher raised a Point of Information saying that anyone can join the Travel Grants Committee. He reiterated that GPSS must confirm Senators for Judicial, Elections, and Finance and Budget. He said the sooner GPSS forms these committees, the better.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) raised a Point of Information about what happens if the committees do not have the number of Senators necessary to form by the end of the Senate meeting.

Jack Flesher said GPSS must have the minimum number of nominees as specified in the bylaws to form each committee. He said the Executive Committee would act in place of the Judicial Committee. He said a minimum of 4 people must be present for a Judicial Committee meeting and 6 to form the committee.

A.J. Balatico opened nominations for the Judicial Committee.

Kaiyin Zhang (Asian Languages and Literature) nominated themselves for the Judicial Committee.

Michael Zamudio (Museology) nominated themselves for the Judicial Committee.

Taylor Schoenfeld (Museology) nominated themselves for the Judicial Committee.

Emy Chevalier (French Studies) nominated themselves for the Judicial Committee.

Mukhayyo Azamova (Jackson School) nominated themselves for the Judicial Committee.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) nominated themselves for the Judicial Committee.

Jack Flesher moved to confirm the 6 nominees for the Judicial Committee. **Amanda Chin** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:39pm.

A.J. Balatico opened nominations for the Elections Committee.

Maleen Kidiwela (Oceanography) nominated themselves for the Elections Committee.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) nominated themselves for the Elections Committee.

Joe Rogge (Mathematics) nominated themselves for the Elections Committee.

Ardhra Sivasankaran (Communication Leadership) nominated themselves for the Elections Committee.

Jack Flesher said GPSS will keep the nominees' names and try to form the Elections Committee again later because the Senate did not receive the minimum number of nominations necessary to form the committee.

A.J. Balatico opened nominations for Finance and Budget Committee.

Ardhra Sivasankaran (Communication Leadership) nominated themselves for Finance and Budget Committee.

Nicholas Juno asked if a Senator on the Finance and Budget Committee could also present a request for funding from their department to the committee.

A.J. Balatico responded that a Finance and Budget Committee member can present a request for funding from their department to the committee if they recuse themselves from voting to approve the request for funding.

Nicholas Juno asked if the same goes for Travel Grants.

A.J. Balatico responded that the same rule applies for the Travel Grants Committee. He said a member of the Travel Grants Committee would not grade their own travel grant application.

Maleen Kidiwela (Oceanography) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

(Indiscernible) sought clarification on whether a Senator could serve on the Judicial Committee and the Finance and Budget Committee simultaneously.

A.J. Balatico confirmed that Senators cannot serve on the Judicial Committee and the Finance and Budget Committee simultaneously.

Joe Rogge (Mathematics) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

Franco Carlos (Applied Mathematics) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

Tiya Farah (Foster School of Business) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

Amanda Yapp (Real Estate) nominated themselves for the Finance and Budget Committee.

Jack Flesher moved to confirm the 8 nominees. **Nicholas Juno** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:45pm

11. [Information] Executive Senator Positions 7:45pm

Jack Flesher gave a brief presentation on the Executive Senators. He said Executive Senators serve on the Executive Committee to represent the interests of the general Senate in Executive Meetings and serves as a form of checks and balances for the Officers. He said there are two available Executive Senator positions up for election, which will take place at the next Senate meeting. He mentioned that Executive Senators receive \$450 per quarter for Fall, Winter, and Spring as a lump sum at the end of each academic year for their service. He said candidates will have three minutes to speak on their qualifications for an Executive Senator position at the next Senate meeting prior to voting.

A.J. Balatico emphasized that it is great having first-year Senators on the Executive Committee.

12. [Action] Adjournment 7:49pm

Amanda Chin motioned to adjourn the meeting. **Michael Zamudio (Museology)** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 7:49pm

Meeting minutes prepared by Daniel Cook, GPSS Senate Clerk.