

GPSS VP Internal – 2024-2025 Election

Hi! My name is Kana and I'm pursuing My Master of Communications in Digital Media and I'm running to be the next GPSS VP Internal. I've spent the last year as the Creative & Communications Director for GPSS and have worked closely under this year's VP Internal. I've loved being able to engage with the UW community through social media and working with various campus partners. I've helped to support most of the programming coming from the Internal team this year, including Drag Brunch, Interdisciplinary Research Symposium, Cultural Showcase, Huskies on the Hill, Bowling/Karaoke/Movie Nights, Puppy Love and much more. Beyond social media, I've helped to plan out and support events this year and have familiarized myself with both the events and communications aspects of the VP Internal portfolio.

Beyond GPSS, I've spent a lot of time in a similar role at the University of British Columbia as VP Academic for the UBC Arts Undergraduate Society. I helped support the UBC Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference and headed the Health and Wellness committee to throw wellness-focused events for students. Given my background, I have a balance of skills in event planning, marketing/communications, leadership, staff hiring, and organizational skill. As VP Internal, I hope to focus my efforts on community building and pursuing initiatives that improve the grad student experience both socially and academically. For grad student initiatives, I'm hoping to focus on the following for next year:

- Continue GPSS Interdisciplinary Research Symposium and continue working with the Science & Policy Committee to improve and expand it.
- Husky Sunset/Sunrise – return of either an opening or closing event for students.
- Connecting with various Graduate student associations more closely.
- Bring back Night at the Burke for Halloween/or a headlining dance/social event.
- Expand relationship with CIRCLE and improve the international graduate student experience.
- Improving the onboarding process for staff and work with VP Admin to have a proper orientation day for Staff/Senators/Officers.

As VP Internal. I also hope to strengthen the GPSS community internally by creating more social experiences for senators, staff, officers, and committee members. As a senate, it's important for students to be able to make connections across the university and I hope to bridge those connections more and build a stronger GPSS community.