



Associated Students of the University of Washington

Senate Floor Minutes | Senate Session XXXII

14 April 2026

Location: HUB 250

CALL TO ORDER

5:02 pm

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Erick Jacobsen reads the following statement: The ASUW Student Senate acknowledges the Indigenous peoples of this land, and the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations, and the Duwamish peoples, whose land our university currently occupies. It is our role and responsibility as guests to understand how our impact entangles the caretakers.

APPROVAL OF SENATE AGENDA

Ava Wahl moves to approve

Naomi Law seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kavi Pasupathi: School of Public Health Dean's Advisory Council is looking for students on Medicaid, Apple Health, to learn about their experience navigating the program under the current administration. Through your insight, they'll be able to develop a Medicaid navigation website specifically tailored to students. If you're interested in this opportunity to have your voice heard and help other students navigating this program, please reach out to Abigail Appleyard, off-campus community chair, via Teams, or via email at aea25@uw.edu. Thank you.

Matt Freire: Hey y'all. So April 16th from 5:30 to 7pm, the Commuter and Transfer Commons is hosting a slime and snacks event for transfer students. Please come. I've been setting this up for like 2 months, and this is really cool because we got slime and snacks, and we're doing surveys for transfer student experiences so we can overcome some barriers that we see. That's it. Thank you.

Public Comment: Hello. I'm here on behalf of Hillel, or at least this announcement is. They are looking for five non-Jewish students for a program going to the Western Levant to Palestine and Israel to speak to people about politics. They told me that I should just bring it up to everyone. If you're interested in international relations, this program might be good for you. It'll be over the summer. Reach out to me or Hillel if you're interested

Reaa Dureja: Hey guys, My name is Reaa, I'm hosting this forum. I just want to remind that the ASUW Fair is on Friday. We have food trucks, bouncy house, performance team, face painting, henna painting, a lot of cool stuff and 40 plus RSOs. It's going to be in the HUB Lawn from like 12 to like 4. We have performance team, so come and have fun. We also have Dubs from 2 to 3 and the presidential debate, so come support.

Jenna Miller: I'm just promoting the Queer Student Commission is having their annual drag show tomorrow from 5 to 8 P.m. in the HUB Lyceum. So hope to see some of you there. It's free admission and we have ASL interpreters and free food. You should come.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS:

Erick Jacobsen: We'll move on to our leadership reports and introductions.

Tammy Pham: Hello, everyone. Lovely to see you here today and thank you so much for coming. I'm just going to quickly introduce the EAC. We are the Elections Administration Committee, and we manage and facilitate elections here at the UW. So right now, you are going to, or at least prepare yourself to hear from the candidates, their platforms, and become educated voters, be civically engaged on campus, and just know we're always here. If you have any questions about the elections, see something that you're not sure if it's entirely ethical, we deal with stuff like that too. And yeah, please come to ASUW fair and please look forward to voting week as well. On Monday, we'll have free Celsius after 1 P.M. Thank you, Celsius. And on Tuesday, we'll be having a petting zoo

with exotic animals, which includes Bantam chickens. I didn't know that was a kind of chicken until we organized this. So there you go.

Erick Jacobsen: Most of you here are here because you are ASUW senators but for those of you who are not, the ASUW Student Senate is the legislative branch of the student government here on campus. We are the sole official opinion making body of the students. Any student can be registered as a senator at any time in the year except for after week five of spring. All you need is five students to sign on as your constituent, but you can also represent an RSO. If you have any questions about that, you can contact Julia. Her email's up there. But you have two more weeks if you want to be a senator during this year, but you can also consider being a senator next year if you're not already. Any student can sponsor a bill, regardless of if you're a senator or not. Our resolutions form the backbone of ASUW policy, which is then enacted by our GAVEL Committee, which is our implementation side, which works with the Board of Directors, commissions, programs, and enterprises of ASUW. We are responsible for approving legislative directive to support lobbying efforts by the Office of Government Relations. All members of board act as non-voting senators, with the exception of the president, who is a voting senator. We also elect our own leadership internally at the end of each year

Ryan Wicklund: Thank you, Erick. My name is Ryan Wicklund. I'm the President of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate at the University of Washington. To make a very gross oversimplification, you can think of the GPSS as being the ASUW for the graduate student body. Roughly 18,000 graduate and professional students in the University of Washington. We are, the GPSS is the official student government for therein. Our goal is to ensure that every graduate and professional student has a voice and access to the resources they need to thrive. Our Senate is composed of two seats from every single postgraduate program. Our Senate is the ultimate authority in GPSS regarding our resolutions, legislative priorities, budget, and much more. With integrity, GPSS amplifies the voice and experiences of graduate and professional students at the University of Washington, builds community, and advocates for the eradication of inequities being our mission statement. Thank you very much. If you want any more information on this, please come to me afterwards.

Reaa Dureja: Okay, so this is a QR code for Q&A. We're only going to be entertaining questions for the President, Vice President, and Director of Internal Policy. Those QR

codes would also be on slides for those candidates, so you can scan it at any time. I'm going to really appreciate if you guys can fill out the QR code for the raffle. We have giving out, we are giving out all coupons, we're giving Lululemon bags, two UW football tickets, and a tour for the UW athletics facilities. This would be announced at the start of fair during the presidential debate from 2 to 3 P.m. So please show up if you want to get some cool stuff.

Erick Jacobsen: Yay free stuff.

FORUM

Erick Jacobsen: Tonight, our programming will, this is also on the agenda as well, but we will begin with the Vice President. We will have a common question for every candidate and a personal question for every candidate that is present. And for the Vice President, we will also have audience questions. We move on to the Director of Campus Partnerships and Director of Community Relations and then The Director of Internal Policy will also have audience questions. And then we'll have a brief intermission. This is when the attendance vote will be cast and you can grab more pizza or anything if you want. But then we'll move on to the Director of Programming, Director of University Affairs, Director of Diversity Efforts, and we'll close the night with the President. The President will also have audience questions. We'll have two audience questions for all three positions that are receiving them. We also have our timekeepers up here so they will be making sure that the timestamps that are in the agenda are being followed by all candidates. And we will cut you off if you are a candidate and you speak beyond the time limit. We also have a fact checker of Vice Speaker Joseph, and we can chime in as well if there's anything he misses or we want to add on. But yeah, so that's just generally the structure. Would you like to add anything, Reaa?

Reaa Dureja: No. For the personal and common question, they each have 90 seconds. For audience questions, they have 60 seconds, and for the introduction, they have 30 seconds. Hey guys, I just want to, before we start, I kind of wanted to take a quick moment and address some things. I will be reading off my slide because I want to make sure that I don't miss anything or don't overspeak. We have been made aware of concerns regarding conduct between candidates and general students during the current election period. EAC takes these situations very seriously and wants to acknowledge that situations like this can feel uncomfortable and concerning for those

involving or witnessing them. We want to be clear that we do not condone any behavior that compromises integrity, fairness, or sense of safety within this process. All participants, candidates, supporters, and voters are expected to engage with one another in a respectful and appropriate manner. Actions such as harassment, intimidation, coercion, or any form of misconduct are not acceptable, and they do not reflect the values of our community. These behaviors are not normal, and they will be addressed through proper channels, as mentioned in our university policies. Our priority is to ensure that all students feel safe, respected, and supported throughout the election. If you believe you're experiencing or witnessing any inappropriate conduct, we encourage you to come talk to us. My email is almost on every single slide here, and I'm heavily available during my office hours in HUB 121. So if you experience something, please come on and reach out to me or any of my advisors.

Erick Jacobsen: Reaa's email is also on the whiteboard and Joseph, to expand on that.

Joseph Riggio: It has been brought to Senate leadership's attention that senators may be involved in the aforementioned conduct concerns. As volunteers under our management, we hold all senators to the strict code of ethics laid out in the ASUW bylaws. Your actions reflect not just yourself, but on ASUW as an organization and this Senate as a body. We expect you to represent us with compassion and humility, and we will not hesitate to take action in or outside of this forum to ensure that all senators abide by this. And similar to Reaa, if you have questions, comments, concerns about anything, Senate leadership, we have open office hours. Our emails are also up there. Please communicate with us. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: We will be moving on. Our first candidates that we will be looking at is the vice presidents. Would the vice presidential candidates like to please come up and sit over here from this side to that side in order as you appear on the agenda, which is the ballot order. Okay, so the vice president is our COO, Chief Operational Officer. They oversee the internal structures of ASUW, all the employees, volunteers, etc. They liaise to the HUB. They are part of our Executive Advisory Committee, so they're a constitutional officer with legal signatory powers. They set strategic planning goals and lead orientation and transitions in concert with the Personnel Director who they oversee. We will begin in reverse ballot order.

Dylan Bianchi: Hi everybody, I'm Dylan Bianchi. A lot of you know me because I'm the AAA Chair here in Senate. I am a sophomore studying political science and international

studies, a proud resident of Tacoma, Washington and I'm running for vice president to help streamline internal operations, make textbooks more affordable, and give us a safer campus.

Kaitlyn O'Connor: Hello everyone, my name is Kaitlyn O'Connor. Many of you know me from giving the legislative updates for OGR. I am proud to be the only woman sitting up here, and I am proud to have given two years of my life to ASUW and this wonderful institution. Through my experience, I've seen how powerful the student Senate can be in making sure that every single person is heard and supported. And if elected, I guarantee you that I will continue to foster a culture where everyone feels like they can come talk to me and they are supported no matter where they come from or who they are.

Avery Kirscht: Hey everyone, I'm Avery. I'm a senator here in Student Senate. I'm really excited to be here tonight, so thanks for having me. I'm excited to talk to you all about how we can make ASUW work better for all of you.

Vishal Garimella: Hi, everyone. My name is Vishal Garimella, and I'm running to be your next vice president. I want to prioritize safety, affordability, and transparency. Most importantly, I want to make sure that the average student knows what ASUW does for them. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: Okay, and now in the ballot order, we will have you answer these questions, starting with Vishal. You will have 90 seconds. The question is, how do you plan to use past successes in areas of improvement in ASUW or other organizations to inform your vision of ASUW and keep it student-centered and policy focused? Please describe the vision you have for ASUW when you leave your term.

Vishal Garimella: Yeah, I think the Senate this year actually showed what ASUW looks like when it works at its best. The food pantry staffing resolution passed 94 to 1. The student health fee planning process brought together Husky Health, Live Well, the Counseling Center, and over 6,000 students in a single survey. And I believe that's the model to identify a real problem, build a coalition, move it forward through the right channels. We want to build on that. Where I think there is room to grow is on follow through and visibility. The resolution on academic transparency during registration and the one on residence hall window screens both passed the board, but their legislative status isn't actively being tracked. The institutional reform bill failed entirely. Students still largely don't know what ASUW does for them or what SAF fund or what their SAF dollars fund. I didn't have access to 15 of the bills while I was trying to research for this

forum. And that's not a Senate problem alone. That's an executive failure to amplify and communicate. It is mine along with the entire For All the Dawgs team's commitment to close that gap. Monthly SAF transparency reports, a weekly asuwssvc update that reaches students in plain language, and an executive office that takes what the Senate passes and actually pushes it through the finish line, whether that's working with GAVEL or lobbying university administration. What we leave the standard that I want to hold us to is simple. Can the average UW student name one thing ASUW did for them this year? Right now, most can't, and I want to make that change. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Real quick fact check, and this is a good clarification for everybody. So the GAVEL tracker has a bunch of labels on it. One of the claims that was made is that the resolution on academic transparency was not tracking. It actually was tracked by one of our GAVEL members. It's just we couldn't pursue forth with the prime sponsor of the bill, who is Pierce. So that is the only fact check for this.

Erick Jacobsen: Avery would you like us to repeat the question? How do you plan to use past successes and areas of improvement in ASUW or relevant organizations to inform your vision of ASUW and keep it student centered and policy focused? Please describe the vision you have for ASUW when you leave your term.

Avery Kirscht: Yeah, that's a really great question. I think our biggest strength, I think ASUW's biggest strength historically, has been the quality of people that we are able to attract. Everyone in this room tonight is a really great example of that. But not even that, everyone that's on commissions or in Board or in OGR or anywhere else in ASUW, we are also collectively committed to the best possible representation of students at this university. And I think that's really great. And by investing in our people, by investing in all of you, we will be able to, it'll be super easy to keep our focus student-centric because that is all your goal. I think if I had to expand that into a vision, what I'd really want ASUW to be by the end of my term is one that is an organization that has built out our listening tools, that our great representatives don't have to spend time worrying about how students feel or what they're worried about. We will just already know and can begin actioning those solutions sooner rather than later.

Erick Jacobsen: Kaitlyn, would you like us to repeat the question. Okay go ahead.

Kaitlyn O'Connor: So I'm someone who really pushes for improving myself and making sure that I am doing better in every single aspect of my job and me as a person. So I'm going to focus specifically on areas of improvement, especially in regard between the

relationship between you guys, the Student Senate, and the ASUW Board of Directors. I think it's no surprise to anyone here that there are a lot of limited checks on the ASUW Board of Directors, and it is imperative that we improve that directly by giving you guys more of a say and more transparency with the Board of Directors. So I'm going to do this in three ways. If elected, I will pursue steps to amend the governing documents to require all hired non-voting board members, Personnel Director, OCOMs Director, and Finance and Budget Director to be approved after they are hired by a majority of Senate with the Senate voting on that. While I understand that this cannot be done, this hiring cycle, because it requires amendments, I will advocate for a forum where all these hired positions come and talk to you about their goals and what they want. I also would like to model the GAVEL Legislative tracker and apply that to board bills and what board is doing. You'll hear that more from our Director of Internal Policy candidate, Arushi, but GAVEL has a great way of doing things. We need to look to that. Finally, there's an attendance issue with Board right now that we need to make sure we, every single board member is going to their monthly required Senate meeting. I will make sure that happens, and you know, I'll do it because I come to my come to Senate with my role through OGR.

Joseph Riggio: I just want to point out that the GAVEL committee is under the ASUW Senate. If we would like to expand future collaborations with the board of Directors, that's great. But as the organization, as it stands right now, the way that it was created, it would remain under Senate as a standing committee.

Erick Jacobsen: Dylan, would you like us to repeat the question? Question is, how do you plan to use past successes and areas of improvement in ASUW relevant organizations to inform your vision of ASUW and keep it student-centered and policy focused? Please describe the vision you have for ASUW when you leave your term.

Dylan Bianchi: Yeah so two of the primary responsibilities of the Vice President have to do with our finances as an organization and our personnel management. The one area of success this year, I think, is in our finances. We've managed to essentially eliminate our deficit this year and as vice president, I would commit to helping the Finance and Budget Director keep that going forward. I would, my vision includes an ASUW that continues to be financially neutral, right? That continues to not run a deficit. And I also think that because we have spent down our general fund that is more of an emergency fund now, we're going to be a little less flexible with finances. And so that means finding

new ways to collaborate with RSOs, maybe partnering more actively with RSOs through our special appropriations fund, making sure we're sitting with them so we can continue to expand the interesting things ASUW does, even though we have less financial flexibility. Now, as far as personnel goes, I think a big area of improvement is the fulfillment of bylaws requirements and the transparency within ASUW as an organization. One thing I would commit to doing as Vice President is ensuring that with all entities and all employees of ASUW as an organization, we are doing quarterly check-ins, make sure those are happening, bring those back. and also implementing a public tracker, like a spreadsheet, in which senators or any other concerned member of ASUW is able to see position by position, bylaws requirement by bylaws requirement, whether each requirement is being met quarter to quarter, and where a requirement is not met, there's a detailed plan written and published to meet that requirement going forward.

Reaa Dureja: Thank. You guys. Before we start with the personal questions, I just want to remind you guys that we have audience questions. We've only gotten one as of now, so please.

Joseph Riggio: Currently, obviously the bylaws are amendable, there isn't much interaction between the Vice President of Finance and Budget Director. In addition, to that, there already is an evaluation process in place. All ASUW employees are supposed to receive an evaluation, and the Vice President is responsible for completing employee evaluations for each executive member of the board instead of hiring committees. You can find this in section 3 of Article 3 of the ASUW bylaws.

Reaa Dureja: Thank you, Joseph. So just a reminder, please submit audience questions. For Vishal, you'd like to align various committees and kick off your term with an effective fall orientation. What efforts will you pursue to create and maintain this alignment across ASUW and ensure that policy work begins day one of fall quarter?

Vishal Garimella: I mentioned this before but I see the role of vice president as a liaison between students and student government. And I believe the most effective way to do this is outreach, outreach, outreach, and connecting with students and meeting them where they are. I plan to hold office hours once a week on Red Square so that I can actually connect with students, just tabling, just like we have been campaigning. I've seen many of your faces actually at our table. And we simply, I believe the most important part of student government is representing the students the best. And I believe that that should continue. And that's exactly what we're campaigning on. For all

The Dawgs met with various students, RSOs to understand what they think ASUW does for them, and most of them weren't aware. So I plan on, the question says, maintaining this alignment. I think it's pretty simple, just connecting with students and connecting with people. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Just to reiterate, the vice president is claimed to be the Chief of Staff as well as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors and the Chief Operational Officer. I do not see anything about outreach, but again, if you would like to amend the bylaws when you take office, that would be great. Also, for everyone's office hours for ASUW employee office hours, we do have a singular place for those office hours. If you'd like to work with SAO on trying to expand that, that'd be great. But that's the fact of the matter right now.

Ryan Wicklund: Next question is for Avery. Which decisions do you feel student representation is lacking in? How will you approach filling student positions given widespread apathy towards ASUW?

Avery Kirscht: I think where our student representation is really lacking is in the number of people that we're able to get in the room. We struggle to get people to turn out. That's been talked about by more than just me on this trail. I think that starts with marketing and making sure that we're getting the message out about what ASUW does, who we are, and the ways that we can get people involved. I think that will really help us fill a lot of the gaps that are currently in student representation. And I think that'll kind of go towards the other point of this question, which is helping to fill those student roles. If we can get the word out about how impactful ASUW can be, and how when more people get involved, the more ideas are circulated and the better we can represent the students at this university, I think that apathy will dissipate.

Erick Jacobsen: Also please fill out the form and give questions. Sorry, it's my turn. In the development of board goals assigned to the VP in the bylaws, how will you balance meeting campaign promises with an acting student opinion from the Senate? Please provide at least one example.

Kaitlyn O'Connor: I can provide more than one example; I can provide three examples. I think a big part of my campaign is transparency and accountability. And this, like I said in my first answer, really relies on the role of Senate and making sure that we are in alignment with Senate and the ASUW Board of Directors. So I will ensure that if elected, my Board of Directors goes to steering regularly to make sure that we are actively being

involved in the legislative process with Senate rather than just when a bill concerns us. Secondly, we will have one quarterly board forum where I know Nandana just came in, the ASUW President, but we can have more than that. You can talk to personnel, you can talk to the Director of Internal Policy who directly liaises to the Student Senate to make sure that you guys are asking questions, that we are answering questions because student government should be about accountability. It should be about transparency. It should be about answering to our constituents and answering to the people. Second, or finally, the finance and budget, we need to present that to you guys. HFS presents you their budget. Why don't we? We need to make sure that, you guys have great attendance, and we want to hear feedback. So, let's present you guys the budget. Let's receive criticisms for the budget, and let's take that criticism and do something about it.

Reaa Dureja: For Dylan. In your efforts to streamline internal operations, what programs will you preserve, cut, and reform?

Dylan Bianchi: Let's go one by one. As far as preservation goes, I'm a big believer in programs like Test Fest or other programs that provide stuff like contraception or pregnancy tests. I think it's really important for students. And if there's anything we could expand within ASUW, that's something I'd be looking to do though obviously we are in a tight budget situation. As far as cutting goes, honestly, one program that came up this year in the institutional reform bill is the student, or sorry, the employee of the month program within ASUW. I think the fact that it came up in the board bill shows that we, you know, that's the kind of program that including in the bylaws is maybe not necessary. And I think I could identify programs like that and others that maybe we don't need to bake so well into organization. We can eliminate, move on from. As far as reform, this year as an OGR intern, I was heavily involved in our get out the vote effort. And our get out the vote definitely is, you know, facing a tougher future with our current budget constraints, both in terms of the general fund and our general budget. And so I'd orient that more on drawing in RSO support, having RSOs help us to form attractions to sort of have a fun space outside the HUB that students are attracted to where we can help them vote. And I'd also like to expand the program we had this year where we had our two leading mayoral candidates here to have a forum. I'd like to expand that, have more forums with more local Seattle candidates, or if we're looking at a midterm election like this upcoming year, have state legislature or even federal candidates come to UW to talk to students. Yeah, thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of Fact Checking, I'm going to just say point of fact checking now. I just want to mention that Test Fest and anything related to the Husky Health Programs is not something that is internal to ASUW. That is a collaborative program.

Erick Jacobsen: We will move on to audience questions for the Vice President. The board has the power to recommit or veto Senate legislation. How do you use your knowledge of the ASUW Board of Directors relationship with Senate to ensure that students' voices aren't silenced? Sorry. 60 seconds, we'll begin in reverse order.

Dylan Bianchi: Yeah I would draw on my experience in steering this year and treat board not as a policy decider, but as a quality check. So if we receive a piece of legislation that we believe has maybe gaps in research or misunderstands how an organization works, whether internal, external to UW, we'll send it back. But Senate is ultimately the decider of student opinion. And if Senate decides that something is student opinion, I don't believe it's fully fair for board to send it back just because they disagree. So if board has something that they feel there's like an issue that Senate can work on, they can resolve, they can research something extra, they can make something a little more feasible, sure. But board, I do not believe, and if I like it, I will not act this way, or does not have the ability to reject Senate's decision on what should be student opinion.

Kaitlyn O'Connor: I completely agree with Dylan. I don't think that this should be something that's normalized or something that board feels in which they can just veto any piece of legislation they do not like. However, I think that it's really important. Like I said, we need to solve this attendance issue with board. and making sure that every single board member is going to the required monthly Senate meeting to make sure that they are actually hearing about why the senators want these pieces of legislation. They're going to steering and hearing why these pieces of legislation are coming up, what gaps they solve. We need to make sure that we have more integration with Senate and we are directly collaborating with Senate rather than being these two separate entities that kind of don't collaborate or coexist. And that's a cultural reform in which we need to make sure that we are doing outreach. We are making sure we are talking to you. We are making sure that you guys feel supported and uplifted because you are the student opinion. You are the most crucial check on board power and we need to make sure that you guys have more of a say in that.

Erick Jacobsen Okay, the question is, the board has the power to recommit or veto Senate legislation. How would you use your knowledge of the ASUW Board of Directors relationship with the Senate to ensure these student voices aren't silenced?

Avery Kirscht: You know, I'm sensing a theme. Dylan and Kaytlin have it exactly right. Be present and listen and understand the arguments that are being made. Student Senate is student opinion. We are the ones currently, we get to decide what that is. We pass the bills. We listen to the students. We are the representatives. And I think on board, I would really carry that forward. Be here, listen to the arguments being made. And like Dylan said, use board then as more of a quality check to look for the gaps rather than simply disagreeing with something and saying no.

Vishal Garimella: Yeah again, I completely agree. I think that we just need to get more bills passed as a whole. There were only 32 in total. The 17 or so that I was actually able to read seemed pretty agreeable. I thought that they were great bills. So I just don't think that there's going to be a situation where I will actively vote to veto a bill unless, like previous candidates said, it's just to reword it or ensure quality control. Because you guys have done great work this year. All of the bills that I read were very thorough and supportive of student life in general. And that's what our goal is, both as ASUW Board of Directors and as the Student Senate. So yeah.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check. So I know that historically it's been difficult to retrieve records about board bills in particular, but I can speak to the Senate resolutions that have been passed. GAVEL Committee has a legislation tracker. It can be found on the website, GAVEL Committee. We've passed session 32. We're already at 34 bills. 51 bills for session 31, and this is encompassing of resolutions, internal policy reform, Senate orders, et cetera, 39 from session 30, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. So we do have a lot that we can pull from for student opinion.

Erick Jacobsen: Joseph, assuming that lack of context discomforts you, you may use a point of personal privilege.

Joseph Riggio: I prefer point of fact checking.

Ryan Wicklund: Everyone talks about the way they wish to spread the word about what ASUW does, but how exactly do you envision doing this? How would you streamline transparency?

Dylan Bianchi: Well, I've already spoken about making it public that we're, you know, how we're meeting bylaws requirements, but I think that's something that ultimately interests members already inside ASUW who are familiar with the more complex structures. As far as reaching the average student, I want to, in my capacity as Vice President, as the person in charge of sort of leading our goal setting as an organization, helping each entity goal set, focus on very straightforward, kind of boilerplate concerns for students, things that they can easily understand, right? When we help them with this, when we get a win, that is something that any student will grasp. So I'm talking about saving people money on textbooks. I'm talking about getting more lighting on campus, things that any student would see. We have engaged over the years, like tons of social media outreach and tons of tabling and endless campaigns. And I don't think these things get tripped up from a lack of effort. I think they get tripped up because students struggle to understand what exactly ASUW is doing. If we can go to a student and say, I saved you money on textbooks this year, I made your campus safer, then our outreach efforts will be more memorable and more successful.

Kaitlyn O'Connor: I think it's important to note that the Vice president is a very internal role. And throughout this entire campaign, I have said just because it is not in my job description does not mean it is not my job. That totally applies to outreach first and foremost. If elected, me and my entire ticket will, on day one, we will go and we will volunteer at move-in to make sure that every single person knows who we are, they know our faces, they know that we are there to support them. Additionally, one of my main initiatives is, and I know this has been discussed in Senate. I've talked to Julia about this. I want to create a centralized volunteer pool that we can advertise to just outside of the ASUW bubble. It can be hard to, there are barriers of entry for ASUW, but it tracks a very specific type of person. And I think it's really important that we have outreach outside of that. And within that, there's a direct feedback loop in order to come talk to us, to hear your concerns, to know what we can do about it. But this is most importantly, this question is about making sure that you are seen, that you are heard, and that every single student knows that they can come to you, that they are supported by you, and that you are going to fight for them.

Erick Jacobsen: Everyone talks about the way they wish to spread the word about it, what ASUW does, but how exactly do you envision doing this? Or how would you streamline transparency?

Avery Kirscht: When I say messaging and marketing, I really think about how we struggle currently to meet students in the spaces where they interact most and where they interface most. It's great to table outside the HUB or have office hours in HUB 121, but the fact of the matter is that there's not a lot of students who are going to come all the way over to the hub or make time out of their day to come ask questions to board members. So I think we have to first take the step of understanding where do students spend most of their time where is it easiest for them to get to, and then find ways to put attractive messages there. And when I say attractive, I just mean the ones that are going to grab attention, right? I think that's the way that we streamline transparency here, is not only making sure that information is easily accessible or that there's a website that works and is easily understandable, or that we are writing briefs in terms that the average student will understand, but then that we are also finding ways to put that in front of them and not making them come to us to get that information.

Vishal Garimella: I think it's pretty doable and extremely tangible in the ways that we can reach the average student. For one, I plan on sending out a weekly ASUW update in plain language that reaches everyone. That's through email. A monthly ASUW update on paper that you can hand out at residence halls, give it to the front desk and they'll put it up on bulletin boards for students to read, put it on Greek Life Doors, just for everyone to be involved. People should know, every student should know what ASUW is doing for them. And hopefully I don't get fact checked on this, but I might. I want to make that office hours on Red Square happen. If that requires changing the rules, then so be it. But I think that's the easiest way for the average student to get in contact with ASUW and with me as Vice President.

Erick Jacobsen: Alright, thank you very much you may take a seat. We will move on now to director of Campus Partnerships. Candidates, please come up here and sit in ballot order from this side of the room to that side.

Reaa Dureja: Our Director of Campus Partnerships oversees student safety, including liaising to the UW PD and chairing the Student Safety Advisory Board, Student health by liaising with Hall Health, UW Counseling Center, and all health and wellness units, as well as the Office of Student Health Relations, as well as Recreation and Transit, UW Rec, IMA, ASUW Shell House, Intercollegiate Athletics, and the U-PASS Advisory Board. Sustainability is also within the Director of Campus Partnerships portfolio. They chair the Student Sustainability Council and oversee sustainability initiatives and the sustainability

action plan. And finally, they work with the Husky Pride Fund and the U District Partnership. So a lot of committees and a lot of different spheres.

Erick Jacobsen: We will not be taking audience questions for campus partnerships, but the question is, sustainability is. Oh, sorry, forgot. We'll do introductions in reverse ballot order, so we'll begin with Betty. You'll have 30 seconds whenever you're ready.

Betty Roberts: Thank you so much. Hello everyone. My name is Betty Roberts and I'm a second year at the University of Washington. Creating long lasting policy and bettering student lives has been a passion of mine since I was in 4th grade and I ran for class president for Sustainability. This curiosity to better student lives and eventually my community has led me to opportunities on campus, such as being Lander Hall Council Director, ASUW intern for Programming in OCOMM, and writing for the opinion section of The Daily. I look forward to using my experience from high school and my curiosity to further our relationships and create a better campus for our students.

Caroline Huguely: Hi everyone, My name is Caroline. Some major points on my platform are getting pregnancy tests and Plan B pills sold in the district markets. And also, if you're looking at the voter's guide, my platform is printed incorrectly, so please refer to the online version. Thank you. And then I've also been the ASUW Board of Directors Coordinator for two years. And yeah, I'm super excited to be here tonight

Reaa Dureja Awesome. Sustainability is often the most overlooked aspect of Campus Partnerships portfolio. What approach will you take to address regular recycling contamination in need of fossil fuel use? What is one additional sustainability related project or problem that ASUW and GPSS haven't taken action on which you would like to do?

Caroline Huguely: Okay to address recycling contamination, I want to work with RCSA to expand their current compost bin program. Currently, you can get a comp- residents can get a compost bin kind of by request, but I want to make sure that when students are moving in, they are given a compost bin for sure. So, I would work with RCSA and the Director of Community Relations to have discussions with HFS to discuss funding this program. If they kind of have pushback or say that maybe there's not enough student interest, I'll go to the student Senate and sponsor a resolution to show that there is real student support for this. If every resident has a compost bin, I do think it'll help recycling contamination as a big issue with recycling contamination is food scraps being mixed in there. All right, to address UW fossil fuel use, I want to continue ASUW's

work with the International Climate Action RSO, who have been advocating for UW to decarbonize their power plant system this year. I want to continue these efforts in collaboration with the DOLA by being IC's main touchpoint person within ASUW for discussing lobbying priorities. As for the last aspect of this question, the DUA and DOLA typically deal with larger scale sustainability issues, since most of them lead back to lobbying efforts at the state level. So I think the best way for the Director of Campus Partnerships to make a direct impact on sustainability efforts on campus is through smaller, more day-to-day actions. So I want to implement an ASUW sponsored quarterly clothing swap event. These are cheap, adaptable, easy to host anywhere, and can be hosted in collaboration with a lot of different RSOs and ASUW entities. Thank you.

Betty Roberts: So sustainability is obviously a very important part of being the campus Partnerships, the Director of Campus Partnerships. It's specifically outlined within our bylaws. A big part that I think is important to address the regular recycling contamination is to first acknowledge that I, myself, I'm a poli-sci student. I don't know that much about environmental science, but I know that by reenacting the Student Sustainability Council, which was something that was outlined last year, I can work with students who actually have the correct ideas and, not the correct ideas, the people who have the resources and the knowledge for us to further our initiatives sustainably. Additionally, I would love to work with other people who have, like in this room, who have tried to ensure that we have a more sustainable campus, like Erick over here, who has created a bill where we would have a sustainability credit. I think that that's a really good way because that's a way for students to be aware of sustainability in their classroom and not just on a day-to-day basis. and in a day-to-day basis. And finally, I would love to approach a sustainability related project by focusing on the usage that AI has on water and on electricity by working with DOLA and OGR to work to lobby against the City of Seattle from implementing these data centers and additionally hosting a forum with y'all before the Legislative agenda is passed so therefore we can also hear more of what your sustainability ideas are because after reading a bunch of y'all's resolutions, it was great.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check, the Student Sustainability Council, does exist. It just hasn't convened yet. And then, so that might not be a fact check, but I just want to throw it out there for everybody else. And also the, the other, let's see. That's it for now. Sorry.

Erick Jacobsen: Well I'll jump in. The term lobbying is a very charged word. We are allowed to lobby on a state level, not on a local or federal level. So advocacy on the city and federal level is okay, but not lobbying in so many words. Telling them what you want is fine.

Ryan Wicklund: Well, Caroline, what is your strategy to promote affordability and access within health units as costs continue to rise? How does the potential negotiation or failure of the health fee initiative play into the strategy?

Caroline Huguely: So the health fee, I don't think is a bad idea in concept. I do like the health fee in concept as kind of a temporary solution, while we can't get funding for health resources from the state level since the state is kind of in a budget crisis. So I think the student health fee is good as a temporary solution, especially because it can have a sunset date so it can end at a certain point. Where I'm less cool with the student health fee is I just don't think that the current survey results justify implementation. I think the maybes being grouped in with the yeses is not a complete justification. I also think that the fee needs to be under \$100 as that showed a lot of support more than \$125. As for other ways, so actually, I'm going to refer to something that was said earlier in this meeting, because I think it sounds great. The Medicaid Access Council that was going through, I think, the Husky Health Advisory Committee, that sounds like a really great way to just at least educate students. Because like I said, getting money for these programs right now is very hard. It's very difficult. There's no money at the state level. There's no money at the school. There's just no money. So I think educating students on how they can access resources that are already there is a great way to do it. Also, the Student Health Insurance Review Committee is in the bylaws for the Director of Campus Partnerships. I do not believe that is currently active. So getting that started back up and hearing student ideas on that committee could be a great way to help tackle this as well.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check, there isn't necessarily a sunset clause for the memorandum of understanding for a health fee under the volunteers policy. That's SGP 205. However, there is a termination clause. The fee can be terminated. It's just that there's an enactment clause and a termination if we so desire. Also, for the yeses and the maybes were conflated with each other. However, the statistics in or bill 5.08 or sorry, R-32-5, which is the health fee bill, those statistics are all separated out. So if you're curious about the yes, no, maybe distribution, please see the appendices in that bill. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: Moving on, Betty our question for you is in approaching student safety, considering federal operations in Tacoma and on campuses like Columbia University, what stakeholders will you bring to the Student Safety Advisory Board, and how will you work to enact student opinion for UWPD non-compliance with federal law enforcement? Similarly, what role will you play in promoting Know Your Rights education across the student body quarterly?

Betty Roberts: That's a fantastic question. I do know that there's a joint resolution that's currently being passed by another candidate here, Avery. If implemented, that'd be something that I'd be using as a guideline. The second one, so sorry. The joint resolution is a really good idea and has some of the ideas that I have, which includes For the Know Your Rights workshop, I would love for that to be quarterly and to work with the Latine Student Commission Director to ensure that that's something that is regularly happening. In addition, for approaching student safety, kind of like with the Sustainability Board, like I meant to say, I would like to reconvene it and bring it back, not bring it back, but actually have it be used. I think that a lot of the resources with our role, with the role of director of Campus Partnerships is that we have a lot of committees that are just not being attended to and used. And I think that's a really important place for students to convene. For the stakeholders that I would like to be brought to the Student Safety Advisory Board, I would love to work with UWPD. A lot of the ways that other schools and other cities have been using, have been combating federal enforcement has by using their local enforcement. While this might not be an ideal situation, it's important for us to use all the resources that we have. And I think that by creating a monthly, like I want to have a month to month conversation with the UW PD and just to get to know them better so therefore they have more respect for us as students. I think that that's a really important stakeholder for us to bring into the table as well as the Latine Student Commission, obviously. And these sorts of legal services.

Erick Jacobsen: We do not have any audience questions so if you would like to take a seat, move on to the Director of Community Relations. Please, round of applause, please. And with the exception of the Director of Internal Policy and the President going forward, we will not be doing fact checks. We just don't have enough time. So if the Director of Community Relations candidate would like to come up to the front here. I almost used the plural. We only have one candidate today.

Reaa Dureja: The Director of Community Relations is in charge of liaising with our living communities, including RCSA, Greek Life, and overseeing the Office of International Student Advocacy. Parent and Family Programs is thrown in there, Circle as well for international students, Veteran Life, Washington Student Athlete Advisory Council, and Dawg Pack Executive Board. A lot of things, including transfer advocacy and liaising to the Food Pantry and HFS. And the CTC comments. Now you can introduce yourself for 30 seconds.

Simon Thompson: Okay, hi guys. My name is Simon Thompson. I am a sophomore studying political science and public service and policy with a minor in leadership. I'm very excited to be back in this room. I was actually a senator all year last year. I liaised to the Personnel Committee, so it's really great to see some familiar faces. I'm really excited to be running this year for Director of Community Relations and yeah, that is me.

Reaa Dureja Your question is, the Director of Community Relations is a key point of contact in major resolutions such as R-31-11 for temporary housing reform and JR-31-04 for housing accessibility. What steps will you take alongside the RCSA exec board to promote implementation of each one of these resolutions beyond existing efforts?

Simon Thompson: I think this is an amazing question. I think it's really imperative that the Director of Community Relations addresses this. So first for R-31-11, that was about the temporary housing in Hansee. If you were here last year, you heard a bit about that. So the key reforms it was pushing for was fixing safety and health violations immediately. And I think that the key steps that we have to take there is that we need to make sure that HFS operate instead of like a revenue protecting system, it should be operating like a student supporting system. And I think right now we're seeing some failure in that. I think that is seen in both Hansee Hall using the space upstairs for student living and also not allowing students to break their contracts. So I will use this summer as Director of Community Relations to ensure that overflow housing won't be used again for fall of 2026. We're not the only ones that face this issue. I looked over to Alabama Pan-Hellenic, and they addressed this by calculating how many students they expect to not sign with a sorority and reserve that many rooms. And I think that we have a wide variety of ways that we can address this, but a key one is that we have rooms that can fit triples that we're using as doubles. So, we definitely have the wiggle room to do this. And I plan to use GAVEL, the Board of Directors, Pan-Hellenic, IFC, and RCSA Exec working together to make this happen. I think what this issue boils down to is that we're

being reactive instead of preventative planning, which is unacceptable, especially in housing. And then for JR-31-04, I'm going to try and speed through this. There are gaps in accessibility in residence halls that fall short of ADA standards at a minimum, at a maximum, it's straight up illegal. So there needs to be a full dorm accessibility audit, and I'm out of time.

Ryan Wicklund: Tough race for you, Simon. We're giving you two personal questions. You seek to address housing and resource insecurity in your platform. How do you plan to build upon current efforts between the ASUW and the Food Pantry to this end? How do you intend to work with the Office of International Student Advocacy, CIRCLE, and International Student Services to promote these resources to international and undocumented students balancing safety concerns with pressing resource needs?

Simon Thompson: Yeah, I think there's a lot to address in this question. I think the first one, I'm going to start with the Food Pantry. I think that I can really leverage working with ASUW Senate in this facet. R-32-7 is a resolution to advocate for the establishment of a permanent staff position for the UW food pantry, which I really look to that as, you know, using the UW Senate to make sure that we are, you know, I just think it's an asset that I can work with to make sure that, you know, we can accomplish all of this. And then moving on, how I intend to work with CIRCLE, OISA, and then the International Student Services to promote these resources, international and undocumented students. I think that a lot of it is what we've heard a lot of today is it's an outreach problem, right? We haven't, we, out campaigning, we talk to students and they don't know what ASUW is, and that's a huge problem because our money is going to this organization. So it is really doing that outreach, and not just saying that we're going to do that outreach, but really following through on it. And that's why that's our campaign promise, right? That's why we're out there, and we're asking questions about what do students actually want to see done. And that's why we're going to implement that and make sure it happens. So yeah, that's what I have for that.

Erick Jacobsen: Alright, our audience question for you is that the Director of Community Relations has a history of failing to engage with RCSA and transfer students. How do you rebuild relations with these two communities, and what efforts do you plan to pursue in working with both groups?

Simon Thompson: Sweet, I'm glad to answer another question. If you're at the other forums, you heard me talk a bit about feedback. When studying leadership, feedback is

something that's brought up often, and it's something that's not done enough. And I'm going to bring that directly to the director of community relations role, right? If I'm not over here, when I'm liaising to these 17 communities that I'm supposed to be liaising to, if I'm not seeking feedback, making sure that they're getting what they need, that they're accessing the resources, then yeah, of course I'm not going to be completing my job correctly, right? So I think that that's a key way that I am going to make sure that that we're working with RCSA specifically really well. Though I think, you know, if they're able to use those channels to talk to me and be like, yo Simon, why are you straight up falling short on your job right now? Why are we not getting the resources we need through ASUW? They have the space to say that. And yeah.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you, Simon. Round of applause for our candidate. If the Director of Internal Policy candidates would like to come up to the front, please. Again, sitting in ballot order. The Director of Internal Policy is the parliamentarian of the Board, oversees record compliance and history maintenance of the ASUW, is in charge of quarterly reporting, and chairs the Judicial Committee, which is in charge of overseeing elections violations and bylaws interpretation, as well as amendments. The Director of Internal Policy also liaises to the University Bookstore, and little known fact, the Library Fines Appeals Committee. So You will have 30 seconds for an introduction, starting in reverse order.

Raagini Ganesh: Hi guys, my name is Raagini. I am your candidate for Director of Internal Policy. A little bit about me, I'm currently a policy intern for Office of Government Relations and I'm also internal relations chair for Phi Alpha Delta, the pre-law fraternity on campus. And yeah, I'm really excited to be here. Thank you.

Arushi Sharma: Hi guys, my name is Arushi, I'm a junior studying political science and economics. I was a hall senator my freshman year, and outside of ASUW, I was a, I am the standards chair of PAD. I also have worked in Washington politics in terms of with teams like Bob Ferguson's team and Erica Evans' team. I'm running to be your DIP because I believe that ASUW documents need to be clear, organized, and accessible. I have a lot of ideas for this role, but I'm happy to get some feedback.

Erick Jacobsen: Alrighty, we are also taking audience questions for this candidate or this position if you fill out that QR code. The Director of Internal Policy crucially liaises to both the ASUW Student Senate and the GPSS. So, they are very important for the host of this event. Our question is, how will you ensure continued accessibility in the meetings,

records, and governance of ASUW across all entities? Which of the 12 plus ASUW governing, organizing, and procedural documents do you think needs the most improvement? This is going in ballot order.

Arushi Sharma: Continued accessibility is an interesting wording here because our accessibility is not where it needs to be. I'd work with the Office of Inclusive Design to make sure our documents are actually accessible to students. I also know the Senate website has some of the highest traffic. And although I know I don't work directly on the website, I'd collaborate with the Senate Speaker to make sure that these, that your guys' public records are, you know, clear and accessible because all ASUW records need to be. And in terms of Board of Directors, as Kaytlin mentioned, I'd do a legislative tracker similar to GAVEL'S. It would have, you know, separation between funding decisions and other bills, use clean formatting, color coding, and have a summary of each legislative bill that's on the tracker because this accessibility will create the transparency that we all advocate for. In terms of documents, I don't think it's one document. I think it's the Constitution and the Bylaws, because these are our foundational documents and they set the tone for the rest of the association. There's always been a debate about what belongs in each, and we need to ground that in institutional knowledge. The Constitution cannot be amended. The bylaws can. So critical provisions like how the bylaws are amended and how they can be suspended need to be in the Constitution. As DIP, I would focus on improving these documents to create long-term stability because a governance structure ideally should not be changing their constitution on a yearly basis. Thanks.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact checking. I'm going to reinstate my privilege here. The Constitution can be amended. There are three ways that it could be amended. Through a petition, 5% of the student body. The student Senate also has power and the board has power to do amendments. In fact, there is a constitutional amendment passed by board recently, and Senate has been working for a few months now on a constitutional amendment proposal themselves to put on the ballot that students would vote for.

Raagini Ganesh: I think it's evident that there's issues with accessibility and transparency within ASUW records and governing documents. First, I would also like to work with the Office of Inclusion Design to ensure that there are CART captioners present at all meetings for anyone that needs them to increase accessibility. Additionally, I would like to collaborate once a month with the Senate Speaker to ensure

that we're on the same page of what's going on and ensure that there's that relationship where we can discuss anything important that needs to be said that isn't being done. For transparency, I think out of the 12 plus governing documents, I would say the bylaws is something that needs improvement in terms of making sure that it complements the Constitution. Right now, I feel like when the Constitution refers to the bylaws in a lot of ways, the bylaws don't have the information necessary. And so that's something I'd like to fix. For example, if there's a vacancy in a position, the Constitution says that the bylaws say what to do from there. They don't. So making sure that the bylaws complement directly what the Constitution is saying, because all non-negotiables with the ASUW process should be in the Constitution. In terms of transparency, additionally, with my experience in OGR, I've created one-pagers for bills to help students understand complex policy propositions. So I hope to have the same for ASUW records in terms of having a paragraph summary of all the ASUW records and governing documents on the ASUW website, and for the OneDrive, because right now the OneDrive and the ASUW website are a little bit unattractive to read when you aren't, like, you know, involved in ASUW. So making sure that that happens, and additionally, forming a team of interns, possibly history majors, to recollect records for the past three years to make sure that our records are available and public and transparent. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: We do not have a fact check. I will once again encourage you all to submit audience questions.

Ryan Wicklund Arushi, what partnerships with GPSS would you like to see, and what GPSS policies or decisions do you think have lacked undergraduate representation?

Arushi Sharma: Yeah, so I think GPSS is an underutilized asset for ASUW. We have a voting seat in both GPSS Senate and the executive committee, yet we don't fully leverage that relationship. Many of us are going to be grad students, some here at UW. So I think this connection is very, very important. When I first considered running for DIP, I actually did reach out to Ryan via email to see what that collaboration would look like and that's how I approach leadership. I ask questions early, listen, and I want to build relationships with intention. As DIP, I would prioritize showing up, attending meetings. I think one of the key goals of mine would be to increase joint resolutions. For example, I'm a co-sponsor of JR32-5, which is a joint resolution to reduce the impact of federal immigration enforcement on student life. And efforts like this show how much stronger we are when we collaborate, and I want to see more of that. So even in my own

research, I've seen this kind of clear overlap. Like I looked at the GPSS minutes and slides, and there was a bill recently, or not recently, but like over this year, about the right to affordable parking information. I think undergraduate students care about that too. So, when we're working towards the same goals, but not together, it's not as influential. So, I think by strengthening this relationship and intentionally collaborating, we can present a unified voice to the UW administration itself, and that can be far more effective in creating meaningful lasting change on our campus community. Thanks.

Ryan Wicklund: Raagini, through the mentorship program and regular attendance of GPSS meetings, how do you intend to build a stronger partnership with GPSS? What past attempts to bridge ASUW and GPSS inspire you in particular?

Raagini Ganesh: Yeah, so the mentorship program is something I mentioned on my platform where I hope to bridge a connection between graduate students and undergraduate students within similar programs, because right now the resources that undergraduate students have are our advisors or Reddit or other online sources to really understand what to do post-graduation. And really making use of our UW graduate school is so important. Having graduate students come and actually talk about what processes they went through is really important to get undergraduate students to understand where they can go from here. So really making a collaborating with GPSS to make that mentorship program happen is something I would really like to do. And additionally, I would compare any priorities that GPSS has, because right now, even though they do kind of work with ASUW, they're a very separate entity. So making sure that I'm first understanding what their priorities are for graduate school. And then from there, collaborating on any similar priorities, making sure we're working with GPSS to make those happen is really important for me, and fostering a stronger relationship with GPSS. And I think past attempts to bridge ASUW with GPSS, I think having, for example, having a GPSS speaker at our annual Legislative agenda talking about their priorities and things that they want has been really successful, and it has kind of introduced me to GPSS as a whole, because otherwise I feel like I wouldn't know about it. So making sure that there's a voice representing GPSS at a lot of ASUW at events is really important to me in making sure we highlight that voice so that undergraduate students know the importance of that connection with GPSS. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you. Our first audience question is as the parliamentarian and the chair of the Judicial Committee, how will you approach and address ambiguous

wording in the governing documents to maintain accountability to the spirit of our Constitution and bylaws? This will be in reverse order with 60 seconds each.

Raagini Ganesh: I think to address like issues with transparency and alignment with governing documents, I would make sure that I like talk to board of Directors and make sure that they're clear on what needs to happen. For example, after the events from the past year, I want to implement a streamlined process to make sure elections violations get amended through like proper, like public records of the community service hours that were done, whether that be through signatures or verification from the organization that they got their community service hours from, and then having photo proof or printed proof of that posted on the ASUW website and on our records. Additionally, like I said before in my original answer, having our records be summarized and making sure that people know where to find these pieces of proof is very important to me to make sure that everybody knows where to access, yeah, access this information. Yeah, thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: As the parliamentarian and the chair of the Judicial Committee, how will you approach and address ambiguous wording in the governing documents to maintain accountability to the spirit of our Constitution and bylaws?

Arushi Sharma: Yeah so I think in terms of our constitution and bylaws it is very important that they are, so internal policy's main role is also looking through the constitution and bylaws, and I think doing that in a thorough way is a great way to make sure that the vagueness can be dealt with. My idea for that is that during the summer, I'll look over at myself to look at the discrepancies. From there, in fall quarter, I will reach out to more of the legislative entities, such as OGR, Senate, the board of Directors themselves, and make sure that they know what is necessary, what they think they are able to give their feedback on what they think is necessary within the Constitution and the bylaws. From there, I would then go to JCC. to make sure that the identity commissions have a role in talking about it. I would then bring everyone to the table and then get it to judicial. I think doing it that way is more thorough, and ideally we can make sure that there is no vagueness, and we can work together to make sure that it doesn't need to be changed yearly. Yeah, thanks

Erick Jacobsen: Would you like me to repeat the question? I'm sorry, its been a long day. The next question is, what steps will you take to ensure a positive, respectful, and productive working environment between the Director of Internal Policy and the Senate?

Raagini Ganesh: Yeah so i think this environment needs to be collaborative. That's first and foremost. Like it should not be us against them, them against us. There should be none of that divide. It needs to be very collaborative. I would make sure to show up to meetings and talk to all of you, be collaborative with the Senate Speaker and make sure that we're also on the same page. Understand if there's any feedback that I need to be taking into account, making sure that I'm in alignment with what you guys are prioritizing, what you guys want from BOD and from ASUW overall. I also think with my experience I've had being like in leadership roles, I know what it means to cultivate a good community. I'm internal relations for PAD right now. I've created or fostered the mentor-mentee relationship within PAD, additionally within executive board in general. board, I have experience making sure that everybody feels like their voices are heard. And if they aren't, I want to be there for people to come to me and talk about whatever they're feeling is being disregarded or ignored. So to foster that open environment, I would make sure to be at these meetings talking to you guys, ensuring that I am also knowledgeable on what you guys want and what you guys need before speaking as if I know everything beforehand. Yeah, thank you so much

Arushi Sharma: I think I will echo what Raagini said. I think showing up to not only Senate, but specifically definitely steering to hear what Senate will be talking about, what Senate is doing is very important. I think other things I'm going to echo very similarly, because we work together a lot on this forum. Kaytlin, I will echo advocating for a majority vote for the hired members of the board of Directors. I think that helps, especially when I know that Senate is the voice of the undergraduate students. It's very important to hear what they have to say. On top of that, I will also echo again what Kaytlin said, that I think the budget for ASUW needs to be shown in Senate because HFS does it, U-PASS does it. I think it's an important thing for Senate to hear. That way funding has more eyes on it, so it's more accessible and more transparent.

Erick Jacobsen: Round of applause for our candidates please.

Intermission

Erick Jacobsen: We had a wonderful intermission. I'm so glad that we're all being such great friends today. Would our Director of Programming candidates like to come to the

front, please? While they do, I'll explain a little bit what the Director of Programming does. The Director of Programming is the key person in charge of ASUW events. They liaise with Arts and Entertainment, Rainy Dog Radio, and the Office of Inclusion Design to this end. They are also the main representative and point of contact with our RSOs on campus. So they oversee all of that, including the RSO Leadership Summit. They represent the board to the UW Alumni Association, coordinating W Day and Homecoming Scholarship selection, maintaining the internal programming calendar, and serving as the Vice Chair of the Publicity and Programming Committee, which is a new committee this year that ensures timely RSO event communications. Okay, we'll begin with introductions in reverse ballot order. You have 30 seconds whenever you're ready.

Macy Olivera: Hi everyone, my name is Macy Olivera. I'm a junior double majoring in marketing and psychology, and I currently have the privilege of serving as the Marketing Coordinator for ASUW Arts and Entertainment, where I've seen firsthand how strong Programming brings our diverse student community together. I am running on a platform of making ASUW events more accessible, collaborative, and reflective of our diverse student body, including all of you. Thank you all for the work that you do.

Aisha Rana: Hello everybody, my name is Aisha Rana. I'm majoring in Business and International Studies and I'm running for programming because I believe that in the tumultuous times we're living through, building community is the most important thing we can do. The programming role is specifically designed for that, and I want to make our events more inclusive, accessible, and diverse that actually reflect our student body while also expanding our outreach to RSOs. I work with multiple RSOs across campus, and I myself have dealt with the issues around funding, visibility, and I aim to improve that with this role. Thank you so much.

Reaa Dureja: Thank you, guys. Your common question is, what is one critique of the Publicity and Programming Committee, and how would you rectify it? Are there any ASUW entities that are not currently in the committee that you would like to extend membership to, and why?

Aisha Rana: All right, thank you so much. So first off, my primary critique is, ironically, the lack of publicity for the Publicity and Programming Committee. For a committee that's responsible for visibility, it really has no public presence, as you can find zero information about it online. I might acknowledge that this is likely a result of the fact

that this is a new committee this year. However, I believe that transparency is the backbone of a functional student government. While this might not be the most exciting proposal, making sure that our meeting minutes, any reports, any debriefs are made publicly available is super important to make sure the work of this committee is accessible to the public especially because this committee especially focuses on outreach to the students. As per the bylaws, somebody from the overhead office for ASUW is required to be there. So, we can, for example, assign a coordinator to help coordinate meeting minutes and making sure that all the information about this committee is made accessible online. We can also bridge the gap with campus RSOs by, for example, featuring RSOs that have gotten money from the Special Appropriations Fund, onto this internal programming calendar that the committee has been working on this year. In terms of entities that I would like to reach out to, there are two main ones. First off is offering a seat for the Office of Inclusion Design. Accessibility is something that should be a must have, not a nice to have. Accessibility and better event planning is baked into our bylaws. And by making this seat available to the office, we can bake accessibility into all of our event planning. Second is offering a seat to the Personnel Committee. Currently, the ASUW has an issue where we're not able to find enough applicants for a lot of our positions. As per the rule where you need to have at least three people for positions that you want to hire for. So by offering a seat to personnel, we can improve our outreach to the wider ASUW student body so that we can get more diverse perspectives into roles within ASUW so it's not just limited to pre-law, Policy majors, et cetera. Thank you so much.

Erick Jacobsen: And for the record, we will not be doing audience questions for this position.

Macy Olivera: This year P&P hasn't been fully visible or actionable. The bylaws charge the committee with maintaining the internal programming calendar, disseminating event information to RSOs, and leading collaborative publicity efforts. But if entities don't know that publicity and programming exists or how to engage with it, these mandates go unmet. I'd fix that working alongside Riya, the current Director of Communications. Her role as chair of the committee is to lead all of the collaborative publicity across ASUW and its entities. And my job as Vice Chair would be to support that directly. I work with OCOMM now as through my role as A&E Marketing Coordinator, seeking approval for our event marketing. And through the OCOMM channel, I've seen how different entities succeed and struggle in their marketing

campaigns. I would mandate that P&P is involved in that marketing process to help seek approval for posts and make sure those concerns are addressed within 24 hours t. o 48 hours. I want to actively promote P&P's existence so that entities know they can come to us for marketing support or raise larger organizational visibility concerns. This committee should be focusing on keeping up with publicity resources, understanding that knowledge throughout organization and making sure that ASUW as a whole is understood by the public. And on the question of expanding membership, I absolutely think that the Office of Inclusion Design Directors should have a seat. The bylaws note that P&P must incorporate universal design principles into all event planning. And so frankly, I'm surprised the seat is not already delineated. Additionally, I'd extend an invitation to come to the Arts and Entertainment Marketing Coordinator, as well as the Rainy Dawg Radio Programming Coordinator, Promotions Coordinator, because these have large student bases and real marketing expertise. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of Fact check, Reaa do you want to handle this one?

Reaa Dureja: It's not me guys. It's another Riya.

Joseph Riggio: Oh Sorry. I forgot that we, for context, we recently hired a director of communications.

Ryan Wicklund: Aisha, you mentioned in your platform statement that you want to launch a Cherry Blossom Festival. How would this program differ from and or collaborate with the existing UW District Cherry Blossom Festival?

Aisha Rana: Yes, that is an amazing question. Thank you so much. I'm actually so glad you brought up the collaboration with the U District Cherry Blossom Festival. That is actually what I plan to, that is exactly how plan to make this event possible. As you guys know, we need to be mindful of any financial budget constraints, but currently there also is that U District Cherry Blossom Festival that happens, that connecting with them to bring that event onto our campus, we can make sure that the publicity and all the tourists from this event can benefit as well. For example, we can allow RSOs to have their tabling in collaboration with this event so that, for example, they can use it as a fundraising opportunity to capitalize on all the foot traffic and tourism that happens on campus as well. We can feature partnerships of the U District businesses, helping our RSOs connect with them for sponsorship opportunities, event opportunities, fundraising, so that we can both benefit the U District community that we are part of, while also allowing our RSOs to feature their talents and capitalize on all the tourism and traffic

that is happening as well. In terms of event collaboration, I definitely also want to make sure to collaborate with our, especially our student groups on campus for things such as performances, art walks, and more so that we are separating ourselves from the actual business that is happening on the Ave, which is primarily focused on promoting products. We want to promote our students and show exactly how our vibrant and diverse student body is also a huge draw for the UW campus as well. So basically, to sum up, I would collaborate with the U District Cherry Blossom Partnerships to make sure that this event is actually feasible. It's not going to be a strain on our existing resources. But also platforming students specifically to ensure that we have some difference between what is already happening on the Ave with the U District Festival as well and coordinate with admin to make it possible. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check, so the U District Cherry Blossom Festival we're mentioning runs through March 13th through the 29th this past year during spring break so there would be less student traffic. However, if obviously working with them, trying to move it, it would require moving the actual event though.

Reaa Dureja: And also ASUW employees don't work during break.

Erick Jacobsen: Our next personal question is, your campaign prioritizes the alignment of programming with inclusion, safety, and environmental protections. For each of these three points, name at least one success and one critique within ASUW in general, and A&E in specific, which you would keep in mind when planning events.

Macy Olivera: Yeah ok great, thank you for this question. I might have to refer back to the screen just to get those exact points. But what I do want to say is that Arts and Entertainment puts on arguably the largest events that students show up to on our campus. It also has more than 2000 more followers than ASUW Seattle. And so I've seen how students show up when programming does feel relevant to them. I've helped create those events, and through my marketing degree, I understand why it works. But one of the real challenges I faced within A&E is that my team didn't really understand what A&E's purpose was within the student government. And that disconnect is exactly why I'm running. Yeah, when you realize that student dollars are funding these events, as well as your own salary, you're held to a higher standard to create programming that's intentional and actually reflective of what students want to hear. Large scale concerts such as Fall Fling and Spring Show, they address kind of a very broad section of the student body. But my honest take is that we shouldn't try to build every event for every

student. What we should do is try to make sure that our programming, through our programming, every student sees something that's made for them. And that means elevating RSOs that are already doing work to reach their communities, whether that be sustainability, safety, environmental, et cetera. And then also getting on the ground with RSOs whose voices aren't as loud yet and helping them build up their platforms. Within A&E, I think that, yeah, our events are very tailored towards everyone, but on a broader programming level, working with RSOs to find those specific goals and make them happen. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: we have no audience questions so round of applause for our candidates. Alrighty, we are moving on to Director of University Affairs. If our candidates for DUA would like to come to the front, please. Okay. Our Director of University, the water went down the wrong pipe. The Director of University Affairs is in charge of representing ASUW, or appointing representatives from ASUW to all of the faculty councils and the faculty Senate, as well as their subcommittees. They're in charge of academic advocacy, addressing various registration, degree programs, curriculum fairness, and affordable learning resources. They supervise SARVA, our Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Activists, and they liaise with the Office of Government Relations with a seat on Legislative Steering to support our lobbying efforts. They have an official seat in Senate, as with all board members, but they also serve on our Senate committee on steering. Finally, they also serve on and appoint additional ASUW representatives to the Provost Advisory Committee for Students. They are the main person in charge of implementing Senate legislation, generally speaking for all of you. You may do your introductions for 30 seconds in reverse ballot order.

Aarna Nair: Hi everyone, my name is Aarna Nair. I'm A freshman here at UW trying to double major in finance and neuroscience. I'm super excited to be here with you all today. Outside of this, I'm really involved in a lot of Foster RSOs, but beyond that, my platform stands on making following your passions at UW a lot easier and making sure that your voice is centered at all university decisions. And I want to take a moment to thank the entire Senate as a freshman coming to UW, I didn't really know that this existed in the beginning, but the minute I found out about it, I was so admirable to all of your guys' work. So thank you.

Kitana Ludwig: Hi everyone, my name is Kitana Ludwig. I'm a second year double majoring in psychology and law, societies, and justice. I'm running for DUA because I

believe every Husky deserves an experience rooted in equity, accessibility, and opportunity. I do this in my everyday life as president of Law Student Association, working for Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity, DEI Chair for Phi Alpha Delta pre-law frat, Peer Mentor for Sisterhood Initiative. I would like to continue this work as Director of University Affairs. Thank you.

Katherine Foulks: Hi everyone. My name is Katherine Foulks. I'm A freshman here from San Diego, California. I'm attending to study political science and business. I'm also running for DUA. I'm with the For All the Dawgs ticket, and we believe a lot in transparency, affordability, and safety. That's what we're campaigning for, and that's what I believe in. I've spent most of my life really caring about service positions and like philanthropy and leading in that is a lot of what I've been doing recently. So yeah, thank you.

Spencer Grubbs: Hi I'm Spencer Grubbs. You guys may know me. I'm a second year political science student and minoring in public policy. I currently represent WashPIRG, which is a student advocacy organization in the student Senate so I am here every week. And one of the things that I'm running to be your director of University Affairs, so that way I can bring your voice to the people who need to hear it. And that's especially important considering Senate is the student opinion making body. And one thing that I don't really get to highlight about myself is that I also work on campus as a student barista, which means I get to hear, not just understand, not just listen to students, but also understand what you're trying to say. Thank you

Ryan Wicklund Thank you all of you. How do you intend to use your year as DUA to move ASUW closer to the vision of a university Senate established by Senate Bill-31-02, the Student Organization and Democratic Education Act?

Spencer Grubbs: Yeah, so first of all, I'd like to thank Francisco, who is in the audience, who actually sponsored this bill. So thank you for writing this legislation. But I think it is incredibly important. One of the things that is taught the key feature of this is the University Senate that talking with the current director of University Affairs, Kate Lawson, who's also a presidential candidate, she pointed out that like we students and faculty are already, or sorry, yeah, students and faculty are already really open to this idea and are wanting to do this. And so kind of the roadblock there is getting faculty to work with this. And so my goal is to, first of all, convene the task force on shared governance, which is laid out in the bill, which I would be the chair of. And then I would also work

with faculty to apply pressure on the administration to, first of all, understand why they're being resistant to it, and then also then work to implement it. And then the second part of this is, there's also a section talking about shared governance in the legislative agenda. And my goal is to work with the Office of Government Relations to bring shared governance ideas, which it was highlighted in the legislative agenda for this year, but actually bring things to the state legislature that reflect that ideal.

Katherine Foulks: Okay, so when I was looking into this bill, it was honestly really impressive to me reading about it because I do feel like it reflects not only UW, but mainly like ASUW. And to directly just quote what it's saying for everyone is that admin, faculty, students, and staff, all members of the university are inherently a part of community and therefore have a right to participate in how the university is governed. And so, I mean, reading this is pretty important to me because I feel like this is a huge part of our role as students. And so I saw that as far back as 1970, this bill has been trying to go forward, and at this point, it's just tracking, and it's tabled indefinitely. So my main goal is, A, to research other university senates, that are successful. The main one I saw was Columbia University. This has 111 members with staff, faculty, students, and alumni, which I think is kind of the perfect mix. Starting with research, building a structure, a foundation, creating a timeline to facilitate dialogue between ASUW, GPSS, faculty, Senate reps, just reaching out mainly to faculty Senate and applying pressure to university leadership, and then ultimately drafting A proposed structure of the Senate. And enacting either within my term, seeing as that goes, or set it up enough to be enacted at some point, just get it back going forward, I'd say is the main goal here. So yeah.

Reaa Dureja: I just wanted to say the audience questions are open. So if you have any questions for these candidates, Please use that QR code.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check, the resolution establishing the University Committee is not tabled indefinitely. It is currently being tracked by Addison Wooster, one of our GAVEL Committee members.

Kitana Ludwig: So the role of University Senate is to vote together to build a university community where all who are members of the UW have the right to take part in the decision-making process, including administration, faculty, students, and staff. According to Senate Bill 31-02, the university administration established a shared government system with the Faculty Senate which acted as a constitution between

entities, but there's currently no shared government structure between administration and students. Now, the reason this is difficult to implement is because faculty is reluctant to give students power over academic policy decisions. Now, ASUW has already done a lot of great advocacy work, but the benefits of University Senate is that we can expand our reach as students, empower students as equal partners in their education. My first course of action would be to collaborate with faculty Senate to identify areas in our issues where faculty Senate aligns with student voices. I would then use this as a foundation to build a relationship, a mutual advocacy, to build a collaborative community and ultimately move ASUW towards this goal. Now the Senate bill is a good plan, but if it doesn't work out, I would then want to utilize the presidents of GPSS and ASUW have the power of both entities to achieve the goal of University Senate. Now, this combination of Senate and GPSS can also work as a joint resolution in combined efforts with DIP, since DIP has a seat in GPSS to gain priority and see the University Senate plan implemented.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check real quick. So we do have faculty councils. It does, that is our liaison path. The Director of University Affairs typically hires them in Autumn quarter, but some directors differ in that timeline. But yeah, they're supposed to, we do have an ASUW liaison to there, but if you'd like to strengthen that, that'd be great.

Aarna Nair: Okay, great. Well, this is an amazing question. I think that it really highlights exactly what the DUA is supposed to do. So as my fellow DUA candidates here said, we currently don't have a university senate. We have a student senate and we have a faculty senate but there's no point of shared governance, which is exactly why this is so important. Because currently that means that the DUA is one of the only voices that brings student voices into faculty rooms. And if I'm being super honest, it's naive to think that one person can represent the voice of 50,000 students, which is exactly why this bill is so important, and it would be a huge priority of me to carry the current work done by GAVEL and the DUA and bring it forward. For me, that works looks like starting with a joint resolution. That means bringing together the ASUW president, the leaders of the student Senate and the faculty Senate, and a lot of the Provost Advisory Council to make sure we have accountability and responsibility within this decision. Then I want to work towards it in three steps. I want to define structure. I really want to work with the university to understand where exactly we would have power with the Senate. Then I want to pilot the model. I want to create joint forums where we can really see how this shared governance works together in effect. And finally, I want to build access. I really

want to make sure that we're working with HFS, RCSA, a lot of departments across UW and student organizations to make sure when we're building the University Senate, it's representative of all of the different majors and communities across UW. Because if we're building something new, let's make it accessible and let's put a lot of responsibility into how we're affecting this. That means bringing student's passions at the front, but also making sure their voices feel empowered with this new policy. Thank you.

Reaa Dureja: Okay, this question is for Spencer. This year's DUA has assembled an AI policy working group to establish ASUW's official stance on AI in higher education. At the same time, GPSS, ASUW Tacoma, and ASUW Bothell have all been developing their own priorities. Considering UW policies apply to all campuses and students, what steps will you take to collaborate with these bodies and what is your ideal vision of a unified AI policy stance?

Spencer Grubbs: Thank you for this question. I really appreciate it. First of all, I would like to highlight the collaborative nature of like across tri-campus relationships that's highlighted here. I think that it is important that because AI is such a complex topic and very nuanced that we get as much representation and voice and diverse perspectives as we can get into it. But my vision for this is to continue that working group and turning it into an AI task force that can absorb student opinion and work on advancing student representation. And I know because it is an incredibly complex topic, as I've already discussed. But one of the things that I think we can all agree on is that AI needs to be transparent. Like one of the things that I was talking to Kate Lawson again earlier, and one of the things that she highlighted is that they're trying to work on getting professors to be transparent with their AI policies and what it means to them. And I would like to go even further with that. And I'd like to see this within ASUW, collaborate with internal policy or even submit a bill in my capacity at Student Senate this year about getting students to be accountable and transparent when it comes to disclosing their own AI use. So those are kind of my priorities with that.

Erick Jacobsen Our next personal question, you cite your experiences seeing ideas translate into action. One way that ASUW realizes ideas is through the enactment of resolutions, which the DOA supports. What is one resolution that you would like to partner with the Governance and Verification of Enacted Legislative Committee, or GAVEL, on implementing, and one faculty council that you would utilize to this end?

Katherine Foulks: So regarding different resolutions, when it comes to, sorry, this is off the top of my head, I would say looking at the resolutions from the GAVEL sheet, there's a lot that can be done and a lot that's been going on. And so one specific resolution I have in mind regarding like policies maybe is I don't know if this is necessarily going to be correct. I might get fact checked. But when it comes to the colleges of Arts and Sciences, there's moving parts that are going to cause faculty cuts. And there's a lack of transparency regarding this that affects. I am part of the College of Arts and Sciences, Poli Sci and this affects me, but I didn't necessarily know that this was going on until it was too late. And so I'd say a big part of this is a resolution regarding increased transparency and connection to students and dialogue before something happens, unless like it's after the fact, which is I feel like what most students are learning about things, it's after they've already been implemented or happened, and then they have to deal with the consequences. And then sorry. Let me look. Regarding a faculty council, I would say mainly this is a big part of DUA is applying increased like pressure on the university and Senate faculty. So maybe like the faculty Senate is one thing I would advocate in law, not lobby, sorry, advocate for. So yeah, that's all. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check real quick. So there was a resolution about federal funding and administrative response, JR31, or sorry, this resolution 31-26. I was recommitted by board and then Senate decided to table it indefinitely because Dean Harris is stepping down and that was a 55% cut for the College of Arts and Sciences that was referred to.

Ryan Wicklund: Kitana, your platform mentions expanding exam makeup options and promoting university resources. Resolution 30-18 established some policies regarding classroom accessibility, but there is always room for improvement. How do you intend to integrate these policies alongside GPSS and the Disability Resources for Students Department?

Kitana Ludwig: Okay yes thank you for the question. So it is about, yes, expanding exam makeup options. Okay, so I would first like to ensure that professors are offering makeup exam options for students with like valid excuses and proof. And then, so like last quarter, for example, I had a teacher with no makeup exam policy. And these are especially harmful for those who are like immunocompromised, those who get injured, sick, or like, like things happen. Okay, like last quarter I broke my foot and I wasn't able to like get to class. So like things happen. And then in terms of working with GPSS and

DRS, I would also want to work with Senate leadership to implement these accommodations with DRS. And there are a lot of great DRS options currently, but I feel like even more work can be done to further promote accessibility on the UW campus. For example, my younger sister is hard of hearing and wears hearing aids, so her DRS accommodations are crucial to her education. And if we can streamline DRS accessibility for UW students, not only are we building a more equitable campus, but we are making it a more welcoming one to students of all abilities. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen You advocate for clearer pathways, achievable major requirements, and stronger interdisciplinary options for student learning. Name one standing UW Scholastic regulation you would like to change and how. You may describe the regulation instead of naming it if you wish.

Aarna Nair: Amazing question, I'm so excited to dive into this. So first of all, let's talk about what's happening with FCAS at the moment. So that's like the current Faculty Advisory Council considering just like learning in general at this university. Currently, they're talking about the fact that as a university, we're kind of not moving as quickly forward as we could be. With AI coming up, there's so many other things changing in our learning environment, and we really need to be working towards it so that our students can have the best education possible. And for me, this is really important because I am one of those students that faces a lot of these problems, right? Right now, you can be a student that's a pre-major or a double major, and you think you're doing all the right things you know, you're taking all the hard classes, you're balancing a heavy workload, but somehow it seems impossible with harsh grading requirements or unclear prerequisites or no intersection between paths. And so in many ways, the system actually rewards perfection rather than learning or retention. So for me, challenging the system is in two parts. First of all, it comes with providing change where it's needed, and that means identifying where students already reach this intersection. Just an hour ago, I was downstairs in the Lyceum with students within the lab and entrepreneurship program, where they're working in this intersection between business and tech and building all of these incredible opportunities. Those students want these pathways. They want the ability to double major. They want it to be easier to access their education and live a life they wish to learn with the tuition they pay. And so I think bringing forth those kinds of students and making sure they're seen by the administration is incredibly important. Then it comes with shifting policy. So taking that into place and looking at

how we can make flexible major pathways and grading requirements for students to operate under. Yeah, thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check more for senators than anybody else, but Faculty Council of Academic Standards is FCAS. Scholastic standards is something that they have purview on. For learning, that's Faculty Council of Teaching and Learning, as they handle the more teaching and learning side for students.

Reaa Dureja: We were not going to do audience questions but we got some really cool ones. So we're going to just do one. What experience do you have working with faculty councils or advocating legislative efforts and how will you bring the experience to the position?

Aarna Nair: Fantastic question. I am coming in as a freshman and I want to, I guess, first of all, emphasize that even though I'm A freshman, I don't have as much experience here at UW. I come where I lack in experience, I make up in humility and the ability to change and listen to other opinions. And that's why I will be here at Senate talking to all of you. But when we come into talking about how exactly my previous experiences bring into this and high school I was really, really involved with my school. But one of the major ways was I worked with a bunch of students to create an autonomous drone solution that was able to suppress wild fires in under 10 minutes. And you might be thinking, what the heck does this have to do with anything related to student government? Well, basically, our team needed about like 100-300K in funding, which is obviously a lot of money, but that's something that's not easy to squeeze out of school, especially when they don't really believe in what you're doing. So I had to do a lot of work working with my like school administration from the barrier levels of the baseline all the way to the top at the presidency to help convince them. That means when I have a goal, I work hard in changing it and that's how I'll represent your voice effectively. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen What experience do you have working with faculty councils or advocating legislative efforts and how will you bring this experience to the position?

Kitana Ludwig: In terms of my experience, not only have I been working with Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity, but I've been a president of an RSO here. I'm peer mentor for Sisterhood Initiative and also DEI chair for another, for our pre-law Phi Alpha Delta. But additionally, I've had experience working for a state representative for the Legislative District, 11th District here in Washington, under the Democratic Party. And

also, I recently attended Huskies on the Hill, where we got to work with I got to meet various senators and I got to meet with various representatives. So I've had this experience and I feel like each of these roles and perspectives have allowed me to build on this experience of advocacy and fighting for the people I represent. And that's what I would bring to my position as DUA. Thank you.

Katherine Foulks: Ok so regarding advocating for students, This brings me back to one experience I had that I was lucky enough to like experience. But I went on a like a public policy, like pre-law, one week long experience in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, where I gathered information on a certain public policy that I wanted to initiate and then presented it to a panel of lawyers, doctors, and then I think also someone in media, news. It was a really cool experience. What I did learn is that there's a severe amount of underfunded school districts in Pennsylvania. And through continuous calls about old lawsuits, certain cases, and more, I was able to actively collect data and advocate for these students and implement, or like come up with a policy to implementation. So that was the main one for me. And then also in high school, this is kind of irrelevant. I'm also a freshman. So but I ran the news and I spent a lot of time running around and connecting with the principals, admin, staff, all faculty. So I'm very good at connecting with staff and people in the university. So those are my two points. Thank you.

Spencer Grubbs: Thank you for the question. I really appreciate it. It allows me to highlight something that I haven't really gotten to do yet. So first of all, I love making or like creating relationships with my professors. So that's the first level. I love getting to know them on a personal level and including last quarter I was taking a class with somebody who was in the faculty Senate and represents faculty interests. And so when I, as I was getting ready to campaign, I talked with her about what like interests or what issues were interesting to her, or what things that I could help collaborate on. And so I have that relationship already. And then secondly, I'm also a part of a program for a class that I took for all three quarters last year. I am now working with the professors, and I've been doing this all year, to help work directly with the professors and faculty who are in charge of this program to help design it and make it more accessible to students, make it more interesting and refine the course material directly, and collaborating with them in that way.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you for your time. Can we have a round of applause for our candidates, please? All right, this is our second to last position. Director of Diversity

Efforts, if the candidates would like to please come forward. The Director of Diversity Efforts leads diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging for ASUW Dub, advocating for equity-based policy and centering marginalized voices. They are the chair of the Joint Commissions Committee, which brings together our nine diversity commissions and our four advocacy programs and they are in charge of liaising with the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity, Women's Center, University Diversity Council, etc., including faculty councils on Race, Equity, and Justice, and Gender Equity and Justice. And with that, are we ready to do our introductions? We will do reverse ballot order, starting with Lali, and we will have 30 seconds each.

Lali Guyon: Hi everyone, my name is Lali, I'm a second year majoring in communication and international studies and minoring in business. As a disabled student and an international student, I want to be here for representing all the diversity on campus. I grew up in a way where I cannot really have a word designed for diversity people and I want to be here for them

Noor Hafezi: Hi everyone, my name is Noor Hafezi. I'm a second year here studying psychology and law societies and justice, and I'm running to be your Director of Diversity Efforts under the ticket for all the dogs.

Gavin Cruz: Good evening, huskies. My name is Gavin Cruz. I'm a first year studying public service and policy and also have been active with ASUW. As A freshman, I was with the Office of Government Relations on passing the Legislative Steering Committee for our legislative agenda that's presented with GPSS, ASUW, and other entities here. I've also got a chance to work as a student senator for my fall and winter quarter hearing a lot of resolutions and part of my reach as Director of Diversity Efforts is to make sure we protect all huskies, make sure we have accessibility in our programming, and making sure we have student voice at the table. Thank you very much.

Carlos Hugo Ladron de Guevera: Good evening, members of the Senate. My name is Carlos. I'm a second year studying marketing and economics, and in my free time, you can find me singing Let It Be with Music for a Good Cause, dancing salsa with UW salsa, and being the Vice President of Communications for Alpha, which is the association of Latino Professionals for America, which is a foster RSO that empowers Hispanic students through networking events and other workshops.

Erick Jacobsen: All right. Our common question, starting with Carlos, is how would you coordinate JCC relations with the ASUW Senate and GPSS to put forth strong new

resolutions and joint resolutions, keeping in mind historically low JCC attendance in Senate?

Carlos Hugo Ladron de Guevera: Yeah I think this is an important question. I think part of my platform is about like getting out to students, but I do think it's important that we acknowledge that this is an effort that also should be dealt with internally in ASUW. So how do we improve relations between JCC and GPSS in the Senate? As Director of Diversity Efforts, I lead JCC meetings every week. I would make senate bill discussion a key item of discussion during the meetings. I would also have a focus on joint resolutions. And I also think I would personally meet with the liaisons in the Senate and GPSS to better coordinate JCC efforts. I want to basically improve connections between these institutions, because I think that JCC, along with the Senate, are institutions that really help a lot and are really important for student engagement. And I think that's the most important thing about ASUW.

Gavin Cruz: I believe ASUW is an underrepresented entity especially when we have systems in place to voice student opinion, but I truly believe that we need to improve cross collaboration to have resolutions that represent all Huskies brought from the JCC and also RSO leaders. As a senator, I've heard the pleas from the senate leadership to help write resolutions, and yet I understand the time and effort it takes to craft wonderful legislation. Thus as DDE, prior to summer break, I want to go set up a meeting between the newly elected Senate leadership and our commission directors to host a resolution writing workshop quarterly starting in the autumn to form a mutually beneficial relationship and mentoring other student leaders such as yourself to bring up resolutions. I believe this room is a platform for highlighting our stories, including when I was a senator listening to AISC Senate resolution R-32-04, including hearing from administration to develop a smudging policy to communities and also to our indigenous population. We need to do a better job at advocating to communities who are historically marginalized. And by establishing these workshop sessions, this can be one step ASUW can do to better reach out to our marginalized communities. And besides our senators who are permanent members, such as FASA, I'll make sure to hold myself accountable and my commission directors to attend Senate meetings. For senators, the Vice Speaker is very good on top of our attendance and making sure we have our bylaws enacted into place. So making sure we have that accountability brought on to JCC directors and also Director for Diversity Efforts is entirely important because it's not just showing up to a Teams meeting with your cameras off or having a placard at your

desk. It's about doing action. And I believe These are some of the ways that we can do the better improve relations with the JCC and senators and GPSS. Thank you.

Noor Hafezi: Yeah so when commission directors are stretched thin from running their own programs and managing their own communities, showing up to a Senate meeting that feels unrelated and maybe time consuming to their job is the first thing that is to get cut. So my job would be to change that. And first, I would work with the Senate Speaker directly to identify legislation in the Senate pipeline that would directly affect commission communities. And so when a resolution touches on any issue that lands on one of our nine commissions, that relevant commission director in that room will be there not as a formality, but because they have something specific to contribute and something real to gain. And I also want to change the direction of that relationship. So right now the Senate passes something and JCC is uninformed. And I want the commission directors bringing their community's legislative needs to me. and me working with the Senate and GPSS to translate those needs into actual resolutions that the JCCC is not reacting to the Senate's agenda but is helping shape it instead. And on GPSS specifically, graduate students and commissioned communities have overlap around international students, students of color, and students with disabilities. So joint resolutions that serve both populations are more powerful and more likely to pass. So my goal would be to build that relationship proactively rather than waiting for an accidental alignment to happen.

Lali Guyon: Hi again, so as the student disability director this year, I saw with two years working for ASUW a lot of DGE and I saw that there is collaboration, but I think for me the main challenges today and right now is that collaboration is here, but it's not always consistent or visible. To improve that, I think I will work on making sure that collaboration is intentional and structured. So first, I will work on strengthening collaboration between ASUW Senate, GPSS and JCC with a creation of a better and more regular communication, not with just updates, but with actual working communication and conversation around shared points. I will also make sure to push JCC members to be more engaged in Senate and to explain how much attendance is important and to be sure that they feel that their voices matters and that their work connects directly to policy outcomes. In terms of joint resolution and stronger resolution I will focus on collaboration first for starts to work with all those groups to be sure that collaboration is putting in place first with co-develop ideas rather than bring them

Erick Jacobsen: That is your time, thank you.

Ryan Wicklund: Carlos, how do you plan to implement the ICE tracker app, including coding, verification of information, and promotion of the app? Which stakeholders and organizations do you plan to collaborate with?

Carlos Hugo Ladron de Guevera: Yeah, so I think, firstly, I think safety is one of the biggest issues among students here at UW. I think people are, I have a lot of friends who are kind of scared about ICE activity and when it's coming on campus, which is why I decided to like which is why I'm supporting the idea of creating like a ICE rapid response network. And the way this network would work is similar to the UW alert system where you would get a notification on your phone of ICE activity near campus. I think these are important steps that we should take. Yeah, and obviously I've also gotten some concerns. I've heard concerns about what if, what about fake reports? And I think implementing like double verification systems, maybe even coordinating how you could like sign in with your net ID to make sure it's students reporting them and not like total strangers online. And I think we would promote this app through ASUW, because ASUW has a pretty good outreach on campus. I think it's the best way to promote this app so every student feels safe.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact checking, I do want to clarify that ASUW is in a legally precarious position when it comes to federal agents, as we need to be careful about what we say and what we act, because we are a state agency. We're under a public institution, and we're codified technically in state law, even though we have articles of incorporation. So, and also Student Legal Services has said things like tracking apps are still very much a legal gray area.

Erick Jacobsen: Moving on to Gavin. Between OGR's efforts in Olympia and DC and past Senate resolutions, what gaps do you see in the protection of international and undocumented students from federal law enforcement in non-public spaces, as you mentioned in your platform, and how do you intend to fill them?

Gavin Cruz: Yes that's a great question. I think for starters, like again, our international community and our undocumented students are some of our most vital student populations here on campus. And I believe that there are some gaps in addressing legislative efforts. For instance, I think one of that, which is like, again, the lack of information and also like accessibility materials. I know recently ASUW hosted a Know Your Rights workshop along with the Latin Student Commission, SLS, and a couple other

RSOs, but I think we can do better as ASUW to provide accessibility in that information. For instance, that can include the translation materials through other languages besides that are spoken here on campuses by students, not through ChatGPT or Google Translate. This can also look into, again, advocating to our federal legislators regarding, you know, deportation ordinance with regards to, I believe there was a grad student who was recently deported from SeaTac recently, and yet there was not a lot of effective communication on that. So I think bridging that accessibility information is very on point. And finally, again, listening to these students, whether it's like attending RSOs meetings or again talking to the diversity commission directors to make sure, again, that we have voices that are all at the table. And again with prior experience working at OGR, it's more of a collaborative effort. We're not in one office working on our own individual agenda. This is everyone's agenda, and we want to hear your feedback as soon as possible.

Ryan Wicklund: Thank you very much. Noor, how do you intend to empower the Q Center, D Center, and Women's Center within the structure of ASUW and UW as a whole beyond ASUW funding and event collaboration?

Noor Hafezi: Yeah so the voting seats that I would hold on these commissions are, would be access points into university level decision making that most students never get, have the opportunity to get near. So my priority would be to use those seats to create a direct pipeline between what commission or between what commission communities are experiencing and what university administrators are deciding in those rooms.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check, there are a mixture of different councils and whatnot that the Director of Diversity efforts represents. Not all of them have voting membership. Some of them are just representative liaison positions without vote.

Erick Jacobsen: And that would include, I believe, these centers. Our final personal question for Lali is, how do you plan to improve outreach to international and disabled students, keeping in mind the limitation of ASUW resources? What have you done so far as SDC director that you think the Director of Diversity Efforts would be able to scale up?

Lali Guyon: Yeah of course, as the Student Disability Center Director, today I worked on making sure that the concerns of students are heard by me. I also worked with OID to be sure that we are implementing the demands and the requests for my students on campus. We are, I'm currently also working every quarter with the DRS manager to be sure that everything is in rule and that we can also have making sure that the students feel heard by us. I will try to implement that as the DDE, but now also putting in place with for international students that feel a little bit lost in the middle of everyone here in a big campus with more than 50,000 people in here. I felt lost. There is also the Seattle freeze. I just want to be sure that ASUW feel and just that people feel comfortable to come in and feel heard by us and making sure that I put all in place to hear my students and to be sure that they feel comfortable talking to me as I'm also students representing them.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you, Lali, and thank you to all the candidates here. Round of applause, please. And now, on to the last but certainly not least part. Would the presidential candidates please come to the front? Alrighty, the President of the ASUW serves as the Chief Executive Officer, overseeing all ASUW operations and direction. Are you all listening? This is important. Point of order. We are still in a public meeting. Alrighty, so the President oversees all student advocacy including on the campus, community, and state levels, including public testimony, calls and chairs all Board meetings, and ensures that all Board members are fulfilling their responsibilities. They are the official spokesperson of the ASUW representing us at campus, community, and intercollegiate events, and speaking to media. They sit on the Provost Advisory Committee for Students, the Faculty Senate and the Student Regent Selection Committee. And every four years, the president chairs the Student Regent Selection Committee. And they oversee all ASUW communications, social media, newsletter, and tri-campus relationships. A lot of that is in conjunction with the Communications Director. They oversee all of the Board and all of the organization, and they have a voting seat in every committee in ASUW and task force, including The ASUW Senate. Would you like to do introductions starting in reverse ballot order for 30 seconds each?

Kate Lawson: Hi everyone. My name is Kate Lawson. I'm a junior studying political science and public policy. I began my time at UW as a freshman signature senator where I got my sea legs and learned what student advocacy meant here at the UW. I remember one of the first bills that I voted on was requesting that the university reallocate space for aquatic-based RSOs at the Shell House. So Lots of interesting stuff going on in the

Senate. And I know that the meat and potatoes work of our campus advocacy happens here, and I'm committed to centering the voices that you all have, whether that's bills like paid leave for university employees, that was LD 32 4, or permanent positions at the UW food pantry.

Shantanu Adekar: Hey everyone, my name is Shantanu. I'm going to be ASUW President and I'm running on the UW For You ticket because we're trying to build a UW for you. I am a general biology major. I am pre-med and that's a little new to ASUW, but I figure that if we have more representation, we can represent a better part of the constituents on campus. Because we all know ASUW is mostly dominated by poli-sci and business, which is really good, but if we want to have better representation for UW, we need to have more diverse sectors. Thank you.

Brecon Adams: Hey guys, my name is Brecon Adams. I'm running on the For All the Dawgs ticket for Director of Internal Policy, our president is Dagmawi Teshome but unfortunately, he did get the stomach flu, so he is not able to make it today. I can speak on myself, though. I am a Poli Sci major in my second year. I'm trying to go into LSJ as well, and I can also speak from

Erick Jacobsen: This is for the introductions for Dag, so if you could just explain introduce him specifically, that would be great.

Brecon Adams: Yeah, for sure. Yeah, Dag is he is a junior here at the university, and he is one of the people that I believe cares most about the student body in general, and what the average student wants. I truly believe that he loves what he does here, and collectively, for all the dogs, we want to represent each and every single one of you. Thank you.

Matt Freire: Hey all, my name is Matt Freire. Some of you all know me. I'm here every Tuesday, guys. I'm running to be your president this year. My major is journalism and public interest communication. I'm really focused on campus safety this year. That's like my number one. Me and Avery, we wrote JR-32-05 together. And I'm really focused on increased funds to RSOs as well, and just strengthen partnerships with entities like HFS and RCSA. Thank you.

Justin Amaral: Hello, everyone. I'm Justin Amaral. I'm running for president. I wanted to take some time up here to address the things that Riya and Joseph spoke about, specifically the attacks and personal attacks that have been targeted towards candidates

and volunteers. I would like to strongly condemn these because they are not what ASUW stands for. Otherwise, you can read about my statements in the voter's guide. Thank you.

Reaa Dureja: Thank you guys. For the common question, how will you mobilize students in UW Seattle across tri-campus boundaries and between ASUW associational partners to fight funding cuts and threat to student safety?

Justin Amaral: So this is an amazing question because the tri-campus relationships are really important and it's really about collaborating with them and using our representation as the voice of all these campuses, as the voice of the students in all these campuses to bring our concerns directly to the Board of Regents and the personnel at the top of UW. We need to collaborate with them on these issues, but also understand that they run their own campuses and allow them to do what they need to do as well. And just choose to, wait, funding cuts and threats. Oh, right, funding cuts and threats. Yeah, there's been a lot in terms of that. So it's really about collaboration and bringing these concerns directly to the top and using our platform to kind of push them to give us explanations for why things are being cut, push them to tell us why our tuitions are being raised, push them to tell us why they haven't implemented protections against ICE, and really be the voice and advocate of these students at the highest level. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: Before we move onto Matt, I will announce we do have audience questions for this position. This is very important. One might say the most important position on the Board. So please submit audience questions. Matt, go ahead.

Matt Freire: You know this is a tough cookie of a question. because tri-campus is really important, tri-campus relations, but we also have to realize that there's ASUW T and ASUW B and GPSS for a reason is that we all have different needs that need to be met. So one of the biggest ways that I want to increase collaboration between all the campuses is really, really push more students not involved in ASUW to come to Huskies on the Hill, which is our advocacy, annual advocacy trip to Olympia. I believe that there's 1000 bills that go through Congress every day and they're all important. And the only way that we could get our bills passed are important to us is having more student voices and having more personal stories because stories are the lifeblood of life. So encouraging better tri-campus partnerships. I mean, I've heard there's tons of drama between us and UW T at the moment to the point of where I've heard many people say

that UW T has an inferiority complex, and that's not the way that we should be thinking about our other campuses. This is, yes, UW S, UW T, UW B, but it's UW. That's what comes first.

Brecon Adams: The students most affected by funding cuts usually aren't in the rooms where those decisions are being made. They're the RSO leader that can't afford just to book a space to hold a meeting. They're the international student trying to find a place that fits for them, and a first-gen student who is deciding and trying to find where UW can support them and their journey. Dag works directly with the CEO of Ryther, a youth advocacy nonprofit where he learned something important. Institutions don't just move on their own. You have to know how they're built, where the pressure points are, and how to make the most of the tools they provide, which is the knowledge and skills that Dag is bringing to his office. And that's exactly why the ASUW Senate matters. The restructuring of the arts and sciences and threatens over 150 staff positions. But through the Senate, ASUW has slowed down this process. Dag's job as president is to ensure that the Senate goals are heard by the provost, the board of regents, and every room where decisions are being made. The Senate sets the mandate but Dag will execute it. As president, Dag would use the Office of Government Relations and the Legislative Steering Committee to make sure that the advocacy reaches Seattle, Bothell, and Tacoma quickly and precisely, not just whoever is screaming the loudest. ASUW has always had the tools. What's been missing, though? is someone who's willing to pick them up and use them, not just wait for a rainy day that may never come. Thank you.

Shantanu Adekar: Awesome, in order to coordinate tri-campus efforts, we want to coordinate as much possible and have a united front across campuses with year-long collaboration. I can commit to meeting with presidents from the other campuses, and we can do that over the summer to talk about priorities. A lot of people expect that we can start on day one of fall quarter. We have time over summer. We have the ability to reach out and collaborate. Start up, start right after election. Other thing is, when it comes to expanding to budget cuts and student safety, as the ASUW president, you are one of two lobbyists registered with ASUW. And with that, I can fight to protect our funding in a multitude of ways. I can help representatives understand that cutting funding for education might be a short-term solution, but in the long term, it'll be detrimental to the good of Washington and our society. On top of that, the associated Big Ten Schools, there's one fall conference, and in spring, we go to DC to lobby to the federal government. By doing that, we can protect things like the Pell Grant, which is

federal student aid, which is very important for our community here. And even in tough legislative times, we got to make sure our voices are heard. At the state level, I can lobby to bring back two specific bills that died. The Senate Bill 5906, the SAFETY Act that bars ICE from schools, colleges, campuses, and hospitals without a warrant, and the other one, House Bill 2132, which places protection on student aid information to protect undocumented students. At the end of the day, if you're a husky, you're part of this home here. We got to protect our Huskies.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check real quick. We can't lobby at the federal level in the typical sense. We have to abide by the University of Washington federal agenda. In the past, we've partnered with the Associated Students of Big Ten Universities to partner with them in their conferences to lobby, but it would be whatever the University of Washington has on their agenda. We can hold an opinion of our own, but we can't lobby on anything they're not lobbying on the federal level. State, we're fine.

Erick Jacobsen: Please submit questions if you have not already.

Kate Lawson: Thank you all. Open communication must happen on day one. Some of the most integral connections in the ASUW are our tri-campus partners, and we have a responsibility to Tacoma and Bothell as we advocate on behalf of all huskies. You all have seen in this room what happens when communication breaks down and when voices aren't heard and when needs aren't met. Our partners at ASUWB and ASUWT can feel confident that that will not happen under my leadership. If we go to Olympia fractured, we lose. If we go together, we're speaking for the entire University of Washington. Protecting our students is the first point in my campaign platform, and it's because I believe in it so strongly. I'll be frank. The students at this university are afraid to sit in class and afraid to access the resources that they are paying for. That is not just a safety issue. It's an educational equity issue. When students disengaged from campus life because they don't feel safe, we lose as a community. So here's a strategy I'm going to Olympia with alongside our tri-campus partners to protect our students. We're going to have regularly scheduled check-ins with ASUWB and ASUWT, not just during governance moments and legislative session, but before and after. I want to coordinate testimony and lobby days so that tri-campus student voices are unified, not siloed. It shouldn't just be Huskies on the Hill that's a coordinated event. All of our testimony should be coordinated and informed by our tri-campus partners. And I want to use my experience on the faculty council on tri-campus policy to design advocacy that fits

individual funding and resource needs of all campuses. When it comes to advocacy, I won't have to learn on the job. I come with experience and the know-how to develop strategies on day one. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: I see a hand.

Julia Tanner moves to suspend the rules and extend adjournment to 7:50

Kavi Pasupathi seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

Reaa Dureja: This is for you Justin. When it comes to federal law enforcement and other social issues, what stance and action will you take to protect students? How will you tie these into Intersectional issues like food insecurity in your funding and outreach plans?

Justin Amaral: This is a wonderful question. Yeah, this is a wonderful question. When it comes to federal law enforcement and the other social issues, it's about using ASUW position as the voice of the students to get the university to act. We have legislation in the UW Senate right now that has protections. We have this legislation But it is our job as the Board of Directors to bring that to the Board of Regents and tell them that this is what the students want. And they will have to listen to us. They have to listen to the voices of the students. I mean, their university is funded by us. It's created for us. In addition to that, how will I tie it to food insecurity? That's right. Student safety isn't just from law enforcement. It's from food insecurity. It's from housing insecurity. So that's really about working with our partners at HFS to expand their already existing programs to offer temporary housing, to offer emergency funding. That's with the university. And then also working with our partners at the UW Food Pantry to continue their efforts to get a permanent staff position, increase their funding, and increase their locations, like getting one inside of Odegard, which is currently something that is debated. So that is what I would do. Thank you.

Ryan Wicklund: Matt, building off your experience with the Psych 210 intrusion, what strategies will you use to push student voices through to a different safety entities in UW administration such as UW PD?

Matt Freire: This is an excellent question. First of all, that Psych 210 incident was crazy. What strategies will I use to push through voices? You know, I feel like, as a student, it's tough to get out there, and it's tough to get your voice heard, not just because you

don't have people coming to you, like ASUW, to hear your voice, but just because sometimes you may feel like you can't do anything. Sometimes you may feel like that your voice is just one singular voice and a bunch of others, and no one really cares. I really want to push students and my peers all over the world, truly, but specifically here at UW to just realize that your voice is important. Your voice is paramount, and your voice is pretty much why we're here today. We are the student voice as a Senate. And as Board of Directors President, I'm committed to hearing your voice and turning it into action. So going out, having this community outreach to hear your voice, like I've been going up table to table for the past year, hearing what people have had to say. I've been going to RSO meetings, hearing what people have to say about their issues. Just bringing those voices and just being that conduit for the student is kind of what I'm interested in. And that's what I wish to do as president.

Reaa Dureja: For Dag's question, you mentioned that you would like to encourage meaningful collaboration with student organizations. Do you have specific policy initiatives or events that you would like to pursue? Please indicate which organizations you would like to partner with.

Brecon Adams: Yeah for sure. Thank you for this question. So firstly, again, that's not me. That's Dagmawi. He's awesome. But organizations that I'd like to partner with specifically, I'm just going to answer that right now, it's RSOs. There's hundreds of those, and we have thousands of students that are participating. And the Special Appropriations Fund, It gives \$2,500 to each. However, students that need it the most aren't actually accessing it, not because they don't need it, but because it is an underrepresented and underreported opportunity. RSOs are paying out of pocket to exist. Just yesterday, actually, I met with a club that has been struggling with room bookings and finding places to store their, you know, their necessary equipment. I personally believe, and I believe that Dag would as well, that that's ridiculous. Students should be able to hold meetings in places that is affordable, and accessible on campus. Additionally, the funding that is supposed to support them has too many restrictions to actually help them function day to day. Here's what For All the Dogs is planning to do. We plan to expand what SAF dollars can cover, not just to events, but also to everyday costs of running an average organization. We create a plain language guide so that students actually know where that money is being spent. Dag set up also drop-in hours so no RSO leader has to figure out the application alone and make the ASUW Senate website more accessible. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of Fact check. The Services and Activities fee, it would be up to the membership of that committee and then through ASUW and GPSS to have new members added onto that or new units added on. And that would be also another conversation with Student Life and whatnot. I appreciate the enthusiasm though, but that is the fact of today.

Erick Jacobsen: You indicate a desire to fund campus resources for food security, mental health, and reproductive health services. Are there any existing programs you'd like to fund? And are there any new fund programs that you would like to implement? Please be as specific as possible.

Shantanu Adekar: So funding is a very difficult issue because we only have a set amount of money to understand what our priorities are as ASUW and what the priorities are of the students that we represent. When it comes to understanding the programs that we represent, we got to do a bit more outreach for that. But any current existing programs that I want to fund, honestly, I want to give more money towards the Know Your Rights workshop. I think that was probably one of the most successful things ASUW accomplished this year. But the only problem was it happened once. If we can increase the outreach on that, increase the funding for it, if we have maybe more incentives, like more food, more maybe giveaways for these specific events, there would be a higher percentage of students that actually want to show up. When it comes to programs I'd like to implement, I specifically want to tie it back to my platform statement regarding the mentorship program and the Multicultural RSO Festival. When it comes to the mentorship program, I want to pair first and second years with third and fourth years so they can understand how to navigate the complex climate of UW. Who better to teach you how to go through UW like coffee chats, cold emails, letters of rec, internship offers, than an older husky who's been through it all. And when it comes to the multicultural festival, I think that's something that would benefit from the most funding. If there was a way to bridge our divided environment with like a festival with like Chinese food, Thai food, Japanese food, all these different things come together with performances and games, I think the best unifier is food and honestly community that is at UW. And RSOs get a benefit off of this by seeing the students, they might want to have them join, and the students get to find the different homes that are at UW. So at the end of the day, I think multicultural festival might be one of the best ideas. Thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check. ASUW sponsors a RSO fair that is through the Director of Programming. And typically, if you want to expand it to also just be multicultural, that's okay. But typically, we do have those booths out already for RSOs who want to participate in that. I know Joint Commissions Committee also does a fair later on as well.

Reaa Dureja: To fact check Joseph, it's EAC that hosts that.

Joseph Riggio: The fact checker has been fact checked.

Erick Jacobsen: Kate, what meaningful programs would you specifically like to provide through ASUW? How will you enable students to interact with these programs with accessibility in mind and ensure stable funding sources?

Kate Lawson: Yeah thank you for this question. I think right off the bat, I want to ensure that publicity and programming is accessible to all ASUW entities. This includes increasing outreach to the publicity and programming committee, as well as giving those necessary seats on publicity and programming to folks like representatives from the Student Disability Commission, to folks from the Office of Inclusive Design in order to make sure that our programming is available and accessible to every student on our campus. I want to create various, I don't know if you guys have seen the Field Day promotion that's going on right now. I think that that's an incredible event that our current Director of Programming is working to put on with a host of different RSOs in order to bring the UW outside into the field, into your guys' lives on Denny Field. I want to increase programming that looks like that, that goes outside of the HUB that exists on our campus, in our diverse campus spaces, and that meets students where they live and where they hang out every single day. Additionally, I want to increase our advocacy programming, increase things like know your rights workshops, ensure that those are happening in secure places where students feel safe and comfortable to come, that they're happening frequently, and that they're available through digital resources and through outside resources as well. So thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: Now we are going into the audience questions. So we chose two questions. The first one is, by the way, you have 60 seconds to answer that.

Reaa Dureja: As the first and foremost advocate of ASUW, what would you, what would the main policy you would prioritize when working with the university admin? This is starting in reverse order, so starting with Kate.

Kate Lawson: I think protecting our students on our campus is the most important point of advocacy for me as the ASUW president. I think our students right now are having a really hard time feeling safe on our campus. They're having a hard time feeling safe in their tuition dollars. They don't know where their funding is going to come from, if it's going to be cut from the federal government, if they're going to have job security after school, if they're going to incur ICE intrusions into campus. And all of these things are really important to bring to the university admin level and to demand action on. I think it's very important for our campus to be a safe campus, for the university to provide feedback if there is ICE presence on campus to allow students to take their classes from home. and to support students in whatever way necessary so that they feel that they can learn and receive the education that they've worked so hard to be able to get here at the University of Washington.

Erick Jacobsen As the first and foremost advocate of ASUW, what would be the main policy you would prioritize when working with the university administration?

Shantanu Adekar: Well, to echo Kate's sentiments, I think all of us are going to be replying to the same thing because the number one issue on campus now is...

Brief interruption.

Okay, but back to what I was saying, I think the number one issue on campus has to do with ICE presence, right? The thing we need to do as, at least I need to do as the ASUW president is to represent my people, right? And one thing I found out last week when I was tabling, while I was tabling, a student came up to me and said that a grad student had gotten deported. A student came up to me. There was no word from admin. There was no official statement provided by UW. I think that's something that we need to touch on and actually implement. If we have a specific statement, I understand that ASUW needs to be nonpartisan, right? We can't take sides. But then one thing we can do is say that we want to protect all students, all of our students, regardless of background, regardless of race, creed, gender, it doesn't matter. If you're a husky, you have a home here. So by doing that, if we can create the ICE tracker slash awareness system that our ticket's trying to build, if we try to do more outreach, if we try to actually go out to the community and understand what the sentiments are, we can go ahead and try to fight off ice.

Brecon Adams: Yeah. Again, just following up with my previous candidates, it's ICE and safety here on campus. Dag has spoken about this a lot at various forums and meetings with the RSOs here, but we truly believe that ICE is, it's intrusive. You students should not have to worry about going out on campus and being deported. That's ridiculous. Additionally, when you're walking through campus or on the ave, there's a lot of safety worries and concerns that occur there as well. So For All The Dawgs, we're trying to make sure that we listen to the student body themselves through interviews and on campus chats and conversations that is happening throughout our term in office to make sure that we have an up-to-date understanding of what the students want. Additionally, we want to make sure that, you know, as Shantanu said, the reporting on ICE should not be coming from students. It should be coming through administrative ways like when there is, you know, warnings about police in the area as well. So, yeah, thank you.

Joseph Riggio: Point of fact check real quick. I do want to dispel the idea of the tracker just because we've learned from our Services and Activities Office, SAO, that ASUW could not participate in that. However, that is in ASUW capacity only.

Erick Jacobsen: Student Activities Office.

Joseph Riggio: The fact checker has once again been fact checked.

Erick Jacobsen: As the first and foremost advocate of ASUW Dub, what would be the main policy you would prioritize when working with the university administration?

Matt Freire: Guys, what do you think I'm going to say. It's campus safety. ICE is just, even just mentally a horrendous force on our students. Like my roommate Angel, he graduates this year and his parents aren't coming up to see his graduation because they're afraid. And that is a moment missed. You know, these are huge moments for students that we could be doing something about to make to ensure that these moments actually happen for our students. And in our current capacity, we're not. So as president, I'd be really pushing the JR-32-05, which I wrote with Avery, which I'm going to grossly oversimplify it here, but basically make it so buildings are locked and you have to use your UW ID to card in. And if there's verified ICE presence on all of this, by the way, if there's verified ICE presence on campus or in the U district, you have to use your UW ID card to get into buildings, and you have the option of taking your classes online. I'm really pushing for that.

Erick Jacobsen: As the first and foremost advocate of ASUW, what would be the main policy you would prioritize when working with the university administration?

Justin Amaral: Yeah of course I would love to echo everything my previous candidates said. I mean, everything about ICE is true, and we do need reform for that. But I would also want to advocate at the highest level about affordability. It seems like every year the university is imposing more fees or increasing tuition or housing is getting more expensive. And frankly, as the president, I would ensure that we're advocating that every single dollar collected from students is being used properly and not being wasted. Because I don't want, like if there's a budget cut or there's a need to raise to raise fees, I don't want the students footing that bill first. That shouldn't be the first option. We should be looking elsewhere. We should be looking at where we can redistribute budget, where we can make changes. And so as president, I would ensure to advocate for that. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: Also in reverse ballot order starting with Kate. Our next audience question is, we have seen historically fraught relations between the BOD and Senate over many years. How will you ensure accountability, communication, and internal cohesion throughout ASUW?

Kate Lawson: Yeah so this year I've worked in my capacity as Board of Directors member to cultivate a positive relationship with Senate, I think it's very important. I really enjoyed my time in Senate during freshman year. I thought it was an exceptionally positive experience. You all are the lifeblood of this university coming together and deciding what student opinion is and what the university should be hearing from students is so important. And I really want to cultivate that relationship strongly. I think that means showing up. I think that means sitting in Senate every week, going to Senate steering meetings and participating in the discourse, not just lingering when it's convenient to board, but coming whenever it is possible in order to show that we care about your guys' voices. We care about hearing your voices, we care about the discord that goes on in here, the motions and the amendments and all of the conversation is very important to me and I am committed to showing up as much as possible in order to hear all of that from you all. Thank you

Shantanu Adekar: In my opinion, I think the relationship between Senate and board is really just, you're seeing the same people in ASUW. You're seeing the same culture being passed on generation after generation, year after year. My proposal is that since

I'm a new face, I can be a brand new day for ASUW and the organization as a whole. When it comes down to it, it's just The Senate, whenever they voice their opinions, they're voicing the, sorry, they're voicing the opinions of the students. And that's something that should be heard. Board, they do a lot of good work at the higher approval. But the thing is, if we have a better streamlined process between Senate and board, we have a better process of teamwork. When it comes down to it, the committee meetings are really important. The president meets with the, I'm pretty sure you can fact check me this, but the steering for Senate in order to determine the schedule that is for the Senate meeting the next day. And if the president makes sure to either either attend or send a proxy, there's going to be a direct streamlined communication between Senate and the board of Directors so that there's no he said, she said. It's just one to one.

Erick Jacobsen: We have historically seen front relations between the BOD and Senate over many years. How will you ensure accountability, communication, and internal cohesion throughout ASUW?

Brecon Adams: I'm going to speak on behalf of For All the Dawgs. We are very excited to work with you all. We believe that you all have experiences that we have not had time to either go over or truly understand the full scope of those experiences and the ramifications here at UW. So I just want to make sure that you know that For All the Dawgs is going to listen to your voice, listen to your voice, and take into account exactly what you believe is best for this school. Additionally, as the Senate is representative of our students, the For All the Dawgs is excited to continue meeting with the student body here at UW. The sprint for candidacy and getting voted into office is awesome, but we believe that that should not just be a sprint, it should be a marathon. We should be continuing that push into our time in office all the way through the next campaigning season. So thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: We have seen historically fraught relations between the BOD and Senate over many years. How will you ensure accountability, communication, and internal cohesion throughout ASUW?

Matt Freire: So I think as president, you have an obligation to show up to Senate. And I don't just mean be in the room and be looking down at your phone and doing whatever. I mean actually listening to the voice of the students as we are the student body. We are the representation of every student on campus. Do I feel like we should

have more voices in here? Yes, because I feel like 80 or so people isn't truly representative of, you know, our 52,000 students on the Seattle campus. But regardless, I'm going to be in here every Tuesday or whenever we decide next year's Senate meeting time will be. I will be here and I will listen to you, and I will convene with the board, and just listen. I mean, it's tough to say to give you like a factual concrete answer other than listen, because listening is the most important thing I can do as your president. So listening and taking your words into action.

Erick Jacobsen: before I move on I see a motion.

Naomi Law moves to suspend the rules and push the adjournment time to 8 pm

Greyson Hedglin seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

Erick Jacobsen: We've seen historically fraught relations between the BOD and Senate over many years. How will you ensure accountability, communication, and internal cohesion throughout ASUW?

Justin Amaral: Yeah, you know, I think that's an understatement. I think that the Board of Directors and their power has actively undermined the voice of the Senate and the voice of the students. When the Senate wanted to pass reform to ensure that the Board of Directors had to listen to students, they shut it down. So what I would do as president is ensure that the Senate has the resources and power necessary to enact the proper checks and balances on the Board of Directors. So that the Board of Directors is, so it's no longer a question of if they want to listen to the students or if they want to advocate for the students, but a matter of that they have to, that they have to go and advocate what the Senate wants, that they have to go and be the voice of the students, that they have to be present at every meeting. Because right now, it's more like a suggestion on paper than rules and regulations. So that is what I would do to ensure That the relationship between the Senate and the Board of Directors is no longer bad. Thank you.

Erick Jacobsen: As a quick fact check, the Board of Directors did not shut down and was unable to shut down any of the institutional reform bills. They are still in Senate. If they do pass Senate, they will go to the Board of Directors and they can recommit or veto. and in which case the Senate can still pass it again, but the Board of Directors has not taken any action or has had any ability to take any action on either of those bills. Thank you all for being here. Round of applause for our candidates.

Reaa Dureja: If there is pizza there, you guys can take it home. I just want to remind everyone that the ASUW Fair is on Friday from 12 to 4. Please come there. Dubs is going to be there from 2 to 3 P.m. Please come and thank you so much for being here. And for this god awful long meeting.

Applause

ADJOURNMENT

Kavi Pasupathi moves to adjourn

Addison Wooster seconds

Approved by raised hand vote

Adjourned 7:52 pm

Minutes Prepared by Jothsna Sundar

Clerk for the ASUW Student Senate
