



Associated Students of the University of Washington

Senate Steering Minutes | Senate Session XXXII

Date: Wednesday October 6, 2025

Location: HUB 307

Call to order: 4:04 PM

ATTENDANCE

Erick Jacobsen (he/him), Speaker | P
Joseph Riggio (he/him), Vice Speaker | P
Julia Tanner (she/her), Public Relations Officer | P
Tanya Bhandari (she/her), On-Campus Committee Chair | A
Abigail Appleyard (she/her), Off-Campus Committee Chair | P
Pierce Wallbaum (he/him), General Affairs Committee Chair | P
Dylan Bianchi (he/him), Academic & Administrative Affairs Committee Chair | P
Nandana Jaideep (she/her), ASUW President | A
T.B.D., GPSS Director of University Affairs | E
Ashwin Anand (he/him), Director of Internal Policy | A
Kate Lawson (she/her), Director of University Affairs | A
Jothsna Sundar (she/her), Senate Clerk | P
Brendan Chang (he/him), SAO Advisor | P

APPROVAL OF SENATE STEERING AGENDA

Erick Jacobsen: Moving on to the approval of the agenda do I hear any motions?

Julia Tanner moves to approve the agenda

Pierce Wallbaum seconds

approved

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.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS | Erick Jacobsen, Joseph Riggio, Julia Tanner, Jothsna Sundar

Erick Jacobsen: Moving on to the leadership reports, I'll begin. I have been very busy over summer adjusting to change roles now on the Board of Directors, so I've been doing a lot with them. I gave a Senate presentation in ASUW orientation. I've been supporting Julia in her recruitment efforts and event making efforts, and then I've also met with a couple of people about pending legislation, which you should ...

Joseph Riggio: GAVEL member applications are open, attendance policy and Organic Act will be introduced soon and my office hours will be from 2:00 to 3:00 on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Julia Tanner: So I was focusing on like the main tiers of my job. So Instagram, bonding, planning, tabling planning, kind of went hand in hand with everything. I'll make sure to keep you guys updated about bonding events. I'm going to set a date for Senate floor and then I'll have a discussion for leadership. Or for steering specifically, we can plan a time that we're all available to make sure everyone can come. And then tabling. I sent out the schedule for, I think all of autumn. Yeah, all of autumn. So I can send it again. But it's OK if you guys like can't show up, but I'd appreciate if you could. It actually takes a lot of work bringing stuff out. I did not realize. So just helping at the beginning would be great. And then yeah, Instagram if any of your committee members have questions about like how to join Senate, how to get more constituents, anything related to things you would find on the website. Usually direct them to the Instagram and direct them to me because that's where a lot of our information is going to be shared. So the Senate steering agendas and the floor agendas will be shared on Instagram, like events, forums, even, et cetera. All of that's gonna be on Instagram. And if you guys have any real ideas that aren't like cringey, 'cause that's like the goal. Not to say it was anyway, but let me know and I think that's about it. Also, I appreciate your patience with this whole process with the website being done. Like activating people has been so tedious and so frustrating and there have been so many bugs to like get rid of. So I appreciate it and I'm sorry that it's so bad

Jothsna Sundar: Hi, I'm Jothsna. I'm the Clerk this year. It's very nice to meet you all. Pretty new to this. A lot of things did not get sent over until very recently, so trying my best to catch up. Yeah, I've been working with outreach stuff mostly. I'm excited to start getting into actual minutes, and for the first couple of meetings, if y'all could say your name before you talk, that's super helpful for me but no worries, I should pick up on it pretty soon.

ADVISOR'S REPORT

Brendan Chang: Hello everyone. Are you all excited for your first word of the year ... Anyways, welcome back. Glad to have this ... All our steering meetings that you know I'm ... have a lot more to discuss.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2025.06.02 Steering Minutes](#)

[2025.06.03 Floor Minutes](#)

Dylan Bianchi moves to approve minutes

Abigail Appleyard seconds

Approved

PROPOSALS

Joseph Riggio: This motion contains the Senate Attendance Policy for Session 32. In sum, the Vice Speaker is responsible for establishing and promulgating the attendance policy, which allows for two unexcused absences before senator deactivation on the third unexcused absence. Additionally, this

order outlines promoting the attendance policy, establishing proxy mechanisms, and procedures for each unexcused absence.

Joseph Riggio reads [*CO-32-1 Session 32 Attendance Policy*](#).

Erick Jacobsen: Again, as a Committee Order, this is immediately in second readings, which means that any amendments can be made now in Steering, and it does not get considered on the floor. Any questions, comments, or motions?

Pierce Wallbaum: just a question on bullet point number 4, should we specify Husky Link as the website since it's more of a temporary website until the Senate website is back?

Joseph Riggio yields

Julia Tanner: So this specific clause, because I agree, Husky Link for Senate purposes is temporary. However, this clause is referring to designated seats. So how the bylaws are laid out is that designated seats, people are able to have a designated seat if they're part of an RSO or an organization listed on Husky link so that's why Husky Link is listed here that's just where people if their organization is on there, they can be a designated seat.

Joseph Riggio: I'll expand on that too and Erick, you can correct me since you wrote the original language, but the other alternative would be saying like president or leader but that gets into every single RSO does their leadership organizational structure differently. So to try and find ways to be more inclusive to academic departments and student advisory board structures we kept the language vague.

Abigail Appleyard moves to add designated and protected seats bullet point 4

Dylan Bianchi Seconds

approved

Dylan Bianchi moves to approve CO-32-1

Pierce Wallbaum seconds

approved

APPROVAL OF SENATE FLOOR AGENDA

[2025.10.07 Senate Floor Agenda](#)

Erick Jacobsen: Now moving on to the approval of the Senate floor agenda this will require a suspension of the rules because we'll need to amend it first. R-31-33 A Resolution Condemning the Repression of Student Protestors by the University and Advocating for the Reinstatement of Suspended and Evicted Students was vetoed by the Board of Directors. Joseph, would you like to discuss what happened at that meeting

Joseph Riggio: It appears R-31-33 passed the Board of Directors judging from the bills title page.

Julia Tanner: I had like been confident of this before the meeting to discuss, but I was at the board meeting for R-31-33 and I thought it had passed the board and so I'm wondering why it's on like I could just be misremembering or like why is it on our agenda again?

Commented [AS1]: This was not me. maybe Dylan?

Erick Jacobsen: I believe it was recommitted by the board. So similar to what Joseph described, the Board gets to recommit a bill once and veto it once and after vetoing it can't recommit it again, but it recommitted this resolution from what I understand.

Julia Tanner: And with the follow up do you have the feedback for that?

Commented [AS2]: not me

Erick Jacobsen: I do not yet. Caroline's working on the minutes, I have requested them, they may come in time for tomorrow but I highly recommend a motion to delay.

Julia Tanner: I swear, because I had to leave early from the meeting but one of the senators that was there as a cosponsor, Henry, or as someone representing me and the students who worked on this, he made it seem like this was fast.

Brendan Chang: Do you have the board bill?

Erick Jacobsen: It's the same one. If it was passed. It does say that at the top, so I think we can treat that as passed then. It says 3-1. It doesn't say any extensions.

Brendan Chang: did they have quorum?

Erick Jacobsen: I would say we can consider this passed and then if the minutes suggest otherwise, edit back next week.

Abigail Appleyard: my question is a lot less important but I was just wondering for this meeting, because it's the first one, does the structure change because there are like a lot of new people?

Erick Jacobsen: So what we're planning to do is Joseph and I will have a 20 minute forum. I will focus on the sort of what is Senate and that will also go into our leadership reports a bit so we'll basically talk about Senate, what you do and they do, and then I'll also have a little thing on making amendments so that they're prepared and then Joseph will have segment on parliamentary procedure.

Abigail Appleyard: everyone that comes to this meeting is a senator or there are people who are, I guess people can always just kind of sit in on the meetings.

Erick Jacobsen: people can always come in.

Joseph Riggio Moves to add Legislative steering question

Dylan Bianchi seconds

approved

Julia Tanner: Just a PSA I notice that the adjournment time is at 7:15 PM.

Dylan Bianchi moves to suspend the rules and change adjournment time to 7:00 pm

Julia Tanner Seconds

approved

Dylan Bianchi moves to approve senate floor agenda

Pierce Wallbaum seconds

approved

DISCUSSION

Erick Jacobsen: Moving on to discussion items, the first will be nominations and elections for the Legislative Steering Committee. We will be electing one Steering representative and one Floor representative. I remind you all that we currently do not have a question for the elections.

Abigail Appleyard moves to use same question

Abigail Appleyard moves to suspend rules

Julia Tanner: point of information can we just discuss the question, or do we have to approve and like put it on because it's nominations?

Erick Jacobsen: there is no election section of the agenda. So I was unsure of if it would fall under proposals or discussion, but. In other bodies before, elections under discussion items have just been run as elections. Abigail has a motion on the table do I hear any seconds?

Dylan Bianchi seconds motion to suspend rules

approved

Erick Jacobsen: The Legislative Steering Committee liaison helps craft the Legislative Agenda for ASUW for our lobbying priorities, and is a great experience. You are also able to run for the Floor liaisonship, and you may also still be able to apply to the At Large seats, if they are open.

Dylan Bianchi: they're not open

Erick Jacobsen passes speakership to **Joseph Riggio**

Joseph Riggio: Are there any nominations?

Erick Jacobsen: nominates himself

Joseph Riggio: Elections

Erick Jacobsen elected by acclamations

Joseph Riggio transfers speakership to **Erick Jacobsen**

Erick Jacobsen: Moving on to our next discussion item, which is communication styles. The goal here is to get a better sense of how you all like to communicate and be communicated with, so we can work together more effectively. This is an activity we did in the Board of Directors orientation. I did send you all the form via email before this meeting, but I know not everyone had a chance to fill it out so I'll give you all five minutes to finish up, and then **Brendan** will lead the discussion.

Recess 4:40 pm

return to order 4:45 pm

Julia Tanner moves to recess for 2 minutes

Pierce Wallbaum seconds

approved

Recess 4:45 pm

Return to order 4:47

Recess for 2 minutes 4:47

Return to order 4:49

Erick Jacobsen: I'm a penguin

Joseph Riggio: I'm an owl

Jothsna Sundar: I'm also an owl

Pierce Wallbaum: I'm a penguin

Abigail Appleyard: I'm an owl

Dylan Bianchi: I'm an owl

Brendan Chang: I am also an owl. There was probably going to be majority owls. Owls are very much to the point, direct. Penguins are very much like how was your day? You can't just show up and be like, all right, I have this legislation. Let's get through it right now. And it's not that you can't. You can it's just you may not be on the same page.

Ryan enters

Erick Jacobsen: Welcome Ryan. He is the president of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate. He has a much better office than we do.

Brendan Chang: Communication Is also just how do we want to receive information. It's about finding like a middle ground like ok we'll have like one sentence about the weather before we get to the business at hand. And like, it's important to see because like sometimes when you're saying something, especially if you're direct and to the point, someone who is not an owl may see it as like, you know, they don't like me. And it's important to kind of like keep these things in mind. Like, you know, like you're not looking to offend anyone, obviously, but it's just like. You're it's just like how can you communicate with each other? How can you have these conversations relate and do all these things because everyone how they how like everyone is different and you just wanna have that kind of working relationship. And you thankfully, there's so many owl so you know, you just connect to each other and then we have the Penguins. Is it just, is it just Pierce or just you two? The Penguins. We could talk about the weather for 10 days.

Erick Jacobsen: I also wanted to take this time if anyone has a way they like to be contacted.

Abigail Appleyard: I have a question first and then a statement. Asks about using work and personal email.

Erick Jacobsen: I would prefer responses with the work email but I can CC you.

Joseph Riggio: I am very open. Explains willingness to work on things, just reach out over email or Teams.

Julia Tanner: I have a question actually is communication through emails or Teams better for you because there are some things like the start of the quarter might be more chaotic than the rest of the quarter and I might be better at communicating with all of you but is there do you prefer even like Instagram through the ASUW account. Is there a way a mode of communication that works better with you?

Pierce Wallbaum: Teams is best

Dylan Bianchi: Teams chats easiest to sort through

Ryan Wicklund: break into my house

Erick Jacobsen: I am not going to break into Ryans house. Neither should any of you. Anyway, my last question was what might cause you to change your mind on a given bill. There will be many times in Senate or Steering where we discuss things, externally or internally, that we feel strongly about, and I think it's helpful for us to know going into these discussions what it would take to convince you all of a position.

Dylan Bianchi: It really varies on the content of the bill. For certain bills, I might be convinced by personal testimony, hearing how students are affected by an issue, and for others, I might be more convinced by statistics and facts about it.

Julia Tanner: my whole like life philosophy is not to harm people so the most impactful legislation for me is showing the impacts on students. So if you're able to spell out this is what's happening, This is why we want like a student opinion because it's literally impacting students and that's the best. So whether that's like this amount of students are affected or Grace's housing bill with the lofts like those stories, those anecdotes were really important as well. Thank you again. I feel like especially being able to see how it like a bill would affect people in a positive way like people outside of just the sponsors because I think sometimes, I'm like, well, this might be really good for you, but it'd be nice to see how this is gonna benefit other people as well.

Abigail Appleyard: Especially seeing outside of just the sponsors

Pierce Wallbaum: Context statistics personal anecdotes

Joseph Riggio: Sources matter. Owl mindset

Erick Jacobsen: Sub question of that if you all remember the minimum constituents for last year, was that a format that you all prefer when it comes to like ASUW policy or do you prefer? Something more along the lines of people speaking in favor or against something and then so I guess the question is adding relevant stuff or conversation about it.

Abigail Appleyard: I thought the format for that was pretty good because it laid out kind of like the history of like what had been done and why it had changed and stuff. But I also think just being able to discuss it was nice and not just go straight into like voting or yeah, I like that format.

Erick Jacobsen: any more comments?

Dylan Bianchi: presentation of information was helpful but the breakdown

Julia Tanner: I've been focused on recruitment of senators, so this hasn't been my highest priority, but I did sit down and make some plans. So I have some ideas for steering bonding to just if we could have a discussion about what you guys would like to see and then next week I will, when

things have settled down, I'll send out like a preference, I'll figure out the format, but what day we would want to do a bonding event. But I thought because it was the beginning of the quarter, I think it would be good to have like a game night where we're all interacting with each other, being competitive, getting to know each other. So like Uno or BS kind of like group game night and snacks, but I'm open to other ideas. Some other ideas that I had for other quarters or for this quarter if we want is like presentation night a paint and sip would be really cool. Not with alcohol obviously, but like a Bob Ross type vid and or like paint by number or something easy and like mocktails. And then yeah, so those are, those are some ideas but yeah, opening up the floor to like other ideas you guys would like to see as a group.

Abigail Appleyard: I like them

Dylan Bianchi: game night sounds fun

Pierce Wallbaum: game night sounds fun

Erick Jacobsen: we have three quarters

Julia Tanner: Yeah, but we need to come up with an idea. That was my first thinking we can do all three but what would you like to do for this quarter?

Erick Jacobsen: I would recommend keeping it simple for autumn quarter and then yeah, so like, I think game night's easy here, so I would recommend that first.

Julia Tanner: Does anyone have access to a pack of cards

Erick Jacobsen: further comments or questions on bonding?

Julia Tanner: I do have one little announcement for this. Next quarter was gonna have to be like I would plan it before so they wouldn't be stuck with like the bulk of the planning because I'd be abroad. But my study abroad got cancelled, so I will be here for winter quarter. Yeah, it sucks, but I will be here for winter quarter so we can do stuff then as well.

Erick Jacobsen: Thank you, Julia. All right, moving on to our next discussion items. It is committee meetings for tomorrow. Now, initially, because of the recommitted bill, I was thinking that we might have to spend a lot of time in committees but considering developments on that, I would say that we don't. But either way I'd keep the introductions brief. Get to know everyone. I went over this in my in committee chair orientation but try to learn everyone's name. It can be informal in committee as well, but like ask their name, their major, why they joined Senate. I think it is important and maybe as a subset of that what would they want to change on campus? Getting them like starting to think about resolutions.

Abigail Appleyard: I was just looking through my drive for this and I was wondering if there's a session 32 like attendance sheet.

Julia Tanner: I'm going to do that tonight because I'm going to send out welcome emails tonight and tomorrow. So I will be drafting a committee assignment. You guys will have that before the meeting tomorrow and I will make sure to send it in the steering chat tonight, so stay tuned with that. It'll look a lot basically the same as last year because I'm just gonna copy paste it.

Abigail Appleyard: And should we send out like a pre senate message? Is that like the afternoon thing tomorrow or should we do that?

Julia Tanner: It might. It might be an afternoon thing just because of how things are lining up with my welcome.

Erick Jacobsen: I say um this week, no need. I don't wanna overwhelm them with anything and we're gonna still be working on getting them into the teams and they may not know to look at it. So no welcome, no pre meeting message this week I'd say, but starting next week, yes. And then, like Julia said, around noon would work.

Joseph Riggio: committee attendance will be chill for this meeting.

Julia Tanner: Yeah just asking for your patience once again, like it's gonna be pretty rough and so don't hesitate to ask questions and be like, hey Julia, this isn't working or like whatever. But we'll figure it out as a team. Tomorrow might be a little bit rocky

Pierce Wallbaum: we're not doing vicechair elections?

Erick Jacobsen: No, that is a great question. I will open my spreadsheet and tell you when we are doing it. We will not receive hall senators until week four. So we will have Vice Chair, Vice chairs will afterwards. I know that's pretty that's how things are panning out and then if you, for steering in that time up to me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Abigail Appleyard: For the Husky Health Student Advisory Board, I know that you guys had a liaison last year and it was me and I don't know when you guys want to have that election, but we have a general meeting coming up so it doesn't need to be like tight turn around, but just something to.

Erick Jacobsen: Yeah, if you would send me the information, that would be great. I'm working on a timeline of all the liaison elections. There are a lot. In the meantime, how it works is that I'm the proxy for everything. So if you send me that, I'll work that out. Or we'll find out a way for someone else to proxy. We'll make sure that we do have Senate representation and I will let you know when we work out the schedule for all the these and elections. I'll bring it up in my speaker report or I'll make it a discussion item.

Joseph Riggio: I will be reaching out to academic departments and their student advisory councils to recruit more senators.

ADJOURNMENT

Julia Tanner: moves to adjourn

Dylan Bianchi Seconds

approved

meeting adjourned 5:12 pm

minutes prepared by Jothsna Sundar

ASUW Student Senate Clerk

