



M-09-16 Memorandum on GPSS Resolution Submission Process Policy

To: GPSS Executive Committee
From: Randy Siebert, GPSS Secretary
Date: September 28, 2016
Subject: Resolution Submission Process

I. Introduction

The present process of GPSS Resolutions only exists in a suggested “best practice” form, set in the spring of 2015. These existing practices sometimes have led to confusion. In order to clarify the resolution process further, I am recommending that GPSS will adopt the following policy as to when and how a resolution shall be submitted.

II. Policy Recommendation

Resolution Timelines

According to M-01-16 Memorandum on GPSS Resolution Sponsorship and Submission Policy, any UW graduate or professional student shall be allowed to submit a resolution, but in order to be considered, resolutions must have a senator as its sponsor. I am recommending that resolution authors shall submit the resolution to the GPSS Secretary and through a new digital process in the following manner:

The first draft of the resolution must be submitted to the GPSS Secretary by 8:00 PM on the Sunday ten days before the scheduled Senate meeting for a resolution’s first reading.

After the first reading, authors shall revise their resolution. The second draft of the resolution must be submitted to the Secretary by 8:00 PM on the Sunday four days after the Senate Meeting in which the resolution was first presented.

The Secretary will provide an online discussion board where the senators can propose amendments. The authors will then reflect on those suggestions and will produce a final draft.

The authors shall submit the final draft of the resolution to the GPSS Secretary and upload it online using the resolution template on the GPSS website by 4:00 PM on the Tuesday before the Senate Meeting in which the Senate will vote on the resolution.

Resolution Style and Presentations

To ensure Senate meetings follow expeditious and streamlined timelines, GPSS will remove conversations during presentations of resolutions that are superfluous to the purpose or meaning of a resolution.

During first readings of resolutions, only minimal comments on grammar including sentence structure and syntax, and spelling errors shall be discussed during Senate meetings. All Senators wishing to provide edits under this category may do so through contacting the authors of the resolution.

During second readings of resolutions, no grammar edits shall be discussed as revisions during Senate meetings. Any edits of this nature should be submitted through the online service provided by the GPSS Secretary.

Edits and discussions regarding key-word usage in resolutions, however, will be made during Senate meetings.

At any time, the GPSS President, when deeming a resolution unpresentable to the Senate during a meeting due to its poor format, style, or grammar, may entertain a motion to table a resolution.

At any time prior to Senate meetings, if the GPSS Secretary deems a resolution unpresentable to the Senate, Secretary may instruct resolution authors to revise and resubmit at a later date.

III. Policy Implementation

With an endorsement from the GPSS Executive Committee, this memorandum shall stand as official GPSS policy. This policy is subject to review by the GPSS (Article VI, Section A, Clause 4), and could also be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Presented to the GPSS Executive Committee on September 28, 2016