GPSS Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 3rd 2021, 5:30 pm via Zoom

# Members present:

GPSS President Aaron Yared

GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs Genevieve Hulley

~~GPSS Vice President of External Affairs Hannah Sieben~~

GPSS Secretary Logan C. Jarrell

GPSS Treasurer Jules Overfelt

Executive Senator Andrew Shumway

Executive Senator Terrence Pope

Executive Senator Monica Jensen

Executive Senator Marty Varela

Executive Senator Britahny Baskin

ASUW Director of Internal Policy Antonio Gonzalez

Associate Director of Student Activities Rene Singleton

Associate Dean of Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Bill Mahoney

~~Husky Union Building Executive Director Justin Camputaro~~

Senate Clerk Janis Shin

# 1. [Action] Call to Order 5:32pm

**Aaron Yared** called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

# 2. [Action] Approval of the Agenda 5:33pm

**Jules Overfelt** moved to approve the agenda. **Genevieve Hulley** seconded. No objections.

# 3. [Action] Approval of the Minutes 5:33pm

**Logan Jarrell** asked Monica Jensen to clarify which Christina she had referred to when explaining the Elections Guide at the last Senate meeting. He said that he could redact the statement and have the minutes simply reflect that the Elections Committee planned to use a Google Form.

**Monica Jensen** said she did not remember.

**Monica Jensen** moved to strike the language in question. **Logan Jarrell** seconded.

**Aaron Yared** objected and asked Janis Shin if she wanted members of the Executive Committee to state their names and positions before making motions. He said that he realized that neither the Senate nor the Executive Committee had done so this year. He said he wanted to maintain consistency.

**Janis Shin** said that she usually caught what people said unless they spoke a short word such as “moved” or “seconded” too quickly. She said she would appreciate it if people stated their names when speaking short phrases.

**Aaron Yared** said that the Executive Committee would do so from now on.

No further objections.

**Monica Jensen** moved to approve the amended minutes. **Britahny Baskin** seconded. No objections.

# 4. [Action] Senate Meeting Agenda 5:36pm

**Aaron Yared** asked if there were any resolutions to discuss at the next Senate meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** said there were no resolutions that had been submitted.

**Aaron Yared** said that the Executive Committee had planned to have UAW 4121 speak at the coming Senate meeting because the Committee anticipated passing a resolution to add a union seat to the GPSS.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the Executive Committee rejected the proposal to add a union seat to the GPSS. He said he did not create another one. He said that he needed to follow up with the union but that he had been recently preoccupied with finalizing the joint resolution process. He said that he had submitted a Bylaw amendment to the Judicial Committee for review. He noted that Bylaw amendments traditionally needed to be submitted ten days in advance, but needed to be received by the Senate seven days in advance prior to their approval. He said that if the Judicial Committee did not accept the amendment, then he would probably withdraw it.

**Aaron Yared** said he vaguely remembered that the Executive Committee did not reject the resolution for the union. He said it was withdrawn but that the Committee could follow up on that later.

**Jules Overfelt** said that the Executive Committee had discussed giving the union an *ex officio* seat. They asked what the process for granting an ex officio seat was.

**Logan Jarrell** said that he did not know for sure. He said that he would defer to the Judicial Committee because the current rules intended for nonacademic seats to have voting power. He said that the Executive Committee had discussed adding a seat for the union in the Executive Committee, which was impossible through a resolution. He said that theoretically, more seats could be added to the Senate but whether a nonvoting seat could be added in the same manner was unclear and that changes to the Executive Committee needed to go beyond just a resolution.

**Andrew Shumway** asked what it meant to have an ex officio member of the Senate. He said that the meetings were already open to everybody and that anybody could come and speak during Senate meetings. He said that ex officio members could make motions but would not be allowed to vote on them.

**Aaron Yared** said that ex officio positions would function similarly to advisor positions.

**Britahny Baskin** asked why a person could not simply come to the meetings if the GPSS asked them to show up and give their input.

**Jules Overfelt** said that the position would be an elected position which would make it more official. They said it would also help the GPSS track their attendance.

**Logan Jarrell** said that Rene Singleton had previously mentioned that the GPSS and the union had a strong relationship that no longer existed in an official capacity. He said that it was important to create a more permanent, trackable relationship with the union.

**Monica Jensen** said she remembered the previous meeting differently in that it was Logan Jarrell who had felt that the Bylaws or the memoranda did not apply to creating a seat for the union since the union did not qualify as an underrepresented population. She said that it was silly to have an ex officio seat in the current way the ex officio was defined. She said that creating an ex officio seat of the union opened the possibility to change some of the language in the memoranda and write a resolution to create the seat.

**Aaron Yared** said he thought that Monica Jensen’s plan was possible and that he realized that this issue was part of a bigger conversation that the Executive Committee should have as an agenda item for a future Executive meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the Executive Committee should just ask the GPSS next week. He said that he had had trouble establishing regular contact with the UAW 4121 Joint Council, but he said he understood them to be very busy since it was their bargaining period.

**Aaron Yared** said that the problem seemed to be a GPSS internal matter. He said that the Executive Committee was still deliberating about the meaning within the GPSS memoranda and Bylaws.

**Aaron Yared** asked whether anything else needed to be added to the agenda and what business would be presented next week.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the GPSS would have a speaker and a Bylaw amendment. He said that he did not like the timeline that was outlined for Bylaw amendments. He said that the Senate could receive and review an amendment before its approval by the Judicial Committee. He said that the Judicial Committee had been made aware of the Bylaw amendment and were in deliberations. He said that the language was contained in the memorandum. He said that he also asked the Committee to consider the question of the procedure for amending the Bylaws. He said that there was precedence from last year when Michael Diamond brought several amendments concerning the elections. He said that he commented on the amendments brought to the Judicial Committee and that changes were made but that he wondered if that was actually best practice.

**Aaron Yared** clarified that the Judicial Committee needed to receive Bylaw amendments ten days before the Senate meeting and that the Senate needed to receive the amendment seven days before the meeting. He said that he did not see a problem with the current system because the Judicial Committee still received the document before the Senate. He acknowledged that the Judicial Committee might not be able to deliberate in time but that it was up to the Judicial Committee.

**Andrew Shumway** asked what resolution or Bylaw was being discussed.

**Logan Jarrell** said that it was technically outside of the Senate’s function to pursue a resolution that affects all students at the university. He said that the GPSS was intended to express the opinions of the graduate and professional student body. He said that this amendment would define joint resolutions as a special type of main motion under introducing main motions. He said that it would express the resolution as a collaboration with the ASUW Student Senate. He said that if anyone wanted to see the language again, it was located in the Joint Resolution Process Memorandum which he wanted the Executive Committee to review later.

**Andrew Shumway** said he agreed with Aaron Yared in that he did not see a problem with sending out the language as it is now. He noted that the Judicial Committee had not yet reviewed the amendments and that the Executive Committee would receive a report from the Judicial Committee before discussing the amendment at the next meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** agreed and said that it might be a non-issue.

**Aaron Yared** asked if that meant that the Bylaw amendment and resolution would be a part of the upcoming Senate meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** said that it was only the memorandum that should be reviewed by the Executive Committee. He said that the GPSS had historically used memoranda for internal policies. He elaborated that what had been done was essentially different. He said that the resolution that would have added a seat to the Senate for UAW 4121 was a true resolution that had to proceed through the Executive Committee because it was affected by a historic memorandum the Executive Committee voted on.

**Rene Singleton** said that the Officers should remind the GPSS that travel grants were still available to support students.

**Jules Overfelt** suggested making a separate agenda item for travel grants. They said that they did not anticipate the item taking much time, but that it would be good to highlight the grant through its own agenda item.

**Jules Overfelt** asked if the question for the breakout room could be centered around Women’s History Month. They said that the GPSS had asked about Black History month at the last meeting and thought that asking about Women’s History month at the beginning of the month would be good.

**Aaron Yared** asked Genevieve Hulley if she knew of any events being planned for Women's History Month by any campus organizations or the university itself.

**Genevieve Hulley** said that she did not know off the top of her head. She said that she had been following the basic event frameworks from previous years, but that she supported adding new events to the portfolio.

**Aaron Yared** suggested compiling a list of events that celebrated Women’s History Month.

**Britahny Baskin** said that her quick Google search revealed an event that was hosted by the UW Housing and Food Services. She said that there was a form to nominate a womxn who was a student or colleague to recognize them. She said that there was a calendar of events that would be updated soon and provided the [link](https://hfs.uw.edu/celebrate-uw-womxn) in the chat.

**Logan Jarrell** agreed with the overall idea and said that this would be the only opportunity to engage Senators on this question.

**Jules Overfelt** moved to approve of the Senate meeting agenda. **Monica Jensen** seconded. No objections.

# 5. [Action] Joint Resolution Process Memorandum 5:55pm

**Logan Jarrell** said that the GPSS had historically used memoranda to provide structure to the Bylaws. He explained that the Bylaws were written more open to interpretation or vaguely whereas the memoranda were written with more exact language. He said that memoranda were not usable without an accompanying Bylaw. He said that this particular memorandum created a counterpart to ASUW legislation which outlined a way for ASUW and GPSS to collaborate on legislation. He said that a key element of the memorandum was the role of the Executive Committee. He noted that the GPSS had a Judicial Committee but that it did not function like a true oversight committee. He said that it would be difficult to task the Judicial Committee with more business since the Judicial Committee did not meet regularly. He said that the memorandum potentially represented a growth in the kind of business and time commitment for the people that currently served in the Judicial Committee.

**Logan Jarrell** noted that the GPSS had an Equity and Accountability Committee (E&A), but that the E&A but thought it would be inappropriate to task them with the work. He said that the closest GPSS counterpart to ASUW’S Oversight Committee was the GPSS Executive Committee. He explained that the GPSS Executive Committee was paired with the ASUW Oversight Committee during the reconciliation process. He noted that ideally, the reconciliation process would never be needed if the sponsors collaborated enough, but that the process existed in case of contentious issues. He said that the document was very similar to what Antonio Gonzalez had shared with the ASUW Student Senate, except that the wording was changed to make it applicable to GPSS.

**Logan Jarrell** pointed out that the ASUW expected the GPSS to review something as the Executive Committee more than once. He said he thought it was a bit overly bureaucratic and presented the opportunity for the Executive Committee to be obstructive. He said that the memorandum was written so that the Executive Committee would forfeit its second reading and advance resolutions back to the Senate. Logan Jarrell said it was only applicable in the case of the reconciliation process and referred to the second page.

**Logan Jarrell** said he would not explain why a joint resolution process might be desirable, since two very similar resolutions had passed this year in both the ASUW and the GPSS.

**Jules Overfelt** said that the GPSS might want to have an example of why it is useful. They said that if the GPSS did not use the process in a few years, GPSS Officers in future years may forget why the memorandum is necessary or whether it needed to be updated. They worried that the purpose of the memorandum would be lost.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the Bylaw amendment captured the purpose of the memorandum fairly well. He said he had cited the climate resolutions from this year in the introduction as an example and had mentioned other examples such as supporting UAW 4121’s bargaining demands from two years ago.

**Aaron Yared** said that another example would be the resolution calling on UW to divest from the police department.

**Logan Jarrell** clarified that the ASUW Board of Directors was largely separate from the ASUW Senate. He said that the divestment resolution had not technically moved through the ASUW Senate and that the joint resolution process was a partnership with the ASUW students more than the ASUW Board of Directors.

**Marty Varela** referred to the part of the document mentioned directing the monitoring of the process to the judicial body so that it occurred once a year. She said that the memorandum created a system for reviewing the resolution which addressed Jules Overfelt’s concern. She said that the language also institutionalized the responsibility for the Judicial Committee to pay attention to this process.

**Marty Varela** referred to the concern that GPSS turnover might impact the usage of the memorandum and the understanding for why it exists. She suggested that Logan Jarrell add language to create an expectation that some committee on GPSS or the Senate is responsible to review the process annually and see if it is still applicable. She said that this would mean that the memorandum would have ongoing scrutiny and that the situation of people not understanding the purpose of the memorandum would be avoided.

**Logan Jarrell** agreed to add language to the Policy Implementation section. He noted that this was the first memorandum that the Executive Committee had seen this year that was intended to pass by majority vote. He said all the actions that the Executive Committee took were subject to review by the Senate and that any Executive Committee could modify the memorandum as they saw fit. He said that the Executive Committee could task the Judicial Committee with reviewing the reconciliation process in particular, but that it would be the only such process that they review other than Bylaw amendments and grievances.

**Logan Jarrell** stated that the ASUW did not establish a true timeline for the joint resolution process. He explained that he was a bit fearful of possible stalling during the reconciliation process by either GPSS or ASUW representatives. He asked Antonio Gonzalez whether ASUW would be open to following a timeline that the GPSS set for a joint resolution reconciliation process.

**Antonio Gonzalez** said that the ASUW could create another way to amend the past resolution within a timeline. He said that the ASUW had enough time to do that this year and figure out a timeline that worked for both the ASUW and the GPSS.

**Logan Jarrell** asked whether the Executive Committee would be comfortable passing the memorandum without a timeline for the reconciliation process.

**Andrew Shumway** suggested changing the language in the very last paragraph. He referred to “Section 2: Sets of a special case that the Board of Directors vetoes a joint resolution.” He said that the resolution would move through the GPSS like a GPSS resolution. He said he was working to add language that would allow GPSS to pass the resolution as a GPSS resolution in the event that the ASUW Board of Directors vetoes the joint resolution or if the joint resolution reconciliation process fails.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the memorandum contained language that said that if a GPSS Senator wanted to pass something on the behalf of the graduate and professional students, the ASUW Board of Directors should not have the ability to stop the process. He said he agreed with Andrew Shumway that a stalled reconciliation process should not prevent resolutions from passing in the GPSS.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to table the topic until the Budget discussion. Andrew Shumway seconded. No objections.

# 6. [Action] SAF Liaison Appointment 6:08pm

**Jules Overfelt** said that Stephen Lee, the GPSS Budget Specialist, had been sitting on the Services and Activities Fee Committee (SAF). They said that Stephen Lee was not currently a voting member, but that they wanted to promote Stephen Lee to the position of official liaison so that he could vote when the SAF performed budget hearings.

**Jules Overfelt** moved to appoint Stephen Lee as the SAF liaison. **Marty Varela** seconded. No objections.

# 7. [Information] Information Exchange/Forum Regarding Recent AA/PI Violence 6:10pm

**Terrence Pope** said the best way to approach the topic was that it was more of a polling survey of leaders within the university. He said he had been thinking about this issue because he had colleagues from the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community, which he would refer to as the Asian community for the sake of efficiency. He said that his colleagues had spoken out against what they felt was silence from their colleagues concerning certain rhetoric over the past year. He said that though people may have done things as individuals and that he was not sure whether the GPSS had already drafted a resolution regarding the rhetoric, he wanted to try to create a space where the GPSS members could discuss how people had been impacted and whether they had any issues. He said that he was a member of the Diversity Steering Committee in his department (Psychology) and that the committee had had a discussion about how to respond that day. He said it was a complicated discussion because it brought up a lot of conflicts that pre-existed both inside and outside of the university setting. He said that he was reaching out to ask whether anyone was seeing anything happening on campus or with certain groups. He asked whether there were any Asian organizations or whether anyone was working with a new department in particular ways. He said he was curious to hear if anything was happening in addition to creating a space to hear about anything happening around campus that feels appropriate for leaders to encourage dialogue about in their own departments. He said he wanted to be able to respond to it in some meaningful way and that he was having a hard time seeing the full picture.

**Terrence Pope** said that there was a lot of disparate information about the incidence rates and the nature of these crimes. He reminded everyone that UW has a large Asian student body citing the statistic that 26% of UW’s undergraduates and a comparable amount of graduate students were Asian. He said a large portion of UW’s international students were from Asian countries, such as India, Indonesia, China, and that the top ten countries represented by UW’s international students were Asian countries. He said that he did not feel like this was an issue that touched on a lot of GPSS’s constituents.

**Britahny Baskin** said she did not know whether the Asian population in her program (Neuroscience) had been experiencing issues. She said she was aware of issues of biases in her program and that members in her program had been trying to figure out the route to addressing the biases within the program and the university. She said it had been very unclear for her program how to deal with these issues and what the appropriate response was. She said that the School of Medicine had a protocol for reporting incidents of bias at the School of Medicine. She suggested that the GPSS compile resources for dealing with incidents like these. She noted that people did not know how to address small, negative incidences, especially those that were not as overt. She said that such issues did not get handled and that it would behoove the GPSS to not only discuss this but also compile a list of resources for people.

**Bill Mahoney** followed up Britahny Baskin’s comment and said that the School of Medicine’s reporting tool was brand new. He said that the School of Medicine’s new dean of equity and diversity spearheaded the effort. He noted that the UW campus had a bias reporting tool which was now coordinated by the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity, Ricky Hall’s office. Bill Mahoney said he did not know how well it was used or what the follow-up procedure was like. He said that in his conversations with people at LiveWell and the Title IX Office, the conversations about AAPI community safety were ongoing throughout the campus. He said he would be happy to share about the additional resources he had learned about and said he would be happy to reach out to Britahny Baskin or Aaron Yared to spread the word.

**Bill Mahoney** agreed that there were many cases where people are taught to “say if you see something” without any follow through after the report. He said that providing students with tools was great, but helping the university figure out what those responses would be and what the appropriate responses are is still a work in progress.

**Logan Jarrell** thanked Terrence Pope for bringing the issue to light. He said that his program was not very diverse and that members of the AAPI community in his program had come and talked to him about things they had experienced or shared their experiences with the entire cohort. He noted that the GPSS had passed a resolution that might touch on the intersection between some of these identities with language, given the persistence of recent attacks and the urgent need to work in a broad coalition, to support noncitizen members of the UW community and address all issues of xenophobia during this academic year. He said that the resolution would not encompass all members of the AAPI community but noted that that was what GPSS had historically done through resolutions.

**Terrence Pope** said that he felt that Logan Jarrell implied that the GPSS had done nothing for this issue in particular. He said that making a statement of solidarity with international students is inclusive of Asian students, but that he wanted to avoid making the connection so central. He said that the discussion often veered toward international students when talking about Asian students. He said that there was also a community of students or Asian-American students, many of which grew up in the Seattle area. He said that the issue had a high incidence rate and a very diverse population. He said making that distinction was also meaningful in that discussion.

**Marty Varela** asked if one of the breakout conversation questions could be centered around this issue. She said that the Housing and Food Services (HFS) had struggled to figure out how to ask the question. She said that HFS did not want to be intrusive or stir the pot but also did not want people to suffer in silence. She said it had been challenging to address and said that HFS had generically discussed targeting, microaggressions, and how people could interpersonally hurt one another intentionally and otherwise. She said that the generic conversations had been good because people have had spaces to share their feelings on their experiences. She said that there had not been any recommendation and no follow up to situations that were described, which was unacceptable. She wondered whether talking to Senators about this issue could help GPSS gauge their potential interest in raising awareness and asking the question in their respective programs. She said that all programs should be concerned about the issue, not because it was a diversity issue, but because it was timely and people were in the midst of it.

**Marty Varela** said that the pandemic has heightened a lot of challenges that people did not usually deal with. She said that the GPSS should not pretend that the challenges were nonexistent and should utilize GPSS as ambassadors on the topic. She said that the GPSS should drive a response instead of reacting to a response.

**Jules Overfelt** wondered if it would be possible to add an agenda item that introduced the topic and a PollEverywhere poll to survey the Senators.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the Executive Committee had the ability to reconsider the agenda. He asked Abbie Shew if there had been any movement on the State legislative level addressing the violence against the AAPI community.

**Abbie Shew** said no. She said the bills regarding DEI training for faculty and adding a diversity requirement to the medical school curriculum had been moving pretty well through the Senate. She said she could follow up on this issue.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to extend time by three minutes. **Andrew Shumway** seconded. No objections.

**Andrew Shumway** expressed support for Jules Overfelt’s idea of making time to discuss this topic during the Senate meeting. He suggested posing the question during breakout rooms because he felt that his breakout room members got through the breakout room discussion questions quickly.

**Aaron Yared** said he thought the topic warranted having its own agenda item. He said that his breakout room members took up the entire time discussing the breakout room discussion questions. He said that he thought there was an advantage to having the topic as its own agenda item. He noted that this would make the discussion open to more people but might also discourage people from talking.

**Terrence Pope** thanked everyone for pointing out resources and said that this discussion gave him some ideas for other places to go as well. He said that he was also curious to hear about people’s thoughts about standard trainings or interventions which helped students not feel targeted or singled out. He noted that navigating situations could be a precarious balance between being seen, but not wanting to be seen too much.

**Monica Jensen** said she would like to see the Senators discuss the topic in the breakout rooms and also be given three minutes to fill out the Poll Everywhere about incidents that they had seen or heard about and how the incidents were addressed. She said it would be helpful to prepare people for what to do next time they witness an incident. She said that she had bystander training and that she had had good results with reconciliation. She said bystander training could be helpful going forward because it would provide some space to share and allow the GPSS to accumulate and share some resources.

**Logan Jarrell** said that if the GPSS did a breakout question on this topic, it should also host a speaker on the topic as well, because the issue was not something that would just go away.

**Rene Singleton** suggested having someone from Safe Campus come speak to GPSS. She said that Safe Campus had bystander training referrals for people who experienced any type of attack on campus personally. She said that Safe Campus also offered immediate online assistance and connection to UWPD. She said that Safe Campus representatives could come and help talk about the safety aspects of it for any student who may be going through this.

**Rene Singleton** suggested that the GPSS focus on the current population or any population that had experienced an attack if the GPSS was looking for other people from student life. She noted that the AAPI community was the latest population that was being attacked, but that other student groups had been attacked on campus in the past. She offered to share referral information. She said that other entities were focusing on the issue including many other student organizations. She said she was afraid that international students might not be as focused on the issue as domestic Asian-Americans who were currently being affected in Seattle. She noted that it was a national issue that had been going on for many months and was just now coming to national attention.

**Britahny Baskin** agreed that the AAPI community was the current target but that this issue also affected a lot of different populations. She said that this was an issue that people should consider at a larger scale. She said that students in her program received Empowering Preventative and Inclusive Communities (EPIC) training. She said that the EPIC training mainly covered sexual harassment so it did not focus on everyone. She said that she would like to see a resolution that included the faculty, not just students sticking up for students.

**Jules Overfelt** moved to extend time by three minutes.

**Jules Overfelt** said that they wanted to extend time in order to decide whether the next Senate meeting would include time to talk about the violence against the AAPI community.

**Marty Varela** seconded. No objections.

**Logan Jarrell** summarized the options: 1) add a question to split the breakout time, 2) create a specific Poll Everywhere where Senators could report their observations or experiences, and 3) seek a speaker at a future senate meeting

**Jules Overfelt** said the benefit of having a discussion topic this week and a speaker the next week was that bringing up the topic in multiple meetings communicated that the issue was very important. They said having a five-minute discussion and a Poll Everywhere seemed appropriate.

**Marty Varela** said she supported the idea of the Poll Everywhere and thought a brief conversation with a follow up should happen at another time so that the GPSS emphasizes that it's an important issue.

**Aaron Yared** said that the Executive Committee had a full three weeks to find a quality speaker who could really speak to this issue.

**Jules Overfelt** said they would like to have the topic as its own agenda item for the same reason why the travel grants were made into their own agenda item: not necessarily that it would take any more time, but that it is on there as a part of the list for people to see.

**Jules Overfelt** moved to amend the agenda **Terrence Pope** seconded.

**Logan Jarrell** objected on procedural grounds.

**Jules Overfelt** moved to reconsider the agenda for March 10th, 2021. **Andrew Shumway** seconded. No objections.

**Jules Overfelt** moved to amend the agenda for March 10th, 2021. **Terrence Pope** seconded. No objections.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to approve the amended agenda. **Terrence Pope** seconded. No objections.

# 8. [Information] GPSS Budget 6:38pm

**Jules Overfelt** said that they wanted to start a conversation about what the Executive Committee expected to see on next year's budget. They said there were currently no major changes planned beyond adding hours for employees. They said that the Officers had talked about adding another employee to assist with the Secretary which had two responsibilities: diversity work and administrative work. They said that it was very expensive to add another employee to the payroll. They said it was less expensive to give more hours to current employees. They said that she also planned on submitting the budget as if the SAF would fund it since they had consistently done so in the past. They said that she would also prepare for the case where SAF requested GPSS spend more of its reserve.

**Logan Jarrell** noted disagreements existed on how to address changing the Secretary position.

**Aaron Yared** said these disagreements would hopefully be resolved today.

**Jules Overfelt** said that they had been considering adding another position.

**Andrew Shumway** asked whether Jules Overfelt expected SAF to fund the GPSS budget at the same levels as previous years.

**Jules Overfelt** said they expected budget cuts because other organizations that relied on revenue from SAF were not receiving revenue and needed money to make up budget deficits. They said that those organizations were less likely to have large reserves. They noted that the GPSS reserves were technically money that belonged to the SAF and said they anticipated that the GPSS’s full request would not be fulfilled. They said that she also anticipated a communication from SAF that this was an unexpected circumstance and was not a precedent of expecting GPSS to fund a majority of its own expenses.

**Andrew Shumway** asked whether the budget would change if the SAF chose not to fund the GPSS at the same level as before. He asked if there was enough money in the general fund to overcome any discrepancies in funding.

**Jules Overfelt** said yes. They said that the GPSS could take steps to cut back its budget and just take money from the fund if necessary. They said it was basically the same result with less paperwork if the budget was approved all at once.

**Ashlee Abrantes** asked if Officers could share staff.

**Jules Overfelt** said it was possible. They said that each Officer was given a number of hours that could be distributed between their staff, but that hours from their staff could not be given another Officer’s staff member per the Bylaws. They said that sharing employees was a way to move around hours and that employees could be borrowed by different Officers.

**Genevieve Hulley** said she had switched hour allotments between her three employees. She said it was possible if all employees were under the same person.

**Abbie Shew** said that in her three years as a GPSS staff member, she had had her hours borrowed by other Officers. She said that the External Team budgeted for the weeks before Grad Day on the Hill since the Team works far more than 20 hours. She said that the current system worked for the Team, whose members often shuffled their hours to accommodate for busy times and down times.

**Aaron Yared** directed everyone back to the joint resolution process. He asked Andrew Shumway if he was ready to share the modified language.

***Aaron Yared*** *showed the modified document on a shared screen.*

**Andrew Shumway** said he would add the highlighted language: “In the special case that the reconciliation process described above fails to produce a reconciled Joint Resolution, or [...]”

**Andrew Shumway** moved to amend the memorandum to include that phrase that he stated and presented on the screen. **Marty Varela** seconded. No objections.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to pass the amended memorandum.

**Jules Overfelt** objected to the motion on the grounds of needing time to review the memorandum and anticipate any possible questions from Senators.

**Logan Jarrell** withdrew his motion.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the memorandum demanded a considerable amount of work for the Secretary and Executive Committee, assuming a reconciliation were to happen. He said that this might confuse Senators who were otherwise fairly detached from the Committee. He said that the Committee should let the Senators know that the Committee did this because most Senators were somewhat familiar with the processes of the Committee. He said that the Senators’ unfamiliarity with the Committee might act as a barrier where they might not want to engage in the process because the Committee could override their will despite that not being the intention of the process.

**Andrew Shumway** said that the memorandum was vague enough to give flexibility to this process. He said that future Executive Committee members will have the flexibility to interpret this memorandum in a way that will benefit them.

**Rene Singleton** said that the GPSS had had many different joint resolutions with ASUW prior to the creation of this memorandum without any issue. She said that she suspected that the practice would continue: Officers would be involved and Senators would debate and the ASUW and GPSS would be okay. She warned the Executive Committee of overthinking and making the memorandum troublesome. She said that the loose joint resolution process had worked well.

**Jules Overfelt** motioned to extend time by two minutes to vote on the amended memorandum. **Marty Varela** seconded. No objections.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to approve of the amended memorandum. **Andrew Shumway** seconded. No objections.

# 9. [Action] Announcements 6:51pm

**Ashlee Abrantes** shared the [link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeafPbX1cLR2UB7rZk4qg89ce0AKaUG5fZOAIT7BrWTGofutg/viewform) to the Return to Campus Learning survey. She asked everyone to look over the wording, especially the two mental health questions that Aaron Yared said he found amusing. She said that was not her intent. She also asked for feedback on the flyer which she planned to email. She asked Aaron Yared and Logan Jarrell to share it on their screen with everyone at the meeting.

**Aaron Yared** said he thought the flyer looked great.

**Janis Shin** asked if the flyer could say “take the survey to win gift cards.” She asked whether taking the survey and entering the raffle were two separate things.

**Ashlee Abrantes** said that she appreciated help with the wording. She said that the intent was to give people the option to enter the survey as it would make their feedback completely anonymous.

**Aaron Yared** suggested that Ashlee Abrantes change the wording to say “Take the Return to In-Person Learning Survey and have the chance to be entered into a random drawing.”

**Britahny Baskin** said that the phrase “have a chance” made it seem that the survey takers were entered into the raffle involuntarily. She said that having the choice was important since there were questions about mental health. She said that the survey was not totally anonymous since people were submitting their emails. She said that it should be clear that anyone who wanted to enter could enter to win.

**Jules Overfelt** said that in their experience of having taken surveys in the past for a chance to win a gift card, the survey and the raffle entry were two separate pages. They said that the GPSS could use the language of “for a chance to win” or “enter to win” as long as it was made clear that the email address and survey responses were separate. They said they were not aware of how to do it in Google Forms.

**Ashlee Abrantes** said she had played with the Google Form and was not able to make it go to an entirely separate page. She said that the tentative plan was that only she would be able to see the survey results and that the survey would be shut down once released. She said that she would be the only person with access to it and that she would strip identifying information from the data before other people could see the data or analyze it. She said she was open to suggestions, but that this was what she had come up with thus far.

**Jules Overfelt** asked if Ashlee Abrantes could provide a link within a form to another link where survey respondents could put their email addresses.

**Ashlee Abrantes** said she could, but said that she would then not be able to tell if people actually filled out the survey.

**Janis Shin** asked whether the problem could be mitigated with Google Form’s continue to next section feature.

**Ashlee Abrantes** said that it still aggregated the data in the same way.

**Aaron Yared** said that the only other way he could think of was all the questions required so that survey respondents could not advance to the next page unless the form was completely filled out. He said that the GPSS wanted the survey to be voluntary to some extent so his idea did not really work.

**Jules Overfelt** said that the GPSS could add a “prefer not to answer” option so survey respondents could get through the survey without having to answer questions they did not want to, but would still have to complete it to get to the next page.

**Marty Varela** moved to extend by five minutes. **Andrew Shumway** seconded. No objections.

**Aaron Yared** said that if anyone had more suggestions for Ashlee Abrantes, they could message her through Slack or email. He thanked everyone for their help and said that the flyer looked great aesthetically. He said that he and Ashlee Abrantes were just working on the nitty-gritty stuff.

**Abbie Shew** thanked everyone who participated in Grad Day on the Hill. She said that the GPSS had met with over 48 legislators and had 85 students participating. She said that members of the Executive Committee had served as a group leader and that the External Team could not have done it without their flexibility and willingness to pop into meetings that needed to be filled in. She thanked everyone and said that while this year had been unprecedented, the virtual lobby day went as well as it could due to everyone’s support.

**Aaron Yared** thanked Abbie Shew and the External Team for their work. He recognized her three years of expertise and said that it helped navigate the unprecedented times. He said that the GPSS was fortunate to have Abbie Shew, Hannah Sieben, and Payton Swinford lead the effort as it made the event easy for all the participants. He said that the event was not hard to do well in because of the External Team’s superb organization.

**Logan Jarrell** asked everyone to participate in the GPSS Composition Survey.

# 10. [Action] Adjournment 7:01pm

**Genevieve Hulley** motioned to adjourn the meeting. **Marty Varela** seconded. No objections.

Meeting minutes prepared by **Janis Shin**, GPSS Senate Clerk.