GPSS Senate Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 21st 2021, 5:30pm 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

GPSS Senate Clerk Janis Shin

~~Executive Senator Monica Jensen~~

Executive Senator Terrence Pope

Executive Senator Andrew Shumway

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~~

# 1. [Action] Call to Order 5:33pm

**Aaron Yared** called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

# 2. [Action] Approval of the Agenda 5:34pm

**Alexander Novokhodko** motioned to add the item “Endorsements for STF Proposals” after the announcements item and before committee reports for 2 minutes. **Jules Overfelt** seconded the motion. No objections.

# **Jules Overfelt** moved to approve the agenda. **Jack Flesher (School of Music)** seconded. No objections.

# 3. [Action] Approval of the Minutes 5:35pm

**Greg Papp (Marine & Environmental Affairs)** moved to approve the minutes. **Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences)** seconded. No objections.

# 4. [Information] Land Acknowledgment 5:36pm

***Ashlee Abrantes*** *gave the land acknowledgment in Kanien'keha:ka (Mohawk).*

*“She:kon*

*Tewatatè:ken, né: wáhi thia’tewenhniserá:ke táhnon nó:nen othé:nen*

*iorihowá:nen tewaterihwahtentià:tha, kanonhweratónhsera entitewáhtka’we.*

*Teniethinonhweratónnion tsi naho’tèn:shon rokwatákwen táhnon*

*roweiennentà:’on kèn:thon tsi ionhontsá:te táhnon tsi tkaronhiatátie.*

*Né: nen’ nè:’e tewana’tónhkhwa ne Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen.*

*[After impact] Nia:wen”*

**Ashlee Abrantes** said that today, the GPSS had gathered and saw that the cycles of life continue. She said that everyone had been given the duty to live in balance, in greetings, and thanks to each other as people. She said that she was of the Six Nations and Akwesasne Mohawk and welcomed persons and guests on this land. She acknowledged, on behalf of the GPSS, the indigenous peoples of this land and the land, which touches the shared waters of all the tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations, and that Duwamish peoples whose stolen lands the UW current occupied. She said that it was everyone’s role and responsibility as guests to understand their impact.

# 5. [Information] Student Regent 5:38pm

**Kristina Pogosian** said she was here to tell everyone about her project and also to get some input on a question she had been researching. She thanked the GPSS for all of their work. She said that she had followed up on some of the GPSS resolutions, including the one calling on UW to divest from fossil fuels. She said that she had worked with members of the RSO who had helped to lead that movement, many of whom were graduate students. She said that she had participated in an investment advisory board for the university, and brought the concerns to them as well

**Kristina Pogosian** said that every student regent in the past decade had had a personal project to highlight issues that they cared about and presented their findings to the Board of Regents in the May or June meeting. She said that she asked students, faculty, staff, regents, and administrators what the current gaps in knowledge were in regards to the pandemic and how she could help fill those gaps in knowledge. She said that one question that consistently came up across all of these groups was what new practices the UW community wanted to continue post-pandemic. She said that she wanted everyone’s input to answer her question so she released a survey in collaboration with the Office of Educational Assessment asking this question to all students across all three campuses. She said that her survey received 3,700 responses and that she had held focus groups with faculty to ask them the same question. She said that she would present the findings at the May Board meeting to show the different perspectives and offer recommendations for moving forward.

**Kristina Pogosian** asked everyone what practices had been helpful to them during the pandemic. She welcomed questions and suggestions.

*A Poll Everywhere survey was opened for Senators to submit their responses.*

**Malikai Bass (Museology)** said that hybrid classes were really important to him as a disabled student. He said that he heard everyone talking about it in the Student Disability Commission (SDC). He said that the SDC had recently had another Town Hall, but that his program just sent out an email saying that they would not be offering hybrid classes because they did not have the resources or infrastructure. He recommended helping those programs like his by identifying existing resources and infrastructure to help us have hybrid classes. He said that programs without a strong technology emphasis may have professors who are scared to attempt a hybrid class structure.

**Jules Overfelt** read a response from the Poll Everywhere that said receiving accommodations from professors, such as modified assignments, flexible deadlines, and asynchronous lectures had been very helpful as a student parent.

**Jules Overfelt** said that this showed that deadlines could be flexible. They said that they appreciated not having to share personal reasons for requesting the extension and that they appreciated the flexibility of being able to disclose as little or as much as they felt comfortable with when asking for accommodations. They said that this was very important to them because they felt that they had to disclosed more than they would have liked to in order to receive accommodations prior to the pandemic. They said that the pandemic showed that flexibility could be built into many circumstances.

**Tanvir Sethi (Applied Mathematics)** said that he agreed with Jules Overfelt to an extent, but that professors in his program were still very stringent about deadlines and were not as accommodating as he would have liked. He said that the professors seemed to think that the students just sat at home and should thus devote all their time studying. He said that the professors thought that the students were not working as hard as they would have while they were on campus or being exposed to rigorous coursework that they had before the pandemic. He said that the professors should aim to make more accommodations.

**Kira Sue Renfro (Art History)** said that the GPSS should push for continued, unconditional hybrid and online courses. She said that based on what everyone had seen, it was possible for the UW to offer online courses. She said that there were no excuses that could not be overcome and that the gains in accessibility could not be overstated. She said that she would like to see the GPSS take this up as a cause because it benefited people who had disabilities, sickness, or obligations such as childcare and travel. She asked the GPSS to put pressure on the administration because the administration was already attempting to roll back the use of online platforms. She said that the student body should be vigilant and meet the challenge at the earliest opportunity and every opportunity with full opposition. She said that students wanted to maintain remote learning.

**Ashlee Abrantes** said that the needs of graduate and professional students were distinct from the needs of undergraduates. She said that the administration consistently lumped the graduate student population with undergraduates even though the graduate students had additional responsibilities. She said that this mindset could jeopardize some students’ funding situations. She pointed out the international graduate students also had issues that needed to be given special consideration.

**Kristina Pogosian** agreed with Ashlee Abrantes. She said that each campus and each population of students, undergraduate and graduate, had its own culture and distinguished experiences. She said that lumping all of the students led to neglecting the needs of minorities and only focusing on the majority, which was the undergraduate Seattle students. She said that many students at the Tacoma and Bothell campuses were also parents who were independently supporting themselves and their dependents. Kristina Pogosian said that the Graduate School did an independent study specifically tailored towards graduate students at all three campuses.

**Kristina Pogosian** referred to Malikai Bass’s (Museology) point about hybrid and online courses. She said that there were currently several systemic issues that made it more difficult for faculty to adopt hybrid and online courses. She explained that faculty had to go through a whole application and approval process to even transition to a hybrid or online course and that the state legislature had a mandate on how many face-to-face hours that the faculty were required to have with students based on how many credit hours they were teaching. She said that these systemic issues built barriers not only for students but also for faculty to meet student needs. She said that those barriers needed to be changed.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** said that the idea of returning to fall was based on what was happening in the United States. He pointed out that other countries were seeing the number of coronavirus cases go up. He said that if vaccination rates were not always as high and that, come fall, the UW would exist in an environment where the State Department would have issued requirements to quarantine travelers from certain countries. He noted that many international students may be affected and prevented from attending the school in person, even if they made their best effort to do so.

**Genevieve Hulley** said that her department would have hybrid classes in the fall and was able to make that decision within the school. She said that this effort would be more helpful at a larger scale, such as school-wide, or university-wide. She said that making the decision to offer hybrid classes at the departmental level would create disadvantages for students from other departments who were taking classes in her department because they would have to ask for exceptions. She suggested that Student Regent Kristina Pogosian affect change at the university-wide level so that everyone could have access to the accommodations.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** asked about the Student Regent selection process. He said he was curious about how the choices were made about student regents and historically which students had represented the entire UW student body. He said that he had read through the CVs of past student regents and that he felt that the student regent position was a difficult opportunity to access.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** motioned to extend time by 5 minutes. **Kira Sue Renfro (Art History)** seconded. No objections.

**Kristina Pogosian** said that the student regent application was open right now and that the deadline was next Wednesday. She said that the student regent was selected through a selection committee made up of students from UW and that three to five finalists would be sent to the governor’s office which would ultimately make the decision. She said that there were a few interviews that were involved in between those processes. She said that there were no specific qualifications that a student needed to apply for, but that there were some requirements for being a full-time enrolled student. She said that she was happy to discuss more details and invited people to email her questions at stureg@uw.edu.

**Aaron Yared** said that he and President of ASUW Tacoma Vincent Da were co-chairing the student regent selection committee. He said that there were basic requirements and a low threshold for being eligible. He said that there was originally a GPA requirement but that the committee had eliminated it for equity purposes. He said that the committee was still unclear on whether Washington law required the application to have a GPA requirement but that they did not believe so.

**Chianaraekpere Ike (School of Law)** said that she had viewed the requirements for applying to the student regent position and noted that the applicant needed to write five essays. She said that it was a large burden of work for graduate students.

**Aaron Yared** said that the committee took a while to become functional, so it kept most of the application process similar to last year’s. He said that he understood Chianaraekpere Ike’s (School of Law) concern.

**Aaron Yared** thanked Kristina Pogosian for coming to speak to the GPSS again.

**Kristina Pogosian** said that she would have two student panels: one panel would consist of undergraduates from Tacoma, Bothell, and Seattle campuses; the other would consist of medical students. She said she had also tried to reach out to students who may not be involved in student government and may not have the same access to administrators and regents so that she could elevate their voices as well.

# 6. [Action] Bylaw and Constitution Amendments 6:02pm

**Logan Jarrell** shared the recommendation from the Judicial Committee <[link](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vqOER-wyyjYX8f6ZnopReO_vw_nNsxhX48DdLBtBfSQ/edit)>.

***Greg Papp (Marine & Environmental Affairs)*** *read the recommendation.*

**Logan Jarrell** said that he would introduce the changes to the Bylaws in chunks. He said that the new officer position was to replace the Secretary position, which the officers felt was inappropriate to lead diversity work given its importance. He said that he and past secretaries had trouble balancing both diversity work and their administrative duties. He referred to a graphic <[link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZJUupMRWnfs3ZCS4MpYppnp4UpBe_FBx/view?usp=sharing)> on the shared screen which showed how the tasks would be redistributed. He said that some tasks could not be reassigned to staff members, but that some tasks were currently done by staff members.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the President was inheriting the duties for dealing with GPSS liaisons from the Vice President of Internal Affairs (VPI). He said that the President had already been doing the task for at least two years and that the change was mainly just on paper. He said that the tasks were predominantly administered through the Director of University Affairs staff member. He said that the President would also coordinate transition meetings between the incumbent and newly elected officers as well as manage internal and external communications from the GPSS Office. He said that moving the responsibility of communications from the Secretary to the President would centralize the GPSS communication under a single position and increase efficiency.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the VPI inherited a lot of the Secretary’s administrative tasks and staff members. He said that the VPI would oversee the application for senate representation for departments seeking representation for the first time. He explained that the Secretary maintained several mailing lists and records.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the new Vice President of Equity and Accountability (VPEA) would lead the graduate school program reviews. He noted that the graduate school program reviews did not happen this year because of the pandemic. He referred to the proposed document with Bylaw amendments and said that the duties under each officer position on the graphic were only the new duties. He said that these were the only new changes in duties.

**Aaron Yared** said that the name of the Treasurer position would be changed to the Vice President of Finance because every other position was a president or vice president and they did not want the Treasurer to feel left out. He said that the position would stay the same otherwise.

**Jules Overfelt** asked Aaron Yared to speak more on the support that the VPEA would receive. They noted that the VPEA had no staff members and asked if the VPEA had other informal internal support systems.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the officers had given the VPEA a larger amount of discretionary funds and another line item of funding which would add an additional Executive Senator to the Executive Committee. He said that this change was not reflected in the Bylaws because the Bylaws did not outline the purpose of Executive Senators other than that they must sit on certain committees. He referred to the budget shown at the last Senate meeting and said that one of the Executive Senators would be focused on supporting the Empowerment, Diversity, and Accountability Committee (EDA). He noted that the exact language of the duties mentioned “in collaboration with other officers and the GPSS Executive Committee.” He said that the position would not be successful if the VPEA had to work alone.

**Aaron Yared** said that Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering) asked what happened if the GPSS had Bylaws requiring six Executive Senators, but the Student Activities Fee Committee (SAF) denied GPSS the funds to add an extra Executive Senator.

**Jules Overfelt** said that there were two options. The Executive Committee could bring back an amended budget to the Senate to approve or modify as they see fit or just pull the remaining needed funds not provided by the SAF from the GPSS general fund and maintain the original budget.

**Logan Jarrell** referred to the budget passed at the last Senate meeting and said that the GPSS staff would have more agency and responsibility next year to balance the additional workload given to the President and the VPI.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the language surrounding EDA was new. He pointed out Section E under Committees in the amended Bylaws where EDA was mentioned. He said that the VPEA would be the chair of EDA. He said that when the Judicial Committee reviewed the proposed changes, the Committee saw a potential conflict with the language regarding the ability to “hear grievances” along lines of difference. He explained that the Judicial Committee had the right to investigate members of the GPSS and make recommendations to the Senate based on the grievance against the person. He said that the additional language from the Judicial Committee made it clear that a grievance brought to EDA would only be brought to the Judicial Committee if it involved someone within GPSS. He said that similar language had been added to the Officer position based on the Judicial Committee’s recommendation. He explained that the VPEA acted as the first point of contact for grievances and would be responsible for facilitating EDA as its chair.

**Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences)** asked why there were two officers sitting on EDA. He noted that traditionally, the Secretary was the only one that sat on EDA and asked why the new VPEA and the President both sat in EDA.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the President was an ex officio member of all committees except for the Elections and Judicial Committees. He said that adding that language would be redundant and conceded that the intent was to support EDA through clause 2b7 which read “receive a report from the President on all relevant issues.” He said that this stipulation came at the request of the current president and based on discussions with the Executive Committee.

**Aaron Yared** said that his intent was to expand the power of EDA to hold GPSS accountable. He said that the reason for the changes was because GPSS had historically not prioritized diversity issues. He said that he envisioned the new president treating EDA almost like a Board of Regents where the President came to EDA every quarter with a report on what had been achieved in pursuit of equity, accountability, diversity, and inclusion. He said that this would allow EDA to evaluate the president’s work and give recommendations on what the Executive Committee could do better. He said that this feedback loop mechanism was critical to making sure that the GPSS consistently continued its work in diversity issues.

He said this mechanism would ensure that we are continuously critical, not just annually, but quarterly.

**Logan Jarrell** said that this work was something that the officers had intended since the beginning of the year and included it in the GPSS governing documents due to its importance.

**Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences)** said that he noticed that EDA involved all non-academic Senators and asked if it was by default. He said he wanted to hear the opinions of the non-academic Senators. He said that he noticed that the quorum for EDA was one-third of the voting members and said that he imagined a situation where some non-academic Senators did not want to serve on EDA and inadvertently prevent EDA from meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the Equity and Accountability Committee (E&A) had discussed setting the quorum to slightly stricter than the Senate’s. He said that if members of EDA or the chair felt that something should not move forward because an important voice was absent, any member of EDA could bring it up. He said that EDA was intended to be a collaborative body.

**Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences)** clarified his question and asked if it would be hard to reach quorum by making EDA’s ability to meet dependent on the presence of Senators who had not volunteered to be part of EDA.

**Logan Jarrell** said that there were currently 5 nonacademic seats: the Student Veterans Association, the Residential Community Student Association, the Q Center, the D Center, and GO-MAP. He said that not all seats were filled and that general Senators were permitted to sit on the committee as well. He said that it was part of the duties of the VPEA to try and recruit more non-academic seats as needed. He noted that one-third of 5 was roughly 2 and that quorum would be achieved between the Executive Senator and the seats. He said that if quorum was a continual issue, EDA could always vote to suspend the Bylaws at any meeting they wanted.

***Aaron Yared*** *opened the floor to non-academic Senators to share their thoughts.*

**Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association)** introduced herself as the representative for the graduate and undergraduate population that lives in Housing and Food Services facilities. She said that she did not have a problem with the rule. She said that she already sat on E&A and offered to contextualize the role. She said that when the roles were occupied, presumably those individuals and the constituencies that they represented would be very interested in the content that EDA covers. She said that if they happened not to be there, then EDA would have to look at how that changed the composition of the committee and whether or not it impeded the committee’s ability to produce desired outcomes. She said that she understood Andrew Shumway’s (Earth & Space Sciences) concern and that it was not her intent to limit the work of EDA because of failure to reach quorum. She said that she thought it was unlikely that EDA would fail to reach quorum because non-academic Senators were interested in representing their constituents and had an affinity for EDA because the traditional Senate did not always cover their needs. She noted that EDA was the most powerful mechanism for them to be active and that the GPSS should continue to monitor his concern just in case it became an impediment in the future. She said that the GPSS could address it, but that including more conditional language at the current moment would place limitations on EDA.

**Alex Goldstein** introduced himself as the representative for the Student Veterans Association and said that agreed with Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association). He said that something could come up that could be an issue but that EDA was an important committee with an important enough mandate. He said that any issues could be addressed at that time.

**Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association)** moved to extend time by 10 minutes. **Jack Flesher (School of Music)** seconded. No objections.

**Logan Jarrell** said that there were two more things to cover in the Bylaws. He said that he had noticed a minor conflict in the amendment process. He said that proposed amendments to Bylaws needed to be submitted in writing to the President two weeks before the Senate could consider it. He pointed out that under the section for the Judicial Committee, the requirement was seven days. He said that the amendment was looking to change it to 10 days before the next scheduled meeting. He said that the amendment was being made to resolve the conflict between the language that describes the Judicial Committee and the language under Article XII.

**Logan Jarrell** said that the final category of changes was small and “quality of life,” like changing the Treasurer’s title to Vice President of Finance. He said that one of these changes was to the Senator resignation process. He said that the current requirement in Section I was that Senators had to reach out to three people to resign. He said that now the Senators only had to tell the person managing the records. He said that it was not necessary to share the reason for resigning. He said that it was currently mandatory for Senators to attend at least three meetings per quarter. He said that this was harder to do if there was a quarter where there were only four meetings in the event of a cancellation. He said that the requirement was changed to “majority.”

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** suggested amending the language to explicitly say “at least half” instead of “majority.”

**Aaron Yared** considered the change grammatical and changed the wording in the proposed amendments.

**Logan Jarrell** said that there was one more amendment concerning the staff and being explicit about designating responsibilities. He said that staff were largely absent from the Bylaws: their roles were written in more detail in a document called the GPSS Personnel Policy Manual which was mentioned in the Bylaws and the Constitution. He said that the change concerning the Manual was changed in the Bylaws but not in the Constitution.

**Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences)** noted that there would be an imbalance between the Executive Senators and the officers in the Executive Committee. He said that there were currently five Officers, five Executive Senators, and an ASUW representative. He said that adding a Sixth Executive Senator might upset the balance.

**Logan Jarrell** said that in terms of voting members, the Executive Committee was already off-balance because the President did not vote on the Executive Committee except in the event of a tie. He said that having 11 members on the Executive Committee made it more likely for a tie to happen, but that compared to other student governments, the Executive Committee was already quite weak because all decisions made by the Executive Committee were subject to review by the Senate.

**Aaron Yared** said he preferred the skew because he believed that the purpose of the officers was to serve the Senate.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** motioned to extend time by 3 minutes. **Erica Eggleton (Chemical Engineering)** seconded. No objections.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to approve the Bylaws as amended. **Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association)** seconded.

**Chianaraekpere Ike (School of Law)** asked whether Logan Jarrell was approving the amended Bylaws as recommended by the Judicial Committee or as proposed by the Executive Committee.

**Aaron Yared** asked if Logan Jarrell was doing a vote by affirmation or a vote count.

**Logan Jarrell** clarified that he was motioning to approve the amended Bylaws as recommended by the Judicial Committee and with grammatical changes through a vote. **Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association)** seconded. No objections.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** asked if there was a minimum time period for people to enter their votes.

**Logan Jarrell** said that he made the time period quite liberal and offered the option for people to text in their votes.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** highlighted a question in the chat on whether there was a link to the recorded meeting.

**Aaron Yared** said that recordings of meetings were not currently offered on the GPSS website. He said that the GPSS posted the minutes, but that the GPSS would look to offering recordings as part of the accessibility resolution.

*The Senators voted on whether to amend the Bylaws through Poll Everywhere. The motion passed.*

**Logan Jarrell** said that the changes to the Bylaws would go into effect at the start of the new officers’ term.

**Logan Jarrell** moved to approve of amendments to the Constitution. **Malikai Bass (Museology)** seconded.

**Chianaraekpere Ike (School of Law)** objected and asked Logan Jarrell to point out to the Senate what specific changes were made to the Constitution.

Logan Jarrell said that the officer names had been changed from Secretary to VPEA and from Treasurer to the Vice President of Finance. He said that the Constitution originally showed that the Personnel Policy Manual was managed by the Treasurer. He said that the Manual had just been referred to as “personnel policy” and had been made more explicit that it was the “manual as referenced in the Bylaws.”

**Logan Jarrell** moved to reconsider his motion. **Malikai Bass (Museology)** seconded. No objections.

*The Senators voted on whether to amend the Constitution through Poll Everywhere. The motion passed.*

**Aaron Yared** recognized Logan Jarrell for his large effort in amending the Bylaws and the Constitution. He thanked everyone for their work and patience.

**Chianaraekpere Ike (School of Law)** thanked Logan Jarrell for his hard work and for being very open and amenable to feedback to changes. She said that he took his time to walk the Judicial Committee through all the details and context and said that his assistance was very helpful.

# 7. [Action] GPSS Accessibility Resolution 6:58pm

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** introduced the resolution on the accessibility of internal GPSS functions. He reminded everyone that the first reading had been held during the previous Senate meeting. He said that there were a number of amendments that he would go through. He invited anyone to ask questions during the process.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** said that he had titled the resolution and added sponsors, authors, and a resolution number. He said that the first clause was changed to say that the UW Disability Resources for Students (DRS) served 2,800 students (up from 1,700 students) and that the number had been updated with new data from the DRS. He said that the authors had added another clause that explicitly defined the word “post baccalaureate” since one of the sources had a strict definition. He said that the authors added another whereas clause stating that the true number of disabled students was slightly higher because disability was often under-reported and that the DRS had noted a 10-13% increase in new registrations in recent years. He said that he had added another whereas clause that stated that Panopto was the optimal tool for remote lecture capture because it produced searchable high quality video recordings with cleanly integrated captions and visual materials.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** said that the first “that” clause was modified to add the words “equitable participation for” in response to a suggestion made by Senator Shahriar Talebi (Aeronautics & Astronautics). Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering) said that he had added explicit descriptions of remote lecture technology in response to a suggestion made by Senator Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences). He said that in the third “that” clause, he had specified “materials generated from such capture” to be made available.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** pointed out that the second “that” clause was not a completed sentence.

**Malikai Bass (Museology)** said that the video itself should be searchable and that there were a couple of technologies that currently offered this flexible, asynchronous lecture style. He said that one of the big differences was how they indexed the video, such as using keywords based on things that were picked up from the transcript. He explained that searchable videos were more accessible and allowed people to use their time more efficiently.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** clarified that he was suggesting a grammatical change so that it was clear that the word “searchable” referred to the audio and video recordings.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** accepted the amendment as a grammatical amendment.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** said that he specified that live session notes were provided during GPSS meetings by a dedicated note taker to supplement the material. He noted that an example of this was actually being done in the meeting. He said that he added another clause stipulating that the plan be implemented by the end of the 2021 fall quarter. He said that much of the plan had been developed over the current quarter and that, since the administration was promising to return to in-person learning in the fall, it was germane to set this deadline and add the clause. He said that he had added two more “that” clauses that GPSS list specific contacts on its website regarding accessibility concerns. He said that he had looked on the website and was not able to find that information. He noted that the resources page needed to be updated to link to existing resources for students with disabilities. He said that he had struck “mini grants” from the resolution because the GPSS was not eligible for any funds from ASUW. He said that he had also added “general fund expenditures” as another resource to fund accessibility in GPSS.

**Jules Overfelt** suggested replacing “general fund expenditures” with “budget expenditures” because “general fund” implied that the money would only come out of the general fund whereas the GPSS could request the funds from SAF in the future.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** accepted her suggestion as a friendly amendment.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** said that the word “appropriate” was added before “credit” so that students with disabilities were given appropriate credit for their work. He said that the authors had added the Student Technology Committee Chair to the forwarding list and that the references had been reformatted to APA style. He invited comments and questions about the new amendments.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** motioned to make the amendments to the resolution as currently shown in the Google Doc. **Terrence Pope (Psychology)** seconded. No objections.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** motioned to approve the resolution. **Jack Flesher (School of Music)** seconded. No objections.

*The Senators voted on whether to pass the resolution through Poll Everywhere.*

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** thanked Malikai Bass (Museology), Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association), Lesley Ellis, and Kira Sue Renfro (Art History), and Logan Jarrell for writing the resolution and everyone else for making edits and suggestions.

**Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering)** pointed out that Lesley Ellis represented the D Center, and that Devon Sheehan was a representative for the Student Disabilities Commission. He said that passing this resolution could be a great example of the productive work that could be done by engaging with those entities.

*The resolution passed.*

**Aaron Yared** thanked everyone for their hard work and thanked the authors of the resolution for bringing the resolution forth. He said that accessibility had been at the forefront of conversation for the entire year and that he was glad to have something to show for it. He said he would work with the next team to make sure that they did so too.

# 8. [Action] UAW 4121 Bargaining Resolution 7:15pm

**Logan Jarrell** reminded everyone of the presentation from Sam Sumpter from the UAW 4121 union a couple weeks ago. He said that the resolution would give support to their bargaining demands. He noted that the resolution was a joint resolution and that he had written the resolution with an ASUW Senator who was in attendance. He said that the resolution had already had its first reading in ASUW but had not had its second reading yet, though it was referred out of committee favorably. He said that the ASUW’s resolution was similar to the GPSS’s and called attention to the fact that the GPSS Executive Committee had co-sponsored the resolution.

**Logan Jarrell** said that bargaining concluded next week and that the students needed to vote on the resolution today. He said that he wanted to move directly to second reading.

**Logan Jarrell** motioned to move directly into second reading. **Jack Flesher (School of Music)** seconded. No objections.

*The Senators voted on whether to move directly into second reading through Poll Everywhere. The motion passed.*

**Logan Jarrell** moved to approve the bargaining resolution. **Erica Eggleton (Chemical Engineering)** seconded. No objections.

*The Senators voted on whether to pass the resolution through Poll Everywhere. The resolution passed.*

# 9. [Action] U-PASS Resolution 7:22pm

**Genevieve Hulley** introduced Nathan Mock, the current chair of the U-PASS Committee. She said that Nathan Mock would point out the changes and that the resolution would only go through its first reading today.

**Nathan Mock** said that he would go over the 4 changes that the U-PASS Advisory Board recommended be made to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the contract which GPSS and ASUW had with the administration that was specific to UW Transportation Services.

**Nathan Mock** said that the first change regarded the projections that the U-PASS Advisory Board received. He said that the current contract required that Transportation Services provide the U-PASS Advisory Board with projections in November. He said that the past few years, the markets were extremely volatile which made projections made in November inaccurate. He said that the U-PASS Advisory Board was asking that the deadline for projections be moved back so that more accurate projections could be made.

**Nathan Mock** said that the second change regarded how the seats were allocated. He said that AUSW was given six seats on the U-PASS Advisory Board, while GPSS was given three. He said that there was currently a requirement that the ASUW seats be given to undergraduates. He said that this posed a conflict if members of the ASUW Board of Directors, such as the Director of Campus Partnerships, who served on the Committee were graduate students.

**Nathan Mock** said that the third change was a change to the language for how a certain section of funds was allocated. He said that the U-PASS fee and the money controlled did not go to pay for the past program. He said that the U-PASS fee funded a variety of other programs and that one of the sections within the contract allowed the U-PASS Advisory Board to allocate funds up to 5% of the total budget towards a variety of items. He said that half of that money was used for staff salaries and benefits for people working for UW Transportation Services. He said that the other half was used for the Board’s discretionary spending. He said that the current language was very narrow and originally intended to allow the Board to make *ad hoc* arrangements with businesses for the benefit of students. He said that the Board found the current language very constraining and was asking to add a couple items to the list.

**Nathan Mock** said that the last change was to increase the fee to $92 per quarter which was a $6 increase per quarter. He said that this amount was necessary to maintain U-PASS operations next year without running a deficit.

**Jules Overfelt** asked if this year’s MOU was similar to what was discussed last year. They asked for an overview of what the GPSS had voted on or discussed last year to provide context to people who had not been part of GPSS last year.

**Genevieve Hulley** said that the GPSS passed the MOU a little different last year because of COVID. She said that last year, the GPSS voted on allowing the U-PASS Advisory Board to suspend the U-PASS. She said that the fee increases were coming from the new Light Rail and that the new systems that were going to be implemented at the end of the year to serve the UW population. She said that the fee increase was not very high but the fee increase the following year might be. She conceded that nobody liked to see fee increases, but said that the money was necessary to cover the Board’s agreement with the UW Transportation Services to have a certain amount of money on hand to be able to cover costs. She said that this requirement could not be met without raising the fee. She reiterated that the fee would likely increase again the following year. She said that the Board was looking to increase accessibility options and put some students on a reduced price plan.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** asked if the resolution contained language that obligated the U-PASS Advisory Board to give a presentation, similar to last year’s, that explains that fee increases. He said that he understood that the price increase was done to add value, but that he wanted to know where the money was going exactly.

**Nathan Mock** said that the U-PASS Advisory Board held a public hearing specifically to have public comments. He said that the Board set a public comment period every time before the Board voted to do something. He said that the Board also had a lot of checks and balances before any sort of fee increase was approved. He said that fee increases had to pass the Board, and then the GPSS, be signed on by signatories and then be sent to the UW Board of Regents. He said that the U-PASS Advisory Board tried to get a lot of student feedback before moving forward.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** said that he was familiar with the fact that people had opportunities to give input. He said that even after the decision had been made, it was still helpful to provide some information on how that money was used. He said that the information was helpful when discussing it within his department since there was a lot of confusion after the process was done. He said that most people simply saw the price change and wondered why it happened.

**Genevieve Hulley** suggested that Terrence Pope (Psychology) become a graduate student representative for the U-PASS Committee.

**Jules Overfelt** asked if the pandemic and suspending the U-PASS fee had changed the timeline that the GPSS had discussed in the past. They said that students did not pay for the fee and said that they assumed that the deficit had not increased. They asked if the U-PASS Advisory Board was titrating the fee or whether the fee would increase over the next couple years.

**Nathan Mock** said that the U-PASS Advisory Board was not sure how the transportation agencies would react to the fee increase. He said that last year, the Board anticipated a steep increase in the fee, but it did not happen because the initiative that would have capped car tabs at $30 was overturned by the Supreme Court. He said that such a large increase in the U-PASS fee was made unnecessary. He said that the Board had a considerable reserve above what was necessary for the Board to maintain. He said that the intention of raising the U-PASS fee this year would allow the reserve money to be used next year to offset the cost of a higher fee increase.

**Caryn Walline** introduced herself as the Transportation Services advisor for students. She said that the presentation explaining cost breakdown happened at the last U-PASS Advisory Board meeting and that she would be happy to come back to the GPSS to give it again. She said that the presentation explained the reasons behind why the increases happened this year and what the Board anticipated for transfer capacity increases over the next five years.

**Jules Overfelt** motioned to extend time by 2 minutes. **Genevieve Hulley** seconded. No objections.

**Jules Overfelt** referenced the prior conversation about increased hybrid and online options and asked if there were any caveats in the MOU for people who intended to continue utilizing remote options for their programs. They asked if those people would still be required to pay the fee, even if they were not attending school in person. They said that in the past, there had not been any caveats.

**Genevieve Hulley** said that in the past, all students had to participate in the U-PASS fee for it to be an affordable option. She said that there was always a possibility for the U-PASS Advisory Board to vote to suspend the fee. She said that the Board had voted to suspend the fee for the entire year and that if the feedback that the Board received in the fall was that people did not want to pay the fee, then the Board could vote to suspend the fee again.

**Caryn Walline** clarified that the MOU specified that the U-PASS student program was tied to the SAF. She said that the students were paying for the U-PASS fee through the SAF. She said that in the previous spring quarter, the ASUW and the GPSS amended the MOU to suspend the U-PASS program as long as the Emergency Operating Center for the university was still operating. She said that the decision to suspend the U-PASS was a quarterly decision made by the U-PASS Advisory Board. She said that once the Emergency Operating Center was no longer operating, then the U-PASS program would continue.

**Genevieve Hulley** said that this was just the first reading of the resolution and welcomed any suggestions for amendments. She said that the second reading would be held at the next meeting.

# 10. [Information] GPSS Composition Survey Report 7:38pm

**Logan Jarrell** motioned to table the item until the next meeting because the majority of Senators had left the meeting. He said that he did not want to present the data because the meeting was close to losing quorum.

**Jack Flesher (School of Music)** voiced his concern that sharing the survey results prior to the elections next week would result in losing quorum for the elections.

**Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association)** said that she doubted that. She said that people would stick around to hear the candidates. She said that in either case, it was just as important to have the full attention of the Senate because the report included important information about the Senate. She said that Senators would want to hear it and that the information would get short shrift if it was presented now.

**Jack Flesher (School of Music)** said he agreed with Marty Varela’s (Residential Community Student Association) reasoning. He said that he did not know if it was best procedurally to put the report before the elections. He said that if EDA members recommended it, then he supported their opinion.

**Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association)** suggested sharing the survey results after the elections.

**Logan Jarrell** spoke as a former candidate and entertained the Elections Committee on whether he could put an item before the elections. He said that it was critically important work.

**Aaron Yared** said that Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences) cautioned against stacking items into the election meeting because it would be bad to lose quorum during elections. Aaron Yared suggested that the report be presented while the votes were being counted.

**Logan Jarrell** said he would be amicable to that plan as the chair of E&A. He said he wanted to move to table the item until the next Senate meeting.

**Ashlee Abrantes** asked if the second U-PASS reading was going to happen when the votes were being counted.

**Aaron Yared** said that Ashlee Abrantes was correct.

**Ashlee Abrantes** said that as a member of EDA, she wanted to echo what Marty Varela (Residential Community Student Association) said. She said that the Senate had changed its Bylaws and Constitution to increase its commitment to diversity. She said that cramming the Composition Survey results would be acting in a way to go against all the steps that the Senate had just taken. She said that the results of the Survey were a step into holding the entire Senate accountable. She said that she recognized the importance of elections, but said that discussing the results of the survey was also important.

**Aaron Yared** said that Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering) suggested in the chat that the item be shared at the next meeting after the elections.

**Logan Jarrell** said that E&A had expressed that some people might learn something from the survey results and take the information into account when it came time to vote in the elections.

**Meshell Sturgis (Communications)** said that she remembered that there was a lot of time at the last election where Senators waited for the votes to be counted. She said that it led to community-building. She said that the time could be used to share the results of the survey and that while it was preferred to discuss the survey results before the election, it was not imperative.

**Andrew Shumway (Earth & Space Sciences)** said that the election was going to be the longest meeting of the year. He said that he did not understand why the survey results were being postponed when there were still 36 people in the meeting. He said that four people had left the meeting in the time that people had taken the time to discuss postponing the item. He said that if the time was moved to the end of the elections meeting, people would be more exhausted and asked Logan Jarrell to present the results right now.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** said that sharing the survey results during the vote would defeat the purpose of letting people know the Senate’s composition so that they could make an informed decision when they voted. He suggested that Logan Jarrell share the survey results now or at a meeting after the election meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** said that he understood that the election meeting was long. He said that the meeting length was determined by how many candidates there were and the Election Committee’s ability to determine the winner.

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** said that he did not know what was in the survey’s report and said that it sounded like the purpose of the report was to inform people. He said that the E&A members could try to present an abbreviated version at the beginning of the meeting before entering a fuller discussion after the meeting. He said that it was important to provide some insight to people before the elections.

**Logan Jarrell** said that there were recommendations in the report, not for whom to vote for, but for the entire organization. He said that that was the purpose of E&A’s work. He said that the Senate was about to lose quorum and that the only motion possible once quorum was lost was to adjourn. He said that it was possible for E&A to present a condensed version of the results right before the election. He asked that people allow him to table the time so that E&A members could discuss it on Friday during the E&A meeting. He said other Senators were welcome to come and give their input. He said that it was important work that should not be crammed into an end of the meeting with half of the time that was originally allotted for the item.

**Jules Overfelt** seconded Logan Jarrell’s motion to table item.

**Jules Overfelt** suggested that Logan Jarrell and E&A send out a list of bullet points that might be beneficial for candidates. They said that it would not take away from how important the information was and that the Executive Committee could further discuss the results next week at their meeting. They said that it was a more appropriate place to continue the ongoing discussion.

**Jack Flesher (School of Music)** motioned to end debate by general consent. **Terrence Pope (Psychology)** seconded. No objections.

No objections to Logan Jarrell’s motion to table the item.

# 11. [Information] Officer and Committee Reports 7:49pm

**Genevieve Hulley** said that there was a virtual GPSS event on Friday from 4-6pm. She said that it was a watercolor workshop and that anyone who wanted to join could sign up.

**Hannah Sieben** said that the legislative session ended on Sunday and that she would present information on GPSS’s legislative successes at the next SEnate meeting.

**Logan Jarrell** wished everyone a happy Administrative Professionals Day.

**Jules Overfelt** said that funding was still available.

**Aaron Yared** wished Justin Camputaro a happy belated birthday.

# 12. [Information] Announcements 7:53pm

**Aaron Yared** congratulated VP of External Affairs Hannah Sieben for winning Lobbyist of the Year from the WSA.

**Meshell Sturgis (Communications)** said that next week, on Thursday at 6pm, the Northwest African American museum would host an event. She said that they were asking for donations during ticket registration and was hosted by her advisor Dr. Ralina Joseph and Dr. Cornel West. <[link to register](https://www.naamnw.org/events/cornel-west)>

**Aaron Yared** called on Alexander Novokhodko (Mechanical Engineering) to speak to the STF proposals.

**Jules Overfelt** said that they would speak on it. They told everyone to be on the lookout for an email with links to endorse STF proposals. They said that the proposal was more likely to be passed if people endorsed it. They said that the proposal asked for a technology update in the GPSS office and live captioning services for GPSS meetings. <[link for captioning](https://uwstf.org/proposals/2021/66); [link for technology](https://uwstf.org/proposals/2021/74)>

**Aaron Yared** said that the HUB submitted an STF proposal for accessibility tech in their meeting rooms, including the GPSS Senate room and the Executive Senate room. He asked everyone to endorse the proposal. <[link](https://uwstf.org/proposals/2021/68)>

# 13. [Action] Adjournment and Break into Working Groups 7:55pm

**Terrence Pope (Psychology)** motioned to adjourn the meeting. **Hannah Sieben** seconded. No objections.

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