

The Graduate and Professional Student Senate

Meeting of 8 May 2024 at 5:30pm

In-person and remotely via Zoom

The following GPSS members and staff attended the meeting:

A.J. Balatico, GPSS President
Amanda Chin, GPSS Vice President of Internal Affairs
Nicholas Juno, GPSS Vice President of External Affairs
Matthew Moran, GPSS Vice President of Equity & Inclusion
Jack Flesher, GPSS Vice President of Administration
Noah Nguyen, Executive Senator
Maleen Kidiwela, Executive Senator
Ella Spurlock, Executive Senator
Charles Bugre, Executive Senator
Clare Koesters, Executive Senator
Raj Dewangan, Executive Senator
Francisco Dojenia, ASUW Director of Internal Policy
Carrie Moore, HUB Executive Director
Christina Coop, SAO Interim Associate Director
Bill Mahoney, Graduate School Advisor
Daniel Cook, GPSS Senate Director
Jay Cunningham, Student Regent

The following persons also attended the meeting:

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

A.J. Balatico called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

2. [Action] Approval of the Agenda 5:32pm

A.J. Balatico added the item Mid-Year Allocation for Departmental Allocations to the agenda.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) moved to approve the agenda.

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) seconded. No objections. Motion passed.
5:33pm

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

George Fennell (Materials Science and Engineering) moved to approve the minutes.

Jack Flesher seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 5:33pm

4. [Information] Land Acknowledgment 5:3pm

Jack Flesher, on behalf of GPSS, gave the land acknowledgment and mentioned the Legislative Advisory Board, the Washington Student Association, wəłəbʔaltx^w –

Intellectual House, the ASUW American Indian Student Commission, the Native and Strong Lifeline, Stand with Duwamish, and Real Rent Duwamish as additional resources for getting involved.

“Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed to making the history that led to this moment. Indigenous people have lived here continuously since time immemorial, and Seattle is now a highly cosmopolitan territory with overlapping sovereignties and fidelities. Acknowledging the land we are on is only the first step. Therefore, the Graduate and Professional Student Senate at the University of Washington in Seattle acknowledges the coast Salish people of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Squamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations and all traditional lands on which we learn and work.”

5. [Information] Announcements 5:35pm

Matthew Moran announced Mariner’s Night on Friday, May 10 and Karaoke Night on May 10 at 7:00pm in the Party Room HUB Games. He announced the Spring Drag Show on Friday, May 17 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. He said the event is 21+ and requires an ID.

A.J. Balatico reminded the Senate that the mics are in the ceiling and picking up background noise.

Jack Flesher said the Arts Council is hosting a Crafts and Drafts event on May 23 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the GPSS office for free for graduate students 21+ with an ID. He presented a list of upcoming events funded by the GPSS Diversity Committee.

Lauren Cortez French (School of Marine and Environmental Affairs) announced that grant applications for the campus sustainability fund are closed for the year, but that students can reach out to her about getting started on applications for next year over the Summer. She said there is an open call for submissions for a small zine entitled “Ways of Knowing” until May 30.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) said the University Task Forces on Antisemitism and Islamophobia are seeking participants interested in taking part in focus groups to assess the extent to which students, faculty, and staff are experiencing discrimination or harassment. She said students must indicate their interest in participating by tomorrow night.

A.J. Balatico asked if students from UW Bothell and UW Tacoma could participate.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) said only UW Seattle students could participate. She said there were not many graduate student respondents and encouraged Senators to forward the link to their departments.

A.J. Balatico said there is Naloxone and CPR/AED training on Monday and Saturday. He presented a series of public lectures being given by the university. He presented a link to Spring graduation ceremonies.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said the student union called a strike date for next Tuesday. She encouraged ASEs to sign up to picket.

A.J. Balatico said there is a Board of Regents tomorrow in the Foster building.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) raised a point of information and asked how students may verify if their membership status with the union.

A.J. Balatico said students may verify if their membership status with the union under Workday status.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said students must be signed up as dues paying members by Monday, May 13 to be eligible for strike pay and encouraged Senators to disseminate this information to their departments.

A.J. Balatico clarified that the strike will not occur until May 14. He said the Senate will discuss a resolution on the union after the election.

6. [Action] 2024-2025 Officer Elections 5:47pm

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) gave an overview of the elections procedures. He explained that 4 of the 6 Officer positions have candidates. He said nominations from the floor will not be accepted from the floor for positions that already have candidates. He said each candidate will be given 3 minutes to present themselves to the Senate and that there will be a 10-minute Q&A session for each position. He explained that candidates will be sequestered while the Senate discusses before voting.

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) asked how candidates will be able to vote.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) responded that all Senators, including candidates, will receive voting information when voting begins. He said Senators will submit questions during the Q&A period via Poll Everywhere. He asked Senators to refrain from downvoting questions. He wrote the Poll Everywhere code on the whiteboard. He invited Kana Saarni to give a speech on her qualifications for the Vice President of Internal Affairs position.

Kana Saarni introduced herself as a first-year graduate student in Communications and Digital Media and the Communications Director for GPSS. She cited managing social media and creating advertisements for GPSS events as responsibilities associated with her role as Communications Director. She said she works to support Amanda Chin in her position in planning events like Puppy Love, the Cultural Showcase, and the Graduate Research Symposium, and creating advertisements. She said she completed her undergraduate degree in Political Science at the University of British Columbia (UBC), where she also acquired 4 years of leadership experience at the Arts Undergraduate Society. She said she worked as the VP Academic and VP of Engagement at UBC and organized various events like the Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Symposium.

She said she also worked in tutoring, academic support, and health and wellness events. She explained that she has worked at the government of British Columbia and has extensive experience in policy work. She said she hopes to build community as Vice President of Internal Affairs, connect with Senators from other departments, host more social events, grow the Interdisciplinary Research Symposium, work more with other graduate student associations, bring back Night at the Burke Museum, expand GPSS's relationship with CIRCLE and international students, and improve onboarding for staff and Senators. She said she appreciated working with staff and Officers this year.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how would you mediate interpersonal conflict between staff and the Executive Committee?

Kana Saarni responded that she would leverage her experience as a Communications Masters student and foster open dialogue. She said conflict happens because people do not see eye to eye. She said she would foster a safe space for communicating issues. She said she would love to have a community agreement outlining expectations for discourse established among next year's Officer group.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how would you address budgetary constraints for large events?

Kana Saarni responded that she has a long list of things she wants to do next year. She said she would focus on hosting a few bigger events and supporting them with some smaller ones. She said she would prioritize allocating more money to bigger events.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: from your observation over the past year, how would you overcome the biggest challenges of being VP of Internal Affairs?

Kana Saarni responded that the Research Symposium was a challenge coming back from COVID. She said that people dropped at the last minute, and that retention and growth remain big challenges. She said she wants to make sure that people come out to the events and that they accurately represent the needs and wants of the graduate student population. She said having diverse representation with lots of different types of events is a priority.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you make sure to get a diverse applicant pool for staff positions?

Kana Saarni responded that she wants to open applications as early as possible and disseminate information about staff positions to student associations and departments. She said she would use social media and the GPSS website to get the word out.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how would you build upon current year's events for better community engagement?

Kana Saarni said she wants GPSS to have a headlining social event like Night at the Burke, which used to be a big event. She said she wants to provide more opportunities for graduate students to come together and feel like a community. She said undergraduates had a welcoming experience, which was lacking at the graduate level. She said she wants to bring back Husky Sunrise as a welcoming event where graduate students can meet their colleagues in other departments.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what are your ideas for expanding the Research Symposium?

Kana Saarni responded that she would take into consideration the time of year the symposium happens. She said it is important to determine what time of year works best for most graduate students. She said she would apply her experience organizing undergraduate conferences at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and give students incentives to participate by having companies, departments, and faculty attend. She said she would implement more professional development opportunities at the Research Symposium to incentivize research presentation. She said she wants the Research Symposium to become more of a fair that is more than just posters and presentations.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you balance event planning within GPSS and with the Science and Policy Committee?

Kana Saarni responded that she would have some staff support and delegate responsibilities accordingly. She said the Research Symposium is a major priority, and that she will begin reserving spaces and preparing student applications ahead of time.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what do you feel will be the most challenging aspect of serving in this role?

Kana Saarni said she believes she already answered that question.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what are the things you need to consider when putting on events?

Kana Saarni responded that she needs to consider anything from booking spaces in advance, putting in alcohol forms, marketing the event in advance, connecting with departments and disseminating information, food booking, having support from the Officer team to encourage everyone to work together, and finding opportunities to work with other departments.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you work with ASUW?

Kana Saarni said she would work with ASUW by attending ASUW meetings. She said she has not worked much with ASUW but would love to organize an event together. She

said it is important to engage with undergraduates because they may become graduate students.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what types of projects would you like to do to grow the Research Symposium?

Kana Saarni responded that she would like to expand the Research Symposium by making it more than just posters and lightening talks. She said she wants to incorporate more professional development opportunities with local businesses and sponsors, and perhaps create an awards system.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) He invited Mykhail Lembke to give a speech on his qualifications for the Vice President of External Affairs position.

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) gave a presentation on his experience and qualifications. He introduced himself as a graduate student in Public Administration with the Evan's School of Public Administration. He said he completed his undergraduate education at UW, majoring in Political Science and minoring in Diversity. He said he was involved in ASUW as an undergraduate and currently serves as both the Policy Director for GPSS and a Senator for the Evan's School. He said he learned about the position and its responsibilities from the current Vice President of External Affairs. He said he hosted weekly LAB meetings, collaborated with events like Huskies on the Hill, and helped draft GPSS's Legislative Agenda. He said he co-authored the first resolution passed by GPSS, which was the 2023 Seattle Housing Levy. He said he has remained active on various documents like the Elections Guide and the Budget. He said his legislative objectives include expanding the Graduate Student Loan program and the Washington State College Grant. He said his internal objectives include increasing attendance and recruitment for LAB, partnering with ASUW to get out the vote, and providing informational resources about the state legislature drawing upon 3 sessions of legislative experience.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will the 2024 election impact GPSS's legislative strategy?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) responded that he would prioritize disseminating information about the 2024 ballot on campus. He said there are many initiatives that impact education funding on the 2024 ballot. He said he would provide informational resources around those initiatives and encourage people to fill out their ballot. He said not voting does not support students' education. He encouraged students to maintain funding for education by voting.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what will be your 3 primary lobbying concerns at the next legislative session?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) responded that the graduate student loan program is his first lobbying concern. He said the representatives at the last legislative

session almost cut the budget for the program. He said his second lobbying concern was the Washington State College Grant, current funding for which is in a budget proposal. He explained that the goal is to get the allocation into a bill so that funding for the Washington State College Grant is renewed every year, and to increase the budget allotment from 65 to 70. He said he does want to dictate the legislative objectives. He said he wants to hear from Senators through LAB.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you uplift and empower international and undocumented students to participate in LAB and Huskies on the Hill?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said these issues constituted 1 of his main goals. He said GPSS was unable to get tangible items this year. He said childcare is huge for many graduate students. He said people should be welcomed in any space without fear of retribution or retaliation. He said he would protect students' rights to protest and free speech, and that the activities on campus right now are valid. He said the stance from the administration and teachers on student protests has been lackluster. He reiterated that GPSS should support the student protests.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you deal with working with others with different opinions?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said he has a lot of experience with this in his experience working with the legislature. He said it is important for people to meet eye to eye, find out why you disagree with someone, and to not assume mal intent. He said it is important for people to understand each other's opinions and demonstrate active listening.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what do you foresee using the most from your previous experience as the Vice President of External Affairs?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said he foresees using his legislative experience. He said the current Chair of Ways and Means Committee in Olympia is the Senator for which he served as Communications Director. He said he established great connections and developed institutional knowledge, and that he knows how to properly communicate with legislators.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you collaborate with the Science and Policy Committee to push for science-informed legislation?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said he would encourage the Science and Policy Committee to come to the Legislative Advisory Board (LAB) to share expertise and opinions, and that he would work to amplify and advocate the Science and Policy Committee's voice.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: do you intend to work and coordinate with the city liaisons of other campus governments?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said that he regularly goes to Washington Student Association summits where he would prioritize advocating in solidarity rather than separately.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you work with ASUW's Office of Governmental Relations (OGR)?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said he wants to partner with ASUW to get out the vote and to access undergraduate resources. He said he wants OGR to come to LAB so that ASUW's and GPSS's legislative agendas can be more aligned next year. He said he wants to hold truly collaborative events like Legislative Receptions and for GPSS to be an open partner and offer help to ASUW when needed.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you influence the increase of funds from the state to UW to meet the needs of student workers like Academic Student Employees (ASEs)?

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said he wants to make sure ASEs get a living wage. He mentioned that the administration is trying to cut ASE healthcare premium coverage from 100% to 85%, which is a pay deduction. He said he will not advocate for anything that the administrations team is currently proposing and will be behind the union. He said TAs should be paid fairly.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) He invited Edith Dale to give a speech on her qualifications for the Vice President of Equity and Inclusion position.

Edith Dale (School of Public Health) gave a presentation on her qualifications and experience. She said she is pursuing her Master's in Public Health and has a unique perspective on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) due to her multicultural background and experience, growing up in Seattle, Kenya, and England. She said she earned BS in Medical Anthropology and Global Health where she co-founded the Non-Traditional Student Association and served as an OMAD mentor. She said she is now a Teaching Assistant and Student Assistant for the Consortium of Universities for Global Health. She said she managed a Law Firm and was in talent acquisition for the wellness industry. She said her goals are to finalize the Equity Toolkit over the Summer and to plan for a homecoming event to bring people together. She said she would like to engage with more community outreach and collaboration. She said she would work with the UW Alumni Association and focus on mentorship and career guidance for underrepresented students. She said she would engage with Sustained Dialogue and encourage cross-departmental collaboration. She said she supports a resolution for freedom of speech and peaceful protests like the encampment and UAW. She said she would like to start

community forums and events over the Winter by leveraging her background in qualitative research.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) He invited Avery Clare to give a speech on their qualifications for the Vice President of Equity and Inclusion position.

Avery Clare gave a presentation on their qualifications and experience. They introduced themselves as a PhD student in Asian Language and Literature and a peer tutor in the Odegaard Writing and Research Center (OWRC). They said they are an international and first-generation college student with first-hand experience navigating challenges in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. They said they have worked with a variety of students at OWRC and are familiar with challenges that marginalized students face. They said they want to have all student voices included and represented in each of the GPSS meetings. They said they want to increase visibility to a broader audience and accessibility of events. They said they would inherit the Equity Toolkit and disseminate it to a broader audience through social media and web design.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) He invited June Shin to give a speech on her qualifications for the Vice President of Equity and Inclusion position.

June Shin gave a presentation on her qualifications and experience. She said she is an incoming Master of Social Work student and that she graduated from UCLA in 2021 with a degree in Psychology and Education Studies. She said she has worked at UW for two years as a full time TA. She said she is running for the Vice President of Diversity, Education, and Inclusion because she is frustrated with the inaccessibility of graduate education. She said curriculum is hidden with graduate school. She said she would advocate for graduate and professional students. She said she is behind and will support the UAW 4121 in the upcoming strike, which will be announced at the 11:00 am rally in front of Denny Hall. She said she wants everyone to feel welcome and connected. She said she plans to support the continuation of GPSS programming and events to foster community and professional development. She said she envisions a series of events that help students find community by introducing them to publishing work and to non-binary and queer researchers and faculty. She said she is a member of the Q Center's advisory board and would continue GPSS's partnership with the Q Center. She said she would coordinate with King's Snohomish County schools to promote graduate education and accessibility. She said she is anti-genocide and in solidarity with Palestine. She said she wants students to work together toward peace and justice and that she is very involved in UW community and life.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what does DEI mean to you?

Edith Dale (School of Public Health) said DEI means that everyone's voices are heard and that we are uplifting people whose voices cannot be heard. She said it means speaking for others and joining in solidarity for causes that will bring more equity. She said she supports DEI in all aspects.

Avery Clare said they encounter DEI all the time at OWRC and that it is tricky. They said there must be conversation about the labels placed on communities. They said DEI is communicating with everyone as who they are rather than as labels.

June Shin said DEI is something that should be embedded at every level of what GPSS does. She said it means challenging the status quo, thinking of creative solutions to society's problems, and caring for the most vulnerable in society.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how would you expand the Cultural Showcase?

Avery Clare said they would explore options for increasing visibility and accessibility to increase student engagement. They said the Cultural Showcase must be related to benefits for graduate students.

June Shin said she was not able to attend the Cultural Showcase this year. She said she would bring together graduate and professional student communities and make sure everyone is involved and represented.

Edith Dale (School of Public Health) said she was not able to attend the Cultural Showcase this year. She said she would incorporate workshops, cultural exchange opportunities, and cultural exchange tables to engage people more deeply.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you interface with the Judicial Committee to support complaints that come their way?

June Shin said she is not too sure how everything works in student government yet. She said it is necessary to have different perspectives and would love to be involved in the complaints process and have honest conversations.

Edith Dale (School of Public Health) said she would like to explore more opportunities for collaborative initiatives and to engage in policy and advocacy efforts. She said she would talk with Senators and seek more input and feedback.

Avery Clare said whenever there is a complaint, there is a conflict. They said they would facilitate conversation and take stances that yield the biggest benefits for most communities.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you deal with working with people with different opinions?

Edith Dale (School of Public Health) said having different opinions is healthy and that it is important to acknowledge different positionalities and backgrounds.

Avery Clare said it is necessary to take a stance that represents the entire community when people disagree.

June Shin said she is used to engaging with people with different views. She said the most important thing is to not villainize or shut out other people.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how do you reconcile different perspectives on DEI and interpretations of the UW Diversity Blueprint?

Avery Clare said there are always some communities being treated differently or underrepresented. They said GPSS's job is to determine the best perspective.

June Shin said it is great to have so many groups on campus that champion DEI. She said GPSS has an opportunity to bring them together.

Edith Dale (School of Public Health) said she would prioritize engaging the different stakeholders across campus in open dialogue to clarify goals and objectives.

Tobin Wagner (Astronomy) asked if the Senate can extend time for the Q&A session.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) responded that the Senate could not extend time to maintain fairness for all positions.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) invited Noah Hough to give a speech on her qualifications for the Vice President of Administration position.

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) gave a presentation on her qualifications and experience. She introduced herself as a master's student in Material Science and Engineering. She said she graduated from UW Bothell and understands different student experiences across campuses. She said she has worked as a Senator, Executive Senator, and GPSS Office Manager to foster a supportive environment at GPSS. She said she has 4 objectives as Vice President of Administration. She said her first objective is to increase community outreach and recruitment from certain departments to enhance involvement from UW Bothell through ASUWB and ASUWT. She said her second objective is to represent GPSS at events like orientations or fairs. She said her third objective is to maintain the GPSS website and records. She said she is committed to improving the website by leveraging her background in Computer Science. She said her fourth objective is to organize engaging activities through the Arts Council like the Book Club and the Knitting and Crocheting Circle to foster scholarly exchange and art. She said she will continue to advocate for graduate student voices and that she will be a good resource for Senators to engage effectively in GPSS.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) invited Weilin Kao to give a speech on her qualifications for the Vice President of Administration position.

Weilin Kao gave a presentation on her qualifications and experience. She said she is an Asian Literature and Language major and incoming graduate student from Taiwan. She said she attained internship experience from the Chinese flagship program with University of North Georgia, through which she developed 3 key strengths that qualify her to serve as the Vice President of Administration. She said the skills are accurately and

meticulously documenting meetings, effective communication with team members, and time management skills to balance responsibilities as an intern while maintaining a high GPA. She said she is committed to embracing responsibilities that ensure GPSS efficiency and integrity. She said she will uphold the highest standards in governance in accordance with the GPSS bylaws and foster a collaborative work environment.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what activities over the Summer might you engage to support onboarding and training?

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) said she would do her best to recruit new Senators through orientation, the Senator's handbook, and the parliamentary guide. She suggested having a workshop and making appointments to discuss being a Senator one on one. She said she would plan to hold a workshop and to discuss the responsibilities of being a Senator.

Weilin Kao said she is not familiar with these activities but is willing to learn.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how specifically will you welcome students and ensure that they feel welcomed in GPSS?

Weilin Kao said it is important to treat everyone equally, listen to their perspectives, and try to communicate clearly.

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) said she would make sure Senators are familiar with the Senator guide and welcome them to the workshop at the beginning of Fall quarter. She said she will make it clear that Senator can make individual appointments with her and that she will make sure Senators feel respected and heard.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what is your plan for the GPSS website, and will it be updated regularly?

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) said she did this work before at UW Bothell and that she has the skills necessary to build the entire website with the html tool Java Script. She said the website will be hosted through the UW web server. She said it will be easy to train Officers and staff to upload content to and update the website regularly.

Weilin Kao said it is important to regularly see the issues that the website encounters and resolve them.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you make sure that GPSS is well-represented across all departments?

Weilin Kao said it is important to communicate effectively. She said she will try to build teamwork and communicate with different departments.

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) said GPSS is well represented, but the problem is outreach. She said Jack has done a lot of work sending out emails to RSOs and advisors. She said she plans to create a weekly newsletter and to attend senior events to advertise GPSS organizations.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you work with the Judicial Committee to fix the bylaws?

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) said she plans to have meetings with the Judicial Committee to go over the bylaws and develop a new Senator orientation that would have different sections for different activities on the Senator handbook and the bylaws.

Weilin Kao said she would hold a meeting and go through the bylaws to see if there are some issues that need fixing.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you deal with working with others with different opinions?

Weilin Kao said listening actively is the most important thing to know others' perspectives and feelings and to communicate clearly and efficiently.

Noah Hough (Material Science and Engineering) said she thinks everyone has valuable opinions and that she would consider everyone's perspectives with an open heart and open mind. She said she hopes to apply Sustainable Dialogue and treat people with respect.

Alec Solemslie said there were no candidates for the Vice President of Finance position. He asked for nominations from the floor and reminded the Senate that Judicial and Elections Committee members are not eligible for Officer positions.

Raj Dewangan (Real Estate) nominated Ryan Wilkes, an incoming Evan's student from UW Tacoma, for the Vice President of Finance position.

Ryan Wilkes accepted the nomination.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) nominated Richard Schure for the Vice President of Finance position.

Richard Schure accepted the nomination.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) invited Ryan Wilkes to give a speech on his qualifications for the Vice President of Finance position.

Ryan Wilkes gave a presentation on his qualifications and experience. He said he is an incoming MA student in Public Administration. He said he majored in Computer Science and minored in Urban Studies at UW Tacoma and wants to branch these fields together. He said he hopes to leverage his knowledge of technology, AI, and Machine Learning in the Vice President of Finance position. He said he was the Speaker of the Senate at ASUW Tacoma and a member of the SAF Committee at Tacoma. He said he led the Tacoma Senate in collecting over 1100 signatures to ensure that the administration distributes menstrual products in bathrooms on campus. He said he will deliver a speech in promotion of the faculty and student letter of support for the union. He said he is currently working on a micro forest project at Tacoma, which receives funding from outside of the SAF budget. He said he intends to secure the near and far future funding for GPSS through accessing funding sources outside of SAF. He expressed interest in securing funding for other institutions like the D Center, the Q Center, and CIRCLE. He said he has helped streamline funding for ASUW Tacoma and would like to do the same at GPSS.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) invited Richard Schure to give a speech on his qualifications for the Vice President of Finance position.

Richard Schure gave a presentation on his qualifications and experience. He introduced himself as a second-year graduate student in Aeronautics and Astronautics who completed his undergraduate studies at UW. He said he is currently a Senator at ASUW. President of Mortarboard. He said he would love to collaborate with others on campus for funding opportunities.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how would you work with the Finance and Budget Committee, the Executive Committee, and the broader Senate to develop the GPSS budget?

Ryan Wilkes said the greatest quality between mediators is communication. He said he would determine how to compromise and establish precedence for how to mediate conflict.

Richard Schure said he likes to think about things in terms of building community and listening with an open heart and open mind. He said he would get dialogue going, attend every meeting, and work closely with everyone to determine various needs and wants.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how does UW's relationship with Boeing get you to think about our financial and moral obligations as an R1 university?

Richard Schure said Boeing is a huge investor, which poses a difficult situation. He said the student body is concerned that the UW pushes for war profits and that we do not want to do that. He said Boeing is a diverse company that engages in many different activities and that he is very aware of these deals as an aerospace person.

Ryan Wilkes said Boeing is pushed on students at UW Tacoma and would like the university to pursue alternatives and other partnerships so that students are not required to

work with organizations with which they disagree. He said there have been protests over divestment from Boeing at UW Tacoma.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: is there any specific objective or goal you would like to work on or accomplish as the VP of Finance?

Ryan Wilkes said his goal is to expand outside funding for the Q Center, the D Center, and CIRCLE since they have lacked funding in recent years.

Richard Schure said working on tuition reimbursement for students would be a fantastic thing to bring to the student body. He also expressed interest in establishing a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion panel.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what previous experience do you have in managing large scale budgets and managing a budget deficit?

Richard Schure said he does not have a ton of experience with large scale budgets but that he does have a bit of a startup. He said it would be great to look at a larger budget and that this position would be a great opportunity to explore grant funding.

Ryan Wilkes said he has a lot of experience since the SAFC this previous year has operated under pretense of a budget deficit. He said what is important is digging through the budget with a fine-toothed comb to establish priorities. He said the SAFC prioritized funding for programs it historically funded. He said it is important to investigate these programs because a new program that UW Tacoma had for undocumented students was not new.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you manage the reserve fund so that GPSS does not run out of funds, and what are the main funds in the budget expenses you are willing to cut?

Ryan Wilkes said he would establish priorities to figure out what needs to be funded and what does not. He said he would go to departments and ask where reductions can be made.

Richard Schure said that Mortarboard had annual fundraising events while he has been President, which is a great way to avoid a deficit pitfall. He said it is important to meet with stakeholders and identify key pressure points to figure out what we need to keep and what we can cut.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what finance experience do you have?

Richard Schure said he was President of Mortarboard and that he worked closely with the Vice President of Finance. He said most of his professional experience with finance outside of school has been in sales.

Ryan Wilkes said he has served on UW Tacoma's SAF Committee and was a receptionist for the King County Aquatic Center. He said his mother mentored him in accounting. He said he took microeconomics courses in his undergraduate program and expects more economics coursework in his MPA program at the Evan's School.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) nominated Daniel Cook for the GPSS President position.

Daniel Cook (History) declined the nomination.

Noah Hough (Material Sciences and Engineering) nominated Maeve Riley for the GPSS President role.

Maeve Riley (Drama) declined the nomination.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) nominated Ella Spurlock for the GPSS President role.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) declined the nomination.

Pratima KC (Environmental and Forest Sciences) nominated Charles Bugre for the GPSS President role.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) declined the nomination.

Clare Koesters (School of International Studies) asked if someone who ran for a different position could run for the Presidency.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) said that would be a great idea.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said a candidate can remove themselves from a previous position to nominate themselves from the floor.

Richard Schure declined his candidacy for the Vice President of Finance.

Maleen Kidiwela (Oceanography) nominated Richard Schure for GPSS President.

Richard Schure accepted the nomination.

Richard Schure gave a presentation on his qualifications and experience for the position. He said a similar situation happened when he became the President of Mortarboard. He said serving in the Honors Society was fun but also very difficult because of how busy everyone is. He said getting everyone to work well together will be the main challenge of this position. He said he has experience as President of an organization and would be honored to be the President of GPSS.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what is Mortarboard?

Richard Schure said Mortarboard was founded by Edwin Meaney, an early and influential professor of UW. He explained that Edward Meaney started a women's honor society for seniors that got together to support each other, held community events, held fundraisers, and held a DEI event. He said Mortarboard is a national society.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: are you available for all 30 committees the President is on?

Richard Schure said he can make himself available. He said he will be conducting research for most of next year and that his instruction responsibilities will be done by the end of this quarter.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: what do you plan to do as President of GPSS?

Richard Schure said he would love to hear ideas from the Senate. He lamented that there is a lot of infighting at the ASUW. He said being part of the graduate Senate will be a lot more fulfilling because there is more direction with the graduate Senators.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how do you plan to catch up with historical knowledge of GPSS and fulfill responsibilities of the President?

Richard Schure said he will get together with and collaborate with experienced members.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how will you handle balancing your own convictions with the opinions of GPSS?

Richard Schure said he will listen to others' voices while guiding the ship. He said he has some experience doing this. He said he can give feedback but that what the Senate wants to do is what GPSS will do.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: are you ready for the President role?

Richard Schure said yes.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: are you prepared to sit in on the 12 or so committees associated with the President role?

Richard Schure said he would love to pick the current President's brain.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: why do you think you are more suited for the President over the Vice President of Finance role?

Richard Schure said he could do either. He said he somehow ends up being President in these situations, like at Mortarboard.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how do you plan to protect the graduate community at large?

Richard Schure said that staying aligned with the union is important because it is the first line of defense.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: could you share leadership experience that was challenging and how did you handle it?

Richard Schure said keeping folks engaged and showing up to meetings has been challenging. He said he understands that people are busy, but that he is committed to getting people excited about being present and being engaged. He said he would be more like a cheerleader for everyone as the President.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: are you available for the Board of Regents tomorrow?

Richard Schure asked what time the Board of Regents meeting will take place.

A.J. Balatico said it will be from 8:30am to 4:00pm.

Bill Mahoney said the President elect is under no obligation to go since the official responsibilities of the position do not begin until June.

Richard Schure said it would be possible.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how did you handle working with younger undergrads while making sure they had a voice in student government?

Richard Schure said he studied Engineering at Oregon State University. He tries to remember what it was like as an undergraduate. He said he came to UW as an older student. He said he is still the moderator for the Discord ANA, through which he has had the opportunity to build a community and get to know a lot of the undergraduates.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) fielded the following question from Poll Everywhere: how would you describe your leadership style?

Richard Schure said the Senate is currently seeing how he generally works.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) explained that the Senate will move into discussion while the candidates are sequestered into the hall. He reminded Senators to refrain from messaging the candidates during the discussion.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) wanted to discuss the candidates for the Vice President of Equity and Inclusion first. She said some candidates would offer the Judicial Committee more adequate support than others.

Maeve Riley (Drama) asked Beth to share context on the Judicial Committee.

A.J. Balatico reminded the Senate that the discussion is part of the public record.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) said the Judicial Committee has been fielding complaints about personnel and that there has been discord among members of the Executive Committee throughout GPSS's history. She said the Judicial Committee is moving to resolve and alleviate tensions, and that whoever is the VP of Equity and Inclusion is constantly fielding tension. She said it is a high stress role and that different aptitudes might handle stress differently. She encouraged the Senate to think about department composition.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) asked if this was a free discussion or if it needs to be formal.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said the discussion should be formal.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) recommended Edith for the position. She said that Edith seems to have experience, outlined a concrete plan for the position, and might be best at fielding the tension to which Beth was referring.

Samantha Penia said she was here in support of June Shin. She said June is wonderful for the role. She said June is the most persistent person, has a lot of charisma and energy, and would do well. She said June is ready to get started despite lack of experience and is kind to everyone.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) seconded what Samantha said. He said June seems open minded and could interact with anyone.

Maleen Kidiwela (Oceanography) asked if Executive Senators can endorse a candidate.

A.J. Balatico said Executive Senators can speak about but not endorse candidates.

Raj Dewangan (Real Estate) said Edith seemed to be the most prepared. He said he does not personally know the candidates, but that Edith seems well-versed and like she knows what to do.

Matthew Moran moved to extend time by 15 minutes. **Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion)** seconded. No Objections. Motion passed. 7:48pm

Jasper Bang (Nursing) agreed that Edith seemed prepared but indicated that the Senate also needs to look at Officers as a team. She said both June and Ryan are excited about

working with the Q Center. She said she could see June synergizing well within the team of Officers.

Nick Juno noted that June asked to withdraw her nomination and run for the President position instead.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) said that was probably because there were not many candidates, and someone needed to step in. He said she probably saw that there was only 1 person running for the position and figured why not nominate herself. He said she already submitted a CV and presentation and that it made sense for her to take advantage of another opportunity.

Amanda Yapp (Real Estate) echoed what Raj was saying. She said Edith was prepared and spoke about current understandings of different events. She said it seems like Edith has a good grasp of how she would contribute to what is happening in GPSS. She said some of the Officers will be coming in with little to no experience and that having someone with more experience on the team would be beneficial.

George Fennell (Material Science) said he is sympathetic to the idea of not being fully aware of qualifications, best practices, or procedure. He said he would not look too much into a candidate's intentions for self-nominating.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) said only 1 of the candidates discussed accessibility needs and that Diversity and Inclusion mean a lot of different things. She said people that need accommodations are chronically underserved in UW's community and does not know anyone who has had a good experience seeking accommodations. She said that candidate was Avery Clare.

Tobin Wainer (Astronomy) asked if GPSS had any type of framework in place to help get a current President up to speed.

Jack Flesher said Officers prepare transition documents for their successors and that the GPSS advisors would also act as support for the incoming Officers. He said current Officer positions end on June 18. He said he hopes that elected Officers take advantage of the time to learn about the transition.

Maeve Riley (Drama) said the President role is very demanding. She noted that the candidate is not a Senator, which affects her opinion of the other candidates. She said candidates with experience might help the President learn their role.

Gillian Whelan (MLIS) asked what happens if someone running unopposed does not receive a majority vote.

Christina Coop said it would not matter and that the 1 candidate would get all the votes.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said there is also a write-in option on the ballot to rank.

Maeve Riley (Drama) asked what would happen if a person who was not nominated wins through receiving enough write-in votes.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said they will have to accept or decline the Officer position.

Matthew Moran asked if none of these candidates would be acceptable to write in that field or if a person's name would have to be written in.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said a person's name will have to be written in the field.

Amanda Yapp (Real Estate) echoed Maeve's statement that selecting a President is impacted by experience of the other candidates. She said the Senate needs to consider this.

Charles Bugre (Information) said the unopposed candidate was probably unprepared, but that the Senate must be fair to him. He said the candidate nominated himself and demonstrated maturity. He said that in his own experience, he came into the Senate knowing nothing about GPSS. He said he did not know anything about being an Executive Senator or the STF Committee, yet he and others lacking experience did well. He said he helped to improve STF. He said he does not think Senators should base their opinions on how the candidate answered questions because of his lack of experience on the Senate and lack of preparation in running for President. He said the candidate demonstrated maturity and has experience elsewhere. He encouraged Senators to look at him based on his demeanor, his values, and his ability to listen to different opinions.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) reminded Senators that the Executive team includes 7 Executive Senators with 2-year terms. She said 3 will be repeating and 4 have terms that extend into next year. She said Executive Senators have experience and can support new Officers. She said she is considering staying on as Chair of the Judicial Committee.

Raj Dewangan (Real Estate) asked what Senators can do if they do not like an unopposed candidate.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said Senators could rank a write-in candidate or decline to vote.

Raj Dewangan (Real Estate) asked what it meant for a candidate not to rank.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said it means the candidate would automatically tie for last in the ranking.

Raj Dewangan (Real Estate) said he is concerned about the current Presidential candidate. He said he could see the maturity, but that maybe A.J. set the bar too high. He reiterated that the lack of experience is a little concerning. He said there must be some sort of passion and conviction. He said there is a lot of work the President does that

Senators are not aware of. He encouraged A.J. to apprise the candidate of the President's responsibilities.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) moved to extend time by 10 minutes. **Pratima KC (Environmental and Forest Sciences)** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 8:04pm

Daniel Cook (History) said he would like to continue discussing the candidates for the VP of Equity and Inclusion. He said Edith seemed well-prepared and that she would work well with Noah Hough since they both had action plans over the Summer and into next year.

Pratima KC (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said her opinion reflects Charles's. She said GPSS needs a fresh leader with a completely open mind willing to learn from Executive Senators. She said Richard might be able to run GPSS in a way that has not been done before. She said he has been President of different organizations.

Joe Rogge (Mathematics) asked if there are any maneuvers in the bylaws whereby someone else could be elected for the Presidency.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) said the write-in is the only other option. He said there are procedures for Senators to file complaints about the elections process.

Joe Rogge (Mathematics) said it would then be more productive to move the discussion to the positions for whom there are multiple candidates. He said he supported Noah for the VP of Administration position because she has lots of experience and answered the questions compellingly.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) asked Matthew to share what committees the VP of Equity and Inclusion supervises.

Matthew Moran said he is the ex-officio of the Judicial Committee and thinks about how bylaws impact space. He said he facilitates the Diversity Committee, accessibility, and diversity funds. He said he sits on the Board of Regents DEI subcommittee, the Arts Council, and the Diversity Council. He said he goes to Finance and Budget Committee meetings when called upon.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) agreed with Joe about moving on to candidates GPSS can vote on.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) voiced his support for Noah. He said that since Weilin is not in the country, it would be difficult for them to transition into the role over the Summer. He said Noah is a good candidate for the role and that her Computer Science background would help with updating the GPSS website.

A.J. Balatico said the budget as enacted is about \$20,000 in GPSS's favor. He said all the candidates would save GPSS about \$20,000.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) said if GPSS ends up being in a similar situation as this year if an Officer quits, it seems like Richard would be able to take on the responsibilities of that Officer.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) moved to extend by 1 minute. **Ella Spurlock (Chemistry)** seconded. No objections. 8:14pm

Samantha Penia reiterated her support for June Shin. She said she understands the Senate's concerns that experienced Officers would support inexperienced Officers, but that someone with a fresh eye would be very beneficial. She said June would bring a lot of ideas and identities to the VP of Equity and Inclusion role despite not having professional experience. She said June would deeply care about this position.

Maeve Riley (Drama) asked someone to explain what is currently happening for the meeting attendees on Zoom.

A.J. Balatico said the Senate is bringing the candidates back in and sharing the voting link to vote.

Tobin Wainer (Astronomy) asked if someone can sponsor a resolution.

A.J. Balatico said Senators can sponsor a resolution by adding their name or a comment onto a resolution. He said Senators would need to have written something substantial for the resolution to be considered an author, but that anyone can sponsor.

7. [Information] Senators of the Month 8:28pm

Matthew Moran announced Hannah Shipman and George Fennell as Senators of the Month for April.

Matthew Moran said he is thinking about having a Senator of the Year to announce at the end of May. He said Senators can nominate on the website.

8. [Action] Mid-Year Allocation for Departmental Allocations 8:32pm

A.J. Balatico said GPSS needs to move money from Special Allocations to Departmental Allocations and that the bylaws stipulate that GPSS must be notified. He said GPSS needs to transfer \$2,000 to Departmental Allocations to pay for a biology department retreat and lounge upgrades for the Speech and Hearing Sciences department. He mentioned that refrigerators are capital items that will last a long time.

Jack Flesher said transferring this money requires a suspension of the bylaws. He said GPSS did this before and will follow the same mechanisms.

Motion to approve the funding requests passed 34-0-1.

8. [Information] Sustained Dialogue 8:40pm

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) gave a presentation on Sustained Dialogue. She explained that Sustained Dialogue is a non-profit out of Washington DC established in 2002 by a US diplomat to engage students in dialogue with many chapters across the country. She said she hopes to reinstate the chapter of Sustained Dialogue that Student Regent Jay Cunningham previously started at UW prior to the pandemic. She said the organization's goal is to equip people to engage in diplomacy rather than debate. She defined dialogue as a process of genuine interaction and active listening. She mentioned that the US is politically divided and that it is difficult to discuss issues without destroying personal and professional relationships. She said she originally planned to begin Sustained Dialogue with the Israel-Palestine issue, but now wants to start with other issues. She explained that the goals of Sustained Dialogue are divided into 5 stages that the organization uses for training and for getting people comfortable discussing different issues. She said Sustained Dialogue could go further and develop a call to action after developing a consensus. She said she wants to have Sustained Dialogue at GPSS because graduate students have already learned these skills and are equipped to bring it to the rest of the student body after having some pilot meetings. She said GPSS would be a good place for Sustained Dialogue to live. She said Senators would ideally meet for Sustained Dialogue every 2 weeks to 1 month to discuss a variety of topics, particularly issues that graduate students care about. She said the goal is to give students the opportunity to discuss issues that are important to them. She said students will be invited in the future to pre-determined topics of conversation.

Jay Cunningham said Clare did a great job explaining the program. He said he has been working on Sustained Dialogue for about 2 to 3 years, and that it was initially launched as a way for students and faculty to begin having these conversations. He said he began this program as an undergraduate at the University of Alabama and has been practicing Sustained Dialogue for 7 years. He said Sustained Dialogue training is useful in his own work and research. He said the program and curriculum are applicable to transforming relationships. He said there were not many places for this dialogue on campus and that this program is different from a 1-off diversity workshop because it establishes a sustained dialogue and ongoing conversation while forging relationships. He said the goal is for people to leave these experiences much more aware, informed, and capable. He said the administration is very interested in establishing Sustained Dialogue and that GPSS is a good place to pilot the program. He said Sustained Dialogue is peer-led and facilitated.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) asked if Senators were up for an activity.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) said the Senate might be prepared for an activity. She suggested that the Senate could compare what it is doing to what it just did with the elections.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) split the senators into groups of 3 to 4. She invited students to discuss in their groups a hypothetical \$50 million proposal for UW to increase its budget for spending on sustainability in the next 5 years, which the university would fund through tuition increases and money from the public.

Senators discussed the hypothetical proposal for about 5 minutes.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) invited Senators to offer feedback about the discussion.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) said it has become apparent that these types of discussions would benefit from having a moderator.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) said they envisioned a moderator being present.

June Shin asked if there is a framework or structure for these conversations.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) said there is training.

Jay Cunningham said each small group would have had a moderator that could have prompted students to evaluate the intent and impact of the issue. He said the moderator would ensure that the conversations moved along and that they would get creative with facilitating conversations.

Clare Koesters (Comparative Religion) said the intent of the discussions tonight was to give GPSS an idea of how these conversations might go.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) thanked Clare for the opportunity and said there was healthy tension in her discussion group. She said it was a wonderful way to discuss contentious issues.

Alec Solemslie (Environmental and Forest Sciences) thanked the Senate and the Elections Committee. He announced Richard Schure as President, Kana Saarni as VP of Internal Affairs, Mykhail Lembke as VP of External Affairs, Ryan Wilkes as VP of Finance, Edith Dale VP of Equity and Inclusion, and Noah Hough for VP of Administration. He said Senators can contact the Elections Committee with questions and the Judicial Committee to file complaints.

9. [Action] Resolution in Support of UAW 4121 (First Reading) 9:12pm

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) gave a first reading of the resolution.

Daniel Cook (History) asked if state representatives would be included in the forwarding section of the resolution.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said they were not included since the resolution did not request anything from the state representatives. She said the authors are open to including state representatives in the forwarding section.

Matthew Moran said another resolution could be written as an external version.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) said the reason for putting state legislators on the forwarding list would be to request their support. She suggested including legislators as recipients for another time.

Maeve Riley (Drama) said it is important to pass the resolution before Tuesday's strike. She suggested including legislators as recipients for another time.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) asked if this was something to work on next year.

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) said adding a forwarding clause for the legislature would be out of the scope of the resolution. He said it would be pertinent to forward a separate resolution to state legislators.

Nick Juno agreed with Mykhail. He said the Senate could write and pass a separate resolution for legislators. He said GPSS could request financial support from the legislature for Academic Student Employees (ASEs). He suggested keeping legislators as a separate set of recipients until GPSS knows the financial support it will need.

Daniel Cook (History) accepted omitting legislators from the resolution's forwarding section.

A.J. Balatico said 17 legislators have already sent letters of support to UW.

Maeve Riley (Drama) said a legislator spoke at the UAW rally on Friday.

Tobin Wainer (Astronomy) suggested removing the clause about negotiating in good faith and making union negotiators wait because although he believes it is true, the Senate should be careful about the legal phrasing of negotiating in good faith.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said they can think about that.

A.J. Balatico said there are implications of GPSS saying something about negotiations and the negotiations changing. He recommended looking at previous resolutions and pairing down the language. He said this will be sent to the administration and President Cauce, who have teams of lawyers and might just ignore the resolution entirely. He asked how GPSS can ensure that a resolution will be seen from a different perspective by the administration. He said expressing that Washington has some of the best healthcare in the region that students cannot access would be a more effective message to send. He said he wants this to be impactful and to move the needle. He said people at the Board of Regents meeting tomorrow will be more impactful than a Senate resolution.

Maeve Riley (Drama) disagreed. She said the Senate holds a lot of power in representing the largest institution in the state and that agreeing as a Senate in supporting the union efforts sends a big message over the President to the state and federal government. She said this is not a unique situation and is happening all over the country.

Tobin Wainer (Astronomy) said that is why we need to make the resolution as polished as possible.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) accepted Tobin Wainer's suggestion to remove the clause about negotiations as friendly.

A.J. Balatico said the resolution should be as succinct and specific as possible with targeted "whereas" clauses. He noted that the union itself is not on the forwarding clause. He said GPSS has had issues getting a union representative Senator in GPSS.

Matthew Moran moved to extend by 10 minutes. **Nick Juno** seconded. No objections. 9:32pm.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said it would be a good idea to remove the clause.

Joe Rogge (Mathematics) asked if A.J. had a specific clause he would like to add.

A.J. Balatico said there was a similar resolution rejected outright in the Faculty Senate and accepted as a second revised version. He said the faculty expressed that they supported graduate students but felt as though they were the ones writing the grants. He said faculty members who signed the letter of support disagreed with assertions that graduate students bring in grant money. He recommended changing language to indicate that graduate students help faculty carry out research.

Maeve Riley (Drama) suggested changing the language to say that graduate students carry out a substantial amount of university-sponsored research.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said changing language to indicate that graduate students carry out research is what matters.

Beth Fawcett (Chemistry) said including labor in the resolution is important. She said graduate students carry out the labor upon which grant funding is based.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) accepted the recommendations as friendly.

Maeve Riley (Drama) asked if it would be useful for the administration to know that GPSS has voted on this on 7 separate occasions.

A.J. Balatico said that clause is more for GPSS and that he would keep it. He said the administration could dispute specific numerical claims in the resolution. He recommended keeping the message more general.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) asked Beth to find a space in a "whereas" clause to elaborate the issue of healthcare.

Matthew Moran moved to extend time for 10 minutes. **Joe Rogge (Mathematics)** seconded. 9:38pm

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) encouraged Senators to add themselves as sponsors to the resolution.

Tobin Wainer (Astronomy) said he is reconsidering the clause about wages. He suggested communicating that ASEs are not making a living wage to make the clause more succinct and direct.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said she could work on consolidating the points into a list.

Maeve Riley (Drama) said it is 1 of the union's main points to say that ASE pay at UW is not commensurate with ASE pay at other major institutions.

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) recommended consolidating the clause about ASE pay.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) asked about splitting the clause about ASE pay into 3 different "whereas" clauses.

Hannah Shipman (Aeronautics and Astronautics) said that was a good idea.

A.J. Balatico asked if there was anything the Senate wanted to add in the resolution addressed to the union.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said the resolution was co-authored by UAW members.

A.J. Balatico said the resolution should be addressed to executive members of UAW.

Matthew Moran said A.J. is referring to formalizing a working relationship with UAW. He said this could be an opportunity to work toward a formal relationship with the union.

A.J. Balatico asked how GPSS could help students who are not part of the union culture to understand what GPSS is working on. He said there are many graduate students who are not union members.

Charles Bugre (Information Science) asked A.J. to recommend a clause.

A.J. Balatico suggested including a phrase about sending the information in an all-graduate email.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) asked if it should be a separate clause or included in the forwarding clause.

A.J. Balatico said it should be a separate "that" clause. He asked if GPSS should send this message regardless of whether there is a strike. He said that would need to be included in the resolution.

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) recommended suggesting that ASUW send the resolution to their student body. He asked if GPSS could send the resolution directly to undergraduates.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said she included the ASUW Senate Speaker in the forwarding clause.

Matthew Moran said the content is good, but that ASUW will need more personal engagement.

Ella Spurlock (Chemistry) said she spoke with Riley who will speak with ASUW tomorrow.

Nick Juno motioned to move the resolution to a second reading. **Matthew Moran** seconded. No objections. Motion passed 9:48pm

Matthew Moran moved to vote on the resolution as presented. **Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration)** seconded. No objections. Motion passed. 9:49pm

Resolution passed 29-0-0.

10. [Action] Adjournment 9:57pm

Mykhail Lembke (Public Administration) motioned to adjourn the meeting. **Daniel Cook (History)** seconded. No objections. 9:57pm

Meeting minutes prepared by Daniel Cook, GPSS Senate Clerk.