

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, mic check mic check and can everyone hear me?

**Tristan:** Yep

**Michael Lenmark:** Awesome. Thank you. Um, so it is 5:30 I will just give people a few minutes to log on to the meeting, and then we'll get started. Okay everyone, it's now four minutes after the start of the meeting. So do I have motion to begin tonight's meeting. Motion from Christine, one second. Second. Anybody? Second from Cynthia. Thank you very much. Um, alright, so next up is the approval of the agenda.

Do I have a motion to do so. Motion from Hannah Waterman . Thank you. And from Donal. And lastly, do I have a motion to approve the minutes from the August 2 meeting. Motion from Alex young Second anybody? Second from Cynthia. I thank you very much. Alright everybody, I hope everyone is doing well. Welcome to the first senate meeting for the new academic year. For those of you who may not know me because you're new to the Senate this year. My name is Michael Lenmark. I am a sixth year student in the Ph. D. Program in sociology and I am currently the Speaker of the Senate, or at least I will be for the remainder of this meeting, because we'll be electing my successor later on tonight.

So to get started, I just want to kind of review some rules of order to be a good refresher for our returning senators, but also to make sure that our incoming centers are aware of how we run things here in the Senate, especially now that we're happy to have these meetings virtually. So without further ado. So first of all, please remember to mute your microphone when you're not speaking. Second of all, please do not interrupt whoever has the floor.

If you would like to ask a question, please use the raise hand button at the bottom of your screen and which will be recognized by the speaker.

There is an image there at the bottom of the bottom of the screen of what that looks like. You either see it directly at the bottom of your screen or if you open the participants window. You might also find it there as well.

So I will recognize people in the order that they raised their hands and prioritize people who have not yet spoken tonight, over the people who already have, just to make sure that certain voices aren't dominating the floor.

We will have Q and A periods, open up at the conclusion of each offices report so that that point, I'll start taking questions and also as a reminder for everyone to please keep the discussion civil and professional.

And going on. So, you know, as a legislative body we do vote on various things. So to trigger about a sender with voting privileges must make a motion.

And by voting privileges, I mean that you must be either a primary senator recognized by your department or if you're if the primary senator is not here tonight, then the alternate senator can vote in their place.

So after making a motion. A motion has to then be seconded by another senator and then it's brought up to the entire Senate for a vote. We will vote either a yes, no, or abstain.

And so some examples of different kinds of motions that we have, first off a motion to approve the proposed budget.

You might motion to refer some into committee if you know if we're getting stuck in discussion not accomplishing anything, it might be better to refer that more specifically focus on the topic at hand. You can motion to limit to date, which would mean to set a time limit on the current topic, after which we would have to move on.

There was also, for example, a motion to table, which means that you just immediately end the discussion, without taking a vote on it.

And then also a motion to end discussion and vote immediately and this one's rather unique because we'd have to take a vote first and the discussion and then an actual another vote to actually decide

To make a decision. And I will say that you don't always have to make clear cut motions like this. For example, in our last meeting. There was a proposed budget, but the motion on the table was actually to approve it, with the exception of one particular line item which passed so

That being said, that's a little overview of how we run things here in the Senate. Does anybody have any questions before we go on to our reports?

All right. Looks like there are no questions.

So in that case, we'll start off with the President's report on the less you have before.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Thank you, Michael.

Good evening, everyone. For those of you who don't know me for new senators and it is my name is Mallesh. I am a PhD student in computer science.

Yeah, I'm the President of GSO. So, um, yeah, I hope you had a wonderful start of the semester. Um, so let's see what we have. Can you go to the next slide, Michael.

So first things first, so I wanted to let you know that I've been sending quite a few emails to the President office.

Actually not just me before, before me.

When she was there also sent quite a few emails to President McInnis about COVID or the safety practices on campus or the fees and political matters, etc, etc.

So President McInnis is not responding to any of your emails. She didn't respond. Before she was doing so, but she's not responding now.

So the only communication that we have right now is with the Deans um

So yeah, we have the graduate school, Dean Wertheimer was very helpful. He is replying but then, as you know, the other Deans, like for example Rick Gatteau is not useful. He doesn't give much useful information.

So this is one thing that we would want to solve. So basically, how do we start this. How do we initiate this communication with the President. So before Michael Bernstein when Michael Bernstein was there as the interim president, he would respond. Like whenever we send him an email about some inquiry or something and he would listen to us.

So I feel like this is kind of some sort of repetition of what we had before, like Stanley, who wouldn't communicate with us at all. So I just wanted to let you know guys about this. Okay. If you have any questions on this, just let me know.

Alright, so moving on fees.

So this is another thing I emailed to the President about. So in the spring we had, we had several discussions with the admin people right and then they came up with.

These proposals of fees on health services and technology, etc. Right, so they propose some fees.

But looks like as John pointed out in the last minute meeting that they are incorrect. Whatever the bill fees are incorrect. So they increased these fees and so

So I've been meeting with these people and they're saying they're saying that the reason why they increase these fees is so overall, they did not increase the fees, whatever the proposed fees, the overall, let's say, combined with health services transportation technology or whatever

they proposed it stayed the same, but um so when they presented when they presented the transportation increase. Transportation fee increase the SUNY did not approve of, it seems, but what they did is because they didn't increase the transportation fee they increased the technology fee.

And that's what the SUNY did approve it seems so basically

They shuffled these fees, somehow, and then the overall fee increase is the same but they didn't communicate anything or anything, anything of it with us.

So yeah, so again, I've been talking to these guys and the finance guy Eric Anderson, I think, well, but yeah, they told me about this, but nothing again from the upper administration. I'll keep this in mind that when they propose fees the next time.

What is the point of them communicating with us if they're not following it.

So there is no point. Right. So what, then, is it just for namesake that they can just say to the public that they communicated with us. So this is, this is one thing that I've been dealing with recently. Any questions on that?

Right, next. Um, so there are there are a lot of university committees, it seems, um,

So we have a University Senate committee graduate council Arts and Sciences committee and there is new student life committee since I don't know if it's new, but yet there is a student life committee.

And we have a new initiative on diversity, equity, and inclusion, so please be involved in these committees and I think it's really necessary.

So whoever is going to be the secretary from henceforth. Next one, please ensure a strict rule you know that the senators have to be actively involved with this.

I see many senators are there just to attend senate meetings and they admit that they don't do anything else.

So we need the senators to actively represent these committees and be actively involved in several other committees.

So that is not what happening. So the reason why I'm saying this is when I proposed this diversity committee new committee, I wanted to create like an appointed that appointed position, who can be on a salary, who can be an employee of GSO so that we will accelerate the progress on these committees.

It's been almost like more than a month, I think I don't see that that is happening either right then I don't see that is happening. So I think we need to

Maybe like to take a serious action on this. If you are not involved if the senators are not involved in the committees, I think we need to make them inactive.

Okay, so that's that's another thing.

And then we don't have any applications for production's director. So we sent out the hiring application for the production director, we did not receive any application. I'm not sure if it's because of the salary. I don't know. But, but, um, yeah. So that is another thing. Maybe we need to discuss because

Like, I know we don't have any in person events during the semester but it's still important to have, you know, events for graduate students over zoom or virtual events.

Of course, we need to come up with some like a better ways to hold these events, but we still need to have that. That is an important part of socializing. Right.

So, so we send out the applications for the hiring of production's director, please do consider and please forward the email to the graduate students in your department.

So that's another thing if the graduate students come to us and say that they senator is not forwarding their emails. I think the senator needs to be removed. So I think we need to discuss this clearly. So these are the things I just want to pass on to the next EC.

All right. Okay. Um, with that, I'll end my report. If you have any questions, I'll stick for some time to answer this, let me know. Thanks.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right. Thank you, Mallesh. If anybody has any questions, please use the raise hand function at the bottom of your screen.

Yes, Helena

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Sorry

**Michael Lenmark:** Its fine.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** So hi, my name is Helena. I'm from the physics department. I just took over from Dallas and Julio's position along with Michael Giles. Um, so I'm not sure about Michael but I myself haven't received any emails about, you know, hiring a production's

manager or joining a committee. So I just want to make sure that you know we're all in the right listservs and things like this so that I can for this information to my department.

**Mallesham Dasari:** So you just replaced Julio this month?

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Yes.

**Mallesham Dasari:** You did before. No? Okay. Yeah, I think the call for this production side if they're hiring... This went out I think in August, probably, so we'll send it out again. So probably there were some inactive senators who didn't forward any of our emails. That's why we didn't get enough, you know, applications like actually zero applications for production's director and also for the other committees. Actually, I'm surprised that I didn't get any mail for the you know, to represent the GSO. I think I thought about it, and these are sentences. So yeah, I think it's more applicable for arts and sciences senators

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Oh yeah, but I mean, at least it, I think. So I'll check. But anyways, I mean, that is something that Dallas, you know, forward it to me that we did have to be a part of a committee, so I want to make sure that I can be.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Okay, okay. Just, just send me an email to get in touch.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Thank you.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Thank you everyone

**Michael Lenmark:** Great. So thank you. Does anyone else have any other questions for the last before we move on with tonight's meeting.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, so we have a question from Allison.

**Allison Zastrow:** Is the Google doc with the committee's from last year going to carry over to this year, whereas are going to be a new a new document and then all the companies will have to be voted on, or is that

**Jose Moscoso Nunez:** There should be a new one. The new secretary should be in charge of it

**Allison Zastrow:** All right. Thank you.

**Michael Lenmark:** Thank you. All right, thank you. Allison. Next up is Michael Giles.

**Michael Giles:** Hi, yes. I just wanted to make sure that I'm doing the right things here. So, earlier in the president's report you said that we had to forward emails to our departments. Could you be more specific on that? I'm not sure about that

**Mallesham Dasari:** Oh, so. Yep, thanks. So, what I meant was, like, when we send an email to you the senators, the students complaining that they are not receiving any emails from their senators. So, okay.

**Michael Giles:** So we pass on emails from you to the department and students.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Huh, yeah.

**Michael Giles:** Okay. Um, is there a way I don't know the proper like listserv to use for that purpose. Is there a standard or where would I find that

**Mallesham Dasari:** That's interesting.

**Michael Lenmark:** So you should ask your department administrator or the director of your graduate program, they should have a list of emails that you can use, or they're not, they might already be a listserv that's been made for your department's graduate students

**Michael Giles:** Okay, okay, I'll ask around them. Thank you. Thank you.

**Michael Lenmark:** Right. Thank you, Michael. Next step is Hannah.

**Hannah Waterman:** Hi, um, I'm not sure, actually, this is the right time ask it, but it seems relevant. Um, is that a mandate somewhere that requires the departments to provide an email list of all the graduate students in the department. And as for my department. I've had to forward GSO emails to the office of my department who would then send it off to everybody.

So I'm wondering if that's a mandate, we can actually make

Myself and the other senator from the Music Department have been in the process of basically curating an opt-in email list for our department. And I'm wondering if maybe that's actually not necessary. If the department would be required to give us an email list for the students.

**Mallesham Dasari:** So, That I don't think that there is such a mandate but like do you see any email list that like the faculty forwards anytime. Aren't you supposed to use that, like, what, what we do in our department is that we use the same list that the faculty uses to communicate with the students. Right. And we could then they're in blocked as I think I don't know, maybe it

is open. But yeah, I don't know about other students, other departments probably should be open.

You should be able to use the same list that the faculty use to communicate with all the graduate students right

**Hannah Waterman:** Okay, thank you. I also see the people who mentioned in the comments as well. So thank you for that as well.

**Michael Lenmark:** Awesome. Thank you, Hannah. All right, next up is John

**John Klecker:** Yeah, I was just gonna say if your department is giving you a hard time and not giving you an email list just like all you have to say is, I need this email list. I'm representing the students and we need to pass on this information to them so I mean, I think if an administrator is not allowing you to get an email list of your students, you should just forward that to the rest of the GSO senators and like the executive committee should get in touch with that department or something because that's ridiculous.

**Hannah Waterman:** Okay, so it hasn't been a problem, mostly. It's just a very complicated process and there's certain emails that we send out that you don't necessarily want to go through the office administration. So I thank you for that.

**John Klecker:** Yeah well for our department, Chemistry. I just email it to the same listserv that anybody else does when they want to email every single chemistry student in the department. And that works just fine.

So,

Hopefully there's something like that for the Music Department

**Hannah Waterman:** Yeah, thank you so much.

**Michael Lenmark:** Absolutely. Thanks, y'all. Okay. Are there any other questions for Mallesh It looks like no I think most you said briefly have something else to add.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Yeah, so I just I remembered that something happened in the last senate meeting couldn't, I couldn't participate in the last meeting because that meeting was held. Like, I think without much notice in advance. I was busy.

So, something happened, it seems, and the candidates are not feeling secure because of the conflict with one of the election committee member it seems. It seems so there was a call.



There was a call last in the start, less than admitting to remove the elections committee member Francesca

So I wanted to bring that up if I'm, if I should take a call on that. That's a um, so if I should take a call on that, if we want to know, remove Francesca from the Elections Committee to have a fair election. I don't think that would be a good idea to during an election. So i do i i thought i would not bring this up because I was thinking like, it shouldn't be any problem unless like

Somebody else mentioned it. I thought I wouldn't bring this up but then like one of the candidates mentioned that the candidate is not feeling, you know,

He doesn't have much faith in fair elections because of this conflict. So I don't know.

**Michael Lenmark:** So I'll respond briefly to Hannah's question. She said that there was a decision making and emergency meeting.

So, since the election was not available. I did devolve that responsibility to trust in but looking back to the Constitution. I don't think I should have been able to do that because the Constitution allows us to devolve the power to interpret the Constitution along the line of succession, but I don't think it, but it does not permit devolving like responsibilities that are specifically made to one officer, which in this case is the President

And actually an Allison rather and we actually did not vote on that.

So John I see a hand.

**John Klecker:** Yeah, I think if we vote on anything today is. It completely avoid the board of appeals process which it seems like in the last two emergency meetings, we've established a past president that any vote on any sort of allegations needs to go through. So I feel like an established history of not voting on removal from office based on the last two emergency meetings.

**Michael Lenmark:** So my response to that is, like, I guess that's more made on. Regards to removal from an officer position, whereas within the Constitution. It does say that. Any committee member may be removed upon the recommendation of the president and a two thirds vote of the Senate. That's the Constitution, Article seven, Section one clause.

**Mallesham Dasari:** So, so basically I'm going to take a call on this recommendation before that I wanted to know if you have any input on that right

**Michael Lenmark:** So, uh,

Okay so motion from Nick is to table the decision until after the election seconded by Alice young so now the motion on the table is to table decision, which means to not make a decision on at all until afterwards if you support this vote yes in the chat box if you say no, don't know in the chat box or abstain.

Okay.

All right, I will need to count this

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, so there are 16 yeses t2 nos and four abstain, which means that the motion carries. So this item is tabled until after the election.

**Mallesham Dasari:** But I can think I can still take a call right now.

**Michael Lenmark:** Well, so the motion so on. The Senate has approved the motion to table this, which means that it's now off the table and we need to move on. Let's see.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Okay, alright.

**Michael Lenmark:** So thank you everybody. So that I think much that's everything correct

**Mallesham Dasari:** That's thanks

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, sounds good. Thank you. All right, next up is Kristen with the presidents report.

**Tristan:** Yes, thank you Michael on. Can you advance to the next slide. Thank you. Um, so in the EDI we have started looking into a couple initiatives. Right now, we're thinking about writing grants to the university's equivalent of the VDI office. I forget exactly what it's called. I'm sorry.

Um,

And hopefully we can get some of those get some money out of them to be able to fund a few of our initiatives. So we're looking at possibly a food pantry or grocery reimbursement as a Food Insecurity relief. We're also looking into on supporting students for professional development or conferences pertaining to underrepresented groups, especially those on campus, giving those out in particular, to bypass LGBTQ students. I'm also a grant looking into whether or not we can help supply students with disabilities with tools that they might need to do their job and to learn on campus, um, where the Disability Services offices cannot

fulfill the needs and we are also looking at getting new members in the EDI committee. Specifically, we're looking at getting members from the BGO and through the LGBTQ center as there is no longer a LGBTQ graduate group.

Um,

So for right now that call has been put out and one person has responded so far, the President of the BGO has accepted to be on the committee as well.

And we're looking at a meeting schedule right now where we will include town halls, probably one town hall. A month I'm likely themed toward something like police on campus, um, by park students. And then, you know, so on and so forth from there. This last bullet point is about that the new campus community and personal safety advisory committee. Ah, it stands for

Oh boy.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Thank you, Carlos.

Um, I have requested that the graduate students on the campus community and personal safety advisory committee speak but she hasn't gotten back to me at this time.

So perhaps she'll get back and she didn't speak at the next senate meeting. If not, I think that we do need to request a seat on that committee because I don't like the idea of some random graduate student who is not beholden to the student government just doing whatever.

Um, as far as orientation goes, I'm looking at having two orientations one in the morning, one in the evening for students who might not be in the same time zone as us.

And

That would happen likely at the end of September early October when the new EC is on board. However, I am also looking at doing an orientation specific to graduate groups and organizations.

On and that would be done probably Thursday or Friday of next week.

Um, I also wanted to bring up the idea of having somewhat of a GSO constitutional convention where we get together and write bylaws and fill in gaps that either the Constitution, the bylaws or the ICP have currently and this would be something where the legalese gets written, but not necessarily voted on right away, it may get voted on perhaps at at whatever endpoint, or that convention or in a later senate meeting.

But the concern that our rules are lacking has been echoed quite a lot over the past semester. And I think that we should really look into doing something about that.

Last week I have a point that I didn't write down. I'm sorry, tomorrow from three to four, there is an event on campus. Its organized by independent students, they will be driving around campus for an hour clockwise around

Circle road and they will be obeying all of the traffic laws, if not exactly, perhaps even a little bit too much on making full stops.

So a if you can participate in this.

On this is, this will be an event to protest against student fees, there will be signage on cars. If you would like to participate. Go ahead and put some signage on your car. If you can't just being there helps as well. Um,

Otherwise, if you can't participate do know that for an hour on campus driving will be a real problem.

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, sounds good. Is that is that everything trusted

**Tristan:**Yes.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right, awesome. Thank you so much. Does anybody have any questions for Justin.

Yes, Allison.

**Allison Zastrow:** And so I don't have a question, but a comment, I believe that it should really be the, the rules and constitutions committee should be meeting regularly to discuss, you know, adding and changing things in the Constitution, so that should probably be in you know first point of order at the beginning of the semester for them. Right?

**Michael Lenmark:** Thank you. Allison.

Can I tell you how to end as well?

**Hannah Waterman:**Allison read my mind.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay. Sounds good. Um,

So I guess.

My. Yeah, go ahead.

**Tristan:** Sorry. Um, I think it's a good idea that the rules and constitution committee to handle this. However, I would like a broader event because it seems that, at least from what I've heard, it seems that people think we are missing a lot. And that would be quite a lot for just the committee to handle

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay. And if I may. Since like that committee is the purview of the speaker on for money under stand. The point of this Convention is more just to to solicit feedback from everybody. Because the rules of constitution committee is there to help really design language. Um, when they're instructed to do so. I think the point of this Convention would just be a means to get everybody's feedback. So either. That could be an event or that could be an open call for comment. Maybe the listserv or private email for everyone to voice their concerns, perhapsSo thank you everyone. Anybody, anybody have any other questions for Justin. All right, looks. Looks like not so I thank you very much trust in next up, we'll have Anand for the Treasurer's Report.

**Anand Aiyer:** I'm gonna go to the next slide.

Yeah, I'd like to invite Spencer Austin to present the GSO COVID 19 relief fund. Thank you.

**Spencer Austin:**Hello everybody, I'm Spencer Austin. I am a senator from the department of history. I'm a member of the Budget Committee. As many of you who were senators during the last senate may remember during our last full meeting. Not the emergency meeting, but that we had, I guess, a week ago or two weeks ago, but don't the normal meeting that we had in August. We voted to create a COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund. With a \$75,000 budget, the fund is created using money we had left in the budget that isn't currently being spent, because the pandemic has shut down a lot of the events that we would have spent money on. So this fund is almost ready to go. It will be set up to give financial financial support to graduate students who have experienced some form of financial hardship as a result of the pandemic.We've got the Budget Committee is currently in charge of, of the, the fund, simply because the committee that supposed to be in charge of it is still in the process of being formed, and we'll vote on a little bit of that in just a moment. But we've got the application form ready to go. We've got the announcement that we're going to send to all of you ready to go this very appreciative if when later tonight. The announcement does go to to all of you. If you could forward that on to your departments, just so we can make sure it gets to as many people as possible so as many people as possible can be helped by the fund.

So, as I say, the budget committee is currently in charge of this, but we need to create a new special committee for COVID-19 relief fund.

This is a seven person committee that will be in charge of reviewing all the applications that the GSO receives for reimbursements through this fund.

The co chairs of this committee, the, the Budget Committee has a nominated them. The International Student advocate presently and John Klecker who is the assistant to the treasurer.

We've nominated them to serve as the temporary chairs or temporary co chairs of this committee until their current terms expire. The wording in the original proposal that passed the Senate last time said that the international student advocate and the graduate student advocate with both serve as the co chairs. The International Student advocate, but the graduate student advocate position is vacant. So John volunteered and the Budget Committee decided to take up that nomination. So we would all need to vote to confirm both of those people as

The temporary co chairs and then once a new EC is elected the president will nominate a new international student advocate and a graduate student advocate.

And that would be part of their job to co chair this committee going forward, because we think it will probably continue into the spring. So I guess my first real duty would be to put forward a vote to confirm Ida and John as the new temporary co chairs of this committee until the point when their terms as international student advocate and assistant to the treasure respectively expire.

And new international student advocate is appointed and a new graduate student advocate is appointed and they will take over

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, so a motion on the table from Spencer is to confirm Ida and John as temporary co chairs to this special committee. Do I have a second

Second from Chuankai. In that case, if you support this please type yes in the chat box if you do not support this type no or type abstain.

Re. We have a unanimous support so Ida and John are confirmed as co chairs of this committee for the remainder of their terms.

**Spencer Austin:** Okay, next. As I mentioned, the committee will have seven members total Ida and John are two of those members. The remainder of the committee will be secret be very intentionally, as is the case with several other committees, just so committees. Because we want them to be able to serve in their positions, without being influenced or or feeling like you know they're going to be receiving applications from a lot of people across the university and we want the process to be as anonymous as possible, both for the

To protect the information of applicants and to make sure that the community can do its work work as impartially as possible. So there will be five other members of the committee, we the Budget Committee, however, did think it necessary to put in a provision, because these people

are going to be anonymous so their identities are going to be withheld from general knowledge, except for the committee co chairs. We thought it necessary that we bar all members of the committee, including the chairs from being able to apply to the relief fund themselves so

Next thing I'd like to put forward is a motion to bar all members of the relief fund committee from being able to apply to the relief fund itself. So there's no conflict of interest.

**Michael Lenmark:** Right there is a motion on the table to bar members and co chairs of the committee to apply for this relief fun. Do we have a second

All right, lots of seconds. So please vote yes, no, or abstain in the chat box.

Right.

Okay.

So we have one abstention, but all other votes are affirmative so the motion passes.

**Spencer Austin:** Okay, great. and then last thing I wanted to just note before my time is up.

The committee, as I said that the membership will be secret. So I then John will over the next couple of days be taking nominations to serve on that committee, but please nominate yourself right now. Because obviously I want the committee's membership to be secret. So I'll send out their email addresses in just a second. So you can send them an email saying, I would like to serve on this committee, then by the end of this week, they will choose from the people who applied who the rest of the committee will be most likely there will be, we will probably just have under the number we need to the staff, the committee if there are like, you know, dozens of people, then I didn't john will have a difficult choice to make, I'm sure, but the language of the proposal original proposal says that they're the ones who are tasked with choosing so just putting it out there if you want to serve on the committee let John and Ida know so here is I just current email as the International Student advocate and then John I have your email somewhere.

**Spencer Austin:** So you can email us? You should email, both of them to say that you want to serve if you want to serve on that committee.

Alright, that's it

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, thank you so much. Spencer right quick. I see a hand from Caitlin Cardetti.

**Caitlyn Cardetti:** Hello, I'm Caitlin Cardetti from the pharmacology department. I had a question about that last voting like I do agree that you shouldn't be able to apply for emergency funding on a committee that you helped shoes but will that language be carefully written that you know if if an emergency should happen coven related to that member that they can leave the committee and then apply that was my concern.

**Spencer Austin:** Be the language that I used when I made the proposal and the language that's currently written into the document that kind of serves as the governing document for the committee, now that item has been approved is no current member of the committee. So, if necessary, you could resign and then apply.

**Caitlyn Cardetti:**It would be clear that it would be only current. Okay, thank you.

**Michael Lenmark:** Thank you so much

**Anand Aiyer:**Yeah. Is Zared here? So last time he proposed that we increase the childcare support because there are graduate students with children.

Who are even though they're working from home, they need access to childcare.

Because some of them may have to go into the lab and stuff. So that is the first and the second is the thesis writing boot camp, which are super successful last year, we want to renew it this year. So we're proposing \$2,000 for that too. And I pointed out that I hadn't mentioned BNL and Cold Spring Harbor rotation to the internship travel funding line so that is now \$10,000

And for the senator salary, I propose that we have a salary of \$500 for 52 weeks since there are 50 senators. Therefore, I think 41 primary senators and nine alternate senators.

And the responsibility is one to create a list. So for each department so that and then we can pull it in together so that there is a centralized mailing listserv.

We want people to serve on committees, we want people to reach out to alumni. And ask them to contribute towards the GSO and one other very important role is to remind students to collect pending checks. This is, of course, temporary because we plan to move to electronic check payments in November. You know, so we don't know when that transition is going to take place. Exactly. So these are all the responsibilities that we wish SENATORS WOULD DO, AND WE WANT TO INCENTIVIZE that



Can we vote to approve these changes.

**Michael Lenmark:** Sorry, before we move to vote, I see him from Tristan

**Anand Aiyer:** Yes.

**Tristan:** Um, you had mentioned senators and alternate senators.

Yes. Are you planning on also paying alternate senators.

**Anand Aiyer:** Yes.

**Tristan:** Okay, um,

**Anand Aiyer:** I would think that only nine of them right

**Tristan:** I think if that is the case, there should be some language limiting the number of alternates that each department can have that are paid

**Anand Aiyer:** Okay.

**Michael Lenmark:** Um, So to answer Francesca's questions in the chat.

**Michael Lenmark:** It would be so the first. So for an individual senator, the proposed stipend. It's \$500 per academic year.

**Michael Lenmark:** Right, so for 50 senators. That would be an amount of \$25,000

**Anand Aiyer:** Yes.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, so, um, so thank you for that. Do I have a motion to approve these changes. These changes to the budget, you can either you can. Motion to put these all as a, as a group, you can motion for just one or two of them, if that's what you prefer. I see a question from Allison.

**Allison Zastrow:** And yes, I believe the last time we had discussed like approving the senator salary, but not starting it until next year so that we're not voting for her own salaries, is that and we put that to the side.

**Anand Aiyer:** So, I mean, the next.... Okay, yeah, I'm okay with whatever you guys decide. Okay.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right, thank you. Allison head from john

**John Klecker:** Well, um, I would prefer if we voted on all of these things individually, just because they're all very different

**John Klecker:** sorry, this was

**Michael Lenmark:** Good. I

**John Klecker:** Thought the child care support was

**Anand Aiyer:** \$15,000 33 18,000 \$18,000 and Zara Sawyer was the GSO senator and was representing GSO at the child care said that they are facing a tremendous shortfall.

In funds and so he asked for 15,000 extra so the \$18,000 was what is already approved.

**John Klecker:** Okay. Um, and then. Sorry, I can't remember if this was in a budget meeting are assigned a meeting, but I brought up to him the idea of soliciting matching donations from other Senate or other university committees like University Senate or like University Council and stuff. Because, do we have any updates on that

**Anand Aiyer:** Question to me.

**John Klecker:** Um, I guess if you know anything about it or observed it here. I'm not sure if he's here.

**Michael Lenmark:** So Zared is not here. He reached out to us beforehand, saying that there is some personal matters that he had to attend to. Okay, so he's not here tonight to speak to that.

Okay, so I did see beforehand. There is Matthew.

**Matthew Castellana:** Hi, yes. Matthew Castellana computer science department. I was just somebody touched on this already regarding the pay. I think I second essentially that it's probably it shouldn't be for this existing senate, it should be either for the next set of elections or if it was something that was very crucial, there should be like a set of elections now be held it generally it's not i i think it's not good practice to vote to increase your own salaries and Congress, there's actually US Congress, there's actually an amendment that prohibits them from doing that. So I just wanted to voice that.

**Anand Aiyer:** Proposed that as an amendment here. And if you can come up with language.

You know framing how payrolls structure should be decided. That is fine.

**Michael Lenmark:** So, just a quick comment to that. I think another option we could consider since I know several people have voices concerned about voting for one's own salary. Another option could be to devolve this since, you know, we do have an infrastructure in place for elections to take place on solar. We could potentially devolve this instead of voting on as a Senate. We put it out to the general student body. That's another potential option that we have

**Anand Aiyer:** So do you want, do you want to do that?

**Michael Lenmark:** So let's continue taking questions and then we can

See about motions. I see the next one from Noel

**Anand Aiyer:** Yes.

**Noele Certain:** A comment to the GSO childcare. So I had spoke to Jared on length about this issue. And the reason that when he brought this up to the budget committee to increase the budget by some 15,000 this money does not go directly towards graduate students. It helps the child can center but that does not basically, give us graduate students the ability to get more spots into that child care center or go directly towards graduate students. So this is the reason this was pushed to the Senate to vote for, because I think something better for graduate students would directly help people graduate students that have kids, instead of giving money to another Stony Brook Institution that we don't know where that money is directly going towards and if it's directly helping graduate students. So again, this money's coming from graduate students pockets so it should be going back towards graduate students.

That's the reason that was brought up. I talked to Jared about this. I guess he's not here today. But that's what I wanted to just point that out.

**Anand Aiyer:** So, so do we keep it like a \$25,000 childcare support fine.

**Noele Certain:** You can absolutely do that. Right, because it's going directly towards students that have kids. I don't know how many Graduate students are on campus that have kids, but I believe there is a good amount that do need support and, you know, child care centers are not are not taking maybe as much. And a lot of them are closing down. So maybe if we could give them money to supplement their own salaries to get them to be able to afford daycare, I'd be all for that. I don't know if anybody else thinks the same

**Michael Lenmark:** I think, you know, well, I see the next handout from Spencer.

**Spencer Austin:** This, this isn't relating to the child care center it's it's go, it goes back to the issue of Senator pay. One possible solution and I you know I like the idea of sending it out to

students to vote on directly, but another solution could be that we modify the term that the terms of the current senators so that they only last for a semester. And then we would say that this is the increase in pay or this well we don't have any pay now. That pay would only come into effect after a new senators elected for the spring semester. And obviously that would be like a one time thing. And we wouldn't continue with Senate being elected every semester but that could be a kind of a stop gap, kind of a measure we take it. It's just an idea.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, thank you. Spencer. So if there are no more hands. Then we need, then we can start taking motions on so if you'd like to. Motion to approve all of them, or one by one individually, we cannot take those taken, we can start taking those motions and voting on them. Okay, so we have a motion to approve individually.

**William Thomas:** I raised my hand, but I'm

**Michael Lenmark:** Sorry, is that Matthew has that Matt, I can't.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, sorry.

**William Thomas:** I was just curious if any of the senators actually had children and wanted to divulge if the child care center actually does like reduced cost for them. I mean,

**Anand Aiyer:** If possible we can table this to next senate where that can be present because they're it told me that he negotiated with the child care board and he said that they would prioritize graduate students. But I'm not familiar with the details. And I also like Noele's idea of instead of giving the money to childcare, we can hold like a fund for graduate students, requiring childcare where you apply like rap and you get reimbursed.

Okay.

**William Thomas:** Just because I agree with no to that when I first best for them. It's just unfortunately I don't know what is.

**Anand Aiyer:** Okay. So motion to table. Alright, alright.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, so we do have a motion presented originally and that second. So it seems like that's what everyone will need to vote on that emotion. So if anyone would like to just put a motion to approve up one of the each of these particular line items. That's I think that's the best way to approach this. Something you know like if someone's to say. Motion to approve.

**Anand Aiyer:** A motion to table the child care support to the next meeting, so that

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay. So yeah, I see motion. The table chocolates wait till the next meeting. Seconded by several please vote yes, no, or I'm standing the chat box.

**Anand Aiyer:** Okay.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right. Looks like a unanimous support there. Okay so childcare has been tabled until the next meeting and I can reach out to Zara to ensure that he's a dare next time.

**Anand Aiyer:** So you can get anything

**Michael Lenmark:** Yet, yes, we can invite Deborah to speak as well. Okay, so that's for childcare is there so motion to improve the internship BL CH a cell rotation anti spring boot camp contributions. That's too much on the table from Chuankaii. Hi, I'm second it from a few people. Please vote yes, no, or I've seen the chat box.

**Anand Aiyer:** My little question. Oh,

**Michael Lenmark :**Oh, sorry, I missed that.

**Mallesham Dasari:** That's okay. I was just curious about this Thesis writing boot camp. .

**Michael Lenmark:**nOkay, so with

**Anand Aiyer:**That is a there's a professor called Shyma Sharma he conducted

**Mallesham Dasari :**Yeah, I know. I don't know if that is a good idea. I don't like I've seen last last. And then what happened was they are purchasing some mugs or something like for students who attend that so I don't think that money is well spent. So, but, yeah, usually to explain a little bit more how they're spending this money.

**Anand Aiyer:** So I think they were using it to buy pizza and I don't think they bought mugs. I think they bought mugs only once. But I don't think that is on the cards, this time.

**Mallesham Dasari :** If it's a class like this professor is conducting, then why we should sponsor this kind of money to the professor

**Anand Aiyer :**A lot of graduate students are using it.

**Mallesham Dasari :**Well, I mean, I've got your student and also enrolling into other classes. Right. So how is it

**Anand Aiyer** :I don't think they have that class. Currently, but I mean if the senators wish to reject it. It is fine.

**Ida Nikou** :Okay I think Professor Sharma doesn't get paid for this class. So this is something that he does voluntarily. He doesn't generate interest from this class. And there's a lot of an enrollment for the specific workshop Okay, so we wanted to just encourage that.

**Michael Lenmark** :Okay, thank you, everybody. I will note that it is 6:35 I think we should have presson. I see some hands in th discussion. So if we can have Caitlin first

**Caitlyn Cardetti** :Um, I, I am also curious as to how this money will be spent. If it's normally on food, but we have these social distancing requirements now like it seems like there's a moot point on giving money to

**Anand Aiyer** :spend on food.

**Caitlyn Cardetti**: That won't needed. Yeah

**Anand Aiyer** :Yeah, I wanted to motion and that this time we don't spend anything on food and because the fiscal agent also told me that because of covert concerns, we should not have any new phase. For this semester at least

Let us table it for me, not able to let us say that we will not spend on any buffet or restaurant food for the fall semester.

For public safety.

**Michael Lenmark** :Okay, so, so that's the stipulation, you can attach to that funding that I think that's fine. I mean, if somebody has a change of heart and wants to motion that we revoke um support and override the last vote. We can do that as well. People are no longer comfortable with support regarding the line item budget. I think the Budget Committee will

**Anand Aiyer**:Decide that they do present a line item budget before any expensive approved.

Okay.

**Anand Aiyer**:And that can be shared with the Senate.

**Michael Lenmark**: Anytime. Okay, so in that case like Guess we'll say that the funding is approved, but it will not be given until Dr Sharma provides a sufficient reason why and the budget that you're okay with. All right. So is there any motion to be taken on so etc salaries or

**Anand Aiyer:** Should we just move on emotion on ban on an astronomer food.

And blue phase.

In the

Night

**Michael Lenmark:** I mean, I don't think we need to legislate that since I mean, you're in charge of

Money. Anyway, that's something that you can just do via your own discretion.

So is there any vote that we need to take regarding center salary tonight or can we move on.

**Anand Aiyer:** Okay so motion to table it then to the next.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, well, since nobody else has spoken of anyone we can just move on. I think

Okay. So any other questions for a non

Thanks. Alright, thank you. And on

So, so next up is Jose with his secretaries report.

**Jose Moscoso Nunez:** Hi everyone, so I'll keep it short and you can go to the next slide. So the first thing I wanted to communicate is I've been working with Marissa Bissianis office over in student health, wellness and prevention. To create these flu shot clinics. And so they're bringing into yes and they're having these clinics.

In the SAC so you'll probably receive an email from me with these with this flyer and some more information that I wish you pass on to your, to your departments. So this year.

It's crucial that we avoid a flu epidemic in the middle of a pandemic. So make sure that you suggest your to your constituents that they should get a flu shot this year, even if they've never gotten one before. So sorry. And then the one thing I wanted to get from the Senate about this is that I proposed to MB me some ideas for example, bringing in people from CVS to key buildings like the chemistry building or the life sciences building or the building over by the hospital.

So the graduate students in these buildings can get flu shots at particular dates or times or whatever.

And so if anybody has an idea of like a good idea of where to bring them or or something like that. Awesome. So if you could just send those to me via email. That would be great.

Okay, we can move on.

Oh yeah, sorry, that was it. Um, the other two things I had in the agenda were

The first one is a Chikako, the former former senator from linguistics wrote a letter that is meant to be co signed by the Union and GSO and currently that literally sitting with me, and I wanted to see if the Senate would support this letter. And so this letter is to fight those in those fees like wellness the wellness fee that were traditionally not charged to students that were not on campus. But now are being charged to them because of reasonings like because now they offer Telehealth medicine. Then they then students off campus have access to these resources. Therefore, they need to pay the fee. And so this letter is is trying to fight that argument, and the other the other front that we're trying to push on is the students that are abroad that are being charged student fees. So someone who is not even in the country should not be paying a transportation fee or should not be paying alumnus fee or none of the fees really and so I just wanted to see if decent support on these two fronts, so that we can continue to to advocate for those at the administration level.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right, thank you. It was a, um, so I don't think that was circulated in advance for us to review, but, um, does anybody have any questions about Jose to report.

**Jose Moscoso Nunez:** Right. It's not a letter, yet it's broken I should I, should I continue to push for these. Is this something that the sentence of work.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, awesome. So I guess we'll take questions. And also, if you'd like to voice support for these two initiatives.

Please raise your hand in the chat or mentioned it in the chat box.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Hopefully you can talk a little bit more about the certification of senators and stuff. Like, like if there are no senators representation for some departments or something.

Yeah.

**Jose Moscoso Nunez :**Don't have an insight as to which departments have not all of the departments that were in here last year, have a senator this year.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay. All right. Well, I think he was a dozen what there. Any other questions, so we can move on for tonight, um,



Right, thank you. Jose.

So first up, we're going to my speakers report. My only quick announcement is that I sent out an email last week regarding the first Legal Clinic of the semester.

So that will be held on Thursday, September 17 from 2pm to 4pm Eastern Standard Time. If you are a student in your department needs some legal advising please just either email me and to request an appointment.

And then also today is our speaker election. So I've been in this position since the first meeting of the Senate last year and now it's time to

Vote for my successor. So just to go over what the position of speaker of the Senate does so, of course, in what the corresponding is to facilitate these setting meetings.

But beyond that,

The speaker also organizes tax clinics during the spring semester and manages the sprint tax, which is a resource we provide to help our international students file their federal taxes every year.

he thank you know out

Um,

What's it called also organizing legal clinics month per month during the fall and spring semesters are real clinician is there to help students, figure out how to approach the whole process, such as when they were having issues with their landlords or ma'am had a traffic violation, but all sorts of issues that have been brought to the clinic.

Also, ensuring the Distinguished Travel Award, Rules and constitution and Academic Affairs Committees attended EC meetings with the other officers and other meetings with university officials when needed.

And other duties as assigned by the president throughout the year. The term will last until september 2021 during the first sentence of that school year when the elections will occur again and with the passage of the most recent budget during the last meeting the stipend for the position of speaker is now \$8,500 for the academic year pre tax and make sure that they with all your taxes. We did not withhold mine. And that was not great for me this filing season so any kicks.

The election process is that any senator, it may nominate themselves for the position each candidate will give a short speech and Sanford Q AMP. A and then

We have multiple candidates will go one at a time, with the other ones waiting outside in the breakout room.

And after all candidates have gone. They'll be placed in a breakout room for the Senate to deliberate and booked. So with that being said, is any senator are here today. I'm interested in nominate themselves for position speaker.

Anyway,

Alright, so I see a Helena and has nominated herself. Is there anybody else who would like to put their name in speak now or forever hold your peace.

Alright, so we have one candidate tonight.

So Helena. If you could please, uh, give us a little short speech. Tell us about you and then we'll have a Q and A for you.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Are hi

So my legal name is Helena, but please call me a Jolien

Long story. But anyways, so I'm a third year PhD student going in my third year in the physics department, um, you know, I like to be involved in school activities. I've been at Stony Brook actually for more than six years now, because I also went here for undergrad and in the time being I participated in many clubs, which is the Sierra Club.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Physics society in the department. Sorry, I'm a little nervous.

But so I've been I nominated myself because it seems that no one else nominated themselves and it does seem like Michael has a fun job keeping things orderly and and going on. Um,

Yeah. And I mean, now I'm starting full time research. After two years of taking classes. So I think that this is a responsibility that I'll be able to take on. I have time now to do

Extra things like this and you know I I really do think that the graduate students have more of a voice than they maybe believe that they do.

I got involved, mostly because I was majorly pissed off about the fees. So I think that but besides that, you know, there are many things that we can do to

You know, improve our lives here at Stony Brook and in you know help each other out, improve our own situations, improve others. Sorry, I didn't prepare a complete speech here but yes so

Yeah, I mean, I'm not completely familiar with the comings and goings here, but I did participate in a similar kind of thing in high school, which might be a long time ago where I was also had a position of Speaker I am familiar with the process.

Of motions and keeping you know the meetings going on schedule. So yeah, this is a position that I think I would be good in and thank you for your time.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right. All right. Thank you so much. Helene I just noticed in the chat. I'm sorry if I missed your comments.

Farzad would like to nominate himself as well. Um, so

That was my mistake. So for as if you'd like to give a

Are actually no, I'm sorry, we should actually no, actually, as far as if you could please give your speech. Now we can do q&a after that. Sorry.

**Farzad Koosha:** All right. Thank you, Michael. Um,

Can you hear me?

**Michael Lenmark:** Yes, I can hear you.

**Farzad Koosha:** Okay, so. Hi, everyone. I'm Farzad that Koosha from the Oral Biology and Pathology Department

And I've been at Stony Brook since 2017 but for years and a half And I've been a senator for the year so...

Yeah.

My cameras on but it on the way.

Can you see me now.?

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** I see your leg.

**Michael Lenmark:** Yes, I think just your camera.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Yes, that's good. Yeah.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** you're muted.

**Farzad Koosha :** Sorry, I'm on my phone. I don't know why this is happening. Okay. Yes. So I've been a member of a member of the GSR for the past two years, and

I would like to serve as the speaker now give something back to do so. And, you know, get more involved with the GSO and almost also my background is that I'm a dentist and I've been like organizing meetings and stuff like during the past few years, we have like stuff at the dental school that we have to arrange meetings coordinate between the front desk patients everything so I'm good with that sort of stuff like coordinating meetings and people and everything and well I've learned a lot recently from Michael from these meetings that he's been managing and like I said, I might need to improve some stuff with the motions, everything like you know those legal stuff that we have to all read regarding these meetings, but that's pretty much it. So yeah, I will be happy to serve as a speaker.

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, sounds good. Thank you Farzad. Um, well, since I messed up. I did not notice for as odds self nomination, so I couldn't do the whole breakout room thing. Why can't have that. So,

We can just have an open Q and A if anybody has any questions for our candidates, please raise your hand. Spencer, you're up first.

**Spencer Austin :** Hi, yes. Well, thank you to both candidates both sound very interesting and I look forward to to hearing more about you. But could you talk about your background in the Senate, obviously it's a, you know, we're a unique organization, a unique body in and of itself. So

If I'm not sure that necessarily both you I know Farzad.

You mean I don't know if you've been a senator before. If you have I made it might not have noticed, but you do sound very competent and I have no doubt that you could fulfill the role, but I just want to know more about your, your passing the organization's if you're in this organization if you if you feel like you have one that was very articulate, but I'm sure you'll be able to answer the question.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Sure, that's a fair question, because I just started. So this is my i just started this semester I took over the position of Julio and Dallas from the physics department.

I am involved in the PDSA which is the physics graduate student organization Association not organization.

So I've been doing that for the past year. So I do have experience as well, you know, working with committees and improving the lives of graduate students, but just, it has been specifically in the physics department, not in the general graduate student organization.

**Michael Lenmark:** Of course on your, your, your response, please.

you're muted again.

**Farzad Koosha :** Sorry.

Okay, yeah. So I've been a member of the Budget Committee and for the past year and then been a senator for the origin pathology department since two years ago. So if there's any other question would be happy to answer.

All right.

**Michael Lenmark :** Thank you for. Are there any other questions from the Senate from our toolkit for our two candidates. Alright, so, since it doesn't. We'll get there any of the questions I will ask one of my own. So to each of y'all, you know, of course you know fees are one of the biggest issues that graduates have been facing for years and, you know, a lot of our attempts to the administration have fallen flat. To put it bluntly, so you know if you were elected to the executive council and would begin you know mean directly with these administrators what some that you could do differently. To impress me a new perspective or otherwise, you know, change. Give us some new energy in our fight against these

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Well, I found it a little bit concerning that you guys haven't been able to get in contact with the new president at all. So of course you know I'm I'm new to all of this. I'm sure that there's, you know, some sort of process, you have to go through in order to get an appointment with the President, but that's something that I would definitely want to push more is more face to face. I guess in coven, you know, zoom to zoom time with the administrators. I have, you know, in the past, attended some of these zoom calls with Rick Gatteau, for example, and you know sometimes these things don't really, it's, it seems they don't go very far just because they, you know, from the very beginning you and you know you waste a few hours, only to get nowhere. So that's something that I you know I think it would be best if we do meet hopefully face to face with people, even in this time you know if there's like enough space in a conference room or something but....

Yeah, to be able to have direct contact with people who work in administration and specifically ones that you know are on your side, at least in terms of responding to you and addressing the issues that you bring up. That's the first thing that I would

**Michael Lenmark:** Try to do so. Right, right. Thank you.

**Farzad Koosha:** Yes, so

It's interesting that you ask this question because we've been sort of a battle with the medical residents regarding this these fees because we have another set of fields that we are paying for our department. And we've been in sort of a battle with the administration, specifically with the President and. Who's the other guy Eric Anderson from the graduate school. They first tried to ignore us and not respond to it, but we tried to, like, you know, get make a petition, get it signed by everyone, and get some response from them. It's a work in progress right now. But as far as I know there's an. The most recent update that gave us is that there was a lawsuit from another school campus which prohibits them from responding to any further inquiry regarding this which we're following up to see when that thing you know the results from that lawsuit can come up and we can follow up on this so I believe that getting a petition, like that. And getting back to them copying different layers of administration for the school and that

Letter that to get to them that would help a lot because that's how we made our way through the, through getting a response from the President and Mr. Anderson himself. So that's what I think.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right. Alright, thank you for that. Are there any other questions for our candidates.

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, it looks like there are no further questions, so

In normal times we would ask you to leave the room, but for now I will just have to place y'all into

What's it called into breakout rooms, just so that you know we have a chance to deliberate and vote.

So I will place y'all into a sentence works one

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay.

So, so I'll be sending you into breakout rooms and then you'll see when we're finished, you'll see a prompt on your screen to re enter the main room. Okay. Alright, sounds good.

Okay, I'm trying to

**Michael Lenmark:** Nope, okay. Please do please ignore that. Please just have who in as far as I go into

So when did you see the prompts. Okay, awesome. So they are both in breakout rooms. They are not privy to our current conversation. So if anybody has any comments or deliberations on our two candidates before we take a vote you feel free to voice your support.

SPEAKER VOTING AND DISCUSSION OMITTED

**Michael Lenmark:** Close the breakout rooms, they'll be back here in a minute.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** Are we supposed to be back here.

**Michael Lenmark:** To this, yes. Yes, you are. Um, so I think we have everybody back

Alright.

So we have everybody back the Senate has deliberated and congratulations Helena you are now the Speaker of the GSO Senate. So please get in contact with me.

After the median, and we cannot discuss transition

So awesome. So yes, congratulations.

**Helena Van Nieuwenhuizen:** For your confidence, everybody.

**Michael Lenmark:** Right. So you have one more item on the agenda tonight. This was a an amendment that was circulated by No. Well, um, so I know well if you'd like to take the floor and talk to us about your amendment, please.

**Noele Certain:** Yeah. Do you have, I guess I should put the Google doc in the chat so everybody can read it.

So hi, my name is Noele I am a senator for pharmacology.

I'm going into my fourth year

So we've been having a lot of meetings recently. And one of the meetings that we can have at the GSB our emergency meetings and I found recently that emergency meetings, maybe I'm not saying that people are intentionally doing this but

Abusing how we can vote on certain things. And this is specifically towards requesting an emergency meeting when it involves a GSR official or candidate.

And bringing this to the GSO Senate. So I think John and Spencer and I think Michael helped and also Tristan into getting this language together.

But basically this is going to go into the Constitution and is going to prevent people from putting vague things forward when they request to have an emergency meeting. So if somebody

Wants an emergency meeting because they think they need to bring such allegations or charges against a GSO Candidate or a GSO official they need to first present it to the Board of appeals and say this is something that needs to happen right then and there. There's a stipulation that if they say, if they give a reason why they can't bring it to the VOA that reason has to be in the email.

They also have to state what these allegations are and clearly provide the evidence without request. So people who are making decisions, specifically senators.

They see the evidence right then and there and the charges and they from their own minds can make the decision to say yes to the request for the emergency meeting. In addition to this, this is for privacy reasons because, again, we don't want people's information to be given out

That name and you know people's personal information should be redacted from that evidence that you put forth because again privacy is key. And also this prevents biased decisions by people. So obviously, if they don't know who it is, then people are more likely to make an unbiased decision.

And that's really it. The wording is there and if anybody has any comments or suggestions.

It'd be welcome.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right. Thank you very much. No. Well, do we have any questions or comments from the Senate. If you do, so please raise your hand.

Okay, Kate, one is in the chat, motioning to approve this amendment to the Constitution. Do I have a second second from Alex young please vote yes, no, or abstaining in the chat box.

**John Klecker:** Like, well, I have a comment.



**Michael Lenmark:** Oh, sorry, I didn't hear it. Yes.

**John Klecker:** Don't we just, this is just a general thing when we're motioning on voting, something like that, because that just went from us discussing something and like eight seconds later, we're voting on it.

We need to vote to begin to debate and vote to end debate before we motion to vote right I'm just just

**Michael Lenmark:** So,

**John Klecker:** I don't disagree. I'm just like, trying to

**Michael Lenmark:** Right so I

So I will say, I think that's just kind of like a style that's emerged here in the G. So, I think.

You don't really, you don't have to vote to motion to open debate, I think it's more that we just put things out to the Senate and then if nobody responds or place rather you can ask a question or you can simply motion like there's no stipulation that I guess yeah okay maybe rather like I should have just said like questions first and then motions, but um yeah that's true because we can always take the book back

**John Klecker:** So yeah, I don't have. I don't have any I just I just was commenting on the process. I am not trying to point fingers just trying to like just, you know, yeah.

**Michael Lenmark:** Right. Sorry about that. Yeah, I just saw the motion I jumped on it.

So, with the exception of an abstention. The motion passes. So I thank you very much. No. Well, I'll be adding us to I'll be adding this to the Constitution and obviously that new copies of all of all of the Constitution, the ICP or other foundational documents at the other week that has all of our updates in it, Will, I see a hand from you.

**William Thomas:** No, no. Well, um, how is there any sort of stipulation on how long the board of appeals has to investigate something like this, because if somebody seems like an emergency. Is it like a like a week turnaround or like you know, because it might just hit the next meeting, then you know emergency meeting never forms, because the board of appeals. I don't know how the board of appeals works. I think you're on that committee. So you must better informed on it than I did.

**Noele Certain:** So I'm not on that committee, but I know that because John has brought this up is that there is not a fast track process for the BOA and they can take a good amount of time. I don't know if John wants to comment on this. And he tried to, I believe, push something forward to make it a faster process, but that is wasn't improved. So yeah, there's really not a timeline for this, but the reason that we want to bring this to the BOA is that we have this impartial committee that can look at things like this instead of just bringing things to the Senate that may not necessarily need everyone to be involved. If it's something that turns out is not

How would you say as detrimental as somebody else may think it is, um,

But yeah, that is has not changed. And I believe John tried to push amendments forward, but that did not get approved.

**William Thomas;** Okay, thanks.

**Michael Lenmark:** Alright, thank you everybody so

As we wrap up. Is there any unfinished business that we need to address tonight.

Yes, Will.

**William Thomas:** Sorry. Yeah. One last thing and just, I guess just something to think about for future meetings.

I feel like for the \$500 stipends that have been suggested for senators. I feel like a nod has said a lot about like the amount of checks that need to be processed for paying people and I feel like

You're

**Michael Lenmark:** You're cutting out Will

**Anand Aiyer:** I oh these are not handled by FSA. This is handled by payroll. So if you make it if we approve to vote on the salary. You can have direct deposit

**William Thomas:** Okay.

**Anand Aiyer:** All right.

**William Thomas:** Yes, I just feel like it might be a lot of work for

**Anand Aiyer:** System. Yes, thank you for raising that.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right. Thank you, Bill. Any other unfinished business to address tonight.

Looks like not. Is there any new business to bring

Yes, Chuankai

**Chuankai Chen:** Can you hear me.

**Chuankai Chen:** Hi everyone this is Senator of the genetics Department, actually, what I want to bring up is GSO employee job report or employment summary to all the new senators and here's a bylaw we passed during the last senate meeting.

But I just want to include some amendment, which is basically some specifications on how and when the employees should turn in their job summaries. Can you make me a co host. So I can share screen.

**Michael Lenmark:** We have to address this quickly because we are running out of time, we can we may need to push us to the next meeting. Let me. Maybe I just, it's

**Chuankai Chen:** Just very briefly just one or two minutes.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, so

You don't have co host. You can now share your screen.

**Chuankai Chen:** All right, just

So the yellow part as you can see are the amendments or specifications. I want to include in this by law to which is basically first it requires to summaries for the EC members as I think that they are the very important members of GSO and for other committees please you only need to submit one and also put for the other members on the first summaries should be received before the end of the first semester and the second summary should be received one month before the end of thing point

All summaries should be written based on the template which I provided before the chair of the Policy Action Committee is responsible for collecting and posting these summaries on to the GSO website within one week after the submission deadline. I just want to point it out. It's important to make a strict deadlines for these summaries. That's my motion.

To implement this specifications.

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay. All right. Thank you, Tom chi, do we have any questions or comments from the

**Michael Lenmark:** Okay, so it looks like there are no questions or comments so trunk. I did make a motion to approve this language. Do we have a second second from Helena and Caitlyn. So if you approve right yes if not type no or abstain. Okay. All right. Looks like unanimous support. So the motion passes. This will now be included in our Constitution. Chuankai please email me a copy of this and then I'll have included in the new version of the Constitution. I'll send out by the end of the week. Sure. Thank you so much. Alright, so. Let me just take back the screen.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right, so all that's left is announcements.

So as a reminder to everybody GS o elections are currently live on solar. So if you go to your solar account, you can go there and find student government elections and then cast your vote.

For the new etc. You know, we voted for speaker tonight because that's something we do internally within the Senate.

But the other positions of President, Vice President treasurer and secretary are voted on by the entire student body on solar so please rise to that and also to remind the students in your department to vote as well. So, if I remember correctly, those elections close at 5pm Eastern Standard Time on Friday. I'm not worthy announced elections on blast email. Um, I don't. I mean,

Like we still don't have access to our

We're still without like a big Western so I don't know what we want more we can do beyond activating our senators to push for participation and maybe blasting up on our social media, which are not I'm

Not when you say unable to vote. Do you mean they're just not aware or they're truly unable to vote.

They're not aware. Um, so, at present, I'm not sure what else we can do beyond just making sure that we reach out to as many people as we can, within our own departments Christine I see a hand from you.

**Christine Wang - Physiology & Biophysics:** Hi, can you hear me.

Yes, so I'm on the Elections Committee and Alec is not here. Our

Chair, and he will be sending out a reminder email. So if everyone can just forward that email to the students in your department, that would be great. Awesome.

**Michael Lenmark:** All right, thank you so much, Christine.

So, unfortunately not.

A post on reddit if possible. Uh, yeah, I think that that might be an interesting idea. I'm not sure how many Grad students run. I mean, I think it's more undergrads on the Reddit. But you know, I mean, whatever it takes on the present circumstances. That's a great idea.

All right. Are there any other announcements from the Senate.

All right. Looks like not so sorry that ran a little longer than I intended, although it seems that our Senate means are naturally kind of evolving towards a two hour time rather than 90 minutes of that had been traditionally um

No I'm not, I'm not certain if it's posted on social media yet, but we can certainly double check that.

So I think that's everything. So I just want to say thank you all for a wonderful year. This has been a really great learning experience for me.

Um, you know, this I unfortunately I'm having to step back from a lot of my responsibilities, because I need to get a advanced candidacy or I won't get funding again so

Gotta focus on those priorities. So thank you everybody. And congratulations to Helena. I look forward to transitioning with you. So, for the very last time. Do I have a motion to Oh, y'all. Are y'all are so uh so softball. So I see emotion from Caitlyn to end the meeting.

Do I have a second? Second from lots of people. You're so sweet. Y'all made me really happy. So have a great night. Everybody and stay safe out there.

**Mallesham Dasari:** Thank you, Michael.

**Michael Lenmark:** Bye everyone.