

# Gender Neutral Language Amendment

## Explanation of this Amendment

As this committee was charged to remove gendered language from the ASSU Constitution, the Committee organized a subcommittee dedicated to removing gendered language from the ASSU Constitution. The subcommittee resolved to remove all instances of singular pronouns in the Constitution rather than to replace the pronouns with they/them/their pronouns. The removal of singular pronouns increases the inclusivity of the ASSU Constitution by not assuming any individual's pronouns, including individuals who prefer to not be referred to by pronouns. As the ASSU Constitution serves as a foundational document for how all students at Stanford are represented, the Constitutional Review Committee adopted a policy of maximal inclusivity in drafting this language.

## Recommended Ballot Language

If passed, this measure will remove all references of gendered language from the ASSU Constitution. At present, the ASSU Constitution uses male and female pronouns several times throughout the Constitution. If adopted, this amendment would amend the ASSU Constitution to remove all references to any gendered pronouns. The amendment removes all uses of pronouns in singular form. The use of they/them/theirs is maintained as plural pronouns.

## Text of the Proposed Amendment

Amend the following sections of the ASSU Constitution and replace the struck text (formatted like this) with the **bolded text**.

### Article I, Section 5.B.2

No Association governing body, including the Association legislative bodies, members of the Association legislative bodies, the President, and the Vice President, shall exercise this right in matters not directly affecting Stanford students. A matter shall be construed as directly affecting Stanford students only if there is at least one Stanford student who is affected by the matter in a substantially different manner than would be the case if **that student** ~~he or she~~ were not a university student.

### Article II, Section 2.2

Each elected member of an Association legislative body shall, at the time of ~~her/his~~ **that member's** election and during ~~her/his~~ **that member's** continuance in office, be a member of the Association and be committed, at the time of certification of ~~her/his~~ **that member's** election, to be a member of the constituency ~~s/he~~ **that member** represents during ~~her/his~~ **that member's** term of office.

### Article II, Section 2.3

An elected member of an Association legislative body shall cease to be a member of that body upon the event of ~~her/his~~ **that member's** death, resignation, disqualification, recall, or expulsion.

### Article II, Section 2.5

If a member of an Association legislative body loses ~~her/his~~ **that member's** seat within 28 days of the general or special election in which ~~s/he~~ **that member** was elected, the vacancy created by that member shall be filled by the next-highest vote recipient in that election, who did not become a member of the relevant Association legislative body. If no such person exists, the seat shall remain vacant until filled.

### Article II, Section 3.G.1.b

The Undergraduate Senate may by a two-thirds vote expel a member of the Undergraduate Senate. Previous notice of the vote to expel a member of the Undergraduate Senate must be given at the regular meeting of the Undergraduate Senate immediately prior to the meeting at which the expulsion vote takes place. An expulsion vote shall only take place at a regular meeting of the Undergraduate Senate, and the member to be expelled shall have the right to speak in **that member's** ~~her/his~~ defense before the vote takes place.

### Article II, Section 4.A.3

Each member of the graduate population voting may cast one vote in each district to which ~~s/he~~ **that member** belongs for each of as many Graduate Student Council seats are assigned to that district.

### Article II, Section 4.A.5

No member of the Association shall vote in a district of which ~~s/he~~ **that person** is not a member.

### Article III, Section 3.1

Candidates for the positions of President and Vice President of the Association shall run for the positions in two-person slates. Each Member of the Association shall cast one vote for the President-Vice President slate of ~~his-or-her~~ **that member's** choice.

### Article III, Section 5.1

The President shall serve as the chief administrator and executive of all Association functions. ~~She-or-he~~ **The President** shall oversee and coordinate the day to day operations and activities of the Association. The President shall see to it that all measures adopted by the Association legislative bodies are carried out and enforced.

### **Article III, Section 5.5**

As the Association's chief executive, the President shall be accountable to the Association legislative bodies and to the members of the Association for all actions carried out in ~~her/his~~ **the President's** official capacity.

### **Article III, Section 5.6**

The President of the Association shall have the power to delegate authority to other members of the Association to carry out executive tasks within the Association. In particular, the President may form a cabinet to assist ~~her or him~~ in administration of the Association. The President of the Association shall have power to remove members of the cabinet at will. The members of the Cabinet may also be removed by a two-thirds vote of each Association legislative body.

### **Article V, Section 3.B.2.b**

The Financial Manager may make adjustments to this formula in ~~his/her~~ **the Financial Manager's** discretion, and such adjustments shall be binding in the calculation of the allocable amount.

### **Article V, Section 3.B.2.c**

The Financial Manager shall be responsible for making all estimations necessary in the calculation of the allocable amount, and ~~his/her~~ **the Financial Manager's** estimations shall be binding in the calculation of the allocable amount until actual figures are available to replace the estimations.

### **Article V, Section 4.A.1**

Any member of the Association shall be entitled to a full refund of any fees ~~he/she~~ **that member** paid to the Association under this Article. This amount shall be specified in the collection schedule for the fees, and should be as close as practical to the actual per-member amount collected for the fee in question.

### **Article VII, Section 2.C.2.4**

If a recall election against the President or the Vice President of the Association is successful, that person shall immediately lose ~~her or his~~ **the office that person holds**.

### **Article VII, Section 3.B.4**

Recall, continued: The officer or officers shall be removed from office with the concurrence of 2/3 of the members of the Association voting on ~~her/his~~ **that officer or officers'** recall, as determined by the Elections Commission, provided that those concurring constitute at least 15% of those eligible to vote for removal. If the entire membership of the Association was eligible to vote on a given removal, then approval shall require the concurrence of 2/3 of the graduate and undergraduate populations separately, with those voting in favor of removal within each population constituting at

least 15 percent of their respective populations. Any office which becomes vacant as a result of a recall election shall be filled according to the relevant sections of this Constitution.

**Furthermore amend, Article II, Section 3.A.3.b to read as follows if the Undergraduate Single Transferable Vote amendment does not pass:**

An upper-class candidate is a candidate who anticipates holding academic status as an Undergraduate Junior or higher, as defined by the University Registrar, at the beginning of Fall Quarter of the year of the majority of ~~his~~<sup>her</sup> **that candidate's** term. In case of dispute, decisions regarding whether a candidate is an upper-call candidate shall be made by the Elections Commission.