

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

April 11th, 2021 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Conference Call

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/93757784892?pwd=TjBCSUNqY2kxS2xJUmYwZ0E5VmtFUT09>

Call to Order

Reading and Approval of the Minutes:

Officer Reports:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs
- Development & Philanthropy
- External Affairs
- Human Diversity
- Internal Affairs
- Public Relations
- Sustainability
- Ways and Means

Special Orders:

- Graduate College discussing gradSERU Survey
- Officer Elections

Old Business:

- GS21-32 Affirming Language in the Code Annotated Act of 2021

New Business:

- GS21-29 Auxiliary Allocation 14 Act of 2020-2021
- GS21-39 Auxiliary Allocation 15 Act of 2020-2021
- GS21-41 Senatorial Representation Clarification Act
- GS21-42 Standing Committee Support Act

Announcements:

Adjournment

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CV
March 23, 2021

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS21
April 11th, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-105-19
SENATE BILL GS21-32

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Procedure amending the Code Annotated with inclusive language in Title III; providing for short title, providing for codification, and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

- Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Affirming Language in the Code Annotated Act of 2021.”
- Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to remove outdated language in the Code Annotated with respect to the roles and responsibilities of the Director of Inclusivity.
- Section 3:** AMENDATORY: SGA Code Annotated § Title III, Chapter 5, Section 24, Subsection B, paragraph I, is amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items removed shall be denoted with a ~~strikethrough~~. All items added shall be denoted with an underline.
- i. Department Purpose.** The Department of Inclusivity shall provide assistance, services, and advocacy within the SGA executive branch for underrepresented students on campus. The Department shall address issues that affect international students, students with disabilities, as well as ~~gender and sexual minority issues and multicultural issues~~ marginalized genders and sexualities and issues that uniquely impact multiculturalism. This list is not intended to be restrictive or exhaustive since the immediate needs of students fluctuates. More duties may be delegated to the Department at the discretion of the President.
- Section 4:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.
- Author(s): Director Mahak Merchant, Department of Inclusivity
- Co-Author(s): Chair Jerry Lessley, LGBTQ+ Program Advisory Board
Chairwoman Caitlyn Harman, Human Diversity Committee
Chairman Foster Hillis, Congressional Administration Committee

Co-Sponsor(s): Ismael Carmona Casado, Business Representative

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Esmeraldo seconded by Representative Tesfaselassie

Action taken by Congress: 35-0-0

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

SENATE SESSION GS21

April 11th, 2021

SENATE BILL NO. GS21-41

AS INTRODUCED

A Senatorial Act of Procedure amending the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws; providing short title; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE:

- Section 1:** This Act shall be known and may be cited as the “Senatorial Representation Clarification Act.”
- Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this Act shall be to amend the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Senate to provide revised policies and procedures affecting representation, extending to: selection methods; policies and procedures for elections and appointments; and terms for senatorial representation.
- Section 3:** AMENDATORY: Section 2 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be amended to provide the following, which shall appear as Subsection C.

SECTION 2. Representation

- C. SELECTION METHODS. The Graduate Student Senate recognizes two selection methods for obtaining senatorial representation: election and appointment. Graduate Students elected or appointed by a Department shall be members of the Graduate Student Senate and possess all the rights and privileges of a Senator in the Graduate Student Senate.
1. REPRESENTATION NOTICE. The Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate shall distribute a notice containing information about representation in the Graduate Student Senate to each Department one (1) week before the beginning date of the academic year. Such notice shall inform the Department of the following: its right to and the benefits of representation in the Graduate Student Senate; the eligibility requirements for Senators; its right to election or appointment and the procedures for such; and other relevant information.
 2. REQUIRED FORMS. No Senator, elected or appointed, shall be permitted to serve in the Graduate Student Senate until such Senator submits a Senate Credential Form and Senator Responsibility Statement to the Secretary of the Graduate Student Senate.
 - a. CREDENTIAL AND RESPONSIBILITY FORM. If a Senator may serve additional terms, a new senatorial term will not commence until that Senator again issues a Senate Credential Form and Senator Responsibility Statement to the Secretary of the Graduate Student Senate.
 - b. SELECTION METHOD DOCUMENT. Concurrently, a Senator must also furnish to the Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate an official document drafted and endorsed by the Graduate Contact of the Department the selection method employed by the Department and the results thereof. A Senator shall not be permitted to serve in the Graduate Student Senate until such document is submitted.

Section 4: AMENDATORY: Section 2 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be amended to provide the following, which shall appear as Subsection D.

SECTION 2. Representation

- D. ELECTION. All members of the Graduate Student Senate not appointed according to the most current provisions of these Bylaws shall be elected to the Graduate Student Senate, in accordance with the following procedures.
1. GENERAL ELECTION. The Graduate Student Senate shall permit all Department to administer an election for senatorial representation, whereby the Graduate Students of a Department which opts to administer such election shall have the sole authority to prescribe the date, time, and method of election by which they may select a Graduate Student within the Department to serve as a Senator; provided that, the election is called within one (1) month from the beginning date of the academic year—unless the Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate alters this date by an Act of Legislation—and is administered in accordance with the provisions of this Section.
 2. GRADUATE CONTACT. The Graduate Student Senate shall presume the Graduate Contact of a Department shall be responsible for administering an election. The Graduate Contact, however, may delegate such responsibility, but they must inform the Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate of such delegation of responsibility.
 3. ELECTORATE. The electorate of a senatorial race shall consist of all Graduate Students within the Department for which the senatorial seat belongs. In the absence of any guidance regarding the delineation of certain Departments, a Department may seek guidance from the Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate to determine or to clarify the electorate of a senatorial seat.
 4. CANDIDATE INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS. The following provides critical information and certain requirements for candidacy for a senatorial term.
 - a. ELIGIBILITY. Any Graduate Student seeking candidacy as a Senator in the Graduate Student Senate must be currently enrolled in a recognized graduate program at the University of Oklahoma and shall have a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher. The Chair of the Graduate Student Senate shall consult with the Graduate Contact of each Department to perform enrollment and G.P.A. performance evaluations for each candidate. If a candidate fails to meet the minimum eligibility standards provided herein, they shall not be considered for candidacy and their name struck from all ballots.
 - b. CANDIDATE WITHDRAWAL. Any candidate may withdraw their name from the ballot any time prior to 5:00 p.m. three (3) days before an election by submitting written notification to the Graduate Contact of the Department. The Graduate Contact shall verify the notification.
 - c. NOTICE. The Graduate Contact of a Department must provide adequate notice of both the election and the opportunity to run as a candidate in such election to all Graduate Students of the Department.
 5. VOTERS' RIGHTS. The following rights shall not be infringed.
 - a. The right of the Graduate Students of a Department to vote by secret ballot shall not be infringed.

- b. The right of the Graduate Students of a Department to arrive at a voting decision free from undue influence shall not be infringed.
 - c. No person, group, or organization, regardless of its affiliation, shall require any Graduate Student to vote, or shall require any Graduate Student to vote either for or against any candidate or candidates in any election sanctioned by the Graduate Student Senate.
6. VOTING. Candidates shall be elected by a simple majority of the voting electorate of a Department. No Graduate Student of a Department shall be permitted to vote for more than two (2) candidates for office in the Graduate Student Senate. The Graduate Contact shall call the total number of votes for each candidate, whereby the two (2) receiving the greatest number of votes shall be deemed Senators for the Department.
 7. RUNOFF ELECTIONS. Runoff elections shall be held three (3) business days following the date of an election and shall only occur in the event more than one (1) candidate receives an equal number of votes.
 8. UNCONTESTED ELECTIONS. All Graduate Students that have filed for election must be placed on the ballot for their respective Department, even if the position is uncontested. In an uncontested election, the candidate must receive a simple majority of the voting electorate of the Department.

Section 5: AMENDATORY: Section 2 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be amended to provide the following, which shall appear as Subsection E.

SECTION 2. Representation

- E. APPOINTMENT. All members of the Graduate Student Senate not elected according to the most current provisions of these Bylaws shall be appointed to the Graduate Student Senate by the following procedure.
 1. STANDARD APPOINTMENT. A Department may appoint a Senator or Senators to the Graduate Student Senate; provided that, the appointment is made within one (1) month from the beginning date of the academic year—unless the Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate alters this date by an Act of Legislation—and such appointment adheres to the provisions of this Section.
 - a. GRADUATE CONTACT. The Graduate Contact of a Department may appoint any Graduate Student of the Department that satisfies all eligibility requirements for service as a Senator in the Graduate Student Senate; provided that such Graduate Student consents to represent the Department.
 - b. ELIGIBILITY. Any Graduate Student seeking an appointment as a Senator in the Graduate Student Senate must be currently enrolled in a recognized graduate program at the University of Oklahoma and shall have a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher. The Chair of the Graduate Student Senate shall consult with the Graduate Contact of each Department to perform enrollment and G.P.A. performance evaluations for each candidate. If a candidate fails to meet the minimum eligibility standards provided herein, they shall not be considered for appointment and an alternative appointment must be made.
 - c. NOTICE. The Graduate Contact of a Department must provide adequate notice of the vacancy and opportunity for appointment to all Graduate Students of the Department.

2. SPECIAL APPOINTMENT. Upon a Senator's resignation or removal from the Graduate Student Senate, the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee shall notify that Senator's Department of a vacancy within five (5) business days from the date of the Senator's resignation or removal and provide a Notice of Vacancy to the Department.
- a. The following statutory Notice of Vacancy is sufficient for use (content framed in brackets indicates inclusion is optional; content framed in parentheses, which the exception of numerical values, indicates inclusion is mandatory but variable among documents):

NOTICE OF VACANCY

(DATE)

To whom it may concern,

This form serves to inform you of a vacancy[/-ies] in the Graduate Student Senate for your Department. The named individual[/s] below has[/have] [resigned/been removed] from the Graduate Student Senate [for the following reason or reason]:.

Name: (Last Name, First Name)

Department: (DEPARTMENT)

[Name: (Last Name, First Name)

Department: (DEPARTMENT)]

Your Department has two (2) weeks from the date of this correspondence to appoint one[/two] Graduate Student[/s] to continue the electoral term of the named individual[/s] above. To note, elected Senators serve a term of one (1) academic year, beginning the fourth academic week of the academic year.

Each Department is represented by no more than two (2) Senators. According to our records, your Department is currently represented by [zero/one/two] Senator/[s].

Graduate Students duly enrolled in a Department with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher are eligible for office. If a Graduate Student belongs to more than one (1) Department, that student may only represent one (1) Department.

[Departments may remain in good standing and eligible for funding so long as at least one (1) Senator for that Department has regular attendance in the Graduate Student Senate. We encourage full participation by a Department, however, and request two (2) individuals represent each Department.]

If your Department chooses not to appoint any individual at this time, your Department may fall into bad standing and be ineligible for funding. Failure to complete this form and return it to the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee by close of business at the end of the two-week period shall also constitute a forfeiture of immediate representation.

Please provide the names of the individual/[s] your Department intends to appoint:

Name: _____

Department: _____

Name: _____
Department: _____

Sincerely,

(First Name, Last Name)

Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee of the Graduate Student Senate

- b. The Graduate Contact of a Department shall be provided two (2) weeks from the date of receipt of a Notice of Vacancy provided by the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee to procure an appointment from the Graduate Students of that Department.
 - i. The Graduate Contact may appoint any Graduate Student of the Department that satisfies all eligibility requirements for service as a Senator in the Graduate Student Senate provided herein; provided that such Graduate Student consents to represent the Department.
 - ii. The Graduate Contact must provide adequate notice of the vacancy and opportunity for appointment to all Graduate Students of the Department.
- c. The Graduate Contact must furnish a response to the Notice of Vacancy containing the names and contact information of the appointee(s) to the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee at the close of the two (2) weeks.
 - i. If the Graduate Contact is for whatever reason unable to respond to the Notice of Vacancy and return it to the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee by close of business at the end of the two-week period, it shall constitute a forfeiture of immediate representation.
- d. It shall be at the discretion of the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee to accept a Notice of Vacancy response submitted after the two-week period, but not longer than four (4) weeks following the date of receipt of a Notice of Vacancy.
- e. The Internal Affairs Committee shall author an act of procedure appointing members of the Graduate Student Senate, of which such act shall provide the names of both the members and their respective Departments. This act shall appear under "Items to be Considered" during the next general meeting following receipt of the Department's response to the Notice of Vacancy.
- f. The Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee and the Vice Chair of the Graduate Student Senate may provide a condensed orientation for specially appointed Senators up to three (3) times per academic semester.

Section 6: AMENDATORY: Subsection E of this Section 2 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be renumbered to appear as Subsection F.

Section 7: AMENDATORY: Section 2 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be amended to provide the following, which shall appear as Subsection G.

SECTION 2. Representation

F. TERM. Senators shall serve for a term of one (1) academic year.

- a. SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TERM. Senators appointed by a Department following a resignation or removal shall serve for the remainder of the electoral mandate of the Senator

previously elected by that Department and for whose office the appointed Senator was selected to carry out.

- b. CONSECUTIVE OR LATER TERMS. Senators may serve consecutive or later terms in the Graduate Student Senate, regardless of whether such individuals were elected to or appointed to their first term, if such individuals satisfy all eligibility requirements for service as a Senator in the Graduate Student Senate.

Section 8: This Act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Dayten Israel (81), Graduate Student Senate Secretary
Co-Author(s): Cooper Delafield (111), Internal Affairs Committee Chair
Co-Sponsor(s):
Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by Senate:
Verified by Chair of Senate: _____

Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

SENATE SESSION GS21

April 11th, 2021

SENATE BILL NO. GS21-42

AS INTRODUCED

A Senatorial Act of Procedure amending the
Graduate Student Senate Bylaws; providing short title; and
providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE:

Section 1: Title: This Act shall be known and may be cited as the “Standing Committee Support Act.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this Act shall be to amend the Bylaws of the Graduate Student Senate to provide defined responsibilities and revised policies affecting the various standing committees.

Section 3: AMENDATORY: Section 10 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be amended to provide the following as denoted by underline:

SECTION 10. Standing Committees

A. STANDING COMMITTEES. There shall be nine (9) standing committees, listed as follows:

1. Internal Affairs Committee

a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Internal Affairs Committee shall address all matters concerning the internal affairs of the Graduate Student Senate and the SGA, including all proposed changes to the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws, the SGA Code Annotated, and the SGA Constitution. The Committee shall work to improve relations among the Graduate Student Senate and all other co-equal branches of the SGA, and it shall strive to make the Graduate Student Senate more effective in fulfilling its role within the SGA.

i. SPECIAL POLICIES AFFECTING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP. At least one (1) member of the Internal Affairs Committee must be a Graduate Student Senator from the University of Oklahoma College of Law (“College of Law”).

A. If that Senator from the College of Law shall be permanently removed from the Graduate Student Senate for any reason, a remaining Senator from the College of Law—if one exists—shall be removed from any committee of which they are a part and reassigned to the Internal Affairs Committee; provided, if that remaining Senator from the College of Law is a chairperson of any committee, they shall not be removed from such committee.

B. In such cases, as may from time to time occur, any subsequent Senator provided by the College of Law shall be assigned to the Internal Affairs Committee for the duration of their term or the duration of the current Senate Session, whichever period is longer.

b. COMMITTEE CHAIR.

i. The Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee shall serve as the Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall assist the Graduate Student Senate Chair in bringing before the body the proper procedures as outlined in the SGA Constitution, SGA Code Annotated, Graduate Student Senate Bylaws, and Robert’s Rules of Order.

- A. In the event there is a question over the legality of any given procedure, the Parliamentarian shall be entrusted to immediately research the issue using all immediately available resources and report their findings to the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate.
 - B. The Parliamentarian shall not be empowered to overturn any decisions made by the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate, however, and shall only be utilized as a parliamentary resource as the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate deems necessary.
 - C. If the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee is for whatever reason unable to execute the responsibilities of the Parliamentarian during a general meeting, the Vice Chair of the Graduate Student Senate shall serve as Parliamentarian.
 - ii. The Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee shall oversee the election of Officers. In the event the Chair is a candidate for office, the Internal Affairs Committee shall select by a majority vote one (1) of its members to serve as election commissioner.
- 2. Ways and Means Committee
 - a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Ways and Means Committee shall address all matters concerning the expenditure and appropriation of funds for the administration of the Conference Travel and Research Grants, as well as serve an oversight role in the SGA budgetary process.
 - i. CONFERENCE TRAVEL AND RESEARCH GRANTS. Conference Travel and Research Grants shall be distributed to approved Graduate Students at the conclusion of each semester, following approval by the Graduate Student Senate. However, the Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Senate shall at all times reserve the right to amend or otherwise alter the allocation process.
 - A. REPORTING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. Members of the Ways and Means Committee shall inform the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee of any potential conflicts of interest in funding decisions, including:
 - 1. Having filled out a funding application to be reviewed by the Committee.
 - 2. Having a close, personal relationship with a person that has filled out a funding application to be reviewed by the Committee.
 - B. LEGITIMATE CONFLICTS. The Chair of the Ways and Means Committee shall determine whether the potential conflict of interest constitutes a legitimate conflict of interest. If the Chair deems the conflict legitimate, the committee member shall not participate in the deliberations of the aforementioned applications.
 - b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the Ways and Means Committee shall serve as the financial officer of the Graduate Student Senate and oversee the disbursement of all allocated funds.
- 3. Academic Affairs Committee.

- a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Academic Affairs Committee shall address all issues concerning academics and learning initiatives of Graduate Students. The Committee shall also address student concerns arising out of or relating to University policies, initiatives, and programs that affect Graduate Students with respect to their individual academic missions and goals. The Committee shall serve as a point of contact within the Graduate College with respect to these matters. The Committee shall also be responsible for coordinating and implementing the Outstanding Graduate Assistant Awards each academic year.
 - i. OUTSTANDING GRADUATE ASSISTANT AWARDS. The Academic Affairs Committee shall be responsible for reviewing applications for Outstanding Graduate Assistant Awards and selecting awardees.
 - A. RUBRIC. Members of the Academic Affairs Committee shall develop a rubric for evaluating Award applications.
 - 1. Any Award rubric developed by the Academic Affairs Committee must be adopted by a majority of members.
 - 2. Any Award rubric adopted by the Academic Affairs Committee shall then be sent to the Executive Committee for subsequent review and adoption.
 - 3. Award rubrics must be adopted by the Academic Affairs Committee and Executive Committee at least one week prior to the application filing period.
 - B. NOTICE. Following an Award rubric's adoption by the Executive Committee, the rubric must be published and made available to Award applicants prior to and during the application filing period.
 - C. RECUSAL. If any member of the Academic Affairs Committee intends to file an application for an Award, that member must provide notice to the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.
 - 1. Such member must also recuse themselves from both the selection of awardees and the development of any new Award rubrics the Academic Affairs Committee intends to adopt prior to that application filing period.
 - 2. If the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee intends to file an application for an Award, notice shall be distributed in adherence to the normal rules of succession (e.g., Vice Chair, Secretary).
 - 3. The rules of succession shall stand in the event two or more of the executive members of the Academic Affairs Committee intend to file an application for an Award.
 - 4. In the event all three executive members intend to file an application for an Award, notice shall be distributed to the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate.
 - b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee shall work with leadership within the Executive branch and the Graduate College to coordinate efforts related to academic policies and related matters affecting Graduate Students.
4. Development and Philanthropy Committee.
 - a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Development and Philanthropy Committee shall coordinate and implement philanthropic events, programs, and initiatives. The Committee shall strive to instill the values of community service and philanthropy among the members of the Graduate Student body.

- b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the Development and Philanthropy Committee shall plan and execute internal community service and development initiatives of the Graduate Student Senate.
5. External Affairs Committee.
 - a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The External Affairs Committee shall address all matters relating to wage, health insurance, and facility access issues, as well as other related matters that affect Graduate Students. The Committee shall identify and work to resolve problems with new and existing University policies and initiatives. The Committee shall strive to develop the relationship Graduate Students have with their respective Departments and the University.
 - b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the External Affairs Committee shall work with leadership within the Executive branch and the Graduate College to identify and work toward resolutions of the aforementioned matters.
6. Human Diversity Committee.
 - a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Human Diversity Committee shall address all issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion that affect Graduate Students. The Committee shall coordinate activities, programs, and other initiatives in partnership with cultural and affinity groups, as well as consult with the Graduate College on such matters. The Committee shall also schedule the “Diversity Discussion” panel series to allow student, staff, faculty, and community members to discuss issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion in academia.
 - b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the Human Diversity Committee shall work with leadership within the Executive branch to coordinate SGA-wide efforts related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
7. International Student Affairs Committee.
 - a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The International Student Affairs Committee shall address all matters concerning international Graduate Students. The Committee shall identify concerns among international Graduate Students and advocate on their behalf within the Graduate College and within SGA. The Committee shall also strive to improve the relationship of the Graduate Student Senate with international Graduate Students and other groups, organizations or departments, of which international students are a central part, at all times striving to ensure international Graduate Students have a positive student experience.
 - b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the International Student Affairs Committee shall work with leadership within the Executive branch to coordinate SGA-wide efforts related to international students, providing specific attention to international Graduate Students. The Chair shall also coordinate other inter-organizational efforts with other international student groups.
8. Sustainability Committee.
 - a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Sustainability Committee shall address any and all issues relating to environment sustainability within SGA, the University, and among the Graduate Student body. The Committee shall identify policies and practices of other universities and other sources to inform its recommendations and sustainability initiatives aimed at advancing environmental sustainability across the University. The Committee shall strive to improve environmental consciousness among the Graduate

Student body, as well as advocate for environmentally conscious policies at the University.

- b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the Sustainability Committee shall consult with the Chair of the Sustainability Committee of the Undergraduate Student Congress to coordinate initiatives within the Legislative branch and to receive briefings on the Student Environmental Council.

9. Public Relations Committee.

- a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE. The Public Relations Committee shall oversee all communication efforts of the Graduate Student Senate across all media. The Committee shall also develop and execute outreach and education initiatives to build awareness about the Graduate Student Senate among Graduate Students.
- b. COMMITTEE CHAIR. The Chair of the Public Relations Committee shall work with leadership within the Executive branch and the Graduate College to coordinate communication efforts about the programs, initiatives, and services of the Graduate Student Senate.

B. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.

1. MEMBERS. Each member of the Graduate Student Senate shall be appointed to one standing committee, with the exception of the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate, who shall not serve on any standing committee. The Vice Chair and Secretary of the Graduate Student Senate shall, however, serve as members of a standing committee, but shall serve as an officer of any such committee.
2. MEMBERSHIP DURATION. Committee members shall remain in their assigned committee unless they resign or are removed from the Graduate Student Senate. Senators may, however, request to change committees, but it shall be at the discretion of the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate to approve such requests. Committee assignments shall continue past the end of a session, and members shall retain their committee assignments for the duration of their service in the Graduate Student Senate, unless a member requests to change committees.

C. COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Members shall attend all meetings of the standing committee to which they are assigned. A member shall accrue an absence for failure to attend a meeting of their assigned standing committee, regardless of whether such a meeting achieves a quorum.

1. All members of a standing committee and the officers of the Graduate Student Senate shall have speaking privileges at all committee meetings. All individuals recognized for presentations in Special Orders, authors of past legislation during follow-up reports, and authors of currently moved legislation during the author's explanation, questions to the author, and author's summation have speaking privileges at the respective times. All other individuals present may be granted speaking privileges at a committee meeting with the consent of a majority of members present and voting.
2. In no case shall any bill or resolution that has received a "Do Fail" recommendation in a committee be placed in the Order of Business, or be recognized, in any general meeting of the Graduate Student Senate.
3. If legislation is assigned to more than one (1) standing committee, the legislation shall not be placed in the Order of Business or be recognized in any general meeting of the Graduate Student Senate if the legislation receives a "Do Fail" recommendation in either committee assigned.

D. COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEDURES.

1. QUORUM. A quorum to perform official business shall be set equal to a majority of any and all voting members of a standing committee assigned to such committee.
 2. MEETING TIMES. Committees shall hold regularly scheduled meetings at least twice a month. The Chair of a standing committee may call a special meeting of the committee at any other time, but a quorum must still be attained to perform official business.
 3. ABSENCES. The Chair of each standing committee shall supply the Secretary of the Graduate Student Senate with a list of any members who failed to attend a committee meeting.
 4. EXCUSALS. If a member cannot attend a committee meeting, the member may submit a written request for an excusal to the Chair of their assigned standing committee or submit a proxy, but at all times the Chair of a standing committee must be notified prior to any absence.
 5. RECOMMENDATIONS. Following the consideration of any legislation, a committee wishing to make conclusive action on such legislation shall upon majority vote make a motion of recommendation to the Graduate Student Senate. The following recommendations are permitted.
 - a. DO PASS. A recommendation of "Do Pass" shall refer legislation to the Graduate Student Senate with the standing committee's recommendation that the Graduate Student Senate approve the item.
 - b. DO NOT PASS. A recommendation of "Do Not Pass" shall refer legislation to the Graduate Student Senate with the standing committee's recommendation that the Graduate Student Senate not approve the item.
 - c. NO RECOMMENDATION. A recommendation of "No Recommendation" shall refer legislation to the Graduate Student Senate without the standing committee's recommendation that the Graduate Student Senate approve or fail the legislation.
 - d. COMMIT TO COMMITTEE. A recommendation of "Commit to Committee" shall refer legislation to any standing or other committee stated by the Chair of the standing committee to receive the legislation. The Chair of the standing committee is authorized to limit the scope of any such committee's review of the legislation, at the advice of the members of the standing committee.
 - e. DO FAIL. A recommendation of "Do Fail" shall prohibit, without prejudice, legislation from appearing before the Graduate Student Senate.
- E. ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Orders of Business in the standing committee meetings shall be conducted in the following order. Unless defined differently, definitions are the same as for general meetings.
1. Call to Order and Opening Roll Call
 2. Officer Reports
 - a. Committee Chair
 - b. Committee Vice Chair
 - c. Committee Secretary
 3. Special Orders
 - a. Members may speak at this time on topics not pending before the committee but within its purview.
 - b. Outside presentations or other special events scheduled through the officers of the committee may be presented at this time.
 4. Old Business

- a. Items which have been on the “Items To Be Considered” agenda and moved at a previous meeting of the committee during the current session of the Graduate Student Senate.
 - 5. Items To Be Considered
 - a. All legislative items assigned to the committee by the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate or by a motion to commit legislation to the committee during a general meeting or a meeting of the Executive Committee must be heard at this time.
 - 6. Follow-up Reports
 - a. Authors of legislation previously passed may deliver reports on the developments resulting from that legislation’s passing.
 - 7. General Discussion
 - a. Committee members are allotted time to discuss actions taken and considered during the business portion of the committee meeting.
 - 8. Adjournment
- F. OFFICERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES. Each standing committee shall have a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary as its officers.
 - 1. COMMITTEE CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES
 - a. The Committee Chair shall be the presiding officer of the committee during committee meetings.
 - b. The Committee Chair shall represent the committee in official business and during general meetings.
 - c. The Committee Chair shall appoint a Committee Vice Chair and Committee Secretary with the advice and consent of the remaining members of the standing committee.
 - d. The Committee Chair shall be responsible for bringing to the attention of the committee those duties and responsibilities entrusted to it and shall be responsible for coordinating all meetings of the committee.
 - e. The Committee Chair shall provide to the Secretary of the Graduate Student Senate digital copies of the following records: a report of attendance and action on all business (including recommendations on legislation) following each committee meeting by the conclusion of a committee meeting.
 - f. The Committee Chair shall attend all meetings of the Executive Committee.
 - 2. COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES
 - a. The Committee Vice Chair shall preside over the committee during committee meetings in the absence of the Committee Chair.
 - b. The Committee Vice Chair shall strive to ensure that all legislation receives legislative follow-up. This shall be accomplished by asking members about their legislation (following passage by the general body) during the Committee Vice Chair report and keeping record of any action taken on all legislation that passes the committee.
 - c. The Committee Vice Chair shall assist the Committee Chair in bringing to the attention of the committee those duties and responsibilities entrusted to it.
 - 3. COMMITTEE SECRETARY RESPONSIBILITIES
 - a. The Committee Secretary shall preside over the committee during committee meetings in the absence of both the Committee Chair and Committee Vice Chair.
 - b. The Committee Secretary shall assist the Committee Chair in bringing to the attention of the committee those duties and responsibilities entrusted to it.
- G. REMOVAL BY COMMITTEE. Any committee officer may be removed from office upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those committee members present and voting at a meeting of the

standing committee. Removable offense shall include, but are not limited to, failure to comply with applicable regulations and all SGA-governing documents and any other offense deemed a dereliction of duty.

1. REMOVAL BY SENATE. Any member of the Graduate Student Senate may author a piece of legislation seeking the removal of a committee officer. Such legislation shall include language that specifies on what ground the officer is to be removed. Legislation is to be seen at the next general meeting and shall be placed under "Special Orders" to be seen by Committee of the Whole.
- H. RESIGNATION. Should a committee officer choose to resign from service as an officer, they shall submit to the Chair of the Graduate Student Senate a written and signed resignation. Resignation from a committee office shall not imply resignation from membership of the committee, nor shall resignation from membership imply resignation from the Graduate Student Senate.
- I. VACANCY. The ordinary rules of succession shall apply following the removal or resignation of any officer. The order of succession shall be as follows: Vice Chair; Secretary; and the remaining committee members by seniority, which shall be defined by one's period of service in the Graduate Student Senate.
- J. EXPULSION. Any Committee officer shall be eligible for expulsion from the office upon accruing a number of absences that would cause a regular member of the Graduate Student Senate to be eligible for expulsion or failure to perform their duties.
- K. TERM. All committee officers shall serve for a term of one academic year, in accordance with the nomination and voting process provided elsewhere in these Bylaws.

Section 4: AMENDATORY: Section 8 of the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws shall be struck in its entirety denoted by strikethrough.

SECTION 8. Appointed Officers

~~A. Appointment~~

- ~~1. The Chair shall have the authority to appoint Senators to any Appointed Position.~~
- ~~2. The appointment can be terminated earlier at the discretion of the Chair, but otherwise lasts until the next regularly scheduled officer elections.~~

~~B. Positions~~

~~1. Parliamentarian~~

- ~~a. The Parliamentarian advises the Chair, other officers, and Senators on matters of parliamentary procedure.~~
- ~~b. The Parliamentarian does not have the authority to make official rulings.~~
- ~~e. The position of Parliamentarian cannot be filled by the Chair. The position may be filled by either the Vice Chair or Secretary if the position cannot be filled otherwise.~~

Section 5: This Act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

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Co-Sponsor(s):
Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by Senate:
Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____