

# Constitution of the Graduate Student Council University of North Texas

## Article I—Name

The name of this organization shall be Graduate Student Council.

The organization is a student organization at the University of North Texas.

## Article II—Objectives

The purposes for which the Council is organized are:

To serve graduate students by facilitating communication between graduate students and the University of North Texas administration.

To recognize, foster, and promote outstanding leadership and high academic achievement among graduate, doctoral, and professional students.

To encourage and support other organizations at the University of North Texas.

To provide a forum for the presentation of innovative ideas to the benefit of the University community.

## Article III—Membership

### *Section 1—Membership Criteria*

Membership shall be open to all graduate and doctoral students at the University of North Texas maintaining at minimum 3.0 grade point average on the current post-baccalaureate or graduate degree in which they currently seek.

### *Section 2—Meeting Requirements*

As a member, one is expected to be present at a minimum of two meetings per semester.

## Article IV—Officers

### *Section 1—Election of Office*

The officers of this organization are president, vice president, information officer, financial officer.

Officers will be elected by ballot (written or electronic), with each active member casting a vote. A majority of votes will constitute a victory.

Election of officers will take place during the April of the spring semester.

### *Section 2—Term of Office*

Officers will assume office for the period of one year beginning June 1.

All officers shall comprise the Executive Committee of the organization. The Executive Committee may meet in addition to regular organization meetings, and shall appoint such committees that are needed to carry out organizational goals.

*Section 3—Recall of Officers*

Officers are subject to recall for malfeasance in office.

Recall procedures will be initiated at the request of five active members.

A hearing will be conducted at a regular meeting for the presentation of evidence from all concerned parties.

A majority of those active members voting in a recall at the end of the hearing is necessary to remove any office.

**Article V—Amendments and Ratification**

Amendments to this constitution or bylaws must be submitted in writing at a regular meeting of the organization.

This constitution and bylaws may be amended by 2/3-majority vote of those voting, a quorum being present.

Voting on amendments must be conducted after a minimum notice of 2 weeks.

Ratification of this constitution shall become effective upon approval by a 2/3-majority vote of membership.

**Article VI—Not-for-profit Statement**

This is a not-for-profit organization.

**Article VII—Statement of Non-discrimination**

This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of age, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, disability or handicap, race, religion, sexual orientation, Vietnam Era veteran status. This policy will include, but is not limited to, recruiting, membership, organization activities or opportunities to hold office.

**Article VIII—Financial Obligations**

A majority of voting members of this organization may determine reasonable dues and fees assessed to each member at the beginning of each semester.

A specific member or members, designated by this organization shall be responsible for payment in full of all debts accumulated by the organization not covered by funds on deposit.

**Article IX—Statement of Non-Hazing**

This organization will not engage in hazing, participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or person attending the institution.

#### **Article X—Statement of Compliance with Campus Regulations**

This organization shall comply with all University and campus policies and regulations and local, state, and federal laws.

#### **Article XI—Bylaws of the Graduate Student Council**

##### *Section 1—Cabinet and Duties*

1. President
  - a. Coordinates all activities of the organization.
  - b. Liaison to University community.
  - c. Official representative of organization.
  - d. Calls regular and special meetings.
  - e. Presides at meetings.
  - f. Prepares agenda for meetings.
  - g. Presides at New Graduate Student Orientations.
  - h. Liaison to Graduate Council.
  - i. Liaison to Admissions & Policy subcommittee of the Graduate Council.
  - j. Appoints representation of members to University & organizational committees as requested.
2. Vice President
  - a. Assumes duties of president, when necessary.
  - b. Assists president in coordination activities.
  - c. Liaison to Eagle's Nest Inter-Organizational Council.
  - d. Co-presides at New Graduate Student Orientations.
3. Information Officer (Co-Chaired)
  - a. Maintains accurate and current information of the organization and membership.
  - b. Assists president and vice-president to coordinate activities.
  - c. Keeps accurate minutes of each meeting and forwards copies to officers.
  - d. Keeps attendance records for meetings.
  - e. Updates website membership database.
  - f. Maintains accurate and current information on GSC website, blog, email account, and membership database coordinating with other GSC officers or faculty advisor.
  - g. Communicate with the Robert B. Toulouse School of Graduate Studies (TSGS) to maintain continuity of information on both GSC website as well as TSGS website.
4. Financial Officer
  - a. Maintains accurate and current account of all organizational funds.
  - b. Responsible for dispensing of funds in accordance with goals and programs established by organization.

### *Section 2—Officer Requirements*

Officers of this organization must meet the following requirements

1. Have a minimum grade point average of 3.25 and meet that minimum GPA in the semester immediately prior to the election/appointment, the semester of election/appointment, and the semesters during the term of office. In order for this provision to be met, the prospective officer must hold at least part-time status for graduate students for the semesters under consideration.
2. Be in good standing with the university and be enrolled for at least part-time status for graduate students.
3. Be ineligible to hold office should the student fail to maintain the requirements as prescribed in 1 and 2 as listed above.

### *Section 3—Meetings*

Meetings will be open to all organization active and associate members, faculty, and the Student Activities and Organizations representatives. A notice of at least 2 weeks will be given prior to all meetings. The meetings are to be organized and controlled by officers and active members.