CGS Delegate Packet February 5, 2021

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Delegate Meeting Agenda

Date: February 5th, 2020
Location: https://osu.zoom.us/j/92620483809?pwd=OHpoanhqaG5iaEdwczFN5EhiY2RYUT09
Password: 068556

Ohio Union Rm 2088A | 1739 N. High Street | Columbus, OH 43210 | (614) 292-4380 | cgs@osu.edu

1. Guest Speakers (3:30pm)
   1.1. Dr. Rebeka Campos-Astorkiza, Graduate Ombudsperson

2. CALL TO ORDER (4:00pm)
   2.1. Statement of Purpose
      2.1.1. “To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.”
   2.2. Land Acknowledgment

3. Roll Call: Attendance Code = CGS2021 (5 min.)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5 min.)
   4.1. Minutes from Jan. 15th, 2021

5. OFFICER REPORTS (10 min.)
   5.1. President, Stephen Post.144
   5.2. Vice President, Nick Messenger.37
   5.3. Treasurer, Raven Lynch.389
   5.4. Secretary, Sarah Light.109
   5.5. Chief of Staff, TBD
   5.6. Parliamentarian, Brandon Free.41

6. COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (10 min.)
   6.1. Academic Affairs, Aviva Neff.336
   6.2. Arts & Culture, Kathryn Holt.351
   6.3. Internal Affairs, Conner Sarich.6
   6.4. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Caroline Fitzpatrick.271
   6.5. Government Affairs, Maddy Lomax-Vogt.2
   6.6. Graduate Student Affairs, Michelle Scott.1445
   6.7. Health, Wellness, & Safety, Abby Greiff.2
   6.8. International Student Affairs, Melika Shahhosseini.2
   6.9. Strategic Communications, Carrie Anne Thomas.4051
   6.10. Graduate Caucus, Jenna Greve.41
   6.11. SERC, Wandelson NovaisPereria.1
   6.12. External Affairs, Katie Conner.280
   6.13. Housing and Family Affairs, Leila Viera.31

7. NEW BUSINESS (80 min.)
   7.1. Ad Hoc Governance Act 2021-002
   7.2. Ad Hoc Governance Act 2021-003
   7.3. Ad Hoc Governance Act 2021-004
   7.4. Mental Health CCS Resolution

8. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS (15 min.)
   8.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 min)
   9.1. March Delegate Meeting (Officer Elections) – March 5th @ 3:30pm

10. Adjourn (6:10pm)
CGS Virtual Meeting Ground Rules

1. Be open, flexible, considerate, and kind!
2. Speak your discomfort if something is bother you.
3. Challenge the idea, not the person.
4. You will be automatically muted when you join the meeting. Please keep your audio MUTED, unless asking a question.
5. You may ask a question by submitting it directly in the “Chat” box; or if you would like to ask via video/audio, use the “Raise Hand” feature in the “Participant” section and the chair will recognize you. Sarah will be monitoring to ensure they are brought up.
6. You may keep you video on or off as to which ever is most comfortable for you, but should connectivity issues arise we may ask you turn of the video.
7. Please be visually presentable, if using video, and limit background activity.
8. This meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes, and in hopes to share our meetings in the future.


Senators Present: Shahwar Ali, Tyler Beauregard, Aaron Beczkiewicz, Jenna Greve, Gala Komiyenko, Laine Rumreich, Conner Sarich, Dustin Servello

Senators Absent: Akshay Asaithambi, Utkarsh Shah

Executive Committee Members Present: Katherine Conner, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Brandon Free, Jenna Greve, Abigail Grief, Kathryn Holt, Sarah Light, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Raven Lynch, Nick Messenger, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Stephen Post, Conner Sarich, Michelle Scott, Carrie Anne Thomas, Leila Vieria

Executive Committee Members Absent: Melika Shahhosseini

1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:31pm
   1.1. Statement of Purpose
      1.1.1. To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.

   1.2. Land Acknowledgement
      1.2.1. CGS acknowledges central Ohio as the traditional homeland of the Shawnee, Miami, Wyandotte and other Indigenous nations who have strong ties to these lands. Today, individuals from a broad range of Indigenous backgrounds call Columbus and central Ohio home.

2. ROLL CALL
   2.1. Carmen log-in

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   3.1. Minutes from December 4, 2020
      3.1.1. Light.109: Amendment to add in the presentation of Act 2021-001.
      3.1.2. Minutes approved.
4. OFFICER REPORTS (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packet)

4.1. President (Post.144)

4.1.1. CGS put out a statement condemning the violence that occurred at the U.S. Capital last week. We will be discussing a resolution later in this meeting supporting this statement.

4.1.2. The Graduate Ombudsperson position has been filled and the new person will be officially starting in this position by the end of January.

4.1.3. All graduate students are now required to get COVID tested weekly if you are on campus at all. There are some exemptions that you can submit for.

4.1.4. We are lobbying where we can to get higher education professionals to be included in the next round of people eligible to receive the vaccine. This would include graduate students who are teaching in person this semester.

4.1.5. As far as we know, there will not be a vaccination requirement for OSU in the future, but this may change.

4.1.6. The Grad School fellowship awards will be proceeding in the spring. The application dates should be announced soon. The funding situation is a little unclear at present so there may be fewer awards than normal. AGGRS will also be moving forward to award those in the spring, but the award decisions may not be made in a timely manner.

4.1.7. Brandon Free.41 has been appointed as Parliamentarian.

4.1.8. Questions:

- Jameson.61: Is there an indication about how OSU plans to be involved in vaccine distribution to the general student population? Will OSU health insurance cover this vaccine?
  - As far as we can tell, there is not a specific plan in place yet. It’s likely that SHI will cover it.

- Holt.351: Is there any more clarifying information about the award timeline?
  - Not really. They’ve shifted the deadlines, but this doesn’t solve our major concern that students need to know ASAP about whether they will be able to secure funding for their research before they undertake it.

- Neese.13: There’s concern in the dance department about the transparency of the selection process for the AGGRS award, especially in the context of the pandemic. Have the criteria changed at all?
  - We don’t have a lot of direct information about who is receiving the funding.

- Is there any information about security planning in place for the campus area this weekend when there are potential protests that may be happening downtown?
  - We expect that OSU Police will be out to keep any crowds away from campus.

4.2. Vice President (Messenger.37)

4.2.1. If you have served on a Senate committee in the past few years, you will be getting an email with a survey to gather feedback about your experience. This is to help a review committee determine the best way to revamp and reorganize these committees to be more effective. GCBC and Grad Council are both being specifically looked at and there will also be a new central group focusing on issues of diversity.

4.2.2. We are working with the Graduate School to build a centralized orientation for all new graduate students to familiarize people with resources, offices, etc. available to them.

4.2.3. The Engaged Scholars Grant will be offered again in the spring semester. Deadlines and application information is on the CGS website.

4.2.4. Officer elections will happen at the March delegate meeting. Please reach out to the current officers to find out more information if you are interested in running for a position.

4.2.5. The Hayes Forum is still accepting abstracts until next week and the forum is happening virtually April 9th. If you are available or have constituents who are available and interested, please volunteer to help out as we need people power to host all the presentation rooms.
4.2.6. Questions:
   • Novaispereira.1: Can you resubmit an abstract if you want to make changes?
     Yes, but your advisor will have to redo the online approval.

4.3. Treasurer (Lynch.389)
   4.3.1. The application window for funding period 4 of CDG closes February 1st.
   4.3.2. CGS got our money from the student activity fee, which was much lower than what we normally get. However, we have not been spending much this year and that money should roll over and be available for use next year when the spending freeze

4.4. Secretary (Light.109)
   4.4.1. The application window for funding period 4 of CDG closes February 1st. 12 applicants were awarded in funding period 3 of CDG.
   4.4.2. Reminder that you should look over the meeting minutes and the passed legislation once they are posted to make sure that your attendance and votes are listed correctly. All of this information is pulled from Carmen and handled manually so there is room for human error.
   4.4.3. Questions:
     • Dahlberg-sears.1: What is the plan for hosting the Global Gateway Grant this summer? A lot of other awards and fellowships are not available this year and it would be a critical source of funding for some graduate students.
       • It’s unclear yet as a lot of this funding comes from outside of CGS and so many or may not be available because of budget issues. We are working to see if there may be other ways we can support grad student research.

5. COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packets)
   5.1.1. Strategic Communications
     • Carrie Anne is working on a long-term structure for organizing and planning how and when CGS communicates, both internally and externally. There is a discussion post on Carmen for delegates to submit any feedback, comments, or suggestions about how to do this most effectively.

   5.1.2. SERC
     • The committee is still working on a project recycling gloves.
     • Also working on a project to recognize graduate students who are doing work in line with OSU’s sustainability goals, climate change, or sustainability.
     • Also working to put together a joint statement written with sister committees at other Big10 institutions about divesting from fossil fuels.
     • OSU is ranked very low as a bike-friendly university (silver level in a system ranging from bronze to platinum). The committee is working on a resolution that would ask for the university to work on plans to improve our rating to the maximum accessible level by 2025.

   5.1.3. Arts & Culture
     • Information about the upcoming symposium was posted on Carmen. Please distribute that to your constituents and advertise to your department.

   5.1.4. Graduate Students Affairs
     • The hours for the Lyft partnership have been expanded to 9pm-7am and the limit has been upped by $2. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns about the Lyft program.

   5.1.5. Health, Wellness, and Safety
     • The committee is hosting an interactive program focusing on nutrition and exercise tips for continuing to thrive during the pandemic. Marketing info will be sent out soon.

   5.1.6. Housing & Family Affairs
     • The Grad School has release information about the award for grad student parents. Nominations open January 30th. Student parents should apply even though the award
amount is small as a large number of applicants gives us leverage to advocate for more support and resources for student parents moving forward.
https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-associate-performance-award-gapa

6. NEW BUSINESS


6.1.1. This act, containing amendments to the constitution, was presented and will be discussed and voted on at the February delegate meeting.

6.2. Act 2021-001: An Act Reordering and Restructuring the Articles of the Constitution of the Council of Graduate Students

6.2.1. Light.109: The purpose of this act is to reorganize the articles of the Constitution to streamline and clean up the information. Additionally, the Code of Ethics and Values has been removed from the Constitution and made into a separate document.

6.2.2. Questions:
   • None.

6.2.3. Discussion:
   • None.

6.2.4. Act is voted on via Carmen survey.

6.2.5. Act passes (77 Yeas, 0 Nays, 3 Abstention).

6.3. Resolution 2021-014: A Resolution Reaffirming the Executive Committee’s Statement Denouncing the Violence at the Capital and Condemning Insurrectionists

6.3.1. Lomax-vogt.2: This act supports the statement put out by CGS at the beginning of this week. We are asking the university to take a

6.3.2. Questions:
   • None.

6.3.3. Discussion:
   • DeRose.: Proposed amendment to Line 18 to say, “at the Capital”.
     • Amendment is accepted as friendly.
   • Tkhonyuk.1: The language in this resolution does not really extend to the international student population.
     • Dickinson.130: Line 24 mentions United States citizens specifically, but the role of lawmakers extends beyond advocating for citizens only.
     • Proposed amendment to alter this line to say “living and working within the United States”
     • This amendment is accepted as friendly.
   • Sahni.16: Line 21 mentions that there were no deaths or injuries reported but there was at least 1 person who died.
     • This resolution is specific to the violence that occurred in Columbus.
   • Hambrick.25: Proposed amendment to Line 18 to say, “participated in” rather than “allowed”.
     • Fitzpatrick.271: Amendment to the amendment to say “enabled” instead.
     • Amendment is accepted as friendly.
   • Givans.2: The current language of Line 25-26 condemns all insurrectionists, including the President and the electoral objectors. Is this what we want it to mean?
   • Cremins.3: The language in Line 34 calls on OSU to further condemn insurrectionists but perhaps more specific language would be more appropriate.
     • Fitzpatrick.271: Change this language to say “these insurrectionists”
     • Amendment accepted as friendly.
   • Dahlberg-sears.1 motions to extend debate for 1 minute.
   • Riley.865: Proposed amendment to line 22 to change “2020” to “2021”.
6.3.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.
6.3.5. Resolution passes (74 Yeas, 1 Nay, 6 Abstentions).

7. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

7.1. Delegate Issues & Concerns

7.1.1. Dickinson.130: Can we get more information about the resources that are available for students who come down with COVID and are sick for an extended period of time?
   • We will look into this specifically and send out any information we find.

7.1.2. Dickinson.130: Some international students who are on fellowships were not paid last year because they did not have U.S. bank account. Now, these students have returned to the US this semester but have not received any information from HR about their fellowships.
   • Hodak.2: A student on a fellowship should probably work directly with their program coordinator first and they can get in touch with the graduate school on their behalf. HR is probably not the first office that will have information, especially with the recent transition to Workday.

7.1.3. Barnett.615: The Environmental Health and Safety department is planning to roll out a new system for lab inspections that will have 15% of labs doing independent inspections rather than external audits. There are concerns that much of this will fall on untrained grad students. This concern has been raised to the University Research Committee as well. If you have feedback about this, please get in touch.

7.1.4. Lomax-vogt.2: Collecting signatures to get some local candidates on the ballot. If you are interested in signing this petition, please get in touch.

7.1.5. Scott.1445: Faculty Senate members have mentioned that they are worried about the possibility that they will have to take on a lot more responsibility for things like HR in the new Workday system.

7.1.6. Gregg.186: Professors at the last Grad Council meeting mentioned that some programs have graduation requirements for publication in specific journals. If your program does this, please share this information.

7.1.7. Edison.22: Students living in grad student housing will be put into quarantine housing with undergrads and are not allowed to remain in their apartments if they test positive for COVID.

7.1.8. Edison.22: Students who are mostly working off-campus this semester and no longer have parking permits are having to pay for parking or walk up to half a mile when they come to campus for mandatory weekly testing:
   • There are 10 spots in the JO North lot that are free for 10 minutes. Otherwise, this is an issue we are working on.

7.1.9. Wedding.10: Classes were arbitrarily determined to be in person or virtual this semester by professors. All students are charged a $100 distance learning fee if they have at least 1 virtual class, even though this was a decision not in their control.
   • This was a problem last semester so maybe it is now appropriate to push this forward as a resolution. Most of our sister institutions are not charging this fee so maybe we can use this to push back.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.1. Next meeting is February 5, 2021 @ 3:30pm.

9. Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm.
TO: Council of Graduate Students  
FROM: Caroline Fitzpatrick, EID Committee Chair  
DATE: 1/30/21  
RE: Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Committee Report

The EID Committee held its first meeting on January 28th. Key projects under discussion include updating and operationalizing the Implicit Bias Awareness Program, for which EID has grant monies; improving internal grievance processes and procedures; and sponsoring supportive programs for DACA students at Ohio State.

Our next meeting will be near the end of February.

All input is welcome! If you have any interest in or ideas or concerns for these or other projects, reach out to fitzpatrick.271.
TO: Council of Graduate Students  
FROM: Katie (Katherine) Conner.280  
Date: 1/31/21  
RE: Committee Report  

The External Affairs committee will be meeting Tuesday February 2nd.  

No other updates!
Government Affairs

Maddy Lomax-vogt.2

Hi everyone,

We are meeting virtually this Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021 at 3 PM. Here is a link to my meeting room:
https://osu.zoom.us/j/6180241465?pwd=NmtGWnBSRIQ2Vk9YY0Z0Sk8vbFN1Zz09

On the agenda:

1. Possible resolution to encourage a reduced workload on Election Day
   a. Allow missed class without attendance penalty
   b. Encourage scheduling exams around Election Day
2. Schedule evening presentation/discussion with:
   a. Rachel Coyle (How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse)
3. Monthly state and local legislative bulletin
   a. Upcoming Columbus City Council virtual town halls, meetings
      i. Town halls are often announced last minute – could make Carmen postings
   b. Important Ohio House and Senate legislation
      i. Monthly updates with summary, status, sponsors, etc.
4. Questions, comments, suggestions
February 2021 state and local legislative update

Columbus City Council

1. Feb. 1, 2021 Columbus City Council Meeting
   a. 0188-2021: To authorize an appropriation within the Public Safety Initiatives subfund for the purpose of acquiring and deploying a Police early warning system; and to declare an emergency. ($250,000.00)
   b. 0196-2021: To enact new Chapters 1914 and 1915 of the Columbus City Codes pertaining to the activation of body-worn cameras and the rendering of first aid by the Columbus Division of Police.
      i. Relevant ordinance

2. Feb. 8, 2021 Columbus City Council Meeting

Ohio Legislature | 2021-2022 | 134th General Assembly

Ohio House of Representatives

1. No bills currently introduced

Ohio Senate

1. Senate Bill 25
   a. Summary: To amend sections 2925.01 and 2925.03 and to enact section 2925.15 of the Revised Code to enhance penalties for certain drug trafficking offenses committed in the vicinity of a substance addiction services provider, to prohibit defrauding an alcohol, drug, or urine screening test, and to name the act's provisions the Relapse Reduction Act.
   b. Sponsor: Senator Theresa Gavarone (R)
   c. Relevant legislation
      i. Relapse Reduction Act

2. Senate Bill 17
   a. Summary: To amend sections 4501.27, 5101.33, 5101.54, 5101.542, 5163.01, 5163.07, 5166.01, and 5166.37 and to enact sections 4141.286, 4141.287, 4141.351, 4141.60, 5101.331, 5101.545, 5101.546, 5101.547, 5101.548, 5120.212, 5163.50, 5163.51, 5163.52, and 5166.45 of the Revised Code regarding eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Medicaid, work and education requirements for certain Medicaid recipients, requirements for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program electronic benefit transfer cards, and eligibility for and overpayments of unemployment compensation.
   b. Sponsor: Timothy Schaffer (R)
TO: The Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
FROM: Michelle Scott; Delegate, Chair – Graduate Student Affairs  
DATE: 2/5/2021  
RE: Committee Report

The Graduate Student Affairs committee set up times for our February meeting and will have multiple dates/times to help with everyone’s busy schedules (February 12th: 3:30-4:00pm, 15th: 4:30-5:00pm, and 18th 11:00-11:30am). We also worked with the Health, Wellness, and Safety committee to complete a resolution on access to mental health resources that will be presented at today’s meeting.
GOALS: The Health, Wellness, and Safety committee aims to ensure the physical and mental well-being of all graduate students. Specifically, through a combination of research, university partnerships, and outreach initiatives the committee is focused on creating and promoting an environment of health, safety, and education throughout the university and outside committee.

We are finalizing the details for our physical health and nutrition program. This program will be put on by the graduate student organization for OSUN, so it will be student lead. We hope for this to be very interactive and fun, while we continue our start for the new year.

Next month we will focus on getting the word out about the OUAB graduate student events. There are many events that are both fun and insightful, including an event on financial wellness. Our HWS committee survey revealed many students wanted to learn more about financial topics, so we are thrilled that OUAB has something planned to cover this.

CGS is working together with USG and IPC to create a Mental Health Summit, tasked by the Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Task Force. This summit is an event that student organization leaders can attend to learn about how to better support their member’s mental health, and to provide the leaders with support resources that they can refer their members to in times of crises. In a typical, non-COVID year, we envisioned this as a conference style event. However, with zoom fatigue being prominent, we have decided to host three sessions as a part of the Mental Health Leadership Collaborative, covering the top three topics that students and organization leaders wanted more support on. We are working on planning these helpful events, with the goal that more information can be disseminated to organization leaders so that they can lead their groups more effectively when it comes to supporting members’ mental health needs. This will be open to student leaders from ALL organizations, undergraduate, graduate, and professional alike, and all of the material will be relevant to all three groups. Marketing materials will come out for that in the next couple of weeks.

The HWS committee is also preparing for our spring wellness expo. We plan to host a wellness week in April that includes programming and activities that encourage taking care of our wellbeing in an intentional way. We hope to make this fun and something that is very well attended. More info on this, and specific events, will come next month.

If there are ever any concerns you have regarding health, wellness, and safety, or if you ever need support or want to talk, I am always available to you as a resource. Feel free to send me an email at grieff.2@osu.edu. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy, and that you’re setting aside some “you” time!
Council of Graduate Students – Housing and Family Affairs Committee

Chair: Leila Vieira.31

January 27, 2021

Dear Delegates,

Here are the updates from the Housing and Family Affairs Committee:

**Student Parent Award:**

As I mentioned at the last meeting, the Graduate School has established a new award for student parents. Nominations open on January 30, 2021, and self-nominations are welcome. The award is for $500 and the nomination process is fairly simple: you just need to write a paragraph (450-750 words) about how you’ve performed well academically while caregiving during the COVID-19 pandemic. More information can be found at: [https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-associate-performance-award-gapa](https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-associate-performance-award-gapa)

I urge you to share this information widely (you never know who in your department might be a parent!) and encourage people to apply even if they can’t put a lot of work and/or effort on the application. The more students apply, the more OSU will see the need to support student parents.

**On-campus grad housing and COVID:**

At the last delegate meeting, a delegate brought up the issue concerning graduate students living at Gateway and Neil Ave. apartments being unable to quarantine in their rooms and unable to have visitors. I followed up with Student Life and the main issue is that there is both graduate and undergraduate students living in these spaces, so they are following the same protocol for both populations because they wouldn’t be able to monitor these populations separately since they live on the same floor or building. Also, these units do not have individual entrances to apartments, which would make it more challenging to receive food or visitors without potentially putting others at risk as well. They also said they don’t necessarily have to move to OSU-provided isolation/quarantine spaces, but could go home or to another off campus location/hotel (but who has the money for that, right?!).

Please reach out to me at Vieira.31 if you have any questions or concerns.
Dear Delegates, Greetings from SERC.

The SERC members met in January to discuss the scope of the Spring semester projects. Currently, the members are working on:

- Recyclable Gloves Project
- SERC graduate awards
- Partnership with other Big 10 to write a joint statement against future use fossil fuels.

Additionally, Robert Dahlberg-Sears and Wanderson Novais are working on a resolution to recommend improvement on bicycle accessibility at OSU.

If there are any questions, concerns, or comments, please get in touch with the committee chair, Wanderson Novais, at novaispereira.1@osu.edu.

Best Regards,

SERC
January 28, 2021

Name and Senate Seat: Gala Korniyenko, City and Regional Planning, College of Engineering

Committee(s) on: CGS Housing and Family Affairs committee (HFA),
Senate Committee Member of COPE: https://senate.osu.edu/committees/physical-environment#Committee-Members
Task Force on Buckeye Village,
Task Force on Resources for Parenting Students

January Meetings Attendance Record:

Parenting and Pregnant Student Support Task Force Meeting
January 28th: Attended

Senate Meeting
January 28th: Attended

COPE
January 12th: Attended

Summary of important activities from the committees, and anything important that I feel should be added to the CGS agenda/that delegates should know about:

Meeting was conducted via Carmen Zoom due to COVID-19 and social distancing requirements

CGS Housing and Family Affairs committee (HFA)
Committee is working on a handbook in relation to parental leave.

Parenting and Pregnant Student Support Task Force Meeting
Crane Research Forum: Student Parents in Higher Education will be on February, 3, from 12 to 1 pm. https://crane.osu.edu/event/crane-research-forum-3/
Please apply for GAPA Award if you are a graduate student while providing caregiving for children and others, so we know the needs for support. The Graduate Associate Performance Award (GAPA) is Ohio State’s recognition of the exceptional performance of graduate students while providing caregiving for children and others. With recent extraordinary COVID-19 pandemic stressors, ranging from home schooling to having no childcare, are still able to perform, progress and for some, go the extra mile in taking on leadership responsibilities and/or serving as a graduate assistant in the areas of teaching or research. More info Here: https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-associate-performance-award-gapa GAPA link has been added to ACCESS website, Students with children Facebook and ACCESS/CCAMPIS grad student Listserv.

Senate Meeting
The approval of the secretary's report and the three voting items: a new grade of Emergency Pass “PE” revision to the rules as well as mechanisms in place to determine the Exceptional Circumstances in which the PE grade will be invoked; the creation of the “PE” Emergency Pass
Grade to invoke the PE grading system for Spring 2021 by way of the University Senate, as provided under the newly amended faculty rule; Procedures for Complaints of Misconduct Made Against Faculty Members.

Andrew Thomas, Chief Clinical Officer, Wexner Medical Center, reported on vaccinating the Campus Community

Resolutions can be found here: https://senate.osu.edu/senate-meeting-january-28-2021

COPE

Presentation on COVID and Classroom by Leslie Weibush, Carolyn Verga, Mike Gable. The presentation discussed classroom allocation prior to COVID. There was not enough classroom space prior to pandemic and number of classrooms of particular capacity did not meet the need. PARE (Planning, Architecture Real Estate) had a survey done with a consulting group to assess space needs and this information was used to respond to the pandemic; to accommodate social distancing the classrooms had to be rearranged with a hexagonal configuration. University needed 116 more classrooms to accommodate social distancing and ended up with about 100. Rescheduling courses was not an option. In reconfiguring classes there was a need to move furniture into storage and track it. There was a need for new classroom technology. PARE had to address HVAC and cleaning issues. PARE surveyed the faculty about new COVID protocols: higher response rate for Autumn 2020 and evaluated hybrid, vs. in-person vs. completely online. COPE suggested to survey students as well. COPE board heads met with the President Johnson. They discussed the need for graduate student and family housing. The President was receptive to the discussion and we sent a document that was an ‘ask’ for more grad and family housing. Part of this was also to plan housing in the context of transportation, childcare, access to food, schools and access to the community in general.

Future Presentations are also PARE on Parking and Transportation Study.

Future Meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2021 from 4-5 via Zoom.
Overview of the major changes contained within these proposed amendments

- **Article 2 - Mission**
  - Clarifications and replacing outdated language
- **Article 3 - Authority and Powers**
  - Clarifications and replacing outdated language
- **Article 4 - Membership and Eligibility**
  - Updates to the anti-discrimination policy
  - Clarifications about the different voting and non-voting positions that may be held as a member of CGS
- **Article 5 - Quorum and Voting**
  - Clarifications to the procedures used to determine quorum at meetings and to evaluate the outcome of all votes
- **Article 6 - Meetings**
  - Clarified process for requesting special meetings
- **Article 7 - Parliamentary Authority**
  - Clarifications and replacing outdated language
- **Article 8 - Elections and Officers**
  - Updates and clarifications to the listed duties of all executive officers
  - Expanded explanation of the procedure for removing executive officers and filling vacant executive officer positions
- **Article 9 - Committees**
  - More information added about how the different types of committees are established and led
- **Article 10 - Executive Committee**
  - Created this as a separate article
  - Expanded outline of the membership and duties of the Executive Board (renamed from the Executive Committee)
- **Article 12 - Amendments**
  - Clarification to the language describing the constitutional amendment procedure
ACT 2021-002
AN ACT UPDATING AND CLARIFYING THE LANGUAGE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF
GRADUATE STUDENTS
Authors: Governance Ad-Hoc Review Committee
Sponsor: Executive Committee

Section A. The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Constitution of the Council of Graduate Students (CGS).

Section B- Article 2

Section B.1 Whereas, Article 2 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 2 – Mission

Section 2.1: The Council is the representative body for all students enrolled in graduate programs at The Ohio State University, hereinafter also referred to as "graduate students" or the "graduate student body."

Section 2.2: The Council of Graduate Students promotes and provides academic, administrative, and social programs for the university community in general and for graduate students in particular.

Section 2.3: The Council provides a forum in which the graduate student body may present, discuss, and set upon issues related to its role in the academic and non-academic aspects of the university community.

Section 2.4: The Council shall represent The Ohio State University graduate student body at the national level in a manner as determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Delegate body. The President or his/her designee will be the primary representative of the Council at the national level and shall keep the Council informed of all such activities.

Section B.2 Whereas, the language of this article and the order of the sections do not accurately and specifically represent the priorities of CGS as an organization.

Section B.3 Therefore, in order to more accurately depict the current mission of CGS, this act will amend Article 2 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 2 – Mission

Section 2.1 The Council represents all students enrolled in graduate programs at The Ohio State University, hereinafter referred to as graduate students or the graduate student body.

Section 2.2 The Council provides a forum in which the graduate student body may present and discuss issues that pertain to the academic and non-academic success and experience of graduate students and their role within the university community.

Section 2.3 The Council advocates on behalf of all graduate students with attention to the diverse experiences of students across race, class, gender, nationality, sexuality, disability, and religious affiliation.

Section 2.4 The Council promotes and provides academic, administrative, and social programs to support graduate students specifically and the university community in general.

Section 2.5 The Council shall represent the graduate student body at all appropriate venues in a manner determined by the Executive Board[^1] in consultation with the delegate body. The President or their designee shall be the primary representative of the Council and shall keep the Council informed.

Section C- Article 3

[^1]: The name change from Executive Committee to Executive Board will be discussed in Section J.
Section C.1 Whereas, Article 3 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 3 - Authority and powers

Section 3.1: The authority for the establishment of the Council of Graduate Students is derived from the consent of the graduate student body.

Section 3.2: The Council is recognized by The Ohio State University and the Graduate School as the only organization representing all graduate students at The Ohio State University.

Section 3.3: On all matters brought before personnel, committees, or agencies of The Ohio State University involving the interest of graduate students, the Council or its appointed representative(s) have the power to sit as an advisory agent on behalf of graduate students.

Section 3.4: The Council has the power to plan and implement programs in accordance with its mission.

Section 3.5: The Council has the primary authority to allocate and distribute funds from the treasury of the Council and has the power to collect fees or voluntary contributions approved by The Ohio State Board of Trustees on all students enrolled in the Graduate School.

Section 3.6: The Council judges the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members and determines its own rules of procedure.

Section C.2 Whereas, the language in this article is unnecessarily specific and flowery.

Section C.3 Therefore, in order to simplify and clarify the language, this act will amend Article 3 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 3 – Authority and Powers

Section 3.1 The authority for the establishment of the Council is derived from the consent of the graduate student body.

Section 3.2 The Council is recognized by The Ohio State University as the official organization representing all graduate students at The Ohio State University.

Section 3.3 On all matters brought before entities of The Ohio State University involving the interest of graduate students, the Council or its representatives have the power to act as an advisory agent on behalf of graduate students.

Section 3.4 The Council has the power to plan and implement programs and make policy recommendations to the university in accordance with the mission of the Council.

Section 3.5 The Council has the primary authority to allocate and distribute funds from the Treasury of the Council.

Section 3.6 The Council oversees the elections and qualifications of its members and determines its own rules of procedure.

Section D - Article 4

Section D.1 Whereas, Article 4 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 4 - Membership and Eligibility

Section 4.1: A person is eligible to hold any Council position, elected or appointed, if and only if that person meets the qualifications for graduate student status in good standing as defined by that person's program of study and the graduate school.

Section 4.2: The Council of Graduate Students is composed of delegates chosen by the graduate students of the unit of representation or by any other such means as Council shall enact and publish.
Section 4.3: No student shall be denied membership in this organization on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, political views, veteran status, sexual orientation, disability, or gender identity.

Section D.2 Whereas, this article contains an outdated discrimination policy and lacks information about which members of CGS have voting rights.

Section D.3 Therefore, this act will amend Article 4 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 4 — Membership and Eligibility

Section 4.1 A person is eligible to hold any Council position, elected or appointed, if and only if that person meets the qualifications for graduate student status in good standing as defined by that person's respective program of study.

Section 4.2 No student shall be denied membership in this organization on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status.

Section 4.3 All members of the Council shall abide by the Council's governing documents.

Section 4.4 The Council is composed of a delegate body elected by graduate students and an Executive Board made up of Executive Officers, appointed officers, and Committee Chairs (as outlined in Article 10).

Section 4.5 All delegates and Committee Chairs shall be voting members and have full voting and speaking privileges at meetings. All Officers (elected and appointed) shall have speaking rights at meetings but do not hold voting rights.

Section 4.6 Delegates who are appointed to Committee Chair positions and do not also hold elected officer positions may retain their delegate seats. All Officers, elected or appointed, shall resign their delegate seats when their term begins (as outlined in Article 8).

Section E- Article 5

Section E.1 Whereas, Article 5 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 5 - Quorum and Voting

Section 5.1: At all meetings of the Council of Graduate Students, except those held in summer term, one-fifth the number of certified delegates and executive committee members shall constitute a quorum. At the summer term meetings of CGS, one-fifth of the number of certified delegates and executive committee members who indicate summer residency in the Columbus area at the last meeting of Spring semester shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5.2: Each delegate in attendance shall have one vote that may only be cast in person. In the event of an absence, a delegate's designated certified alternate may attend and shall be entitled to the same general powers and privileges in the Council as the delegate, including voting.

Section 5.3: Voting members of the Executive Committee who are not Executive Officers shall have full voting and speaking privileges at Council meetings. Such Executive Committee members may not designate alternates to vote on their behalf at Council meetings. An Executive Committee member who is also a delegate may not vote twice.

Section 5.4: Every voting member and Executive Officer will signify attendance at a meeting by a procedure supervised by the Secretary and approved by the Council. This procedure may differ for summer term. It must be documented and available upon request.

Section E.2 Whereas, the article lacks detail and clarity concerning who holds voting rights during delegate meetings.

Section E.3 Whereas, the article needs to be updated to more closely reflect the procedures used by CGS to determine quorum and evaluate the outcome of votes during meetings.
Section E.4 Therefore, this act will amend Article 5 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 5 – Quorum and Voting

Section 5.1 At all meetings of the Council, except those held in summer term, one-fifth of the total number of voting members (as outlined in Article 4, Section 5) shall constitute a quorum. At the final regular meeting of spring semester, a poll shall be conducted to determine the total number of voting members who will be available to attend meetings over the summer. For all summer term meetings, one-fifth of the total number of voting members available to meet during summer term shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5.2 Each voting member (as outlined in Article 4, Section 5) in attendance shall have one vote. An Executive Board member who is also a delegate may not vote twice.

Section 5.3 In the event of an absence, a delegate’s designated alternate may attend and shall be entitled to the same powers and privileges as the delegate, including voting. Voting members of the Executive Board may not designate alternates to vote on their behalf unless they also hold a delegate seat.

Section 5.4 If quorum is not reached at any meeting of the Council, no votes may be held. The Council may still discuss issues and attend to other agenda items. If quorum is lost during the course of a meeting, all legislation and scheduled votes will be automatically tabled until the next regular meeting.

Section 5.5 A two-thirds majority vote shall be defined as an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all voting members in attendance. A simple majority vote shall be defined as an affirmative vote of at least half of all voting members in attendance.

Section F- Article 6

Section F.1 Whereas, Article 6 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 6 – Meetings

Section 6.1: There will be at least four regular meetings of the Council of Graduate Students during each semester and summer term. Over the summer, the Executive team may cancel up to two meetings if need be.

Section 6.2: Special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President, at the request of the Executive Committee, or upon the written request of ten or more delegates.

Section 6.3: All meetings of the Council are presided over by an executive officer, who shall have the ability to vote in the case of a tie.

Section F.2 Whereas, the language of this article needs clarification and lacks information about the procedure used by the Council to record attendance and schedule special meetings.

Section F.3 Whereas, the newly amended language of Article 5 outlines voting procedures that will not ever produce a tie, meaning that it will not be necessary for the presiding officer to cast a vote.

Section F.4 Therefore, this act will amend Article 6 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 6 – Meetings

Section 6.1 There will be at least four regular meetings of the Council during both autumn and spring semesters. During the summer term, the Council must hold at least 2 regular meetings.

Section 6.2 Special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President, at the request of the Executive Board, or upon the written request of ten or more delegates. The special meeting must be held within nine days of such a request, provided that the University is in session on the ninth day. Otherwise it must be held within three days of the start of the next session.
Section 6.3 All meetings of the Council are presided over by an executive officer, who shall be recognized as the chair.

Section 6.4 Every voting member and Officer will signify attendance at a meeting by a procedure supervised by the Secretary. This procedure may differ for summer term. Attendance must be documented, and records made available upon request.

Section G - Article 7

Section G.1 Whereas, Article 7 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 7 - Parliamentary Authority

Section 7.1 The current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" governs the procedures of all meetings of the Council except where conflicting with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council of Graduate Students.

Section 7.2 The chair of the Council meeting shall be responsible for interpreting all relevant aspects of the CGS Constitution, Bylaws, and rules of order. Decisions of the chair may be appealed to the full Council. The Council's ruling is final.

Section 7.3 The President may appoint a parliamentarian to advise on the details in Section 7.2 and other relevant matters.

Section G.2 Whereas, the language concerning appeals of the chair’s decisions about parliamentary procedure is vague and does not detail how any disputes should be resolved.

Section G.3 Therefore, this act will amend Article 7 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 7 – Parliamentary Authority

Section 7.1 The current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" governs the procedures of all meetings of the Council, except where conflicting with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council.

Section 7.2 The Chair of the meeting shall be responsible for interpreting all relevant aspects of the CGS Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules. Decisions of the Chair may be appealed to the full Council and overturned by a simple majority vote. The Council's ruling is final.

Section 7.3 The President may appoint a Parliamentarian to advise on the details in Section 7.2 and other relevant matters (as outlined in Article 8.3.F).

Section H - Article 8

Section H.1 Whereas, Article 8, Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the CGS Constitution currently read as follows:

Article 8 - Elections and officers

Section 8.1: The Council of Graduate Students shall elect annually from the graduate student body the following Executive Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 8.2: If applicable, once a person becomes an executive officer of the Council, that person will resign as a delegate when the term of office begins.

Section 8.3: President

8.3.A. The President presides over all meetings of the Council and is responsible for implementing all decisions of the Council.

8.3.B. The President selects the time and place of all regular and special meetings of the Council. The President shall inform each delegate in writing of the time and place chosen for each regular meeting of a semester by no later than the tenth day of that semester.
8.3.C. The President has primary responsibility for managing the office associate and for ensuring Council compliance with Council, University, State, and Federal fiscal and personnel policies.

8.3.D. The President shall also serve as a liaison between CGS and the Graduate School, the University administration, and the Ohio State Board of Trustees.

8.3.E. The President serves, externally, as an ex officio member of the University Senate and its Steering Committee. The President, or designee serves, externally, on the Council of Student Affairs.

8.3.F. The President shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council and the Executive Committee.

Section H.2 Whereas, Article 8, Section 4 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Section 8.4: Vice President

8.4.A. The Vice President coordinates the Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum and represents the Council of Graduate Students in the planning of orientation and welcome week-related activities and events.

8.4.B. In the absence of the President, or if the President is temporarily unable to fulfill his or her duties, the Vice President shall serve in the President's place.

8.4.C. The Vice President chairs the Organization and Elections Committee and is responsible for ensuring that all delegate and committee positions are filled.

8.4.D. The Vice President is responsible for ensuring that CGS committee and member records are properly maintained.

8.4.E. The Vice President shall serve as a liaison between CGS and other student organizations.

8.4.F. The Vice President serves, externally, on the Council on Student Affairs and the Welcome Week Steering Committee. The Vice President, or designee, serves, externally, on the Council on Student Affairs.

8.4.G. In the absence of the President, the Vice President presides over meetings of the Council.

8.4.H. The Vice President shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Committee, and the President.

Section H.3 Whereas, Article 8, Section 5 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Section 8.5: Treasurer

8.5.A. The Treasurer handles all the finances of the Council and keeps an accurate record of its financial status at all times.

8.5.B. The Treasurer serves as an ex officio voting member of the Council on Student Affairs and its Allocations subcommittee and is responsible for overseeing the Council's Edward J. Ray Travel Award for Scholarship and Service. The Treasurer, or designee, serves as an ex officio voting member of the Council on Student Affairs and its Allocations subcommittee.

8.5.C. In the absence of the President, Vice President, and Secretary, the Treasurer presides over the meetings of the Council.

8.5.D. The Treasurer shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council.

Section H.4 Whereas, Article 8, Section 6 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Section 8.6: Secretary

8.6.A. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes of the meetings of the Council and its Executive Committee, for maintaining records, and for conducting correspondence.
8.6.B. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining attendance records and determining quorum (see Article 5, Sec. 1) at Council meetings.

8.6.C. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Secretary presides over meetings of the Council.

8.6.D. The Secretary shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Committee, and the President.

8.6.E. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining a record of all legislation that has been passed throughout the academic year, and that this record is formally passed to the next incumbent Executive Board.

8.6.F. The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring that all governing documents (Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules) are updated at the end of every semester of all legislative amendments.

Section H.5 Whereas, Article 8, Section 7 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Section 8.7: The Council has the authority to remove an Executive Officer only through the following procedure:

8.7.A. The written motion for such an action, bearing the signatures of at least ten certified Council delegates, or an affidavit of a two thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee, must be submitted at a regular meeting of the Council.

8.7.B. The officer shall be given the opportunity to respond to the motion at a hearing with the Organization and Elections Committee.

8.7.C. The Organization and Elections Committee will thereupon conduct an investigation into the allegations against the officer and present its findings at the next Council meeting.

8.7.D. Following this presentation, the motion will be voted upon. A two-thirds vote of the Council is required to effect the removal.

Section H.6 Whereas, Article 8, Section 8 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Section 8.8: Vacancy

8.8.A. In the event the presidency falls vacant, the Vice President shall have the option of becoming the President. In this instance, the Council shall elect a new Vice President. The Vice President shall also have the option of refusing the office of the presidency, in which case the Vice President shall serve as President pro tempore until such time as the Council is able to elect a new President. Subsequent to the election of the President, the President pro tempore shall resume the office and duties of Vice President.

8.8.B. In the event of a vacancy in any other Executive Officer position, an election to complete the current term will be held no later than the second meeting of the Council following the occurrence of the vacancy. Election procedures will be in accordance with the current provisions of this Constitution and any Bylaws the Council shall enact. An interim officer may be appointed by the President to hold office until such time as an election can be held.

Section H.7 Whereas, the current title of this article is illogical as it contains no specific details about the procedure for election of the executive officers.

Section H.8 Therefore, this article will be renamed “Executive Officers”.

Section H.9 Whereas, all sections of this article require updates and clarifications to the listed duties of each officer to more closely reflect the current obligations and roles filled by the people in these positions.

Section H.10 Whereas, it is logical that the Treasurer should preside over meetings of the Council in the absence of the President and Vice President rather than the Secretary, who is responsible for taking minutes during meetings.
Section H.11 Therefore, this act will amend Article 8, Section 3 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Section 8.3: President

8.3.A The President shall preside over all meetings of the Council as the chair.

8.3.B The President shall select the time and place of all regular and special meetings of the Council. The President shall inform each delegate in writing of the time and place chosen for each regular meeting of a semester by no later than the tenth day of that semester.

8.3.C The President shall serve as a liaison between CGS and the Graduate School, the University administration, and The Ohio State University Board of Trustees.

8.3.D. The President shall be responsible for ensuring Council compliance with all fiscal and personnel policies of the Council, university, state, and federal government.

8.3.E The President shall serve as an ex officio member of the University Senate and its Steering Committee.

8.3.F The President shall have the power to appoint a Chief of Staff and/or a Parliamentarian if they so choose. These appointments shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

8.3.G The President shall be responsible for implementing and enacting all decisions of the Council and shall fulfill other duties as directed by the consensus of the Council and the Executive Committee.

Section H.12 Therefore, this act will amend Article 8, Section 4 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Section 8.4: Vice President

8.4.A The Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing and maintaining records of appointments to all University committees, Senate committees, and shared governance committees on which the Council has representation, as well as to all internal CGS committees.

8.4.B The Vice President shall coordinate the Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum.

8.4.C The Vice President shall review delegate eligibility, oversee delegate elections, and maintain records of all delegate seats.

8.4.D The Vice President shall oversee and serve as Chair during all elections.

8.4.E The Vice President shall have the power to appoint a Deputy Treasurer. This appointment shall be subject to approval by the Executive Board.

8.4.F In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside over meetings of the Council.

8.4.G The Vice President shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Committee, and the President.

Section H.13 Therefore, this act will amend Article 8, Section 5 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Section 8.5: Treasurer

8.5.A The Treasurer shall handle all the finances of the Council and keep an accurate record of its financial status at all times.

8.5.B The Treasurer, in consultation with the President and Vice President, shall be responsible for creating an annual budget for the Council.

8.5.C The Treasurer shall oversee the Edward J. Ray Travel Award for Scholarship and Service.
8.5.D In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Treasurer shall preside over meetings of the Council.

8.5.E The Treasurer shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Committee, and the President.

Section H.14 Therefore, this act will amend Article 8, Section 6 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Section 8.6: Secretary

8.6.A The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping minutes of all meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee, for maintaining records of legislation, and for communicating announcements and information to the delegate body.

8.6.B The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining attendance records and determining quorum at Council meetings as declared in Article 5, Section 1 of this Constitution.

8.6.C The Secretary shall oversee the Career Development Award.

8.6.D The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring that the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules are updated at the end of every semester to reflect all passed legislative amendments.

8.6.E In the absence of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer, the Secretary shall preside over meetings of the Council.

8.6.F The Secretary shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Committee, and the President.

Section H.15 Whereas, as currently written, it is unclear what actions would prompt the initiation of removal procedures for an executive officer.

Section H.16 Whereas, it is deemed appropriate that a motion to initiate an investigation into an executive officer should come from either a group of 10 delegates or the Executive Committee.

Section H.17 Whereas, the listed procedure for bringing a motion to remove an officer does not make sense within the framework of normal parliamentary procedure and language is needed to clarify how an investigation would be initiated and carried out.

Section H.18 Therefore, this act will amend Article 8, Section 7 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Section 8.7: Executive Officer Removal

8.7.A Executive Officers holding an appointed position may be removed by the President in consultation with the Executive Board, members of the relevant committee, and/or the delegate body.

8.7.B The Council has the authority to remove any Executive Officer, for violation of the governing documents through the following procedure:

8.7.B.i A written motion requesting an investigation of an Executive officer for such violations must be presented at a regular meeting of the Council. This motion must bear the signatures of at least ten delegates or at least two-thirds of the Executive Committee.

8.7.B.ii The officer shall be given the opportunity to respond to the motion. If the motion is approved by a simple majority vote, a committee will be convened to conduct an investigation into the allegations against the officer and present its findings at the next regular Council meeting. This membership and chairship of this committee will be subject to approval by the council.

8.7.B.iii Following this presentation, a two-thirds vote of the Council is required to approve the removal of the officer, effective immediately.
Section H.19 Whereas, the current text is very vague and unclear about the procedure for when and how vacancies in executive officer positions should be filled.

Section H.20 Therefore, this act will amend Article 8, Section 8 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Section 8.8: Vacancy

8.8.A A vacancy shall be declared if an elected officer is removed or is unable to fulfill their duties as outlined in this Constitution for a period of time exceeding 3 weeks. In the event of a temporary absence less than 3 weeks, the rest of the executive officer team shall ensure that the necessary obligations of the absent officer are fulfilled.

8.8.B In the event the presidency falls vacant, the Vice President shall have the option of becoming the President. In this instance, a new Vice President shall be elected or appointed following the procedures outlined in 8.8.D and 8.8.E. The Vice President shall also have the option of refusing the office of the presidency, in which case the Vice President shall serve as President pro tempore until such time as the Council is able to elect a new President. This election shall be held no later than the second regular meeting of the Council following the occurrence of the vacancy.

8.8.C In the event that the positions of President and Vice President simultaneously become vacant, the Secretary shall serve as President pro tempore. In the case that the position of Secretary is also vacant, then the Treasurer shall serve as President pro tempore. In either case, the Council shall elect a new President no later than the second regular meeting of the Council.

8.8.D In the event that the position of Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary becomes vacant prior to the last meeting of the autumn semester, an election to complete the current term will be held no later than the second regular meeting of the Council following the occurrence of the vacancy. Election procedures will be in accordance with the current provisions of this Constitution and any Bylaws the Council shall enact. An interim officer may be appointed by the President to hold office until such time as an election can be held. This interim officer is subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

8.8.E In the event that the position of Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary becomes vacant after the last meeting of the autumn semester, the President shall appoint an interim officer to hold office for the remainder of the term. This appointment must be confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Council at the next regular meeting.

Section I - Article 9

Section I.1 Whereas, Article 9 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 9 – Committees

Section 9.1: The Executive Committee conducts the business of the Council between meetings and prepares the agenda for regularly scheduled meetings.

Section 9.2: The Organization and Elections committee oversees all business relating to membership credentials, external representation, and elections procedures.

Section 9.3: The Edward J. Ray Travel Award for Scholarship and Service Committee sets eligibility and application guidelines for the Award and determines its recipients.

Section 9.4: The Council may create such standing or ad hoc committees as it deems necessary.

Section I.2 Whereas, it is deemed that additional information about how committees are established and led should be included in this article.

Section I.3 Whereas, information about the Ray Travel Award Committee is contained within the other governing documents and is not appropriate for inclusion in the Constitution.

Section I.4 Therefore, this act will amend Article 9 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 9 – Committees
Section 9.1 All standing committees shall be led by chairs appointed by the President. These appointments are subject to approval by the Executive Board.

Section 9.2 The Council may create such standing or ad hoc committees as it deems necessary. Ad hoc committees are designed to be temporary, single issue committees. When they are created, they should have a specified start and end date that would require approval from the body to extend.

Section J- Article 10

Section J.1 Whereas, it is deemed that more information about the membership and duties of the Executive Committee is appropriate for inclusion in the Constitution and should be moved from the Bylaws.

Section J.2 Whereas, this group does not really function like the rest of the committees of CGS and the name “Executive Committee” is therefore confusing.

Section J.3 Therefore, a new article will be created for this information and will be called “Article 10- Executive Board”.

Section J.4 Therefore, the previous Articles 10 and 11 will become Articles 11 and 12, respectively.

Section J.5 Therefore, the newly created Article 10 of the CGS Constitution will read as follows:

Article 10 – Executive Board

Section 10.1 Membership of the Executive Board shall be determined as follows:

10.1.A All four executive officers and all chairs of standing committees shall be voting members.

10.1.B The President chairs the Executive Board.

10.1.C One graduate student representative each from any University and Senate committees may be appointed by the President as voting members.

10.1.D Ex-officio non-voting members of the Executive Board shall include emeritus officers, the Parliamentarian, the Chief of Staff, the Deputy Treasurer, ad-hoc committee chairs, and the student members of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees.

10.1.E During summer term, the Executive Board shall consist of those individuals who were members during the spring semester of the previous academic year, the newly elected officers, and all new committee chairs as they are appointed.

Section 10.2 Duties and powers

10.2.A The Executive Board transacts the business of the Council between regular meetings and recommends actions to be taken by the Council.

10.2.B All actions taken by the Board shall be reported to the Council at its next delegate body meeting and meeting minutes will be publicly distributed. The Executive Board shall bring before the Council any matter coming within its knowledge that needs the consideration or action of the Council.

10.2.C A quorum for Executive Board meetings shall consist of at least 50% of all active voting members of the Executive Board.

10.2.D The Executive Board prepares the agenda for each Council meeting.

10.2.E The Executive Board shall approve all officer and committee chair appointments by a simple majority vote. These appointments shall be announced at the next regular meeting of the Council.
Section K- Article 12

Section K.1 Whereas, Article 12 of the CGS Constitution currently reads as follows:

Article 12 – Amendments

Section 12.1: Any proposed amendment to this Constitution must be presented in writing either with the signatures of ten delegates or at the initiative of the Executive Committee at a regular meeting of the Council of Graduate Students.

Section 12.2: A copy of the proposed amendment must be sent to all delegates at least one week before the regular meeting that follows the meeting at which the amendment was proposed.

Section 12.3: An affirmative vote of two-thirds at a regular meeting following the meeting at which the amendment was proposed will be sufficient to adopt the amendment.

Section K.2 Whereas, the language in this article is confusing and leaves details of the amendment procedure up to interpretation.

Section K.3 Therefore, this act will amend Article 12 of the CGS Constitution to read as follows:

Article 12 – Amendments

Section 12.1 Any proposed amendment to this Constitution must be presented in writing at a regular meeting of the Council either with the signatures of ten delegates or at the initiative of the Executive Committee. A copy of the proposed amendment must be sent to all delegates within 5 business days of the meeting at which the amendment was presented.

Section 12.2 An affirmative two-thirds vote at a regular meeting following the meeting at which the amendment was proposed will be sufficient to adopt the amendment.

Section L. The changes contained within this act shall be effective immediately after an affirmative vote of two-thirds of delegates at a regular meeting of CGS in accordance with Article 12 of the CGS Constitution.

Approved: Yes/No

Date: ________

__________________________________
Stephen J. Post, President
AN ACT UPDATING THE APPORTIONMENT PROCEDURE AS DESCRIBED IN THE BYLAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Authors: Sarah Light.109, Co-Chair of the Governance Ad-Hoc Review Committee; Brandon Free.41, Co-Chair of the Governance Ad-Hoc Review Committee Nick Messenger.37, Chair of the Organization and Elections Committee
Sponsor: Executive Committee

Section 1. The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Bylaws of the Council of Graduate Students (CGS).

Section 2. Whereas, Article 1, Sections 2 and 3 of the CGS Bylaws currently read as follows:

“Article 1 – Membership

Section 1.2: Units of representation - Units of representation of CGS shall be determined by the Organization and Elections Committee. Units will be based on, but not necessarily limited to, graduate program areas: exceptionally large programs may be split and exceptionally small ones grouped.

Section 1.3: Apportionment - CGS shall be composed of not more than one hundred fifty voting delegates and no fewer than one hundred thirty. The number of delegates per unit of representation shall not exceed twelve. Each spring, the Organization and Elections Committee shall apportion these positions to the graduate programs on the basis of autumn semester enrollment. Each unit of representation shall have at least one delegate. Each regional campus with graduate representation shall be allotted one delegate seat. The number of regional seats shall not exceed five.

I.3.A. Approval: The Organizations and Elections Committee shall present their proposed delegate apportionment for the next CGS term to the full delegate body no later than the second scheduled delegate meeting of the Spring semester. A simple majority vote of the delegate body is needed to approve the proposed apportionment. If a majority is not obtained, the Organizations and Elections Committee will present revised apportionment at the next scheduled delegate meeting. If, at this subsequent meeting, the proposed revised apportionment still fails to receive approval by a majority of the delegate body, then the most recent delegate apportionment to be so approved will remain in effect for the next delegate term.”

Section 3. Whereas, it is deemed that information about the apportionment process should be listed in Section 7.1 (“The Organization and Elections Committee”) rather than in Article 1.

Section 4. Whereas, the annual apportionment process is time-intensive for the Organization and Elections Committee.

Section 5. Whereas, enrollment numbers typically change very little from year to year and it is deemed that conducting apportionment every 3 years instead of annually is sufficient to maintain accurate delegate representation.

Section 6. Therefore, this act will amend Article 1, Section 1 of the CGS Bylaws to read as follows:

“Article 1 – Delegates

Section 1.1 CGS shall be composed of not more than one hundred fifty voting delegate seats and no fewer than one hundred thirty. The number and apportionment of delegate seats shall be determined by the Organization and Elections Committees (as defined in Section 7.1.C). Units of representation of CGS shall be determined by the Organization and Elections Committee. Units will be based on, but not necessarily limited to, graduate departments.”

Section 7. Therefore, this act will amend Article 7, Section 1, Sub-section C of the CGS Bylaws to read as follows:

“Section 7.1: The Organization and Elections Committee

7.1.C The committee shall determine departmental representation.

7.1.C.i The Organization and Elections Committee shall be responsible for apportioning all delegate seats (as outlined in Section 1.1) to units of representation based on enrollment data from the previous autumn semester.

7.1.C.ii Once approved, apportionment shall be valid for a maximum of three years. Apportionment shall be undertaken during the spring semester based on enrollment data from the previous autumn semester.
7.1.C.ii In years where apportionment is not scheduled, individual seats may be added for new graduate programs, even if this results in a total of more than 150 delegate seats. This process may be initiated at the petition of a delegate, by request of graduate students within the new program, or by the Organization and Elections Committee.

7.1.C.iii Each unit of representation shall have at least one delegate and the number of delegate seats per unit of representation shall not exceed twelve. Each regional campus with graduate representation shall be allotted one delegate seat. The number of regional seats shall not exceed five.

7.1.C.iv The Organizations and Elections Committee shall present, as a legislative act, their proposed delegate apportionment for the next CGS term to the full delegate body no later than the second scheduled delegate meeting of the spring semester. If the legislation is not approved, the Organizations and Elections Committee will present revised apportionment at the next scheduled delegate meeting. If, at this subsequent meeting, the proposed revised apportionment still fails to receive approval of the delegate body, the most recent delegate apportionment to be so approved will remain in effect for the next delegate term.

7.1.C.vi The Organization and Elections Committee shall collect feedback from the delegate body about any proposed changes to apportionment prior to presenting this legislation”.

Section 8. Therefore, the apportionment approved in the spring of 2020 (Act 1920-SP-006; see attached table) for academic year 2020-2021 will remain in effect for academic years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. The next apportionment must take place no later than the spring of 2023.

Section 9. The changes contained within this act shall be effective immediately after an affirmative majority vote of delegates at a regular meeting of CGS in accordance with Article 10, Section 2 of the CGS Constitution.

Approved: Yes/No

Yea, Nays, Abstentions

Date: _______

__________________________________

Stephen J. Post, President

Council of Graduate Students at The Ohio State University
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Delegates
Overview of the major changes contained within these proposed amendments

Article 1: Delegates
- Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices
- Incorporation of information about the attendance and alternate policy taken from the standing rules
- Removal of irrelevant information to other articles

Article 2: Advisors
- Separated out from information about officer elections
- Small wording changes to improve clarity

Article 3: Executive Officer Elections
- Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices

Article 4: The University Senate
- Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices
- New procedure for selecting senators that designates 5 of 10 seats to specific academic areas in order to encourage better representation from all disciplines
- Information added about the procedure to remove a senator

Article 5: Appointments to University Committees
- Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices

Article 6: The Executive Board
- Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices

Article 7: Operational & Standing Committees
- Reorganization and condensation of information about the various duties of the Organization & Elections Committee into one place
- Established a list of standing committees

Article 8: Budgeting & Financial Affairs
- Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices

Article 9: Meetings
- Removal of information about parliamentary procedure for discussing legislation (to be moved to the Standing Rules)

Article 10: Other Positions
Small wording changes and updates to better match current practices
Section A. The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Bylaws of the Council of Graduate Students (CGS).

Section B: Article 2

Section B.1 Whereas, Article 1, Sections 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of the CGS Bylaws currently read as follows:

Article I – Membership

Section I.1: Members - The term "member" of the Council of Graduate Students (hereinafter also referred to as "the Council" or "CGS") shall refer to all delegates and voting members of the Executive Committee who are not Executive Officers.

Section I.4: Delegate selection - The selection of graduate students to fill positions on CGS as delegates from a particular unit of representation can only occur in the following ways:

I.4.A. Direct election: A vote open to the entire regular graduate student enrollment of a particular unit of representation utilizing the online system supported by the Council of Graduate Students during spring semester. A second opportunity for a direct election through the online system will occur between the first and second delegate meetings of autumn semester.

I.4.B. Appointment: In the event that the above method fails to fill a delegate seat, appointment by the Graduate Studies Chairperson (or designated alternate) shall constitute proper practice for filling a vacant CGS position during summer term until the first meeting of autumn semester and for the remainder of the 2 delegate term after the third meeting of autumn semester. Any student who receives appointment by the graduate studies chair must provide a petition of support for their delegacy signed by either fifty percent or twenty-five (whichever is less) of the graduate students in the unit of representation.

Section I.5: Delegate certification - The certification of delegates and alternates, along with the development of guidelines for the conduct of elections, shall be the responsibility of the Organization and Elections Committee. After a proper hearing, this committee can declare an election or appointment invalid if it feels its legitimate guidelines have not been followed.

Section I.6: Committee service

I.6.A. Each delegate is expected to perform committee service beginning no later than the semester or term after admission to the Council.

I.6.B. The delegate will indicate a committee preference upon application. These preferences will be used by the Organization and Elections Committee to make committee assignments.

I.6.C. Selection to the Athletic Council, the Council on Academic Affairs, the Student Health Insurance Committee, the University Research Council, and the Student Trustee Selection Committee requires the concurrence of the CGS President.

I.6.D. The Organization and Elections Committee shall determine and publish a list of acceptable outlets for this committee service. In all cases, this list must include service on a CGS standing or ad hoc committee, a university-wide committee, and the University Senate. The Organization and Elections Committee may, at its discretion, allow noncommittee service to substitute for this requirement.

I.6.E. Regardless of the nature of the service, regular attendance and participation will be expected.

Section I.7: Term of Service
I.7.A. Delegates shall be elected in spring semester for a term of service consecutively consisting of autumn semester, spring semester and summer term beginning in the following autumn semester.

I.7.B. Delegates filling a vacancy shall take office immediately.

I.7.C. All delegates-elect will serve as non-voting members of the Council until their term of service begins (per I.7.A).

Section I.8: Removal

I.8.A. Delegates not fulfilling their required duties in a responsible manner, may be removed by the Organization and Elections Committee, acting either on its own initiative, or at the request of students from a delegate's unit of representation.

I.8.B. The Organization and Elections Committee shall consider lack of responsibility to include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Excessive absence from CGS meetings;
2. Failure to make requested reports to constituents, the Council of Graduate Students, and/or the Council's Executive Officers;
3. Failure to inform the alternate or the Council office if meetings cannot be attended; and
4. Failure to fulfill committee service obligations as mentioned in section I.6 above.

I.8.C. Delegates who have been removed from their positions may appeal this decision directly to the Council of Graduate Students, whose decision is final.

Section I.9: Alternates - When a delegate is unable to attend a meeting of the council, he or she shall notify their alternate in advance of the meeting. An alternate may also fill a vacancy in the event of a delegate's resignation until a new delegate can be selected.

Alternates can be selected in any of the methods mentioned in section 3 above or designated by the delegate. An alternate so designated will then have the same general powers and privileges in the Council as the delegate replaced.

Section I.10: Visitors - At the discretion of the chair, any visitor may be extended privileges of the floor. The decision of the chair may be appealed to the full Council.

Section I.11: Roles and Responsibilities of Delegates – The roles and responsibilities of a Delegate include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Delegates must maintain attendance or representation at all Delegate meetings and meetings for the committee they may sit on (for special accommodations contact the CGS Secretary);
2. Delegates must sit on at least one CGS or University Committee (the Vice President maintains an ongoing list of both internal CGS and University Committees);
3. Delegates may be appointed to additional committees based on their availability.
4. Delegates must keep the appropriate Committee Chair informed (by regular written or verbal communication) of their University Committee efforts so that Committee Chairs can maintain an accurate record of the organization’s work and involvement;
5. Delegates must regularly meet and communicate with their constituencies and department chairpersons or graduate studies chairs to stay informed of issues and questions and to inform constituents and administration of current efforts,
6. Delegates must maintain and support the overall mission of the organization and stay familiarized with the organization’s mission and unity statements.
Section B.2 Whereas, this article contains all of the information about the roles of CGS delegates and should be so named.

Section B.3 Whereas, information contained in Section 10 (Visitors) was not appropriate for inclusion in this article.

Section B.4 Whereas, the language about delegate selection, roles and responsibilities of delegates, and removal of delegates was updated to reflect current practice and clarify procedures and policies.

Section B.5 Therefore, this article will be renamed to “Delegates.”

Section B.6 Therefore, this act will amend Article 1 of the CGS Bylaws to read as follows:

Article 1 – Delegates

Section 1.1 CGS shall be composed of not more than one hundred fifty voting delegate seats and no fewer than one hundred thirty. The number and apportionment of delegate seats shall be determined by the Organization and Elections Committees (as defined in Section 7.1.C of this document).

Section 1.2 The election of graduate students to fill delegate positions will be undertaken with a vote open to the entire graduate student enrollment of a particular unit of representation utilizing an online system supported by the Council of Graduate Students during spring semester for a term of service consecutively consisting of the following autumn semester, spring semester, and summer term.

Section 1.3 All delegates must be a part of the constituency they represent.

Section 1.4. All delegate-elects will be encouraged to attend meetings of the Council as visitors until their term of service begins.

Section 1.5 Delegate vacancies will be filled as follows:

1.5.A A second election will take place at the beginning of the autumn semester for any seats that remain vacant.

1.5.B If a vacancy exists between the spring election and the autumn election, a delegate may be appointed by the Graduate Studies Chairperson of their particular unit of representation or upon the receipt of a petition of support signed by either twenty five percent or ten (whichever is fewer) of the graduate students in their unit of representation.

1.5.C If a vacancy exists between the autumn election and the end of the following spring semester, a delegate may be appointed by the Graduate Studies Chairperson of their particular unit of representation or upon the receipt of a petition of support signed by either twenty five percent or ten (whichever is fewer) of the graduate students in their unit of representation.

1.5.D If a vacancy exists during the summer term, a delegate-elect from the same unit of representation may petition the Executive Board to fill the vacant seat.

1.5.E Delegates filling a vacancy shall take office immediately.

Section 1.6 Delegate alternates may be designated by the delegate. The alternate must not be a regular delegate and must be from the same unit of representation. Should such an alternate not be feasible, alternates from other units of representation may be permitted at the discretion of the Vice President.

1.6.A Alternates must meet the qualifications for membership within CGS as outlined in Article 4 of the CGS Constitution.

1.6.B When a delegate is unable to attend a meeting of the council, they shall notify their alternate in advance of the meeting and the alternate will attend on their behalf. Alternates will have the same general powers and privileges during meetings of the Council as the delegate replaced.
1.6.C An alternate may also fill a vacancy in the event of a delegate's resignation until a new delegate can be selected.

**Section 1.7** The attendance policy for delegates will be as follows:

1.7.A Delegates or their alternates are expected to attend all CGS delegate meetings. As a matter of professional courtesy, delegates are encouraged to notify the Secretary in the case that absence cannot be avoided.

1.7.B In the event that neither a delegate nor the delegate’s alternate attend two CGS delegate meetings in a row or three CGS delegate meetings in an academic year, the Secretary will send a reminder letter to the delegate requesting their attendance.

1.7.C In the event that neither a delegate nor the delegate’s alternate attend three CGS delegate meetings in a row or four CGS delegate meetings in an academic year, the Organization and Elections Committee may remove the delegate (following the procedure outlined in Section 1.9 below). Following removal, the Graduate Studies Chair of that unit of representation will be notified of the vacancy and will be encouraged to appoint a graduate student to the empty seat.

**Section 1.8** Delegates must sit on at least one internal CGS or external University committee for the duration of their term. Delegates may be appointed to additional committees based on their availability.

1.8.A The delegate will indicate a committee preference upon application. These preferences will be used by the Organization and Elections Committee to make committee assignments.

**Section 1.9** The roles and responsibilities of a Delegate include, but are not limited to, the following:

1.9.A Delegates must maintain attendance or representation at all delegate meetings and meetings for the committee(s) they sit on.

1.9.B Delegates must keep the appropriate Committee Chair(s) informed (by regular written or verbal communication) of their efforts so that accurate records can be maintained of the delegate’s work and involvement.

1.9.C Delegates must regularly communicate with their constituencies and department chairpersons or graduate studies chairs to stay informed of issues and questions and to communicate about current efforts.

1.9.D Delegates must maintain and support the overall mission of the organization and be familiar with the organization’s mission statements.

**Section 1.10** The Organization and Elections Committee has the authority to remove a delegate for failure to fulfill their required duties in a responsible manner, acting either on its own initiative or at the request of at least one student from the delegate’s unit of representation.

Section 1.10.A This failure may include, but is not limited to, the following:

1.10.A.i Excessive absence from delegate meetings and/or failure to send an alternate if meetings cannot be attended.

1.10.A.ii Failure to make requested reports to constituents, the Council, and/or the Council’s Executive Officers.

1.10.A.iii Failure to fulfill committee service obligations as outlined in Section 1.9 above.

1.10.B Delegates who have been removed from their positions may appeal this decision directly to the Council of Graduate Students. A two-thirds majority vote is required to reinstate a delegate who has been removed.

**Section C: Articles 2 & 3**

**Section C.1** Whereas, Article 2 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:
Article II - Officers and Advisor

Section II.1: Advisors - The Executive Committee shall select at least two, but not more than three advisors, including: a member of the University Faculty, an administrator from the Graduate School, and/or an administrative professional from within the Office of Student Life.

II.1.A. Advisors shall be asked to assist the treasurer in finding faculty representation for the Edward J. Ray Travel Award Committee. The advisors shall also assist the Vice President in finding faculty representation for the Edward F Hayes Research Forum.

II.1.B. The advisors shall be encouraged to attend one executive or delegate meeting a semester.

II.1.C. The advisors shall each serve a renewable, one-year term

Section II.2: Election of Officers

II.2.A. All Executive Officers are elected at the third regular meeting of spring semester (or no later than the second week of April in years when more than four spring semester meetings are scheduled). These officers-elect shall sit (without authority) in Executive Committee meetings with the outgoing Executive Committee during the remainder of the spring semester. Newly elected officers will take office within seven days of spring commencement.

II.2.B. Any eligible graduate student may apply for election or may be nominated by another graduate student. The Organization and Elections Committee will attempt to present at least two candidates each for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer to the Council at the regular meeting preceding elections. A person may not be a candidate for more than one office. If a person receives more than one nomination, that person must decline all but one. All nominations must be made at the aforesaid meeting or received in writing at the CGS office no less than ten business days prior to the elections meeting.

II.2.C. In the event that there are no nominations for an office, nominations shall remain open until an election for that office is held.

II.2.D. The chair of the Organization and Elections Committee shall conduct the officer elections. In the event that the chair is a candidate for an Executive Officer position or is otherwise unable to conduct the elections, the Executive Committee shall designate another individual to conduct the elections. A notice of officer elections, elections procedures, and any financial benefits of the positions must be posted on The Council of Graduate Students website at least one week prior to nomination deadline. Additional notification of election shall be sent out via electronic mail to all Graduate Students at least one week prior to the nomination deadline.

II.2.E. The officers shall be elected in the following order: Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President.

II.2.F. Immediately prior to the election, each candidate for a particular officer position will have the opportunity to address the Council for a maximum of ten minutes. After all candidates for that position have spoken, the delegates may ask questions targeted at all candidates. Each candidate shall have the opportunity to respond to each question. The Organization and Elections chair or designee may set limits on the maximum length of the question period as well as the maximum length of any single response. Such limits must be the same for all candidates for a particular office and be made known to them at the beginning of the meeting at which the elections are held.

II.2.G. Voting shall be by secret ballot in contested elections and by Objection to Consent in uncontested elections. Write-in votes and blank ballots shall be invalid and not counted in the total.

II.2.H. A simple majority of those delegates voting is required to elect an officer. If no candidate receives a majority, then at the same meeting the Council shall vote again between the two candidates receiving the most votes (or between all candidates receiving a maximal number of votes). This procedure shall be repeated as necessary until a candidate is elected.

Section II.3: Vacancies In the event that an officer-elect, except the President-elect, shall decline the office or otherwise be unable to serve, a new election will be held no later than the second meeting of the Council following the occurrence of the vacancy. Election procedures will be in accordance with the current provisions of the CGS Constitution and these Bylaws.
the event that the President-elect shall decline the presidency or otherwise be unable to serve, section V.8.A of the CGS Constitution shall apply.

Section C.2 Whereas, the information in this article concerning advisors is completely separate from the information about officer elections.

Section C.3 Whereas, the language outlining who is eligible to be selected as an advisor and how long they will serve is confusing and ambiguous.

Section C.4 Whereas, the language concerning the procedure of Executive Officer elections needs to be cleaned up and clarified.

Section C.5 Therefore, Article 2 will be renamed “Advisors” and a new Article 3 will be created named “Executive Officer Elections.” All subsequent article numbers shall be shifted to accommodate this change.

Section C.6 Therefore, Articles 2 and 3 of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

Article 2: Advisors

Section 2.1 The Council shall have at least two but not more than three advisors. These advisors shall be a member of the University Faculty, an administrator from the Graduate School, and an administrative professional from within the Office of Student Life.

Section 2.2 Advisors shall be chosen by the President and approved by the Executive Board.

Section 2.3 Advisors shall assist the Vice President in finding faculty representation for the Edward F Hayes Research Forum.

Section 2.4 Advisors shall be encouraged to attend one executive or delegate meeting each semester.

Section 2.5 Advisors shall serve one-year terms that may be renewed indefinitely.

Article 3 - Executive Officer Elections

Section 3.1 All Executive Officers will be elected at the third regular delegate meeting of spring semester (or no later than the second week of April in years when more than four spring semester meetings are scheduled). These officers-elect shall serve as non-voting members of the Executive Board with the outgoing officers during the remainder of the spring semester. Newly elected officers will take office within five business days of spring commencement.

Section 3.2 Any graduate student who meets the criteria for membership within CGS (as outlined in Article 4 of the CGS Constitution) may apply for any Executive Officer position or be nominated by another graduate student. All nominations may be declined. A person may not be a candidate for more than one office; if a person receives more than one nomination, that person may only accept one. All nominations must be made at the aforesaid meeting or received in writing no less than ten business days prior to the elections meeting.

Section 3.3 In the event that there are no candidates for an office, nominations shall remain open until an election for that office can be held.

Section 3.4 The chair of the Organization and Elections Committee shall conduct the officer elections. In the event that the chair is a candidate for an Executive Officer position or is otherwise unable to conduct the elections, the Executive Board shall designate another individual to conduct the elections. A notice of officer elections, elections procedures, and any financial benefits of the positions must be posted on The Council of Graduate Students website at least one week prior to the nomination deadline. Additionally, the election shall be announced via email to all graduate students at least one week prior to the nomination deadline.

Section 3.5 The officers shall be elected in the following order: Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, President.
Section 3.6 Immediately prior to the election, each candidate for a particular officer position will have the opportunity to address the Council for a maximum of ten minutes. After all candidates for that position have spoken, delegates may ask questions targeted at all candidates. Each candidate shall have the opportunity to respond to each question. The Organization and Elections chair or designee may set limits on the maximum length of the question period as well as the maximum length of any single response. Such limits must be the same for all candidates for a particular office and be made known to them at the beginning of the meeting at which the elections are held.

Section 3.7 Voting shall be by secret ballot in contested elections and by objection to consent in uncontested elections. Write-in votes and blank ballots shall be invalid and not counted in the total.

Section 3.8 A simple majority of those delegates voting is required to elect an officer. If no candidate receives a simple majority, then at the same meeting the Council shall vote again between the two candidates receiving the most votes (or between all candidates receiving a maximal number of votes). This procedure shall be repeated as necessary until a candidate is elected.

Section 3.9 In the event that an officer-elect, except the President-elect, shall decline the office or otherwise be unable to serve, a new election will be held no later than the second meeting of the Council following the occurrence of the vacancy. Election procedures will be in accordance with the current provisions of the CGS Constitution and these Bylaws.

Section 3.10 In the event that the President-elect shall decline the presidency or otherwise be unable to serve, the Vice President-elect shall have the option to assume the office of President. If the Vice President-elect declines, a new election for President shall be held. If the election cannot be held before the start of the term of office, the Vice President-elect shall become President pro-tempore until such time that an election may be held.

Section D: Article 4

Section D.1 Whereas, Article 4 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:

Article IV - The University Senate

Section IV.1: General – The Council of Graduate Students holds the authority to select student members of the University Senate to represent the interests of all graduate students. The Council of Graduate Students shall elect ten graduate students from a single slate.

Section IV.2: Duties - These Senators will regularly attend the meetings of their respective committees, the University Senate, and the Council of Graduate Students, will report to CGS as necessary or as directed, and will consult with the President and the Council to develop and promote graduate student positions on the issues or proposals considered by those bodies. Their term of office will extend one year beginning with autumn semester.

Section IV.3: Nominations – Nominations to fill vacant Senator positions shall normally take place at the third meeting of the spring term. The Organization and Elections Committee shall present a slate of no fewer than ten (10) consenting nominees at that meeting, and any delegate may also nominate candidates at that meeting. Candidates consenting to nomination will submit materials attesting to their qualifications to the Secretary in time for inclusion in the subsequent meeting packet. Materials requires will be established by the Organization and Elections Committee.

Section IV.4: Elections

IV.4.A. Elections to fill vacant Senator positions shall normally take place at the fourth meeting of the spring term.

IV.4.B. At the discretion of the body, candidates for election shall be made available outside of the normal meeting time for delegates to address their qualifications.

IV.4.C. At the Senator election, each delegate will be given a ballot with the option to approve each candidate on the slate. Delegates will submit their ballots to one of the tellers, appointed as specified by the most recent edition of Roberts Rules of Order. The tellers will count the number of approvals that each candidate received. The ten candidates with the most approvals are elected. Should there be a tie in determining the top ten candidates, the President shall cast a tie-breaking vote.
IV.4.D. Write-in votes shall be considered invalid and will not be counted in the total.

Section IV.5: Alternates - Senators may name an Alternate. The Alternate must be approved by the Organization and Elections committee and shall have all the rights and privileges of the Senator.

Section IV.6: Term - All Senators are elected for terms that begin in the autumn semester and last until the end of the following summer term. Vacancies in Representative positions may be filled at any Council meeting in an election following the procedures outlined above.

Section IV.7: Removal - If a Senator or Alternate does not fulfill his or her required duties in a responsible manner, the Organization and Elections Committee, acting either on its own initiative or upon request by relevant parties, may recommend removal. Such a recommendation shall be preceded by a hearing that considers chronic absence, failure to make required reports to the Council, and other relevant matters. The Council’s vote on the Organization and Elections Committee’s recommendation is final.

Section D.2 Whereas, language in this article needs updates and clarification to match current practice.

Section D.3 Whereas, it is deemed advantageous to allocate 5 of the 10 Senator seats to specific academic areas to ensure that all colleges are represented.

Section D.4 Whereas, it is deemed more efficient to have specified people who may serve as an alternate for any Senator rather than a different alternate for each position.

Section D.5 Whereas, information about the procedure for removal of a Senator is lacking.

Section D.6 Therefore, Article 4 of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

Article 4 - The University Senate

Section 4.1 The Council of Graduate Students holds the authority to select student members of the University Senate to represent the interests of all graduate students. The Council shall elect ten graduate students from a group of interested candidates.

Section 4.2 The group of elected senators should include at least one representative from each of the following areas: Math, Engineering, & Physical Sciences; Arts & Humanities; Biological Sciences and Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Studies; Education & Human Ecology; Social & Behavioral Sciences and Business.

Section 4.3 The term of service shall be for one year, beginning in autumn semester and lasting until the end of the following summer term.

Section 4.4 These Senators will regularly attend the meetings of their respective committees, the University Senate, and the Council of Graduate Students, will report to CGS as necessary or as directed, and will consult with the President and the Council to develop and promote graduate student positions on the issues or proposals considered by those bodies.

Section 4.5: Elections

4.5.A Nominations for Senator positions shall take place at the third meeting of the spring term. Nominations may be presented by The Organization and Elections Committee or made by delegates. Candidates consenting to nomination will submit materials attesting to their qualifications to the Chair of the Organization & Elections Committee in time for inclusion in the subsequent meeting packet.

4.5.B Elections to fill Senator positions shall take place at the fourth meeting of the spring term.

4.5.C At the discretion of the body, candidates for election shall be made available outside of the normal meeting time for delegates to address their qualifications.

4.5.D The Organization and Elections Committee will determine to which academic area each candidate belongs.
4.5.E During the senate election, each delegate shall be presented with a slate of all the senate candidates and their respective academic areas. Each delegate may cast a vote for up to ten of the senate candidates. Each delegate will submit their ballot to the Chair of the Organization and Elections Committee or their designee for counting.

4.5.F The first five senate seats shall be filled by the highest vote getter from each of the academic areas listed in Section 4.2. Any remaining unfilled seats (including the first five seats) shall be filled by the candidates remaining with the greatest number of votes, regardless of academic area.

4.5.F.i Should there be a tie, the President shall cast a tie-breaking vote.

4.5.F.ii Write-in votes shall be considered invalid and will not be counted in the total.

Section 4.6 One or two alternates may be designated by the Graduate Caucus chair and approved by the Executive Board. Alternates may attend a meeting on behalf of any Senator who is unable to attend. The alternate shall have all the rights and privileges of the Senator.

Section 4.7 The Council has the authority to remove a Senator for violation of the governing documents only through the following procedure:

4.7.A A written motion requesting an investigation of a Senator for such violations must be presented at a regular meeting of the Council. This motion must bear the signatures of at least ten delegates or an affidavit of a two thirds majority vote of the Executive Board.

4.7.B The Senator shall be given the opportunity to respond to the motion. If the motion is approved by two thirds majority vote, the Organization and Elections Committee will initiate an investigation into the allegations against the Senator and present its findings at the next regular Council meeting.

4.7.C Following this presentation, a two-thirds vote of the Council is required to approve the removal of the Senator, effective immediately.

Section 4.8 Vacancies in Senator positions may be filled at any Council meeting in a direct election for the vacant seat. Vacant seats may be filled by any interested candidate meeting the requirements of Article 4.1 of the CGS Constitution.

Section E: Article 5

Section E.1 Whereas, Article 5 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:

Article V - Appointments to University Committees

Section V.1: General - The Council of Graduate Students holds the authority to appoint graduate student members of university committees (including boards, commissions, committees, councils, courts, or similar planning and advisory groups). The duties of these appointees will be determined by the respective committee; in all cases, the student shall consult with the President and the Council to develop and promote graduate student positions on the issues or proposals considered by those bodies. Terms of office shall normally be one year, beginning autumn semester. In the event that an appointment shall be for a different time period, the student must be so informed.

Section V.2: Application - Graduate students may submit applications themselves or nominate others to be considered for appointment. Individuals who are not currently enrolled in the graduate school may also apply, provided they plan to be enrolled by the first meeting of the committee they are applying for. All applications will be considered by the Organization and Elections committee, using whatever means (interview, screening of resumes, references, etc.) the committee deems appropriate.

Section V.3: Appointment - The Organization and Elections Committee shall have the primary authority of appointment. The Council may review the appointments of the Organization and Elections Committee at the meeting immediately subsequent to such appointments and rescind, by simple majority vote, any it deems inappropriate.

Section V.4: Removal
V.4.A. If a representative does not fulfill required duties in a responsible manner, the Organization and Elections Committee may remove the representative, acting either on its own initiative or at the request of relevant parties.

V.4.B. The Organization and Elections Committee shall consider lack of responsibility to include, but not be limited to, the following:

V.4.B.i. Excessive absence from meetings; and

V.4.B.ii. Failure to make requested reports to constituents, the Council of Graduate Students, and/or the Council's Executive Officers.

IV.4.C. Representatives who have been removed from their positions may appeal this decision directly to the Council of Graduate Students, whose decision is final.

Section V.5: Vacancies - In the event of an appointee's resignation, removal, or vacancy for other reason, the council shall appoint a new member as described in Section 2 and Section 3 of this Article.

Section E.2 Whereas, the language in this article needs small updates for clarity.

Section E.3 Therefore, Article 5 of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

Article 5 - Appointments to University Committees

Section 5.1 The Council of Graduate Students holds the authority to appoint graduate student members of university committees, including boards, commissions, committees, councils, courts, or similar planning and advisory groups. The duties of these appointees will be determined by the respective committee. In all cases, the student shall consult with the President and the Council to develop and promote graduate student positions on issues or proposals considered by those bodies.

Section 5.2 Terms of service shall be for one year, beginning in autumn semester and lasting until the end of the following summer term. In the event that an appointment shall be for a different time period, the student must be so informed.

Section 5.3 Graduate students may submit applications themselves or nominate others to be considered for appointment. Individuals who are not currently enrolled in the graduate school may also apply, provided they plan to be enrolled by the first meeting of the committee they are applying for. All applications will be considered by the Organization and Elections Committee.

Section 5.4 The Organization and Elections Committee shall have the primary authority of appointment. The Council may review the appointments of the Organization and Elections Committee at the meeting immediately subsequent to such appointments and rescind, by simple majority vote, any it deems inappropriate.

Section 5.5 If a representative does not fulfill required duties in a responsible manner, the Organization and Elections Committee may remove the representative, acting either on its own initiative or at the request of the chair of the committee on which the representative serves.

5.5.A The Organization and Elections Committee shall consider lack of responsibility to include, but not be limited to, the following:

5.5.A.i Excessive absence from meetings.

5.5.A.ii Failure to make requested reports to constituents, the Council of Graduate Students, and/or the Council's Executive Officers.

5.5.B Representatives who have been removed from their positions may appeal their removal directly to the Council, whose decision is final.
In the event of an appointee's resignation, removal, or vacancy for another reason, the council shall appoint a new member as described in Sections 3 and 4 of this Article.

Section F: Article 6

Section F.1 Whereas, Article 6 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:

Article VI – Committees

Section VI.1: The Executive Committee

VI.1.A. Duties and powers

VI.1.A.i. The Executive Committee transacts the business of the Council between its meetings. All actions taken by the Committee shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting. The Executive Committee shall bring before the Council any matter coming within its knowledge that needs the consideration or action of the Council.

VI.1.A.ii. A quorum shall consist of seven voting members of the committee, except during Summer term when a quorum shall consist of five voting members.

VI.1.A.iii. The Executive Committee prepares the agenda for each Council meeting and recommends actions to be taken by the Council.

VI.1.A.iv. The Executive Committee is responsible for selecting the recipients of the Larry Lewellen Service Awards and the James M. Siddens Award For Distinguished Faculty Advising.

VI.1.A.v. The Executive Committee may not take the following actions:

VI.1.A.v.(1). Any actions that would directly conflict with a previous directive of the full council.

VI.1.A.v.(2). Approval of non-budgeted expenses in excess of $500, except in those instances in which the treasurer deems "a dire emergency."

VI.1.A.v.(3). Election to the position of Senator, except in response to a prior directive of the Council explicitly directing the committee to do so.

VI.1.A.v.(4). Other restrictions as imposed by the Council.

VI.1.B. Membership - The membership of the Executive Committee shall be determined as follows:

VI.1.B.i. All four executive officers and standing chairpersons shall be ex-officio voting members.

VI.1.B.ii. One graduate student representative each from the Graduate Compensatory and Benefits Committee, Council on Academic Affairs, the University Research Council, the University Area Commission, and the University Senate may be appointed by the President as voting members.

VI.1.B.iii. Emeritus officers, the Parliamentarian, the Chief of Staff, the Deputy Treasurer, and the two student members of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees shall be considered ex-officio non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

VI.1.B.iv In all cases, voting members of the Executive Committee must be graduate students in good standing.

VI.1.C. Transition Membership - During summer term, the Executive Committee shall consist of those individuals who were members during the spring semester of the previous academic year, the newly elected officers, and all new members as they are identified.

VI.1.D. Meetings - The President (or his or her designee) chairs the Executive Committee and shall call such meetings as deemed necessary but must call at least four meetings per semester. During the summer term, up to two meetings may be cancelled if need be.
Section VI.2: The Organization and Elections Committee

VI.2.A. The Organization and Elections Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President and the Vice-Chair shall be the Chief of Staff.

It shall have the following charge:

VI.2.A.i. To determine departmental representation and delegate eligibility;

VI.2.A.ii. To review the qualifications of Executive Office and University Senate candidates;

VI.2.A.iii. To appoint to university committees; and

VI.2.A.iv. To conduct all CGS elections.

Section VI.3: Standing committees

VI.3.A. General - The Council shall have standing committees as designated by the President, subject to ratification by the Council at the first meeting of the President's term. The Council may also create such additional standing committees and ad hoc committees as it deems necessary. Standing committees shall serve until the first Council meeting following the next presidential election, unless designated otherwise.

VI.3.B. Membership - Each committee will consist of a chair appointed by the President and members selected from the graduate student body by the President and/or the chair. The President serves as an ex officio non-voting member of all standing committees.

VI.3.C. Purpose - The purpose and function of each committee shall take the form of a short statement directing the committee to perform specified functions. This statement, either provided by the President or drafted by the full Council, must be made available upon request.

Section F.2 Whereas, it is deemed appropriate that information about the Executive Board should be separated out from information about the other committees as its function is very different.

Section F.3 Whereas, most of the information about the membership and duties of the Executive Board is now contained within Article 9 of the CGS Constitution.

Section F.4 Whereas, it is deemed more efficient to list the various duties of the Organization and Elections Committee in one place.

Section F.5 Whereas, it is deemed appropriate to list standing committees in the Bylaws to ensure that CGS continues to advocate for those issues that are central to its mission as an organization.

Section F.6 Therefore, Article 6 will be renamed “The Executive Board” (in accordance with the name change from the Executive Committee already made in the CGS Constitution) and a new Article 7 will be created, named “Operational and Standing Committees.” All subsequent article numbers shall be shifted to accommodate this change.

Section F.7 Therefore, Articles 6 and 7.1.A - 7.1.B of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

Article 6 – The Executive Board

Section 6.1 The Executive Board must hold at least four meetings per semester. During the summer term, at least two meetings must be held.

Section 6.2 The Executive Board is responsible for selecting the recipients of the Larry Lewellen Service Award, the James M. Siddens Award for Distinguished Faculty Advising, and the Kerry M. Hodak Award for Exceptional Staff Mentoring.
Section 6.3 The Executive Board may approve non-budgeted expenses in excess of $500 by a two-thirds majority vote in instances in which the treasurer deems a "dire emergency".

Article 7: Operational & Standing Committees

Section 7.1: The Organization and Elections Committee

7.1.A The Organization and Elections committee shall oversee all business relating to membership credentials, external representation, appointment, and elections procedures.

7.1.B The committee shall be chaired by the Vice President. The committee shall be composed of at least 5 members, 3 of whom must be current delegates. All members of the Organization and Elections Committee must be members of CGS. The Organization and Elections Committee shall select its members for the following term and fill vacancies as they arise. If the membership of the committee is ever fewer than 3, the Executive Board shall appoint new members to reach a total of 3.

Section F.8 Therefore, Articles 7.1.D-7.2.D of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

7.1.D The committee shall conduct and oversee all CGS elections.

7.1.D.i The committee shall outline the required submission materials for all elections and review the qualification of all candidates.

7.1.D.ii The committee shall collect and prepare all submitted materials for presentation to the Council preceding elections.

7.1.D.iii The committee shall determine procedures for collecting and counting ballots during elections.

7.1.E The committee shall oversee assignment of delegates to internal committees, including both standing and ad hoc committees

7.1.E.i The committee shall publish a list of acceptable venues for delegate committee service. In all cases, this list must include service on a CGS standing or ad hoc committee, a university-wide committee, and the University Senate. The Organization and Elections Committee may, at its discretion, allow non-committee service to substitute for this requirement.

7.1.E.ii The committee shall make assignments of delegates to internal CGS standing and ad-hoc committees.

7.1.F The committee shall verify that all delegates and alternates are fulfilling their responsibilities (as outlined in Article 1 of the CGS Bylaws).

7.1.G The committee shall maintain an actively updated list of University committees and make appointments to these committees.

7.1.H The committee shall review the qualifications of candidates for Executive Office and University Senate positions.

7.1.H.i The committee shall attempt to present at least two candidates each for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer to the Council.

7.1.H.ii The committee shall have the discretion to present consenting nominees for Senator positions.
7.1.1 The committee shall oversee the removal of Executive Officers (as outlined in Section 6.7 of the CGS Constitution), Senators (as outlined in Section 4.7 of this document), delegates (as outlined in Section 1.7 of this document), and University committee representatives (as outlined in Section 5.4 of this document).

Section 7.2: Standing committees

7.2.A The Council shall have standing committees as designated by the President, subject to ratification by the Council at the first meeting of the President's term. The Council may also create such additional standing committees as it deems necessary. Standing committees shall serve until the end of the current delegate term, unless designated otherwise.

7.2.B Each committee will consist of a chair appointed by the President and delegate members appointed by The Organization & Elections Committee. Graduate students not serving as delegates may also join committees after approval from the chair. The President serves as an ex officio non-voting member of all standing committees.

7.2.C Each committee shall have a mission statement that details its purpose and function. These statements may be provided by the President or drafted by the Council and must be available upon request.

7.2.D The Council shall maintain, at minimum, the following standing committees:

- Academic Affairs
- Arts and Culture
- Career Development Grant
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Government Affairs
- Graduate Caucus
- Graduate Student Affairs
- Health, Wellness, and Safety
- Housing and Family Affairs
- International Student Affairs
- Edward J. Ray Travel Award
- Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility (SERC)

Section 7.3 Ad Hoc Committees

7.3.A The organizing resolution establishing an ad hoc committee shall specify its membership, including the chair.

7.3.B Additional delegate or non-delegate members may be added with the approval of the chair and the Organization and Elections Committee.

Section G: Article 8

Section G.1 Whereas, Article 8 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:

*Article VIII - Budgeting and financial affairs*

*Section VIII.1: Budget*

*VIII.1.A. Definition - The financial resources of the Council must be allocated in accordance with an annual budget.*
VIII.1.B. Budget Approval - A proposed budget will be prepared by the Treasurer in consultation with the President, reviewed by the Executive Committee, and sent to the Council at least one week prior to the June Delegate meeting. This budget, or an amended version thereof, must be adopted by a simple majority vote of the Council at the June delegate meeting, prior to the next fiscal year.

VIII.1.C. Budget Amendments - This budget may be revised at any time during the year by a simple majority vote of the Council.

Section VIII.2: Expenditures

VIII.2.A. Authority - Only the President and Treasurer may make financial commitments on behalf of the council, including purchases, travel, repair service, and related business affairs. Expenditures from the checking and banking accounts may only be performed by the President or Treasurer, with the written approval of the Advisor. The President or Treasurer may only perform expenditures from the CGS business account.

VIII.2.B. Unauthorized Commitments - Persons making unauthorized purchases or other commitments may be held personally liable for the payment of such transactions.

VIII.2.C. Reimbursement - The Treasurer, with the consent of the President and the Executive Committee, may establish procedures for notification, receipts, reimbursement, and other associated tasks. These procedures must be documented and made available upon request. The Treasurer, except where notice is otherwise given, must reimburse individuals within two weeks of the completed request for reimbursement.

VIII.2.D. Timeliness - All bills for authorized expenditures must be paid by the Treasurer by the due date or within such period necessary to take advantage of cash discounts and to avoid service charges, provided there are sufficient funds in the respective CGS budget account. If the Treasurer fails to comply with this requirement, the President may pay the bill.

Section VIII.3: Records and Reports

VIII.3.A. Fiscal Year - The fiscal year of the council will extend from the first day of July through the last day of June.

VIII.3.B. Recording - All income and expenditures of the Council must be recorded every other week.

VIII.3.C. Semester Reports - A summary of current and proposed expenditures and the status of all budget categories, including totals in restricted and unrestricted funds (as defined by the Council on Student Affairs), must be prepared by the last day of each semester, and presented to the Council at the first meeting of the following semester.

VIII.3.D. Inventory - By the end of each spring semester, the Treasurer-elect and Treasurer, with the Office Manager's assistance, must jointly inventory all equipment owned by the Council for which more than $100 was paid. A copy of this inventory will be revised as necessary and filed in the CGS office.

Section G.2 Whereas, language in this article needs small updates for clarity and to reflect current practice.

Section G.3 Therefore, Article 8 of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

Article 8 - Budgeting and financial affairs

Section 8.1: Budget

8.1.A The fiscal year of the council will extend from the first day of July through the last day of June.

8.1.B The financial resources of the Council must be allocated in accordance with an annual budget.

8.1.C A proposed budget will be prepared by the Treasurer in consultation with the President, reviewed by the Executive Board, and sent to the Council at least one week prior to the delegate meeting at which it will be presented. This budget, or an amended version thereof, must be adopted by a simple majority vote of the Council at a delegate meeting prior to the next fiscal year.
8.1.D Revisions to the budget may be prepared and presented to the Council for approval at any time during the year and will be accepted by a simple majority vote.

Section 8.2: Expenditures

8.2.A Only the President and Treasurer may make financial commitments on behalf of the council, including purchases, travel, repair service, and related business affairs. Expenditures from the checking and banking accounts may only be performed by the President or Treasurer, with the written approval of the Advisor. The President or Treasurer may only perform expenditures from the CGS business account.

8.2.B Persons making unauthorized purchases or other commitments may be held personally liable for the payment of such transactions.

8.2.C The Treasurer, with the consent of the President and the Executive Board, may establish procedures for notification, receipts, reimbursement, and other associated tasks. These procedures must be documented and made available upon request. The Treasurer, except where notice is otherwise given, must approve reimbursement requests within two weeks of their submission.

8.2.D All bills for authorized expenditures must be paid by the Treasurer by the due date or within such period necessary to take advantage of cash discounts and to avoid service charges, provided there are sufficient funds in the respective CGS budget account. If the Treasurer fails to comply with this requirement, the President may pay the bill in their stead.

Section 8.3: Records and Reports

8.3.A All income and expenditures of the Council must be recorded every month and should be available upon request.

8.3.B A summary of current and proposed expenditures and the status of all budget categories, including totals in restricted and unrestricted funds (as defined by the Council on Student Affairs), must be prepared by the last day of each semester, and presented to the Council at the first meeting of the following semester.

8.3.C By the end of each spring semester, the Treasurer-elect and Treasurer must jointly inventory all equipment owned by the Council for which more than $100 was paid and prepare a list to be kept with other financial records.

Section H: Article 9

Section H.1 Whereas, Article 9 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:

Article IX – Meetings

Section IX.1: Special Meetings - Meetings held at the request of the Executive Committee or the written request of ten members must be held within nine days of such request, provided that the University is in session on the ninth day. Otherwise, they must be held on or before the third succeeding day on which the University is in session.

Section IX.2: Attendance by Representatives - All graduate students as well as graduate student representatives from the University Senate and University Committees shall be encouraged to attend CGS meetings as visitors.

Section IX.3: Debating Legislation - According to Article IX, Section 1 of the Council’s Constitution, the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised governs all meetings of the Council except where conflicting with the Council’s Constitution or Bylaws. Consideration of legislation before the Council shall follow the rules set forth in this section.

IX.3.A. Proposing Legislation - Legislation may be brought before the Council by the Executive Committee, any standing or ad hoc committee of the Council, or by any voting member of the Council. In order for legislation to appear on the Council’s agenda, the author must inform the President that legislation will be brought forward two weeks prior to a Council meeting. The legislation must be submitted in proper format (see guidelines) to the Secretary one week prior to the Council meeting. Legislation not presented to the Council in proper format in time to make it in the meeting packet will be removed from the agenda.
IX.3.B. Main Motion - Proposed legislation, in order as assigned by the Executive Committee on the Council’s agenda, is read to the delegate body by one author. At the discretion of the author, a full reading of the legislation may be waived. Legislation may only be considered during the Old and New Business portions of a Council meeting.

IX.3.C. Second Needed - A second will be needed from the general body to continue. The second can be given by raising a placard and calling “second”. The exception to this rule is when legislation is sponsored by the Executive Committee, or any standing or ad hoc committee of the Council. Committee-sponsored legislation is considered automatically seconded.

IX.3.D. Author(s)’ Rationale - The author(s) will have two minutes to state why they are proposing the legislation.

IX.3.E. Questions for Author(s) - The delegate body may ask the author(s) questions concerning the main motion for a period of five minutes.

IX.3.F. Motion to Extend - The time period for questions, and later, debate, may be extended when time has expired if the delegate body deems it necessary. To extend, someone will need to make a motion to extend, a second is needed, no debate is accepted, and a two-thirds vote is needed to pass the extension.

IX.3.G. Debate - After questions for the author(s), debate begins. The debate period is ten minutes but may be extended if the body deems it necessary (see Section VII.3.F). Debate will end if no speaker is waiting for the floor, when time expires, or when someone calls the question.

IX.3.H. Amendments to the Main Motion - Amendments can be made at the time of debate only. The amendment should be read to the Council and then submitted in writing to the Secretary. Upon receiving a second deliberation on the amendment begins with the author(s) rationale and proceeds through debate. Amendments can be amended.

IX.3.I. Calling the Previous Question - Once the question is called, debate is ended and the Council moves into a vote on the main motion, unless an objection is raised. If there is an objection, then a vote is taken (without debate and requiring a two-thirds majority to pass) to decide whether to end debate and move on to a vote on the issue being discussed.

Section IX.4: Timed Agenda - The Council shall follow a timed agenda as approved by the Executive Committee. That is, each agenda item will be published with a maximum duration. For each meeting, the chair shall appoint a timekeeper (who must be distinct from the individual serving as recording secretary). When the time allotted to an agenda item is announced as having expired, all presentations, discussion, and debate immediately ceases and cannot be resumed without a motion to alter the agenda. If a motion is on the floor, the Council immediately proceeds to a vote on that motion. A motion to amend the agenda requires a second, is not debatable, and requires a two-thirds vote. Whenever discussion on a given agenda item finishes before its allotted time, the chair will move the Council on to the next item.

Section IX.5: Beginning and Ending Times - Each agenda is published with a beginning and ending time. These times are estimates only and therefore non-binding; the meeting begins when the secretary establishes that a quorum is present and ends after the last agenda item (perhaps as amended) has been handled.

Section IX.6: Guest Speakers - CGS meetings are often preceded, followed, or suspended for guest speakers that are not part of the meeting agenda. These speakers are, by default, selected by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee. Any delegate may informally propose a potential speaker by communicating directly with the President; should a binding proposal (either to request an entity to speak or to enjoin an entity from speaking) be desired, a motion to that effect may be made during New Business at any meeting of the Council.

Section H.2 Whereas, information previously found within other articles that is relevant to meetings procedures should be moved to this article.

Section H.3 Whereas, information about parliamentary procedure for consideration of legislation is deemed more appropriate for and will be moved to the Standing Rules.

Section H.4 Therefore, Article 9 of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:
Article 9 – Meetings

Section 9.1 Meetings of the Council may be conducted in person or with the use of an online platform at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section 9.2 All graduate students as well as graduate student representatives from the University Senate and University Committees shall be encouraged to attend CGS meetings as visitors.

Section 9.3 At the discretion of the chair, any visitor may be extended privileges of the floor. The decision of the chair may be appealed to the full Council.

Section 9.4 The Council shall follow a timed agenda as approved by the Executive Board. That is, each agenda item will be published with a maximum duration.

9.4.A For each meeting, the chair shall keep time or appoint a timekeeper (who must be distinct from the individual serving as recording secretary).

9.4.B When the time allotted to an agenda item is announced as having expired, all presentations, discussion, and debate immediately cease and cannot be resumed without a motion to alter the agenda. If a motion is on the floor, the Council immediately proceeds to a vote on that motion. A motion to amend the agenda requires a second, is not debatable, and requires a two-thirds majority vote. Whenever discussion on a given agenda item finishes before its allotted time, the chair will move the Council on to the next item.

Section 9.5 Each agenda is published with a beginning and ending time. These times are estimates only and therefore non-binding; the meeting begins when it is established that a quorum is present and ends after the last agenda item has been handled.

Section 9.6 CGS meetings are often preceded, followed, or suspended for guest speakers. These speakers are selected by the President in consultation with the Executive Board. Any delegate may informally propose a potential speaker by communicating directly with the President. Should a binding proposal (either to request an entity to speak or to enjoin an entity from speaking) be desired, a motion to that effect may be made during New Business at any meeting of the Council.

Section 1: Article 10

Section 1.1 Whereas, Article 10 of the CGS Bylaws currently reads as follows:

Article X – Other Positions

Section X.1: Parliamentarian - a parliamentarian may be appointed by the president of the Council of Graduate Students.

X.1A Duties - the duties of the parliamentarian are:

X.1.A.i. To advise the President and other members of CGS on Section IX.2 of the Constitution of the Council of Graduate Students and other relevant matters;

X.1.A.ii. To serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee;

X.1.A.iii. To assist CGS in reviewing and revisiting the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules as needed;

X.1.A.iv. to assist the Vice President in educating delegates on parliamentary procedure during new delegate orientation; and

X.1.A.v To advise the graduate student member of the University Senate Rules Committee on parliamentary procedure

X.1.B: if applicable, when a current delegate is appointed as the Parliamentarian of the Council, that person will resign his or her delegate seat when the term of office begins.
Section X.2: Chief of Staff - The chief of staff shall be appointed by the President of the Council of Graduate Students.

X.2.A: Duties - The duties of the chief of staff are:

XI.2.A.i To assist the executive officers as directed by the President of CGS;

XI.2.A.ii To serve as the Vice-Chair of the Organization and Elections Committee; and

XI.2.A.iii To serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

X.2.B When a current delegate is appointed as the Chief of Staff of the Council, that person will resign his or her delegate seat when the term of office begins.

Section X.3: Deputy Treasurer - The Deputy Treasurer may be appointed by the Treasurer of the Council of Graduate Students.

X.3.A: Duties - The duties of the chief of staff are:

X.3.A.i To assist the Treasurer in managing CGS fiscal responsibilities and internal operations;

X.3.A.ii To assist CGS in the auditing of external entities including but not limited to university departments, offices, and units;

X.3.A.iii To serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee;

X.3.A.iv In the absence of the Treasurer, or if the Treasurer is temporarily unable to fulfill his or her duties, the Deputy Treasurer shall serve in the Treasurer's place.

X.3.A.v The Deputy Treasurer shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Committee, and the Treasurer.

X.2.B If applicable, when a current delegate is appointed as the Deputy Treasurer, that person will resign his or her delegate seat when the term of office begins.

Section 1.2 Whereas, language in this article needs small wording updates and clarifications to match current practice and improve consistency.

Section 1.3 Therefore, Article 10 of the CGS Bylaws will now read as follows:

Article 10 - Appointed Officer Positions

Section 10.1: Parliamentarian

10.1.A The President may appoint a Parliamentarian (as outlined in Article 8, Section 3 of the CGS Constitution).

10.1.B The Parliamentarian advises the President and other members of CGS on Article 7, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Council of Graduate Students and other relevant matters.

10.1.C The Parliamentarian assists CGS in reviewing and revisiting the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules as needed.

10.1.D The Parliamentarian assists the Vice President in educating delegates on parliamentary procedure during new delegate orientation.

10.1.E The Parliamentarian serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board.

10.1.F The Parliamentarian shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Board, and the President.
10.1.G If applicable, when a current delegate is appointed as the Parliamentarian, that person will resign their delegate seat when the term of office begins.

Section 10.2: Chief of Staff

10.2.A The President may appoint a Chief of Staff (as outlined in Article 8, Section 3 of the CGS Constitution).

10.2.B The Chief of Staff assists the executive officers as directed by the President.

10.2.C The Chief of Staff serves as the Vice-Chair of the Organization and Elections Committee.

10.2.D The Chief of Staff serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board.

10.2.E The Chief of Staff shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Board, and the President.

10.2.F If applicable, when a current delegate is appointed as the Chief of Staff, that person will resign their delegate seat when the term of office begins.

Section 10.3: Deputy Treasurer

10.3.A The Treasurer may appoint a Deputy Treasurer (as outlined in Article 8, Section 5 of the CGS Constitution).

10.3.B The Deputy Treasurer assists the Treasurer in managing CGS fiscal responsibilities and internal operations.

10.3.C The Deputy Treasurer assists CGS in the auditing of external entities including but not limited to university departments, offices, and units.

10.3.D The Deputy Treasurer serves in the Treasurer’s place in the temporary absence of the Treasurer.

10.3.E The Deputy Treasurer serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board.

10.3.F The Deputy Treasurer shall fulfill other duties as directed by the Council, the Executive Board, the President, and the Treasurer.

10.3.G If applicable, when a current delegate is appointed as the Deputy Treasurer, that person will resign their delegate seat when the term of office begins.

Section 10.4: Terms of service for all appointed positions shall begin at the time of appointment and last until the end of the following summer term.

Section 10.5 If any of these appointed positions become vacant, the President may appoint a replacement.

Section J. The changes contained within this act shall be effective immediately after an affirmative majority vote of delegates at a regular meeting of CGS in accordance with Article 10, Section 2 of the CGS Constitution.

Approved: Yes/No

Date: ______

__________________________________
Stephen J. Post, President
RESOLUTION 2021-015

A RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE GRADUATE STUDENT AWARENESS AND ACCESS TO COUNSELING AND CONSULTATION SERVICES

Authors: Abigail Grieff,2, Chair, Health, Wellness, and Safety; Michelle Scott,145, Chair, Graduate Student Affairs; Matt Stuckey,56; Eli Bohnert,14; Karla Shockley McCarthy,1

Sponsor: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled at The Ohio State University as established by Article 2, Section 1 of the CGS Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Council is vested with the authority to voice graduate student concerns and needs to the university; and

WHEREAS, The Ohio State University’s fundamental values and goals embrace the nurturing and growth of every student; and

WHEREAS, mental health education and resources are especially important for college aged individuals because roughly three-quarters of all lifetime mental illnesses are onset by an individual’s mid-20’s; and

WHEREAS, models of care at high onset periods, such as late adolescence and early adulthood, are imperative to reduce the burden and repercussions of mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, Graduate students are more likely to have multiple familial and financial responsibilities, and generally operate in an environment with less guidance requiring significant self-motivation in structuring progress through graduate programs; and

WHEREAS, a 2015 study of 81 universities found that less than 41% of graduate students with an apparent mental health problem received treatment in the past year; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 study across 234 institutions found that graduate students were more than 6 times as likely to experience anxiety and depression compared to the general population; and

WHEREAS, this study also showed that improved work-life balance as well as strong, positive mentoring relationships each significantly correlate with better mental health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Ohio State University has reported a 69% increase in students seeking mental health services from 2014 to 2019 compared to an approximate 4% increase in enrollment; and

https://oaa.osu.edu/mission-vision-values-and-core-goals


https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-72619-9_1


https://doi.org/10.1038/nbt.4089

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the prevalence of mental health disorders in graduate students; and

WHEREAS, according to The Ohio State University Return to Campus Survey, graduate students had the highest reported levels of anxiety, and the second highest levels of depression, compared to undergraduate and professional students; and

WHEREAS, according to the CGS Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee check-in survey, many graduate students mentioned anecdotally that on-campus counseling resources are often inaccessible due to long wait times, inability to provide the type of rigorous therapy that is needed, or no capacity to take on more clients; and

WHEREAS, many students, in the survey mentioned above, also stated that they feel they have tried to seek help from a counseling service on campus, but have had little success, therefore leaving a general feeling of inaccessibility to mental health services; and

WHEREAS, The Ohio State University has ample mental health resources, but there appears to be lackluster outreach from the university to make graduate students aware of what services are available to them; and

WHEREAS, even if a student is not fit to receive mental health services through The Ohio State University, there are resources that can connect students to therapy and resources off-campus that are covered by the student health insurance; and

WHEREAS, therapy has been shown to increase well-being, independent of modality and level of professional therapist training; and

WHEREAS, the longer an individual sticks with therapy, the better their outcomes are; and

WHEREAS, the extenuating circumstances brought on by the ongoing COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic has caused an uptick in both graduate and undergraduate students in need of mental health services while making access to these resources more difficult.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students recommends that the university includes the community provider database through CCS on all syllabi, so that students may have a tool readily available to find counseling off-campus if need be; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Ohio State University should increase marketing about mental health services that are available to students so that students may be aware of where they can seek mental health resources; and

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9 Return to campus results PDF

10 CGS Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee Google Survey


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Ohio State University should utilize resources to make embedded clinicians available in more colleges, thus increasing accessibility for graduate students to clinicians who are aware of the unique needs of each college; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students officially recommends that Counseling and Consultation Services or the Ohio State University Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force, whoever the university sees best fit, create an internal committee to review the needs of students whose needs are not met, so that they can continue to improve initiatives, programming, and mental health resources on campus; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED CGS calls upon The Ohio State University to push to make mental health services more accessible to graduate students.

Approved: Yes/No
Yeas, Nay, Abstentions
Date: ______

_________________________________
Stephen J. Post, President