

Texas A&M University
Graduate and Professional Student Council
By-Laws

Adopted by the General Assembly April 2, 2002
Amended by the General Assembly September 2, 2014
Amended by the General Assembly September 15, 2015
Amended by the General Assembly April 5, 2016

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In the best interest of all graduate and professional students, these By-Laws to the Constitution of the Graduate and Professional Student Council of Texas A&M University, will govern the Graduate and Professional Student Council and its committees in all cases in which they are not in conflict with the Constitution of the Graduate and Professional Student Council. These By-Laws will be reviewed annually and revised, if necessary.

Article I. Membership

Section I. Representatives

1. Representative(s) should be appointed or chosen as a result of elections by the graduate or professional students in the Representative's department, program, or organization. However, if a Representative is not appointed or chosen as a result of elections by a recognized department, program, or organization as of the first day of fall semester classes, eligible students may apply without appointment or election by their department, program, or organization directly to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee for the opportunity to serve as a Representative for their current graduate and professional department, program, or organization. The eligible Representative(s) will be selected by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee.
2. In the event that a Representative fails to meet any requirements defined in the Constitution or By-Laws, the Representative will be determined to be an unqualified member and will be subject to replacement or removal by the Executive Committee. If action is required, the Executive Vice President will inform the Representative and the Representative's department, program, or organization that they can no longer serve as a Representative.
3. The role of the Representative is to serve as the voice of their particular department, program, or organization.
4. Representatives have the following minimum duties:
 - a. Attend every Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly meeting and the University Committee meetings for which they are assigned. In the event that a Representative is unable to attend a meeting, it is their responsibility to ensure that a Representative attends in their place.
 - b. Collect concerns from and communicate pertinent information back to graduate and/or professional students of their constituency in a timely fashion.
 - c. Speak for the best interests of the entire graduate and professional student body as a member of the Graduate and Professional Student Council and for the best interests of their constituency during Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly meetings.
 - d. Respect all members of the Graduate and Professional Student Council and University Committees and conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.
 - e. Promote general awareness of the Graduate and Professional Student Council to the graduate and professional student body as well as University and local communities.

5. Representatives will contribute to the work of the Graduate and Professional Student Council by actively serving on both:
 - a. One (1) Graduate and Professional Student Council Standing Committee, Special Committee, or Ad Hoc Committee.
 - b. One (1) University Committee or other exterior committee, as coordinated by the Vice President of University Affairs.
6. Representatives are responsible for the following items with regard to University Committees:
 - a. Attend each committee meeting and speak for the best interests of the entire graduate and professional student body.
 - b. Collect concerns from graduate and professional students about topics related to the University Committee on which they serve.
 - c. Respond to inquiries from graduate and professional students about issues related to the University Committee on which they serve.
 - d. Promote general awareness of the Graduate and Professional Student Council through the University Committee on which they serve.
 - e. Report on the happenings of these University Committee meetings to the Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly.
 - f. If the Representative is no longer able to fulfill their duty on a University Committee, the Representative is to contact the Vice President of University Affairs so that an alternate Representative can be appointed, and the Representative can be reassigned to another committee.

Section II. Delegates

1. Delegates are Representatives with voting privileges, as per the Constitution.
2. Each recognized department, program, or organization may provide a Delegate for all Business and Special meetings of the Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly, as defined by the Constitution.
3. A department, program, or organization that does not have representation at two (2) consecutive Business and/or Special meetings will be placed on probation. Delegates for departments, programs, or organizations on probation will not be permitted to vote on Graduate and Professional Student Council business. Delegates will regain voting privileges at the beginning of the second consecutive meeting where they have representation. The Vice President of Information will maintain eligibility. Delegates are responsible for ensuring their department,

program, or organization's eligibility for all Graduate and Professional Student Council business.

4. Non-Departmental Organization Delegates:

a. Criteria for Delegate status.

- i. The Non-Departmental Organization will represent graduate and/or professional student issues that are not addressed by other departments or organizations.
- ii. The mission and goals of the Non-Departmental Organization will be consistent with those of the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- iii. The business and activities of the Non-Departmental Organization will be consistent with the policies of the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- iv. The Non-Departmental Organization will be a student organization currently recognized by the Department of Student Activities.
- v. The Delegate cannot be a delegate for another department, program, or organization.

b. Approval process for Non-Departmental Organization Delegate status.

- i. The Non-Departmental Organization will submit a typed proposal to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee, not to exceed two (2) pages, (a) discussing their reasons for seeking Delegate status and (b) highlighting how they fulfill the criteria for acceptance as outlined above.
- ii. The Non-Departmental Organization will submit a copy of their Constitution and By-Laws to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee.
- iii. The Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee will meet with representatives from the Non-Departmental Organization to discuss their application no later than one (1) month after submission of the application and the Non-Departmental Organization's Constitution and By-Laws.
- iv. The Executive Vice President will place the applicant Non-Departmental Organization petition for Delegate status on the agenda of a General Assembly Business meeting within three (3) Business meetings following the meeting with the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee.
- v. The leadership of the applicant Non-Departmental Organization will make a presentation to the General Assembly explaining its goals and relevant

issues.

- vi. Applying Non-Departmental Organizations will be approved by the General Assembly through a simple majority vote and notified of the outcome by the Vice President of Information.
- c. Review and removal process of Non-Departmental Organization Delegates.
- i. Initiating Non-Departmental Organization Delegate status review.
 - 1. The Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee may initiate a Non-Departmental Organization review at any time for due cause.
 - 2. A Graduate and Professional Student Council Delegate may move to initiate a Non-Departmental Organization Delegate status review at any meeting of the General Assembly, and the motion must pass with a two-thirds majority vote.
 - ii. Non-Departmental Organization Delegate status review process.
 - 1. The Executive Vice President will place the Non-Departmental Organization Delegate status review on the agenda of a Business or Special meeting of the General Assembly.
 - 2. The Non-Departmental Organization will be informed of the cause for and time of the review at least two (2) meetings prior to the review.
 - 3. Non-Departmental Organization representatives will be allowed to participate in discussion and debate at the review.
 - 4. Following discussion and debate, a vote on whether the Non-Departmental Organization has passed the review will be taken. Delegate status will be retained unless there is a two-thirds majority vote in the negative.
- d. If the Department of Student Activities removes a Non-Departmental Organization's recognition, that Non-Departmental Organization immediately loses Delegate status.

Section III. Committee Chairs and Program Directors

- 1. The Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee will appoint and remove all Committee Chairs and Program Directors.
- 2. In the event of a Committee Chair vacancy, the Executive Committee will decide whether to appoint someone to fill the vacancy.

3. Committee Chairs and Program Directors may appoint any graduate or professional student in good standing with the University to serve as a member of their committee.
4. Committee Chairs and Program Directors are to report Committee and Program proceedings to their overseeing Officer.

Section IV. Officers

1. Officers are part of and will appoint additional graduate and professional students to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee.

Section V. Liaisons

1. Liaisons can include:
 - a. Any student of Texas A&M University who is not an Officer, Delegate, or Representative of the Graduate and Professional Student Council may be granted temporary Liaison status for the duration of their service provided they meet the following requirements:
 - i. Obtain approval by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive committee or the General Assembly.
 - ii. Be in good standing with the University.
 - iii. Be seeking a degree from Texas A&M University.
 - b. Approved Non-Texas A&M University students.
 - i. Non-Texas A&M University student Liaisons can be chosen by their entity to work with the Graduate and Professional Student Council to accomplish mutual goals.
 - ii. Individuals can be granted temporary Liaison status for the duration of their service as determined by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee.
 - iii. The Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee or General Assembly reserves the right to refuse participation of Non-Texas A&M University student Liaisons for due cause.
2. Review and removal process of Liaisons.
 - a. Texas A&M University students serving as Liaisons can be removed for due cause by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee or a simple majority vote of the General Assembly.
 - b. Individuals who are not Texas A&M University students serving as Liaisons can be removed for due cause by the Graduate and Professional Student Council

Executive Committee or a simple majority vote of the General Assembly.

Article II. Officers

Section I. Election of Officers

1. Application procedure.
 - a. Officer candidates will complete an application provided at the first Business or Special meeting of the General Assembly in February of the year they wish to run for office.
 - b. Completed applications must be returned to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee no later than the first Business or Special meeting in March of that year.
 - c. Completed applications will be reviewed by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee to determine Officer candidate eligibility and the candidates will be notified as to the results of that review at least one (1) week prior to the second Business or Special meeting in March of that year.
 - d. Completed approved applications will be provided to members of the General Assembly via a mass communication medium at least one (1) week prior to the second Business or Special meeting in March of that year.
 - e. The Officer candidates must arrange a meeting with the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor to discuss their application before the election.
2. Election Procedure.
 - a. Officer candidates will have the opportunity during the first Business or Special meeting in March of that year to provide the General Assembly with a short introduction and campaign platform.
 - b. Members of the General Assembly will have an opportunity during the second Business or Special meeting in March of that year to question Officer candidates regarding their qualifications and platform.
 - c. Candidates may be nominated on the floor at any time if they meet all election requirements, including completion of the application and attending a meeting with the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor.
 - d. At the beginning of the election, all Officer candidates will be removed from the room and one ballot per position will be distributed to each eligible Delegate. Delegates may cast one (1) vote for one (1) Officer candidate per position, cast a blank ballot, or chose not to cast a ballot. A blank or incorrectly cast ballot does

count as a vote. Distributed, but not cast ballots, will not count as votes. The Vice President of Information will collect the cast ballots after each Officer position is voted upon.

- e. Positions voted upon will be ordered by the number of Officer candidates for each position, such that the most contested positions are voted upon first and the least contested are voted upon last. In the case where multiple have the same number candidates, the order will be as follows:
 - i. President
 - ii. Executive Vice President
 - iii. Vice President of Information
 - iv. Vice President of Finance
 - v. Vice President of University Affairs
 - f. Officers will be elected by a simple majority vote of the Delegates present and voting at the first Business or Special meetings in April of that year. In the case of more than two candidates with no candidate receiving a majority of the votes, a second vote will take place to choose between the two top voted candidate. Should neither candidate get a majority of the votes, the President-elect will appoint someone to the position.
3. Re-election procedure.
 - a. Current Officers seeking a consecutive term are subject to the same application and election process as described above.
 4. Oversight.
 - a. The Executive Vice President will be in charge of the oversight and conducting of all Officer elections within the Graduate and Professional Student Council. If a conflict of interest arises, the Executive Vice President must designate an Election Commissioner from the Executive Committee no later than by the end of January before the next election season.

Section II. Terms of Office

1. Transition of Vice President offices will occur at the beginning of the last Business or Special Meeting in the spring semester.
2. Transition of the President will occur on the first day of June.
3. Individuals may serve as an Officer while simultaneously serving as a Representative, Delegate, Committee Chair, Program Director, and/or Liaison.

4. Individuals may be re-elected to any office with no maximum term limit.

Section III. Removal of Officers and Office Vacancies

1. Officers may resign from their position at any time.
2. Officers can be suspended for due cause through the Disciplinary Review Committee process as outlined in Article IV, Section II.
3. Offices is considered vacant when an Officer simultaneously fails to attend two (2) consecutive Business or Special meetings and two (2) consecutive Executive Committee meetings or four (4) consecutive Graduate and Professional Student Council meetings of any type unless absent as approved by the Executive Committee.
4. Offices vacated during the term may be filled by a special election or through appointment by the Executive Committee. A two-thirds majority vote by the General Assembly is needed to approve any appointment.
5. If an Officer resigns or is removed from their position, all benefits associated with this position will be revoked upon approval by the Texas A&M University Administration.

Section IV. Descriptions and Duties

1. President

Represents graduate and professional students and the Graduate and Professional Student Council to the University and Non-University communities.

- a. Will facilitate the realization of the goals of the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- b. Plans, prepares, and chairs all Executive Committee meetings.
- c. Completes annual Graduate and Professional Student Council recognition procedures as mandated by the Department of Student Activities.
- d. Serves on all University Committees requiring the presence of the Graduate and Professional Student Council President.
- e. Appoints Graduate and Professional Student Council Representatives and/or other graduate or professional students to University Committees or delegates that power to the Vice President of University Affairs.
- f. Upon resignation or removal of an Officer, the President will appoint a temporary replacement until an election can be held or an Executive Committee appointment and General Assembly confirmation can be made.

- g. Is a voting member of the Executive Committee, when it meets in committee.
- h. Maintains a protocol and procedural knowledge to be passed onto successive President Officers.

2. Executive Vice President

Plans, prepares, and chairs all Business and Special meetings of the General Assembly.

- a. Serves as Risk Management Officer, unless delegated otherwise.
- b. Oversees the upkeep and enforcement of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- c. Serves on committees as appointed by the President.
- d. Serves in place of the President when the President is not able to do so.
- e. Coordinates elections.
- f. Will invites groups offering pertinent information or services to graduate and professional students to give short presentations to the Graduate and Professional Student Council in an effort to help disseminate that information and raise awareness of those services.
- g. Coordinates with the Vice President of Information to ensure that all speaker or presenting group presentations are made available to the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- h. Issues a call for agenda items, verbally at Business and/or Special meetings and/or through a standard mass communication medium.
- i. Ensures all agenda items, verbally at Business and/or Special meetings and/or through a standard mass communication medium.
- j. Is a voting member of the Executive Committee, when it meets in committee.
- k. Maintains a protocol and procedural knowledge to be passed onto successive Executive Vice President Officers.

3. Vice President of Information

Records and maintains minutes of General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings.

- a. Records attendance at General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings.
- b. Maintains the Graduate and Professional Student Council member roster.

- c. Ensures all documents regarding Delegate eligibility are available to the entire Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- d. Maintains a list of recognized entities.
- e. Maintains organizational history of the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- f. Maintains distribution lists and standard mass communication medium accounts.
- g. Is a voting member of the Executive Committee, when it meets in committee.
- h. Maintains a protocol and procedural knowledge to be passed onto successive Vice President of Information Officers.

4. Vice President of Finance

Maintains fiscal records.

- a. Facilitates the preparation of the annual Graduate and Professional Student Council budget.
- b. Coordinates with Officers and Committees on budgets for events and activities.
- c. Presents fiscal requests to and serves as liaison to the Student Affairs Fee Advisory Board or its current equivalent.
- d. Coordinates with the Executive Committee to identify possible sources of funding from institutions, grants, individuals, etc. to raise funds for the Graduate and Professional Student Council and its activities.
- e. Is a voting member of the Executive Committee, when it meets in committee.
- f. Maintains a protocol and procedural knowledge to be passed onto successive Vice President of Finance Officers.

5. Vice President of University Affairs

Facilitates and coordinates communication with other campus entities.

- a. Maintains a list of Graduate and Professional Student Council facilitated appointments to committees and other entities.
- b. Assists the President in finding and appointing Representatives to University Committees.
- c. Maintains a list of persons, such as University administrators; graduate and professional student advisors; leaders of the Faculty Senate, University Staff

Council, and Student Government Association; graduate student organizations; etc. that are frequently contacted by the Graduate and Professional Student Council.

- d. Maintains and verifies a list of University Committees.
- e. Notifies University Committees of Graduate and Professional Student Council member suspensions and changes.
- f. Is a voting member of the Executive Committee, when it meets in committee.
- g. Maintains a protocol and procedural knowledge to be passed onto successive Vice President of University Affairs Officers.

Section V. Miscellaneous Duties and Responsibilities

- 1. The Executive Committee may be assigned other duties and responsibilities.
- 2. Members of the Executive Committee, when duly serving as Delegates, are allowed one (1) vote on Graduate and Professional Student Council business during General Assembly Business or Special meetings. If not serving in this specific capacity, Executive Committee members are prescribed no voting rights during this time.

Article III. Committees

Section I. Executive Committee

- 1. The Executive Committee exists, as per the Constitution.

Section II. Standing Committees

- 1. The Executive Committee will appoint and remove the Chairs of all Standing Committees.
- 2. The Chair of each Standing Committee may appoint any graduate or professional student in good standing with the University to serve as a member of their committee.
- 3. Graduate and Professional Student Council Officers may at their own initiative serve on a Standing Committee.
- 4. Descriptions of Standing Committees:
 - a. Quality of Life Committee
 - i. Addresses issues concerning education, research, and financial support that affect the quality of the graduate and professional student academic experience.

- ii. Addresses issues concerning student health, personal and family welfare, personal budget, child care, etc. that affect the quality of graduate and professional student life outside of the academic experience.
- b. Multicultural and Diversity Affairs Committee
 - i. Addresses issues unique to the diverse student body.
 - ii. Works closely with the University offices, such as International Student Services, Multicultural Services, the Vice President of Global Initiative, the Vice President of Diversity, the GLBT Resource Center, the Women's Resource Center, and the other interested parties to ensure graduate and professional student interests are voiced.
 - iii. Keeps graduate and professional students apprised of relevant and pertinent information related to diversity issues.
- c. Legislative Affairs Committee
 - i. Addresses legislation that affects graduate and professional students at the local, state, and national levels.
 - ii. Examines legislative issues, especially during years that the Legislature of the State of Texas is not in session, so that the Graduate and Professional Student Council will be prepared to address issues effectively within the Legislature's limited timetable.
 - iii. Maintains a knowledge of all Faculty Senate, University Staff Council, and Student Government Association resolutions and proceedings and sends a liaison to attend all meetings.
- d. Marketing and Communications Committee
 - i. Promotes all Graduate and Professional Student Council sponsored events, including but not limited to: Graduate and Professional Student Council meetings, events coordinated by the other Standing Committees, and external events of interest to the graduate and professional student body.
 - ii. Maintains and updates Graduate and Professional Student Council logos and branding guide as needed.
- e. Programming Committee
 - i. Plans events to foster community and fellowship among the graduate and professional student body.

- ii. The jurisdiction of this committee includes all programming opportunities, whether social or academic, that do not serve a primarily service-based function.

f. Awards Committee

- i. Oversees the Graduate and Professional Student Council Travel, Book, and Council Awards programs, if currently being awarded, in order to positively support the graduate and professional student body and the academic mission of Texas A&M University.
- ii. The jurisdiction of this committee includes oversight of all awards to be distributed by the Graduate and Professional Student Council, with the exception of awards given for excellence in research as part of Student Research Week.
- iii. Works with the Vice President of Finance to ensure that funds will be available for the Awards programs.

g. Selfless Service Committee

- i. Coordinates all events of the Graduate and Professional Student Council related to charitable causes and service to the community.
- ii. Pursues relevant opportunities for service to University and local communities.
- iii. Works to ensure that the Graduate and Professional Student Council is continually engaged in charitable and service-oriented works.

h. Outreach Committee

- i. Recruits graduate and professional students to attend events and become involved in the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- ii. Reaches out to entities that may benefit from sending Representatives to Graduate and Professional Student Council meetings.
- iii. Serves as a liaison committee between the Graduate and Professional Student Council and underrepresented departments, programs, and organizations.

i. Research Committee

- i. Collect and curate submissions for graduate and professional student research features on the GPSC Research Spotlight and in formal publications.

- ii. Research and develop a website dedicated to graduate and professional research and human subject recruitment for researchers at Texas A&M University.
 - iii. Address issues relevant to graduate and professional student research.
 - iv. Serve as resource for the Student Research Week Program Director and Committee.
5. Oversight and Reporting
- a. The Executive Committee will determine the Standing Committee(s) that each Officer oversees.

Section III. Assistance Committees

- 1. Officers may establish and staff committee(s) to assist them with their duties.

Section IV. Ad Hoc Committees

- 1. May be created by a majority vote at any Business or Special meeting.
- 2. A motion to create an Ad Hoc Committee must include the purpose of the committee, the method for the selection of a chair, the method for the selection of members, and the deadline before which the committee is to report back to the General Assembly.

Section V. Special Committees

- 1. Special Committees exist and/or may be formed, as needed under the same procedure as Ad Hoc Committees, unless noted to serve the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- 2. These committees are not Ad Hoc Committees.
- 3. Descriptions:
 - a. The Disciplinary Review Committee is a special committee, as defined in Article IV.
 - b. Student Research Week Planning Committee
 - i. Organizes, oversees, and runs Student Research Week to be held during the month of March each year.
 - ii. Is overseen by the Director of Student Research Week.
 - iii. Raises funds for Student Research Week awards.
 - iv. Reports to the President and Graduate and Professional Student Council

Advisor, unless otherwise notified.

- v. Sets and maintains a Student Research Week calendar for the entire year, which contains deadline and other important dates.
 - vi. Works with the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor and Vice President of Finance to develop and maintain a budget.
 - vii. Works with the President and the Marketing and Communications Committee to increase awareness of Student Research Week among the University.
 - viii. Presents an evaluation report of Student Research Week proceedings and outcomes to the Graduate and Professional Student Council after the event.
- c. Grad Camp Committee
- i. Organizes, oversees, and runs Grad Camp to be held during the beginning of the Fall semester each year.
 - ii. Is overseen by the Director of Grad Camp.
 - iii. Works to adhere to, promote, and uphold the mission and goals of the Grad Camp throughout the year.
 - iv. Oversees the logistical aspects of Grad Camp.
 - v. Coordinates the marketing and advertising of Grad Camp to incoming graduate and professional students.
 - vi. Coordinates and executes the application and selection process for Grad Camp counselors and crew.
 - vii. Coordinates the selection of guest speakers for Grad Camp panel sessions.
 - viii. Oversees the planning of discussion group activities facilitated by counselors for Grad Camp.
 - ix. Coordinates the Grad Camp registration process for incoming graduate and professional students.
 - x. Works with the University and local community sponsors to provide support and resources to Grad Camp.
 - xi. Works with the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor and Vice President of Finance to develop and maintain a budget.
 - xii. Engages with students on a continual basis throughout their first semester.
 - xiii. Presents an evaluation report of Grad Camp proceeding and outcomes to the

Graduate and Professional Student Council after the event.

- xiv. Welcomes incoming graduate and professional students to Aggieland.

Article IV. Disciplinary Review

1. Hears, weighs, and rules on complaints brought forth by one Graduate and Professional Student Council member against another.
2. Is comprised of volunteer Representatives when called to assemble.
3. Nine (9) Representatives will be selected from a list of applicants.
4. The application process will be an interview of the applicant by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Executive Committee and Advisor.

Section I. Committee Selection and Membership

1. The Disciplinary Review Committee will consist of ten (10) members.
 - a. The Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor will chair the committee, and have no vote.
 - b. The Executive Committee will be responsible for selecting nine (9) members of the Disciplinary Review Committee, with the advisor having final approval of selected members.
 - c. The nine (9) members will be appointed from among a list of pre-selected volunteers.
 - d. A complainant or defendant cannot serve on the committee.
 - e. In the event that member(s) of the Executive Committee are included in the complaint, the member(s) will not be involved in the Disciplinary Review Process.

Section II. Procedure

1. Complaint Process
 - a. Any Graduate and Professional Student Council member may file a complaint against any other Graduate and Professional Student Council member.
 - b. A complaint must specify the supposed infraction and/or event.
 - c. Complainants must submit one (1) copy of the complaint to be given to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor.
2. Scheduling of a hearing

- a. Within seven (7) days of receiving the complaint, Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor are to meet with the Executive Committee and call the Disciplinary Review Committee to form. The particulars of the complaint are to be discussed.
- b. Once formed, the Disciplinary Review Committee will inform the defendant that there has been a complaint filed.
- c. The Disciplinary Review Committee will determine if the complaint warrants a full hearing.
- d. The Disciplinary Review Committee will inform the complainant and defendant of the outcome of this determination.
- e. If a full hearing is deemed necessary, the Disciplinary Review Committee must schedule in good faith a meeting time acceptable to all parties.

3. Hearing

- a. The complainant and defendant may each bring one (1) advocate who is a member of the Graduate and Professional Student Council.
- b. The complainant will present their complaint against the defendant.
- c. The defendant will present.
- d. Each presentation will be limited in time by the Disciplinary Review Committee with the complainant and defendant each getting equal time.
- e. Both the complainant and defendant will have the opportunity to ask questions of one another, limited in time by the Disciplinary Review Committee, with the complainant and defendant each getting equal time.
- f. Disciplinary Review Committee members may ask questions of any present at any time. This period of questioning and answering will not count against either the complainant's or defendant's overall presentation time.
- g. The complainant and defendant will leave during Disciplinary Review Committee deliberations.
- h. All parties of the dispute will be notified by the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor of the outcome within twenty-four (24) hours of the close of deliberations.

4. Sanctions

- a. If the Disciplinary Review Committee finds in favor of the complainant, the defendant will be placed on suspension for a period determined by the Disciplinary Review Committee during its deliberations.

5. Right to Appeal

- a. Either party can appeal any Disciplinary Review Committee decision to the Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly at a Business or Special meeting within thirty (30) days of receiving the Disciplinary Review Committee decision by submitting a written notice to the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor. Once notice is given, the appeal will be brought to the General Assembly at the next Business or Special meeting.
- b. A simple majority vote is required for the General Assembly to hear a case being appealed.
- c. If the General Assembly hears the appeal, a two-thirds majority vote is required to vacate a Disciplinary Review Committee decision.

Article V. Resolutions

Section I. Authorship

1. Resolutions for consideration may be authored by any graduate or professional student enrolled at and in good standing with Texas A&M University.

Section II. Presentation to the General Assembly

1. Resolutions for consideration must be submitted to the Executive Vice President at least forty-eight (48) hours before the agenda for a General Assembly meeting is published, which occurs five (5) days prior to the meeting.
2. Resolutions for consideration proposed after this forty-eight (48) hour deadline may be considered only by approval of the General Assembly, through a simple majority vote.
3. Once a resolution for consideration has been submitted and published, all changes thereafter must occur at the General Assembly meeting by the author(s) or by members of the General Assembly.
4. Author(s) may withdraw resolutions for consideration at any time.

Section III. Voting

1. Resolutions for consideration are to be discussed and voted upon only during General Assembly meetings.

2. A quorum of fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) Delegates, of the departments not on probation, must be present for both discussion and voting.
3. A resolution will be passed, endorsed, and enforced by the General Assembly by receiving support by a simple majority of Delegates present and voting.
4. A failed resolution will not affirm the opposite or any other position of that proposed in the resolution.
5. Any resolution may be brought forth for reconsideration at any following Graduate and Professional Student Council meeting by different authors.

Article VI. Interim Period

1. The Interim Period is from the end of the last Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly Business or Special meeting of spring semester until the first day of June.
2. During the Interim Period, the Graduate and Professional Student Council and the Executive Committee may only work on business that has already been voted upon and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Council General Assembly or Executive Committee.

Article VII. Budget

Section I. Preparation and Approval

1. A budget will be prepared annually.
2. The budget will be created by the Executive Committee with the assistance of the Graduate and Professional Student Council Advisor.
3. The budget will be approved by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly at a Business or Special meeting.
4. The General Assembly may approve the budget as recommended by the Executive Committee or request a new budget from the Executive Committee.
5. The budget must remain positive, incurring no debts.

Article VIII. By-Laws Change or Approval

Section I. Amendment or Revision

1. An amendment or revision to the By-Laws will require a two-thirds majority vote of Delegates present and voting at a General Assembly meeting.

2. All amendments and revisions must be distributed via standard mass communication medium to all members of the Graduate and Professional Student Council and entered into the agenda for the next General Assembly meeting at least forty-eight (48) hours before the agenda is published.

Section II. Nullification

All previous By-Laws of the Graduate and Professional Student Council of Texas A&M University are null and void.

Article X. By-Laws Review

The By-Laws are to be reviewed annually by the Graduate and Professional Student Council and be subject to the approval of Texas A&M University.

Adopted April 2, 2002

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Amended January 22, 2014

Amended September 2, 2014

Amended September 15, 2015

Amended April 5, 2016

Article X. Special Definitions

1. "Graduate Student" or "Professional Student" will mean any degree-seeking student enrolled at Texas A&M University with graduate or professional student classification as defined by the University.
2. "Suspension" will mean revocation of good standing with the Graduate and Professional Student Council. The member(s) under suspension is no longer member(s) in good standing with the Graduate and Professional Student Council and may not attend any Graduate and Professional Student Council meetings, events, and/or functions. Additionally, the member(s) will be removed from all Graduate and Professional Student Council affiliated committees.
3. "Entities" will be departments, programs, and Non-Departmental Organizations currently having or petitioning for membership within the Graduate and Professional Student Council.