Constitution
Graduate Student Government
Northern Arizona University

Preamble

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Preamble

We, the Graduate students of Northern Arizona University (NAU), in order to provide a representative student government for graduate students at NAU, hereby form the Graduate Student Government (GSG) and establish this Constitution. The GSG at NAU exists to represent and advocate on behalf of the graduate student body with university administration and local, state, and national governing bodies. The GSG will organize student involvement and administer services, resources, and programs that benefit the graduate student population.

Article I – Name

This organization shall be known as the Graduate Student Government, and the name may be abbreviated as "GSG."

Article II – Representation and Membership

Article II, Section 1 – Representation

The GSG shall represent all enrolled graduate students at Northern Arizona University, and all enrolled graduate students have equal voting rights in GSG general and special elections, and will be hereafter referred to as graduate students.

Article II, Section 2 – Constituent Units and Voting Membership

A. The voting membership of the GSG shall include the duly elected Representatives from the following constituent units: College of Arts and Letters, College of Business, College of Health and Human Services, College of Education, College of Engineering, Forestry and Natural Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

B. The voting membership of the GSG shall include two (2) duly elected At-Large Representatives.
C. The voting membership of the GSG shall include two (2) duly elected Extended Campuses Representatives.

D. The voting membership of the GSG shall include all elected GSG Officers.

Article II, Section 3 – Proportionality of Representation

Each constituent unit shall be entitled to elect one (1) Representative for the first 200 graduate students enrolled at the Flagstaff campus and shall be entitled to elect one (1) additional representative for each additional 150 graduate students enrolled at the Flagstaff campus.

Article II, Section 4 – Election of Representatives

The At-Large Representatives, Extended Campuses Representatives and the Representatives from each constituent unit shall be elected annually as set forth in the GSG Bylaws.

Article III – GSG Officers and their Election

Article III, Section 1 – GSG Officers
There shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Article III, Section 2 – Election of Officers
The GSG Officers will be elected in accordance with the GSG Bylaws.

Article III, Section 3 – Terms of Office
All terms of elective office shall be for one (1) calendar year beginning June 1.

Article III, Section 4 – Eligibility
One person shall not hold more than one officer position at a time.

Article III, Section 5 – GSG Boards
The GSG Executive Board consists of elected GSG Officers and any committee chairs deemed necessary by the GSG Officers.

Article IV – GSG Officer Responsibilities

Article IV, Section 1 – General Duties
The Officers of the GSG are responsible for assuring that approved business of the GSG is carried out. The Officers must be available to perform their duties throughout the entire calendar year for which they were elected.
Article IV, Section 2 – President

The President is responsible for presiding over meetings and overseeing that the functions of the GSG are carried out as laid out in the constitution and bylaws. They will also serve as the main liaison and spokesperson between graduate students and NAU administrators and are responsible for all duties as stated in the bylaws.

Article IV, Section 3- Vice President

The Vice President is responsible for assisting the President in advocating for graduate students and will be responsible for coordinating Representatives and for all duties as stated in the bylaws.

Article IV, Section 4 – Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for administering and auditing the GSG’s fund, preparing the annual budget, and for all duties as stated in the bylaws.

Article IV, Section 5 – Secretary

The Secretary is responsible for keeping and maintaining the records of the GSG, as well as coordinating all communication for the GSG including social media, marketing, assessment and the website, and for all duties as stated in the bylaws.

Article V – Meetings of the GSG

Article V, Section 1 – Frequency

The GSG shall hold meetings at least once per month during the academic year.

Article V, Section 2 – Voting

Each active Representative and Officer of the GSG shall have one (1) vote.

Article VI – The GSG Constitution and Bylaws

Article VI, Section 1 – Adoption of the GSG Constitution

A. Ratification: This Constitution shall be adopted upon approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of GSG Representatives. A copy of the GSG Constitution shall be given to all GSG Representatives at least three (3) days prior to the ratification vote. Revisions of the proposed GSG Constitution shall not be permitted within three (3) days prior to the ratification vote.

B. The GSG Constitution will govern all disputes if a conflict arises between the GSG Constitution and the GSG Bylaws.
Article VI, Section 2 – Amending the GSG Constitution

A. Proposal and Initiation: Any voting member of the GSG may propose to hold a vote on a proposed amendment to the GSG Constitution subject to the notification requirements given in subsection B below.

B. Notification of the Vote: All voting members of the GSG shall be notified in writing of an impending vote on an amendment to the GSG Constitution at least one (1) week prior to the vote. The notification must include the text of the proposed amendment.

C. Vote Required: The Amendment shall be adopted upon a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the GSG voting membership.

Article VI, Section 3 – Bylaws

The GSG Bylaws shall serve as rules for conducting the daily business of the GSG voting membership. Bylaws may be adopted, rescinded or amended by a simple majority vote at any meeting. GSG Bylaws shall include, but shall not be limited to, rules establishing GSG Standing Committees, amounts of GSG stipends, expectations of GSG Representatives, elections, and the process by which the GSG voting membership considers issues.

A. Proposal and Initiation: Any voting member of the GSG may propose to hold a vote on a proposed amendment to the GSG Bylaws subject to the notification requirements given in subsection B below.

B. Notification of the Vote: All voting members of the GSG shall be notified in writing of an impending vote on an amendment to the GSG Bylaws at least two (2) days prior to the vote.

C. Vote Required: The Amendment shall be adopted upon a simple majority affirmative vote of the GSG voting membership.

Article VII – Non-discrimination Statement

The Graduate Student Government (GSG) supports the Arizona Board of Regents Nondiscrimination and Ant-Harassment Policy 1-119. Accordingly, GSG is committed to creating and maintaining a university system with an environment free from unlawful discrimination, including harassment, and retaliation. In support of this commitment, GSG prohibits unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and genetic information.

Approved Spring, 2011; amended Spring, 2013