

Constitution *for the* Graduate Student Government of Michigan Technological University

1. Name

- a. The name of this organization shall be: The Graduate Student Government of Michigan Technological University.
- b. The Graduate Student Government shall be referred to as “GSG” in this document.

2. Objectives and Purpose

- a. To foster the personal, professional, and intellectual development of current and future graduate students.
- b. To provide liaisons who represent the personal, professional, and intellectual concerns of the graduate students to the various governing and policy-making bodies of the University.
- c. To inform the graduate students of newly developing policies and procedures affecting them.
- d. To support and promote policies and events which foster cooperation between the graduate students, faculty, and administration.
- e. To use:
 - i. Graduate School Funds as allocated to the GSG.
 - ii. Any Funds received from Student Activity Fees paid by graduate students to promote the personal, professional, and intellectual growth of graduate students at Michigan Tech.
- f. To advise the Dean of the Graduate School, the Board of Trustees and other administrative bodies on matters of interest to graduate students.
- g. To foster relationships with graduate and professional student organizations at other universities by sharing information and resources which can help enrich graduate students’ personal, professional, and intellectual development.

3. Structure of The Graduate Student Government (GSG)

- a. Members of GSG shall consist of: the Executive Board, Graduate Student Departmental Representatives and their Alternates, and Members-at-Large.
- b. Students include all currently enrolled graduate students.
- c. All Students are Members-at-Large, which are non-elected, non-voting Members of GSG.
- d. Members-at-Large may be elected to serve as Graduate Student Departmental Representatives, which are voting Members of GSG.

- e. The rights, duties, and responsibilities of GSG Members shall be as set forth in the Bylaws.
- f. In compliance with Michigan Technological University's Board of Trustees Equal Opportunity Policy effective February 24, 2011, the Graduate Student Government will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, height, weight, genetic information, or marital status. In addition, the Graduate Student Government is committed to the policy of not discriminating against disabled individuals and veterans.

4. Meetings

- a. The GSG shall determine the frequency of its meetings, as set forth in the Bylaws.
- b. The GSG may discuss, debate, vote, and act upon any subject within its purview.

5. Budget

- a. Expenditures and other financial transactions must follow the approved GSG Budget and GSG Bylaws, and any applicable policies and procedures of the University.
- b. Authorization from the GSG for the release and movement of GSG monies must be obtained from either the President or the Treasurer, as set forth in the Bylaws.
- c. The GSG fiscal year shall extend from July 1st to June 30th each year, whereas the GSG session shall be defined by the Bylaws.
- d. By the first meeting in April of the Spring Semester, the Treasurer shall prepare a draft budget for the following fiscal year and present it in person to the GSG, at which time GSG Members may amend, pass, or reject the budget.
- e. The draft budget must be approved by two-thirds vote in the affirmative, assuming quorum.
 - i. In case of rejection of the budget, the Treasurer will present a revised budget for consideration at each next meeting, until passed.
 - ii. Any proposed changes to an approved budget must be in compliance with proposal guidelines and approved by a two-thirds vote in the affirmative by the GSG as set forth in the Bylaws.
 - iii. Any group obtaining financial or other resources from the GSG must comply with any conditions or restrictions imposed by the GSG; failure to comply with said restrictions may result in sanctions as established in the Bylaws.
- f. The GSG financial records may be subject at any time to an official audit, to be performed by the Office of Internal Audit, when requested by any member of the GSG, or the Dean of the Graduate School.

6. Representation

- a. Each department is entitled to at least one Departmental Representative on GSG.
- b. All Graduate Student Departmental Representatives that serve on GSG must be elected by the students of their home departments, as outlined in the Bylaws.
- c. The number of Graduate Student Departmental Representatives to which each department is entitled shall be proportionate to its total graduate student enrollment, as outlined in the Bylaws.
- d. Graduate Student Departmental Representatives and students must be currently enrolled graduate students; Members-at-Large shall include non-elected and currently enrolled graduate students.
- e. Students shall include (non-elected) graduate students, with the following restrictions:
 - i. They may not serve as Principal Officers.
 - ii. They may not vote.
- f. At least one Graduate Student Departmental Representative must attend all regularly scheduled GSG Meetings (excluding excused absences) in order to maintain eligibility for the department's students to receive travel grants, as set forth in the Bylaws.
 - i. Absences may only be excused as set forth in the Bylaws.

7. Principal Officers

- a. The Principal Officers of the GSG shall consist of the following: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- b. All Principal Officers shall be elected from among the Graduate Student Departmental Representatives or previous Executive Board Members by a simple majority vote in the affirmative, as set forth in the Bylaws.

8. Committee Chairs

- a. Committee Chairs shall chair their respective standing committees, as set forth in the Bylaws.
- b. Committee Chairs shall be elected from among the GSG Members by a simple majority vote in the affirmative, as set forth in the Bylaws.

9. Executive Board

- a. The GSG shall establish an Executive Board as outlined in this Constitution and the Bylaws.
- b. The Principal Officers and Committee Chairs of the GSG shall constitute the Board.
- c. No more than two positions on the Executive Board shall be filled by GSG Members from the same department.
- d. The Executive Board shall be empowered to take all appropriate measures for the execution of any plan, policy, or program specifically approved by the GSG. In

all actions, the Executive Board shall be responsible to the GSG and shall report to the GSG.

- e. Any member of the Executive Board may request, in writing, the convening of an Executive Board Meeting. The President shall convene said meeting within five (5) calendar days.
- f. The Executive Board may appoint a temporary replacement for an absent Principal Officer or Committee Chair from the pool of Graduate Student Departmental Representatives without consulting the GSG or holding elections, provided said replacement satisfies requirements outlined herein and in the Bylaws.
 - i. Temporary shall be defined as sixty days.
 - ii. No individual may be reappointed beyond sixty days in any temporary position.

10. Advisors

- a. The Dean of the Graduate School shall be an advisor to the GSG.
- b. Additional advisors to the GSG may be sought with the approval of the Dean of the Graduate School.

11. Ratification and Amendments

- a. This Constitution shall be ratified by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the elected members, assuming quorum, and with the approval of the Dean of the Graduate School.
- b. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any Member of GSG at any regularly scheduled GSG Meeting.
- c. All proposed Constitutional amendments shall be published in the minutes of the GSG Meeting at which the amendment was proposed. The GSG may not vote on the amendment before the next regularly scheduled Meeting.
- d. The GSG shall adopt no Constitutional amendment without a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, assuming quorum, during a regularly scheduled GSG Meeting, and without the approval of the Dean of the Graduate School.

12. Registration

- a. The President of the GSG shall annually ensure registration of the GSG with Student Activities, when required.

13. Bylaws

- a. The GSG is authorized to adopt Bylaws.

Updated: April 21, 2016