BYLAWS OF THE
GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES

1991
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ARTICLE I: NAME OF ASSOCIATION

The name of the association shall be the Colorado School of Mines Graduate Student Association and shall hereinafter be referred to as “the GSA”.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The GSA is formed with the purpose to:

1. Serve as the governing body working toward the best interests of the graduate student population.
2. Facilitate communication between and amongst graduate students, faculty, administration, and the community.
3. Provide a forum for social and intellectual activities.
4. Provide graduate student representation on administrative bodies that address policies and issues of interest to graduate students.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

1. Those persons, who register as graduate students of the Colorado School of Mines, hereinafter “the School”, shall be considered members upon payment of the graduate student activity fee(s), and upon the observance of such rules and institutional regulations stated in the Student Code of Conduct and the Student Honor Code.
2. Faculty of the School may participate without payment of the graduate student activity fee(s).

ARTICLE IV: GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

A. Powers

Subject to the limitations of state and federal laws, these bylaws, and School regulations, the Graduate Student Council, hereinafter “the Council”, shall have all of the powers and may exercise all of the functions of the GSA, including without restriction thereto, the following:

1. To take all actions necessary in achieving the purpose of the GSA stated in Article II.
2. To elect all Executive Council officers of the GSA enumerated in Article V.A.
3. To create standing and special committees, and to fix their powers and duties, and to elect members of the GSA to these committees, and to fill any vacancy in any office or any board or committee membership.
4. To prescribe the duties of the offices and to transfer the duties of one officer to another officer(s) and to require from any officer the faithful performance of the particular duties.
5. To enact, repeal, and modify graduate student activity fee(s) in accordance with the greater good of the graduate student body.
6. To negotiate Joint Operating Agreements with the Associated Students of the Colorado School of Mines (ASCSM) that provide funding in exchange for graduate student involvement in ASCSM clubs, organizations, and activities.
7. In general, to do any and all things that it considers necessary or advisable in the interests of the GSA and the members thereof.

B. Voting Members

1. The President
   The President shall have the power to make and second motions of the Council, but may only vote on the approval of said motions if the Council is not able to obtain a simple majority.
2. The voting members of the Council shall be the department/division representatives from department(s) and division(s) that have a graduate program as reflected by department(s)/division(s) recognized by the Faculty Senate.
C. Non-Voting Members

The non-voting members of the Council shall be composed of:

1. The Executive Council officers (Article V.A), except as specified in Article IV.B.1.

2. A representative from the Student Council of ASCSM.

3. A representative from each of the program(s) recognized by the Faculty Senate.

4. The president of the International Student Council.

5. Any elected Regional Board or National Board member to the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS), who is also a part- or full-time Colorado School of Mines graduate student.

D. Election of Members

1. The Council representatives shall be chosen by either election in each department/division/program, selection by each department’s Graduate Student Association, or by appointment by the Department Head.

2. The department/division/program members of the Council shall be elected by their respective department/division/program prior to the first business meeting of each academic year.

3. Each Executive Council member (as per Article V) for the following academic year shall be elected, by a majority vote of the Council, at the last business meeting of the current academic year; any graduate student may be elected as an Executive Council member.

E. Term of Office

The members of the Council shall serve one academic semester or year as determined by their respective department/divisions. Each member shall take office immediately following election to that position.

F. Qualifications

All members of the Council shall be members of the GSA, full or part-time graduate students of the School, not on probation. All officers shall, by virtue of their election to office, become members of the Council.

G. Vacancies

1. A vacancy is defined as the loss of a representative or an officer, in either elected or appointed positions, during that person’s term of office.

2. The Executive Council may consider a representative or officer lost if that officer does not communicate with the Council, or participate in GSA activities, for more than four weeks.

3. If a vacancy occurs in the Presidency, the Vice President shall become the President. The position of the Vice President shall be filled according to Article IX.

4. If a vacancy occurs in the Executive Council it shall be filled according to Article IX.

5. If a vacancy occurs in a voting representative position it shall be filled according to Article IV.D.

6. If a vacancy occurs in a non-voting representative position then students of that program will not benefit from program-specific GSA Research Fair awards.
H. Business

1. Meetings
   a. The President shall, within two weeks after the holding of the first classes in the fall semester, call the first business meeting of the Council. At said meeting, the Council shall determine a regular time and place for holding regular Council business meetings, at least twice each month, during the balance of the school year.

2. Roll-Call Votes:
   a. A roll-call vote is a vote in which the Council’s roll is called and each member present may go on the record as being for or against the approval of a specific action. Members may also abstain from specifying their stance.
   b. A motion for a roll-call vote must be approved by no less than one-fifth of the members present in order to be enacted.

3. Attendance
   a. Attendance shall be taken at each business meeting.
   b. Failure of a department/division to be represented at two business meetings in one semester shall, at the discretion of the Executive Council, prevent students of that department/division from being eligible for GSA Grant Programs for either the remainder of that semester or for the following semester.
   c. Failure of a department/division/program to be represented at two business meetings in one semester shall render students of that department/division/program ineligible for program-specific awards at the GSA Research Fair for that year.

4. All actions of the Council shall be effective immediately when taken, providing for the following exceptions:
   a. the Council shall fix a later date at which an act shall become effective,
   b. the act is to change the remuneration for members of the Executive Council, and shall therefore become effective for the following term.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A. Membership

The Executive Council shall consist of the following positions:

1. The President
2. The Vice President
3. The Treasurer
4. A minimum of two Social Chairs
5. The Academic Chair

B. Responsibilities

1. The foremost responsibility is to act in the best interests of the GSA.

2. Represent the Council and, in turn, the members of the GSA to the Administration of the School.
C. Recall

1. A motion to initiate the recall of any member of the Executive Council may be requested at any business meeting by any voting or non-voting Council member.

2. Should the affected member not be present at the business meeting where the recall request is initiated, said member must be notified by the Council at least one week prior to the impending vote.

3. After a recall has been requested, an official vote to recall the requested member must be held at the next business meeting.

4. A recall shall be deemed successful when approved by a supermajority (2/3) of the entire body of voting Council members, at which point the position must be filled according to Article IV.G.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES

A. Executive Council Officers

1. President
   a. Shall perform the duties customarily pertaining to the office.
   b. Shall preside over all business meetings of the GSA.
   c. Shall appoint the members of all the committees created by the Council and all other graduate students representatives on administrative bodies created by others (enumerated in Article VII).
   d. Shall notify the Council and graduate body of upcoming business meetings.
   e. Shall assist the Office of Graduate Studies with the Graduate Student Handbook for the following academic year.
   f. Shall create and dissolve ad hoc committees, as needed, to explore future direction for the Council.
   g. Shall perform such other duties as the Council shall assign.

2. Vice President
   a. Shall perform the duties customarily pertaining to the office.
   b. Shall preside over all business meetings of the Council in the absence of the President.
   c. Shall act as secretary of all business meetings of the GSA.
   d. Shall record and archive business meeting minutes in a suitable fashion.
   e. Shall incorporate the reports of all the committees and boards in the minutes, or shall make such reports available to the Council through a suitable medium.
   f. Shall organize the GSA Research Fair each spring (in coordination with the Council and the Dean of Graduate Studies) in lieu of a volunteer from the Executive Council.
   g. Shall maintain or delegate the maintenance of the GSA website.
   h. Shall perform such other duties as the Council may assign.

3. Treasurer
   a. Shall perform duties customarily pertaining to the office.
   b. Shall prepare a budget for approval by the Council.
   c. Shall receive and receipt all moneys that are due to the GSA.
   d. Shall perform such other duties as the President and the Council may assign.

4. Social Chairs
   a. Shall perform duties customarily pertaining to the office.
   b. Shall organize the beginning and end of year bar-b-que's.
c. Shall organize a monthly Graduate Student social as the budget permits.
d. Shall perform such other duties as the President and the Council may assign.

5. Academic Chair

a. Shall perform duties customarily pertaining to the office.
b. Shall organize at least two workshops per semester.
c. Shall assist with the Research Fair.
d. Shall serve as one of the representatives to the Student Conduct Appeal Board.
e. Shall maintain or delegate the maintenance of graduate thesis template(s).
f. Shall perform such other duties as the President and the Council may assign.

B. Department/Division/Program Representatives

1. Representatives must attend GSA business meetings or designate a proxy to serve in their stead (Article IV.H.3).

2. Representatives are required to participate in GSA activities by performing one duty per year (two semesters), qualifying activities include:
   a. Organizing a GSA event.
   b. Being on a committee representing the GSA (as listed in Article VII).

3. Failure to meet these obligations, as determined by the Executive Council, shall render students of that department/division/program ineligible for awards at the GSA Research Fair for that year.

4. Failure to meet these obligations will, at the discretion of the Executive Council, result in that representative’s department/division being ineligible to participate in GSA grant programs for one semester.

ARTICLE VII: APPOINTMENTS

The GSA reserves the right to appoint representatives on behalf of the graduate student body to serve on institutional committees, boards, associations, and organizations (pursuant to Article VI.A.1c). These appointments include, but are not limited to:

1. Two representatives to the Technology Fee Committee
2. One representative to the Colorado School of Mines Alumni Association Board of Directors
3. One representative to the Calendar Committee
4. One representative to the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee
5. One representative to the Faculty Senate
6. Two representatives to the President’s Committee on Diversity
7. One representative to the Parking Advisory Committee
8. Two representatives to the Student Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) Appeals Committee
9. One representative to the Sustainability Committee
10. One non-voting representative to Graduate Council of the Faculty Senate
11. One non-voting representative to Research Council of the Faculty Senate
12. One non-voting representative to the Student Senate of ASCSM
ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

A. Calling of Meetings

Meetings of the members of the GSA may be held at any time upon the call of the President, or in the President’s absence the Vice President, or any three or more members of the Council, or of any twenty-five (25) or more members of the GSA. Business of the GSA may not be transacted during official social functions of the GSA or the School, although such functions meeting the aforementioned minimum attendance are considered full meetings of the GSA.

B. Quorum

One-third (1/3) of the current voting members (Article IV.B) of the GSA shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but less than a quorum may adjourn any business meeting. Quorum may not drop below 5 of the voting members of the council. The President may be counted for quorum, but may vote only under the provision for the President as a voting member (Article IV.B.1).

C. Veto Power

Any action taken at a business meeting of the GSA may be vetoed by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the entire membership of the GSA, but a veto by the GSA may be overridden by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Council.

ARTICLE IX: OFFICER ELECTIONS

A. Elected Positions

The internally elected positions of the Graduate Student Association are the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Social Chairs, and Academic Chair.

1. Officers can not also be department representatives.
2. Term Limits:
   a. A term is one calendar year, beginning when the position takes office.
   b. No officer shall server in the same Office for more than two terms
   c. Nor shall any officer hold more than one office at a time

B. Elections

Elections shall be held by the Council twice a year, no later than the second to last business meeting of the Fall and Spring semesters. Nominations shall be open for two weeks prior to elections, and shall take place at business meetings of Council.

1. During Fall Semester elections the offices of President and Treasure shall be selected by a majority vote of the sitting Council and shall take office starting the following Spring Semester.
2. The Spring Semester elections shall select the Vice President, Academic Chair, and Social Chair(s) by a majority vote of the sitting Council and shall take office starting the following Summer Semester.
ARTICLE X: UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Graduate Student Association of the Colorado School of Mines confirms its support of the principles and practices of nondiscrimination and equality regardless of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation or physical handicap, in its employment and in all of its programs, activities, and opportunities available to its members, except where allowed by law (20 USC §1681(a)(6)(A)). All actions and policies of the Graduate Student Association shall conform to the policies of the Board of Trustees and State and Federal Laws, such as 20 USC §1681.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended in whole or in part, at any time, by majority vote of the Council, provided such an amendment has been submitted to the Council in writing at least one week before the vote.

These bylaws may be suspended with the approval of at least 75% of current GSA Council members, regardless of quorum.