

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT



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Article I: Name, Purpose, Mission and Objectives

Section 1: Name

Art. I §1.A The name of this organization shall be the Graduate Student Government of the University of Maryland, College Park.

Section 2: Purpose

Art. I §2.A It shall be the official graduate student governmental body for implementing the objectives set forth in the Preamble, subject only to the laws and mandates of our state and the nation.

Art. I §2.B It shall advocate for policies and practices promoting and governing activities and welfare of graduate students of the University of Maryland, College Park, and it shall advise University of Maryland officials and any other relevant agency or organization on the graduate student viewpoint concerning all matters affecting graduate students.

Section 3: Mission

Art. I §3.A The mission of the GSG shall be to represent University of Maryland, College Park's graduate student interests, needs, and welfare within the University community, the University System of Maryland, the State of Maryland, and the nation, through shared governance, and efficient and effective communication with the University administration.

Section 4: Objectives

Art. I §4.A It shall act to improve the quality of education and enhance the quality of life of all graduate students.

Art. I §4.B It shall be responsible for the allocation of the Student Activity Fee of graduate students and supervise and provide input regarding all other mandatory fees.

Art. I §4.C It shall strive to support scholarly activities and professional development, leadership, social, and service opportunities for the graduate student body.

Art. I §4.D It shall provide a forum for graduate student advocacy while acting as a conduit between students, faculty, staff, University administration, and outside organizations.

Section 5: Statement of Inclusion

Art. I §5.A The GSG believes diversity can enhance the overall experience of graduate students at the University of Maryland, College Park as students learn to interact effectively and appreciate the various perspectives, talents, and abilities of others.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: All graduate students in good standing enrolled at University of Maryland, College Park during any of the regular academic periods recognized by the University of Maryland, College Park Office of the Registrar, including the fall and spring semesters and the winter and summer sessions, are members of the Graduate Student Government. Graduate students enrolled during the spring semester or summer session will remain members of the Graduate Student Government until the beginning of the following fall semester, and graduate students enrolled during the fall semester or winter session will remain members of the graduate Student Government until the beginning of the following spring semester.

Art. II §1.A Graduate students are considered to be in good standing unless considered otherwise by the University of Maryland, College Park Office of the Registrar, such as through receiving an xF on their academic transcript or otherwise receiving official sanction from the university for academic misconduct.

Art. II §1.B Graduate students not considered to be in good standing are not eligible for Graduate Student Government membership, and any existing Graduate Student Government membership the offending student may have enjoyed will end immediately upon their loss of good standing status as described in section 2.2.

Art. II §1.C Graduate students who return to good standing as defined by the University of Maryland, College Park Office of the Registrar will have their eligibility for Graduate Student Government membership reinstated, effective on the date of their return to good standing status as defined by the University of Maryland, College Park Office of the Registrar.

Art. II §1.D Graduate students who are not currently enrolled at the University of Maryland, College Park but who are on an approved leave of absence as defined by the University of Maryland, College Park Office of the Registrar will retain their Graduate Student Government membership

throughout said leave of absence.

- Section 2: Except as provided in subsection 2.1.D above, graduate students not enrolled in the current semester will cease to be members of the Graduate Student Government upon the first academic day of the current semester. Members who withdraw from the current academic semester, lose their good standing status, or are expelled from the university will immediately lose their membership, effective on the date of their withdrawal, loss of good standing status, or expulsion. Graduate students who withdraw from the university shall regain membership immediately upon enrollment within any subsequent academic period, while graduate students who lose and subsequently regain good standing status will be reinstated as members effective on the date of all sanctions being removed from their academic record, and in both cases shall hold membership without prejudice.
- Section 3: All members of the Graduate Student Government are granted the rights and privileges of this Constitution.
- Section 4: In addition to the voting membership, the Graduate Student Government shall be organized into the executive branch (hereafter referred to as the Executive Board), the legislative branch (hereafter referred to as the Graduate Student Assembly, or the Assembly in short form), and the judicial branch (hereafter referred to as the Governance Board). The duties and responsibilities of these branches are set forth in this Constitution.
- Section 5: Members shall be entitled to vote in general and special-general elections of the Graduate Student Government, as well as any other relevant Graduate Student Government elections as specified in the Bylaws. Any member of the Graduate Student Government has the right to call for a university-wide referendum or recall election, provided that a petition signed by at least one-twentieth total membership of the Graduate Student Government, as defined in section 2.1 above, is submitted as specified by the Bylaws or other appropriate statute as may exist.

Article III: The Executive Board

- Section 1: The Executive Board shall consist of the following offices:
- Art. III §1.A* President
Art. III §1.B Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly
Art. III §1.C Vice President for Financial Affairs & Student Fee Matters

Art. III §1.D Other offices as may be created as specified by the Bylaws or other appropriate statute as may exist and as provided for under Article 7.

Section 2: Duties and Responsibilities of the President

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the organization. The duties and responsibilities of the President shall be to:

Art. III §2.A Make appointments to any non-elected executive offices with majority approval of the Executive Board as specified by the Bylaws or other appropriate statute as may exist and with notice given to the Assembly.

Art. III §2.B Recommend graduate students for appointments to, or removals from, University-wide councils, committees, and boards through processes outlined in the Bylaws.

Art. III §2.C Sit on all councils, committees, boards and task forces where the President is specifically required by external stakeholder policy to be the representative.

Art. III §2.D Sign or veto, within ten University working days, all legislation passed by the Assembly. If legislation is neither signed nor vetoed within this period, it shall be deemed approved.

Art. III §2.E Act as the primary representative and point of contact for all Graduate Student Government business not already associated with another office or committee.

Art. III §2.F Other responsibilities that may be provided in the Bylaws, as provided for under Article 7.

Section 3: Duties and Responsibilities of the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly

The duties and responsibilities of the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly shall be to:

Art. III §3.A Act as President pro tempore if, for any reason, the office becomes vacant, or if the sitting President is absent or otherwise temporarily unable to fulfill their normal duties.

Art. III §3.B Act as Speaker for the Assembly.

Art. III §3.C Act as the Assembly parliamentarian.

Art. III §3.D Act as primary contact for all matters related to graduate assistantships and employment, government relations at the local, state and federal levels.

Art. III §3.E Chair certain standing committees pursuant to the duties and obligations of the office as detailed in Article 5.

Art. III §3.F Other duties and responsibilities may be provided in the Bylaws, as provided for under Article 7.

Section 4: Duties and Responsibilities of the Vice President for Financial Affairs & Student Fee Matters

The duties and responsibilities of the Vice President for Financial Affairs & Student Fee Matters shall be to:

Art. III §4.A Understand and educate the Graduate Student Government about all student fees, the fee review process, and the Graduate Student Activity Fee.

Art. III §4.B Oversee and manage the financial affairs of the Graduate Student Government and be the primary contact between the Graduate Student Government and its financial partners.

Art. III §4.C Order the disbursement of the funds of the Graduate Student Government as authorized by the Bylaws or the Assembly.

Art. III §4.D Chair certain standing committees pursuant to the duties and obligations of the office as detailed in Article 5.

Art. III §4.E Other duties and responsibilities may be provided in the Bylaws, as provided under Article 7.

Section 5: Election of Executive Board Officers

Art. III §5.A Executive Board officers shall serve terms of one academic year.

Art. III §5.B No person shall be elected to the same executive office more than four times, and no person who has held an elected executive office for more than one semester of a term to which some other person was elected shall be elected to that same office more than three times.

Art. III §5.C All current members of the GSG capable of serving a full term of office prior to losing Graduate Student Government membership eligibility through graduation or withdrawal are eligible to run for executive office.

Art. III §5.D The President shall be elected by the membership of the Graduate Student Government during the annual general election of the Graduate Student Government as detailed in the Bylaws.

Art. III §5.E The election of the Vice Presidents shall take place at the end of the spring term after the general election for the President, although the nomination period for the Vice Presidential elections may begin prior to the conclusion of the general election at the discretion of the Elections Committee. All voting representatives from the concluding term will be eligible to elect both Vice Presidents during a regular or special session of the Assembly as described in the Bylaws.

Section 6: Meetings of the Executive Board

Art. III §6.A The Executive Board shall meet at least once a month from July through June, or more frequently as may be described in the Bylaws or other relevant statute that may exist.

Art. III §6.B Executive Board meetings shall be scheduled in consultation with the rest of the Executive Board and presided over by the President in their capacity as Chief Executive Officer, or by the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly in their absence.

Art. III §6.C A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of two thirds of voting officers or other voting members as may be described in the Bylaws or other relevant statute that may exist.

Section 7: Duties and Responsibilities of the Executive Board

Art. III §7.A All executive powers granted herein shall be vested in the Executive Board.

Art. III §7.B The Executive Board shall hold the power to, by a unanimous vote of its voting members and with notice given to the Assembly, dismiss Representatives from the Graduate Student Assembly for failure to comply with minimum standards set forth in this document, the Bylaws, or other relevant statute that may exist.

Art. III §7.C The Executive Board shall serve as the primary point of contact between the Graduate Student Government and third parties, except when stipulated otherwise within this document, the Bylaws, or other relevant statute that may exist.

Art. III §7.D The Executive Board may, by majority vote and notice given to the Assembly at the next regular or special session of the Assembly, take Executive Actions on behalf of the Graduate Student Government and as defined in the Bylaws.

Art. III §7.E The Executive Board shall be empowered to enter into binding agreements with third parties on behalf of the Graduate Student Government, as described within this document and within the Bylaws.

Article IV:

The Graduate Student Assembly

Section 1: The Assembly shall be composed of graduate students as outlined below:

Art. IV §1.A Program Representatives elected from every active graduate program.

Art. IV §1.A (1) Program Representatives shall serve terms of one academic year, except in cases where the duration of a graduate program is less than one year in length, in which cases Program Representatives from these programs shall serve terms of six months.

Art. IV §1.A (2) Representatives may serve four terms in total.

Art. IV §1.A (3) Each program shall be entitled to two representatives for the first one hundred of its graduate students or part thereof, with an additional third representative apportioned to programs with greater than one hundred graduate students enrolled, with minimum representation of two representatives per program. A single graduate student may only be counted as a member of a single program. Every effort shall be made to ensure that

programs that want representation will receive representation, as defined by the Bylaws.

Art. IV §1.A (4) Program Representatives shall have voting rights. When a Program Representative is not available for a session of the Assembly, the Program Representative is responsible for appointing a member of their own program to serve as a proxy. This proxy is an authorized and legitimate member of the Assembly and incurs all rights and privileges therein during the Assembly session for which the proxy is present. Repeated failure to attend a session of the Assembly without first appointing a proxy is grounds for dismissal from the Assembly at the discretion of the Executive Board and as described in the Bylaws.

Art. IV §1.B Graduate Student Organization Representatives appointed by majority-graduate student organizations as recognized by the University of Maryland, College Park and as described in the Bylaws.

Art. IV §1.B (1) Graduate Student Organization Representatives shall serve whatever term their parent organization deems appropriate.

Art. IV §1.B (2) Graduate Student Organization Representatives shall not be limited in the number of terms they may serve, unless such limitations originate from their parent organization.

Art. IV §1.B (3) Each majority-graduate student organizations as recognized by the University of Maryland, College Park and as described in the Bylaws shall be entitled to one representative. A single graduate student may only represent a single majority-graduate student organization. Every effort shall be made to ensure that majority-graduate student organizations that want representation will receive representation, as defined by the Bylaws.

Art. IV §1.B (4) Graduate Student Organization Representatives shall serve as ex officio, non-voting members of the Assembly. Because they are non-voting members, Graduate Student Organization Representatives do not count toward Assembly quorum and consequently are not required to send a proxy if absent from a

session of the Assembly, although they may choose to do so.

Section 2: Sessions of the Assembly

Art. IV §2.A The Assembly shall hold regular sessions at least once per month from August through May.

Art. IV §2.B Special sessions may be called at the request of the President, by a majority vote of the Executive Board, or by a petition signed by a quorum of one-third plus one of the voting members of the Assembly.

Art. IV §2.C A quorum of one-third plus one of the voting members of the Assembly must be present in order to conduct official business at any regular or special session of the Assembly.

Section 3: Duties and Responsibilities of the Assembly

Art. IV §3.A All legislative powers granted herein shall be vested in the Assembly.

Art. IV §3.B The Assembly shall consider and take appropriate action on all matters submitted by any graduate student.

Art. IV §3.C The Assembly may override a presidential veto on any action by two-thirds majority vote of its present and voting membership.

Art. IV §3.D The Assembly shall form and disband standing and ad hoc committees.

Art. IV §3.E The Assembly shall be charged with the investigatory duties of the GSG.

Art. IV §3.F The Assembly, by a majority vote of its present and voting membership, may initiate impeachment proceedings for just cause against appointed or elected members of GSG.

Article V: The Governance Board

Section 1: The Governance Board shall be composed of seven graduate students as outlined below, to be selected and confirmed no later than by the conclusion of the second regular session of the Assembly:

Art. V §1.A One member of the Graduate Student Government Executive Board, to exclude the President, elected by a majority vote of the Executive Board; and,

Art. V §1.B Three Program Representatives, nominated by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Assembly; and,

Art. V §1.C Three members of the Graduate Student Government who are neither Program Representatives nor members of the Executive Board, nominated by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Assembly.

Section 2: Meetings of the Governance Board

Art. V §2.A The Governance Board shall hold an initial, organizing meeting as described in the Bylaws within two weeks of being formed and confirmed by the Assembly.

Art. V §2.B Thereafter, the Governance Board shall convene when presented with actionable business, at the discretion of the Governance Board, or as otherwise described in the Bylaws.

Art. V §2.C A quorum of five members of the Governance Board must be present in order to conduct official business at any meeting.

Section 3: Duties and Responsibilities of the Governance Board

Art. V §3.A All judicial powers herein shall be vested in the Governance Board.

Art. V §3.B The Governance Committee shall be the highest authority in the Graduate Student Government concerning all matters of interpretation of the Constitution, Bylaws, legislation, Executive Orders, and all other statutes as may exist.

Art. V §3.C The committee shall have the authority to overturn any legislation, impeachment decision or disciplinary action, or Executive Order that is found to be in conflict with the Graduate Student Government Constitution, Bylaws, or other governing statutes as may exist.

Art. V §3.D The Governance Board shall not have the authority to overturn a Constitutional amendment approved by the Assembly for consideration in

an upcoming referendum by the entire voting membership of the Graduate Student Government, except in cases where the procedures by which the amendment was placed before the Assembly were in violation of this Constitution. Any such exercise of this authority must come prior to the inclusion of the amendment in a referendum placed before the entire voting membership of the Graduate Student Government.

Art. V §3.E In all judicial matters, the decision of the Governance Board shall be by determined by not less than a majority vote, although higher voting minimum standards as described by the Bylaws may be set, up to and including consensus voting.

Article VI: Committees

Section 1: Committees are created by Constitutional amendment or Assembly actions from time to time to fulfill specific governmental functions, as described in the Bylaws, and are categorized as permanent committees, known as standing committees, or as-needed committees, known as ad hoc committees.

Section 2: Standing Committees

Art. VI §2.A Budget & Finance Committee

The Budget & Finance Committee shall oversee the disbursement of the Student Activity Fee of graduate students. This committee shall be chaired by the Vice President for Financial Affairs & Student Fee Matters.

Art. VI §2.B Elections Committee

The Elections Committee shall organize and oversee the elections of members of the Executive Board and the Program Representatives of the Assembly.

Art. VI §2.C Rules Committee

The Rules Committee shall review all proposed legislation before it is brought to the Assembly, as well as set the agendas of the Assembly meetings. This committee shall be chaired by the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly.

Section 3: Ad Hoc Committees

Additional committees as may be established as deemed necessary by the Assembly.

Article VII: University Advisor

Section 1: The Graduate Student Government shall select at least one faculty or staff advisor who meets the requirements for an advisor set by the University.

Article VIII: Bylaws

Section 1: The Graduate Student Government shall adopt Bylaws such as it deems necessary in keeping with this Constitution. The Bylaws shall be adopted, changed, or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Assembly's present and voting membership. The Bylaws shall include the duties of all offices of the Executive Board, members of the Governance Board, and members of the Assembly. They shall also include the duties of standing committees, and may also include the duties of ad hoc committees.

Article IX: Amendments and Reviews

Section 1: Amendments to this Constitution must be approved by a majority of votes cast during a general election and shall be valid only in the event that at least one-twentieth of the Graduate Student Government membership votes in said elections.

Section 2: Any member of the Graduate Student Government may propose amendments to this Constitution.

Art. IX §2.A Amendments shall be presented in writing to the Rules Committee, which shall transmit the text of an amendment to the members of the Assembly at least fourteen days in advance of the Assembly session at which the amendment is to be considered.

Art. IX §2.B Amendments approved by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly's present and voting membership shall be placed on the ballot of the next general election.

Art. IX §2.B (1) Amendments that only correct typographical errors, revise titles, adjust formatting, perform minor reorganization, and other comparable cosmetic adjustments may be done by the Assembly without being subject to a general election.

Art. IX §2.C Should amendments not be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly's present and voting membership, any graduate student shall

have the right to call for a graduate student body wide referendum on said amendments, provided that a petition calling for such a referendum is signed by at least one-twentieth of the members of the graduate student body and is submitted as specified by the Bylaws and Article 2.5 of this document.

Art. IX §2.C (1) If approved in referendum under the same conditions outlined in Article 9.1, the amendment shall be approved.

Section 3: The current Constitution and Bylaws shall be reviewed every fifth year by a special Constitution and Bylaws Review Committee comprised of not less than three graduate students nominated by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Assembly as described in the Bylaws. All recommended amendments from said committee shall be administered according to Article 9.2.

Article X: Appeals

Section 1: Any member of the Graduate Student Government may challenge the constitutionality of an action taken by the government by submitting an appeal, signed by at least one percent of the Graduate Student Government membership or one-third of the voting members of the Assembly, as described in the Bylaws.

Section 2: The Governance Board shall consider all properly submitted appeals and render a decision in a timely manner as specified by the Bylaws and Article 5 of this document. Decisions of the Governance Board regarding appeals shall be final, binding, and effective immediately

Article XI: Impeachment

Section 1: Grounds for Impeachment

The Assembly, by a majority vote of its total present and voting membership, may initiate impeachment proceedings for any just cause, including, but not limited to, neglect, unsatisfactory performance, or misrepresentation of duty against appointed or elected officers of any class, branch, or department of the Graduate Student Government. Throughout the impeachment process, the Assembly shall constitute the impeaching party.

Art. XI §1.A The charge of Neglect is defined as failure to perform basic duties as outlined in the GSG Constitution and Bylaws. Criteria by which

Executives' absenteeism may constitute Neglect shall be set by a majority vote of the Assembly and codified within the Bylaws or other relevant statute as may exist.

Art. XI §1.A (1) In cases where the existing Bylaws or other relevant statutes are unclear to any party, the Governance Board shall consider any relevant criteria and issue a clarifying ruling until such a time as the Assembly may choose to clarify the language through amending the Bylaws or relevant statute.

Art. XI §1.A (2) In cases where the Governance Board has not yet been convened, such as during the summer recess between Assemblies, criteria for absenteeism shall be temporarily set by way of an Executive Action via a majority vote of the Executive Board until either the Assembly may be convened to review the Executive Action or the Governance Board may be convened to issue a clarifying ruling, whichever is sooner.

Art. XI §1.B The charge of Unsatisfactory Performance is defined as any partial performance of basic duties that is judged to be significantly below that of the expected performance.

Art. XI §1.C The charge of Misrepresentation of Duty is defined as actively attempting to mislead the Assembly or the graduate student body, or any part thereof, in matters of GSG governance; and/or serving badly as a Representative according to the judgment of one's peers.

Section 2: Impeachment Proceedings

Art. XI §2.A Upon the approval of impeachment proceedings, the question of impeachment shall be forwarded to the Governance Board.

Art. XI §2.B The Governance Board shall be charged with the unbiased investigation of all matters related to the impeachment charges, to occur within four weeks (28 days) of receiving notice of impeachment proceedings from the Assembly.

Art. XI §2.B (1) The Governance Board shall conclude whether the impeached party should be formally indicted on the charges as brought forth by the Assembly, and shall formulate, for the Assembly, a recommendation to either proceed with or terminate

impeachment proceedings.

Art. XI §2.B (2) The Governance Committee shall be charged with the duty of disclosing to the impeached party the timelines and processes involved in any potential impeachment hearing of the committee and the Assembly. This shall include the distribution of these impeachment protocols to the impeached party.

Art. XI §2.B (3) The investigation shall consist of no less than an interview with the impeached party with representation or a witness pending notification of the committee, an interview with the impeaching party, and the gathering of supporting documentation and other such evidence to be presented to the Assembly. If any of the above-mentioned parties are unavailable for an interview, that information can be taken into account and should be presented to the Assembly.

Art. XI §2.B (4) The committee shall present a copy of its findings and recommendations to the accused party and the impeaching party no less than twenty-four hours before an anticipated presentation of said findings before the Assembly.

Art. XI §2.C Impeachment proceedings shall commence at the next regular or special session of the Assembly. By majority vote of all Governance Board members, the Governance Board may appeal to the Assembly for an extension of the investigation period, not to exceed 28 days or the duration until the next Assembly meeting, whichever is greater. If such an appeal is met favorably by a majority vote of the Assembly, impeachment proceedings shall commence at the next regular or special session of the Assembly following the end of the extension period. Such an extension should be avoided unless judged to be absolutely necessary to the work of the committee.

Art. XI §2.C (1) At said meeting of the Assembly, a designee of the Governance Board shall present the findings of the investigation, with a recommendation to proceed with or terminate impeachment proceedings. This recommendation shall be considered a question for debate and shall be decided by a simple majority of the Assembly's present and voting membership. The committee's recommendation shall take the following form:

“After considering evidence such as corroborated personal communications with the involved parties, and any other additional evidence made available to the committee, and after considerable deliberation, it is the decision of this committee to formally recommend that the Assembly [insert recommendation].”

Art.XI §2.C (1.a) Dismiss: Dismiss the [insert member's official title] of all impeachment charges.

Art.XI §2.C (1.b) Impeach: Indict the [insert member's official title] for impeachment under the charge(s) of [insert formal charge(s)].

Art.XI §2.C (1.c) Dismiss the charge(s) of [insert dismissed charge(s)], and to formally indict the [insert member's official title] for impeachment under the charge(s) of [insert formal charge(s)].

Art. XI §2.C (2) Members of the committee wishing to dissent from the majority opinion may present to the Assembly a written dissenting opinion submitted to the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly prior to the regular or special session during which the Governance Board presents the majority opinion. Should the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly be the subject of the impeachment proceedings, then these opinions shall be transmitted to the next member of the Executive Board not subject to impeachment proceedings in the following order:

I. President

II. Vice President for Financial Affairs & Student Fee Matters

III. Any staff members of the Executive Board that may exist, first by order of hours worked, then by order of seniority.

Should all members of the Executive Board be subject to impeachment proceedings, then these opinions shall be transmitted to the Graduate Student Government Advisor, who

shall present them in place of the Executive Board.

Art. XI §2.C (3) If the Assembly elects to proceed with the impeachment, the Assembly shall immediately enter a special executive session and shall conduct an impeachment trial.

Art. XI §2.C (4) The impeachment trial shall be presided over by the Assembly's Presiding Officer, which shall by default be the Vice President for Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly, unless the position of Speaker of the Assembly has been delegated to another member of government, in which case the Speaker of the Assembly shall serve as the Presiding Officer of the Assembly. In cases where the Vice President of Legislative Affairs & Speaker of the Assembly is the subject of the impeachment proceedings, then the Presiding Officer of the Assembly shall be a member of the Executive Board not subject to impeachment proceedings in the following order:

I. President

II. Vice President for Financial Affairs & Student Fee Matters

III. Any staff members of the Executive Board that may exist, first by order of hours worked, then by order of seniority.

In cases where all members of the Executive Board are subject to impeachment proceedings, then the Assembly shall designate from among themselves a Program Representative by majority vote to serve as the Presiding Officer pro tempore of the Assembly. The individual or individuals bringing impeachment charges, defined here as the individual or individuals who raised the topic for Assembly vote, shall serve as the prosecution and the impeached party shall be charged with mounting their defense. The impeached party has the right to be aided in their defense by counsel. Counsel can be an attorney or not, but must be a member of the Assembly, unless the Assembly, by majority vote, agrees to permit counsel who is not a member to act in this capacity.

Art. XI §2.C (5) At the conclusion of the trial, the Assembly shall engage in debate and vote upon the question of removing the impeached

party from office.

Art. XI §2.C (6) The Assembly, by a three-fourths vote of its present and voting membership, shall remove the impeached party from their position(s). If a party is removed from office, they shall be barred from attending meetings or holding office in any branch of the Graduate Student Government for no less than one full legislative session, unless invited by said branch with approval via a majority vote of the Assembly.

Art. XI §2.C (7) At the conclusion of the impeachment proceedings, the Assembly, with a majority vote, may decide to make the Governance Board report, pertaining to the impeachment investigation outcome, public as is, or amend it.

Art. XI §2.D If, through the course of investigation, the Governance Board finds that the impeachment proceedings are dependent on pending legal matters, the situation shall be reported to the Assembly. The Assembly, by a majority vote of its total present and voting membership, shall then decide whether or not to continue the impeachment proceedings.

Art. XI §2.E If, through the course of investigation, the impeached party shall decide to resign, then the resignation must be submitted to the Governance Board. Upon receiving the resignation, the committee may decide one of the following:

- I. Accept and conclude the investigation
- II. Reject and continue the investigation
- III. Accept but continue the investigation

Art. XI §2.E (1) In any of these cases, the Governance Board shall communicate their decision in writing with the Assembly prior to the next regular or special session of the Assembly.

Art. XI §2.E (2) If the Governance Board decides to accept the resignation but continue the investigation, then they shall submit the outcome of their investigation to the Assembly in the next regular or special session of the Assembly and the Assembly may accept the outcome with a simple majority vote and conclude the

impeachment proceedings.

Art. XI §2.E (3) If the impeached party decides to resign during the investigation and the Governance Board accepts the resignation and concludes the investigation, then the impeached party shall be barred from attending meetings or holding office in of any branch of the Graduate Student Government as if they were removed from office by Assembly vote as described in subsection 11.2.C.6, above.

Art. XI §2.E (4) Should the impeached party resign and fail to notify the Governance Board as described in section 11.2.E above, then they shall be barred from attending meetings or holding office in of any branch of the Graduate Student Government as if they were removed from office by Assembly vote as described in subsection 11.2.C.6, above, except that their expulsion shall be permanent until and unless invited back as described in that same subsection.

Section 3: Conflict of Interest

Any impeached member of the Governance Committee must recuse themselves from any participation in an impeachment investigation.