

# **Case Western Reserve University Graduate Student Council**

## **Article I. Name of the Organization**

The name of the organization shall be the Graduate Student Council of Case Western Reserve University, hereafter referred to as GSC.

## **Article II. Purpose**

In the belief that a representative voice is needed to ensure that both the individual and collective interests of graduate students will be heard and acted upon by the faculty and administrative units of the University, GSC accepts the responsibilities described herein and pledges to address the concerns of the graduate student body while striving to support the goals of each graduate institution and to uphold the well-being of our students and community.

## **Article III. Membership**

### **A. Constituency**

The constituency of GSC shall be all full or part-time students of Case Western Reserve University pursuing graduate degrees awarded from the School of Graduate Studies, Case School of Engineering, School of Medicine, School of Law, School of Dental Medicine, School of Nursing, Weatherhead School of Management, and Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

### **B. Council Representatives**

1. Each school having graduate student enrollment shall select annually Representatives to GSC, in accordance with GSC Bylaws. GSC shall consist of:
  - a. Five (5) Representatives from each school/college having graduate student enrollment.
  - b. One (1) additional Representative for every five hundred (500) graduate students enrolled in each school/college.
  - c. If a school/college contains more than one government, it is up to the school/college to decide the distribution of allotted representatives.

2. Each Representative shall have one (1) vote at GSC meetings, which may be cast in person or by proxy, as set forth in the GSC Bylaws.
3. GSC makes every effort to work with the individual school governments in order to obtain full representation from every school.

## **Article IV. Administration**

### **A. Officers**

1. The executive officers of GSC shall be a President, Vice-President for Internal Communications, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Marketing and Communications. These four officers shall form the GSC Cabinet
2. The GSC Executive Board shall consist of the Cabinet and a minimum of five Directors: Co-Directors of Advocacy and Diversity, Director of Social and Special Programs, Director of Student Organizations, and Director of Professional Development. Each Director may oversee at least one committee.
3. GSC officers shall be elected annually by the membership as set forth in the GSC Bylaws.

### **B. Officer Expectations**

1. The GSC officers shall not be Representatives while in office, but shall have all the rights accorded to Representatives.
2. The GSC officers shall perform such duties as are specified in the GSC Bylaws.
3. An officer may be recalled or terminated according to the provisions set forth in the GSC Bylaws

### **C. Committees of the Council**

1. Standing committees shall be ongoing committees designed to perform specific functions identified by GSC. The creation and elimination of GSC standing committees shall require approval at a GA meeting by two-thirds (2/3) of all voting members present, in person or by proxy, as outlined in the GSC Bylaws.
2. Ad hoc committees shall be temporary committees designed to deal with special problems identified by the Council and shall be given responsibilities consistent with the purpose of GSC. GSC Directors and Vice Presidents may dissolve an ad hoc committee.

### **D. Committee Chairs**

GSC officers may appoint chairs for their committees.

1. A committee chair may concurrently serve as a Representative.
2. Committee chairs shall work closely with their committee and Vice President or Director to fulfill the goals set forth upon their appointment.

#### E. Other Administrative Positions

GSC may have such other non-elected, paid administrative positions as recommended annually by the President in consultation with the other GSC officers and approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board, and approved at a General Assembly meeting by a simple majority vote of those representatives present, in person or by proxy. In consultation with the other officers, the President shall hire for these purposes.

### **Article V. Council Meetings**

- A. It is intended that a regular GSC meeting shall be held each month of the academic semester, but no less than three (3) meetings shall be held each semester as outlined in the GSC Bylaws.
- B. The President shall call special GSC meetings when requested by the Executive Board or by a written petition from one-third (1/3) of all representatives, or as he or she deems necessary. The President shall designate the time and place of such meetings.

### **Article VI. Amendments to this Constitution**

- A. Any representative or executive may propose an amendment to this Constitution.
  1. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the VP for Internal Communications at least one (1) week before it can be considered.
  2. The VP for Internal Communications shall distribute copies of the proposed amendment to GSC within one (1) week of its receipt and 48 hours before the General Assembly where the amendment will be considered.
- B. Any amendment to this Constitution shall require approval at a Council meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all voting members, in person or by proxy.
- C. Any amendment which receives approval shall become effective immediately after adjournment of the meeting at which it is adopted, unless the motion to amend specifies a time that the amendment shall take effect.

### **Article VII. Bylaws**

Bylaws conforming to this constitution shall be adopted at a GA meeting by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of those voting members present, in person or by proxy.

## **Article VIII. Affiliation**

### Relationship with CWRU

1. The council acknowledges the School of Graduate Studies and the Division of Student Affairs as our independent and necessary partners in serving the diverse graduate student body.
2. The Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and the Vice President of Student Affairs or their designees are encouraged to attend meetings of the Council to maintain a working relationship with the Council and act as advisors on request.
3. The Executive Board shall maintain a close, professional relationship with the School of Graduate Studies and the Division of Student Affairs to further the causes championed by the Council.

## **Article IX. Advisor**

By nature of job responsibilities, the Advisor to GSC will be appointed by the Vice President of Student Affairs and be a member of the Office of Graduate Student Life.