

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE  
GRADUATE STUDENTS'  
ENGINEERING GOVERNMENT

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# **I. Name and Membership**

- A. There shall be an organization known as Graduate Students' Engineering Government (GSEG).
- B. All students enrolled in a graduate program at the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), University of Pennsylvania, are members of the organization during the term of their program. This includes:
  - (i) Students enrolled in Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) programs and residential Master's programs as recognized by SEAS.
  - (ii) Students enrolled in Accelerated Master's Programs in Engineering, upon completion of their undergraduate degrees, during the course of their single degree graduate program.

## II. Purpose

- A. GSEG shall be the student government charged with representing all of its Members.
- B. GSEG shall serve as a liaison among the associations for the programs listed in Article III.
- C. GSEG shall elect representatives to the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) as described in Article IV.
- D. GSEG shall nominate representatives to organizations at the University of Pennsylvania as described in Article VII.
- E. GSEG shall enable and empower its members to have the best possible experience during their time at the University. In order to do so, GSEG shall:
  - (i) Identify and remove barriers impeding its mission,
  - (ii) Foster dialogue among members, and
  - (iii) Identify relevant issues of advocacy, and advocate for the said issues at platforms including but not limited to GAPSA, the School, and the University.
- F. GSEG shall manage and audit the finances for the associations for the programs listed in Article III.
- G. GSEG shall sponsor academic, cultural, and social events of interest to its members and organize programs to enhance the quality of their lives.

### III. General Assembly

- A. The General Assembly shall consist of nineteen voting representatives from the graduate programs the School. There shall be one seat reserved for each of the following:
- (i) Master of Computer and Information Technology
  - (ii) Master of Integrated Product Design or MSE Integrated Product Design
  - (iii) MSE Bioengineering
  - (iv) MSE Biotechnology
  - (v) MSE Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
  - (vi) MSE Computer Graphics and Game Technology
  - (vii) MSE Computer and Informational Sciences
  - (viii) MSE Data Science
  - (ix) MSE Electrical Engineering or MSE Systems Engineering
  - (x) MSE Materials Science Engineering or MSE Scientific Computing
  - (xi) MSE Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics
  - (xii) MSE Nanotechnology
  - (xiii) MSE Robotics
  - (xiv) PhD Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
  - (xv) PhD Bioengineering
  - (xvi) PhD Computer and Informational Sciences
  - (xvii) PhD Electrical and Systems Engineering
  - (xviii) PhD Materials Science Engineering
  - (xix) PhD Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics
- B. The student associations for each of the above program shall appoint or elect, according to their own procedures, their representatives to the General Assembly. The procedures for the designation of representative are acceptable so long as approved by the GSEG Executive Board.

- C. The voting representatives shall:
  - (a) Serve as a liaison between GSEG and the appointing organizations.
  - (b) Notify GSEG with the updates from their appointing organizations and their respective program.
  - (c) Help GSEG perform its goals by participating in GSEG's advocacy, funding, and programming initiatives.
- D. The General Assembly shall consist of one non-voting representative from the following student groups:
  - (i) Engineering Masters Advisory Board
  - (ii) EngiQueers
  - (iii) Penn Graduate Women in Science and Engineering
  - (iv) Penn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group
- E. The Executive Board may add non-voting representatives to the General Assembly when it deems necessary. These may include representatives for cultural and identity student groups, but not faith or religious identity groups.
- F. The term of a General Assembly representative shall be from September 1 of a year to May 30 of the following year.
- G. The voting representatives, GSEG representatives to GAPSA as described in Article IV, and the members of the Executive Board as described in Article V shall be the voting members of the General Assembly. Each voting member of the General Assembly shall have one vote in all matters.
- H. The year for GSEG starts on May 1 and ends on April 30. The year shall be divided into three semesters:
  - (i) Summer Semester comprising of the months of May, June, July, and August.
  - (ii) Fall Semester comprising of the months of September, October, November, and December.
  - (iii) Spring Semester comprising of the months of January, February, March, and April.

The General Assembly shall meet at least once in each month of the Fall and Spring Semesters. It shall also meet on the call of the President or by petition of one-quarter of the voting members of the General Assembly.

- I. The meetings of the General Assembly shall be limited to 120 minutes unless extended by a vote of two-thirds of the voting members present.
- J. The Vice President shall distribute the tentative agenda for the meeting no less than thirty-six hours prior to a scheduled General Assembly Meeting.
- K. A meeting of the General Assembly does not exist without a quorum. A quorum shall exist when at least half of the appointed or elected members of the General Assembly members are present.
- L. The meetings of the General Assembly shall be open to all members of GSEG. All attendees may participate in the discussions. The General Assembly may meet in a closed session comprising only of voting members and non-voting representatives by a vote of two-thirds of the voting members.
- M. Each General Assembly voting member shall have one vote in all matters. In order to pass the General Assembly, a motion must receive a simple majority of the votes cast unless specified otherwise in this Constitution. General Assembly members may appoint a proxy to participate on their behalf in a General Assembly meeting with full voting and other rights.
- N. Voting members and non-voting representatives of the General Assembly shall attend all General Assembly meetings. More than two unexcused absences per semester are grounds for dismissal and GSEG may contact the appointing organization to seek a replacement.
- O. Voting members and non-voting representatives of the General Assembly shall abide by this Constitution. A voting member or a non-voting representative who is found to be in violation of this Constitution shall be given a notice stating the violation no less than five days before the following General Assembly meeting. Just cause (malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance) must be shown in all cases involving the dismissal of a voting member or non-voting representative.
- P. The Chair for Logistics shall record the minutes of the meetings and distribute them to the GSEG membership.

## IV. GAPSA Representatives

A.



## V. Executive Board

A.

## VI. Elections

A.

## **VII. Nominations to School and University Committees**

A.

## VIII. Budget

A.

## **IX. Non-Discrimination Policy**

A.

## **X. Amendments**

A.