

The Graduate Student Advisory Council Constitution

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Graduate Student Advisory Council of Eastern Illinois University (GSAC).

Article II. Mission

The mission of the GSAC shall be to:

1. Discuss, review, and participate in any university decision that has a potential impact on the graduate population.
2. Be the representative body of the graduate student population at Eastern Illinois University and present graduate views on issues in a unified manner to the student government, administration, faculty, and staff.
3. Facilitate communication and implement continuous dialogue among graduate students and the administration, faculty, and staff of EIU.
4. Promote greater interaction among the graduate student population and increased involvement and participation among all graduate departments on relevant issues.
5. Place graduate student representatives on all university committees, councils or other functioning bodies concerned with the development and implementation of policies and procedures relevant to the graduate population.

Article III. Membership

General Membership: Any degree-seeking student enrolled at Eastern Illinois may participate in the activities of the GSAC without voting privileges.

Voting membership: Each graduate program shall be represented by one or two voting delegates. The selection of the graduate student representative shall be determined by the academic program and the graduate coordinator.

Article IV. Voting

Each department shall have one or two votes depending on attendance at the meeting. If both voting delegates are in attendance at the meeting then they are both allowed to vote. If a department fails to appoint graduate representatives, it forfeits its right to vote. Votes on proposals before the GSAC or amendments to the Constitution require half of the GSAC members to be in attendance in order to reach quorum. Upon reaching quorum a simple majority wins. The president shall vote only in the event of a tie. All votes shall be tallied by the means of an oral role call.

Article V. Officers

The executive officers of GSAC shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary and Director of Public Relations.

The aforementioned officers shall constitute the Executive Board.

The auxiliary officers of the GSAC shall be as follows: Council of the Graduate Studies representative, Textbook Rental Committee Representative, and Larry Williams Travel Fund Committee Representative.

Article VI. Duties of the Executive Officers

President: To preside over Executive Board and regular meetings; to appoint ad hoc committees with the approval of the GSAC; to report to the Graduate School Representative; to meet on a regular basis with the Dean of the Graduate School in order to coordinate activities and facilitate dialogue; to perform other duties as required by the bylaws or the Executive Board.

Vice President: To preside in the President's absence; to aid the President, to oversee committees; to maintain and enforce the Constitution of the GSAC. To act as liaison between the GSAC and student government; to perform other duties as may be required by the bylaws or Executive Board.

Secretary: To attend to all correspondence of the GSAC; to maintain minutes of the executive and regular meetings; to oversee voting procedures; to ensure that all members receive correspondence, agendas, and minutes; to act as the liaison between the Office of the Graduate School and the GSAC; to perform other duties as may be required by the bylaws or the Executive Board.

Director of Public Relations: To promote awareness on campus of GSAC activities and events; to act as spokesperson for the GSAC to The Daily Eastern News, student government and other campus organizations, to maintain the on-line resources of the GSAC; to perform other duties as may be required by the bylaws or the Executive Board.

Article VII. Duties of Auxiliary Officers

Council on Graduate Studies Representative: To present the GSAC at the meetings of the Council on Graduate Studies; to report on said meetings to the Executive Board and GSAC; to perform other duties as may be required by the bylaws or the Executive Board.

Textbook Rental Committee Representative: To represent the GSAC at meetings of the Textbook Rental Committee; to report on said meetings to the Executive Board and GSAC; to perform other duties as may be required by the bylaws or the Executive Board.

Larry Williams Travel Fund Committee Representative: To represent the GSAC at meetings of the Travel Fund Committee; to report on said meetings to the Executive Board and GSAC; to perform other duties as may be required by the bylaws or the Executive Board.

Article VIII. Elections and Appointments

The first meeting of the fall semester shall be chaired by the Graduate School Representative, at which times the duties of the executive officers shall be described to the GSAC members. Members wishing to run for an executive position will do so in oral fashion at this meeting. Members who wish to run for a position will be given the right to have a 5-minute speech. Upon the conclusion of the candidate's speeches the GSAC body will vote on the candidates. Also at this meeting the new Executive Board will take nominations to appoint auxiliary officers. If any officer is removed or resigns, an election or appointment will take place at the next GSAC meeting.

Article IX. Committees

Committees shall be discussed by GSAC members, appointed by the President and overseen by the Vice President. The committees are Parking, and the Tobacco Task Force Committee.

Article X. Meetings

Regular and Executive Board meetings shall be presided over by the senior executive present. The GSAC and the Executive Board shall meet once per month or as deemed necessary by the members. Meeting time shall be voted on by GSAC members. Any GSAC member missing more than two meetings without a valid excuse delivered to an Executive Board member prior to the meeting being missed is subject to removal by the Executive Board. Under each circumstance, the member's department shall be notified concerning a replacement.