

Constitution of the Philosophy Graduate Student Association

Article I: Name

- a. The name of the organization is: UGA Philosophy Graduate Student Association, also known as PGSA.
- b. The organization is affiliated with the UGA Department of Philosophy.

Article II: Mission

- a. The purposes of PGSA include:
 - i. Promotion of philosophical discourse among the graduate students at UGA.
 - ii. Development of professional skills and experience related to the requirements of academic life.
 - iii. Creation of an interactive social environment within the department and the community.
 - iv. Serve as an institutional conduit for the will of the graduate students enrolled in the Philosophy graduate program at UGA

Article III: Membership and Non-Discrimination

- a. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students without regard to race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status.
- b. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students as stated in the University of Georgia Non-Discrimination and Anti- Harassment Policy. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects people from discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Title IX states that: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

Article IV: Officers

- a. All officers must be full-time graduate students in the Philosophy department at UGA enrolled in at least 9 graduate credit hours.
- b. The President will be the liaison for PGSA to the Center for Student Organizations.
- c. The officers of PGSA consist of:
 - i. *President*
 - 1. President's duties consist of leading events, meetings, and elections, resolving disputes between members and/or officers, and coordinating efforts of all other officers.
 - ii. *Vice-President*

1. Vice-President's duties consist of formal requests for paper presenters, promotion of PGSA events, including conferences, colloquia and social gatherings and the reception and evaluation of presentation papers and commentators. If the president is absent from a scheduled PGSA meeting, then the Vice-President assumes duties of the President for that meeting.
- iii. *Secretary*
 1. Secretary's duties consist of recording and distributing official business (minutes), determining scheduling of meetings and events, communicating with guest speakers, and distributing materials within the PGSA. If the President and Vice President are absent from a scheduled PGSA meeting, then the Secretary assumes duties of the President for that meeting.
 - iv. *Treasurer*
 1. Treasurer's duties regard all financial matters of PGSA, including but not limited to: solicitation of funds, distribution and payment of funds, and relevant official documents. If the President, Vice President, and Secretary are absent from a scheduled PGSA meeting, then the Treasurer assumes duties of the President for that meeting.
 - v. *Graduate Student Moderator*
 1. Graduate Student Moderator's duties will consist of representing the philosophy graduate student body and their interests at faculty meetings, attending all faculty meetings, and distributing pertinent information obtained at faculty meetings to the philosophy graduate student body.
- d. The terms of each official position shall be one year in length, and each position can be held for only two consecutive terms by the same person. After two terms in one position, an officer is still eligible to run for the remaining positions.
 - e. Election of officers will be conducted at a scheduled meeting at the end of the spring semester. Election procedure shall be as follows:
 - i. Nomination of candidates for positions.
 - ii. Voting will occur in the absence of the candidates, and the winner will be decided by a simple majority of those voting members present at the meeting.
 - iii. Elections are decided based on which candidate gets the most votes of those voting members present at the meeting at which elections are held.
 - f. An officer may be removed from their position by vote consisting in a 3/4 majority of those voting members present at the meeting.
 - g. In the case that a position is vacant, an election will be held immediately to fill the position.

Article V: Meetings

- a. Quorum: Official business, including elections, can be conducted with a minimum of 5 voting members present at a meeting. Voting membership is restricted to graduate students enrolled in the Philosophy graduate program at UGA.
- b. The intention of the PGSA is to hold monthly meetings during the fall and spring semesters, with additional conferences and colloquia as desired.
- c. The regular meeting place for the PGSA will be Peabody Hall, room 205s.
- d. All matters that need to be put to a vote must occur at officially announced PGSA meetings. These such meetings should be announced via e-mail at least 48 hours before the meeting is scheduled to occur.

Article VI: Amendments

- a. Amendments to this constitution can be made only after a vote consisting in a 3/4 majority of those present at the meeting.
- b. The President, in line with their role as liaison to the Center for Student Organizations, has executive authority to enact emergency amendments to the constitution in order to minimally comply with requirements set forth by the Center for Student Organizations and the Department of Student Activities at UGA only in an instance wherein the constitution is found insufficient by at least one of those regulatory entities. If such emergency amendments are made, then a review, edit, and re-approval of those amendments must be the first order of business on the agenda of the next official PGSA meeting.