

Constitution of the Sociology Graduate Student Association

Article I. Purpose.

The purpose of the SGSA is to provide a platform for members to voice their opinions and concerns regarding departmental, administrative, graduate and undergraduate issues; and to disseminate this information to the Graduate Studies Student Association (GSSA) and university administration in an organized manner. To encourage the highest levels of critical thinking and research in sociology, and to offer support and fraternity to its members.

Article II. Organization.

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Sociology Graduate Student Association (hereafter referred to as SGSA).

Section 2: All matriculated graduate students in the Department of Sociology are eligible voting members of this organization unless barred by another Article.

Section 3: The position of faculty liaison shall be filled by a member of the Department of Sociology faculty, chosen by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the members of the SGSA, with approval from that faculty member. The faculty liaison shall be reassessed yearly by the SGSA.

Article III. The Committee of the Whole.

Section 1: The Committee of the Whole is comprised of a quorum of eligible SGSA members.

Section 2: A quorum will be called when $\frac{2}{3}$ of eligible members are present.

Section 3: The Committee of the Whole shall be chaired by an eligible SGSA member 2 weeks prior to the next SGSA General Meeting.

Section 4: The incoming Committee of the Whole Chair shall be selected by a random draw among eligible members by the Current Chair. Any eligible member who does not wish to serve as Chair shall inform the Current Chair at least 12 hours before selection.

Section 5: No eligible SGSA member shall hold the Chair for more than 2 consecutive Terms.

Article IV. Duties of the Committee.

Section 1: One representative and an alternate will attend faculty meetings, having a voice but no vote, and may be excused from certain deliberations at the discretion of the chair. The representative and the alternate will be chosen based on availability by the Committee of the Whole .

Section 2: One representative will attend meetings of the GSSA, our umbrella organization. The representative will typically be the Terms' Current Committee of the Whole Chair, unless otherwise negotiated with the Committee of the Whole.

Section 3: The Committee of the Whole shall share the following duties:

- a. Disseminate information about SGSA information about SGSA and its meetings
- b. Approve any expenditure of funds from the SGSA budget. Approval shall be conferred through an affirmative voice vote from a simple majority.
- c. Ensure representation of SGSA at GSSA meetings
- d. Be available to members for comments, suggestions, constitution amendments, calls for extraordinary meetings, assistance with speaker requests, and any other business
- e. Maintain SGSA documents and accounts

Article V. Duties of the Chair.

Section 1: The Chair will be responsible for creating the agenda for the meeting, and serve as President of SGSA for a term beginning with their General Meeting, and ending at the next General Meeting.

Article V. Removal of Representatives.

Section 1: Representatives (including the Current Chair, GSSA representative, or faculty meeting representatives, etc.) may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the membership. A representative must be informed of any such vote pending and reasons for the movement, and shall have the opportunity to address the membership.

Article VI. Meetings.

Section 1: SGSA shall meet at least twice a semester. Extraordinary meetings can be called by any member, at their own request.

Article VII. Amendments.

Section 1: Any member may propose an amendment to this constitution at any meeting. After initial discussion, a vote shall be taken as to the need for further debate, after which the amendment is either voted on, or deferred until the next meeting. Ratification requires a two-thirds vote.