



INTRODUCED AT THE JANUARY, 2005 GSC GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING  
TO BE VOTED ON AT THE FEBRUARY, 2005 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

## ***Amendment to the Description of Membership of the Graduate Student Council in the GSC Constitution***

### **Summary and purpose of this amendment:**

The description of the membership of the Graduate Student Council that currently exists in Article III of the GSC Constitution is confusing because of the following paradox:

- the only people defined in the article to be part of the Council are the representatives
- the Constitution & Bylaws make it clear that votes are cast only by members of the Council
- the Constitution & Bylaws give voting priveledges to the Officers and Chairs of standing committees

In addition, neither the Constitution nor Bylaws give any guidelines about whether or not a given individual can hold more than one voting position at a time, though the Constitution does state that each representative can have only one vote on all matters – thus making it theoretically possible for somebody to represent two different constituencies while having only one vote

This amendment addresses both of these issues by:

- ◇ including the Officers and Chairs of standing committees to be members of the Council as defined in Article III of the Constitution
- ◇ stating explicitly that an individual may only hold one voting position at a time



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**GSC Constitution, Article III, Section B, currently reads:**

**B. Graduate Student Council**

Any member of the graduate student body is eligible to serve on the Council. The representatives of the Graduate Student Council shall be chosen as follows:

*1. Departmental Representation*

There shall be openings for one Council representative for every 100 graduate students, or fraction thereof, in each academic department and degree granting interdepartmental graduate program. No department or degree granting graduate program shall have more than five openings.

*2. Housing Representation*

There shall be openings for a Council Representative from each of the following graduate living groups: Ashdown House, Eastgate, Green Hall, Tang Hall, Edgerton House, and Westgate. In addition there shall be two openings for Council members not living in the aforementioned residences, or any other residence which may be deemed "on campus housing". Their purpose shall be to represent the interests of the off-campus graduate student population.

*3. At-Large Representation*

There shall be 5 openings for representatives of constituencies not mentioned above. The Council may vote to designate these At-large seats to be named seats, representing particular distinct constituencies. By naming these seats it is hoped that the constituency will be more properly identified and that the constituency can better manage its representation. Such designation must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the Council. The Council must satisfy itself that the membership of the constituency approves the designation. Designation may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Council. Traditional rules of inactivity will apply to any named seats.



**GSC Bylaws, Article III should be amended to read as follows:**

B. Graduate Student Council

Any member of the graduate student body is eligible to serve on the Council. No individual may hold more than one of the following positions at any given time: a Council representative, a Council standing committee chair, and/or a Council officer.

1. The representatives of the Graduate Student Council shall be chosen as follows.
  - i. *Departmental Representation*  
There shall be openings for one Council representative for every 100 graduate students, or fraction thereof, in each academic department and degree granting interdepartmental graduate program. No department or degree granting graduate program shall have more than five openings.
  - ii. *Housing Representation*  
There shall be openings for a Council Representative from each of the following graduate living groups: Ashdown House, Eastgate, Green Hall, Tang Hall, Edgerton House, and Westgate. In addition there shall be two openings for Council members not living in the aforementioned residences, or any other residence which may be deemed "on campus housing". Their purpose shall be to represent the interests of the off-campus graduate student population.
  - iii. *At-Large Representation*  
There shall be 5 openings for representatives of constituencies not mentioned above. The Council may vote to designate these At-large seats to be named seats, representing particular distinct constituencies. By naming these seats it is hoped that the constituency will be more properly identified and that the constituency can better manage its representation. Such designation must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the Council. The Council must satisfy itself that the membership of the constituency approves the designation. Designation may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Council. Traditional rules of inactivity will apply to any named seats.
2. The Graduate Student Council may establish standing or ad hoc committees to pursue specific goals of the Council. Each committee shall be chaired by at least one graduate student. Graduate student members of Institute Committees shall be ex officio members of Council committees concerned with related issues. Further details regarding Council committees shall be provided in the Bylaws.
3. The Officers of the Graduate Student Council shall be as defined in Article IV of this Constitution.