



**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

**17th Session
GPSG
D.B. #15**

Sponsor: Cabinet Director Airiana Mohr
GPSG Action: Passed

AN ACT

This bill serves to update the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws in accordance based on the 2024-2025 Administration's recommended changes. Changes mainly address U2G student eligibility but add in a few small outstanding issues.

Section 1: Short Title

This Act may be titled as "2025 GPSG Constitution and Bylaws Update."

Section 2: Discussion

WHEREAS, The rise in popularity of Undergraduate-to-Graduate (U2G) programs at the University of Iowa has caused confusion about eligibility of these students for USG and GPSG.

WHEREAS, The GPSG Constitution and Bylaws do not address the eligibility of U2G students in GPSG.

WHEREAS, U2G students have a "blended year" or "U2G year" where they complete their remaining undergraduate courses and start on some of their graduate courses.

WHEREAS, U2G students are classified as undergraduates during their blended year. They are assessed undergraduate tuition.

WHEREAS, U2G students are considered undergraduates during their blended year for the purpose of the Student Activity Fee, meaning their fee money is regulated by Undergraduate Student Government (USG).

WHEREAS, U2G students do not “pay into” GPSG during their blended year, making them ineligible for GPSG. They are eligible for USG during this time.

WHEREAS, U2G students are designated as graduate students during their fifth year (“graduate year”), and their Student Activity Fee dollars are controlled by GPSG.

WHEREAS, U2G students are eligible for GPSG during their graduate year, but under the current rules, would be ineligible for a GPSG election during their blended year, barring them from participation in GPSG during their program.

WHEREAS, Undergraduate students at the University of Iowa may be admitted to a graduate or professional program and have an interest in GPSG. Under the current rules, these students would be ineligible for a GPSG election, including those only in a one-year master’s program.

WHEREAS, Students who completed their undergraduate education elsewhere or are not currently undergraduates are ineligible to nominate themselves for elections due to their inability to be verified by the Office of the Dean of Students.

WHEREAS, The GPAC Director is called a Director and not a Chair.

WHEREAS, Attendance at GPSG meetings has been decreasing due to hybrid and virtual options, causing productivity to decrease.

WHEREAS, Meeting minutes are no longer voted on and are simply added to the GPSG website by the Communications Director.

WHEREAS, Requests up to \$1500 have historically been able to be approved by the GPSG President *and* Finance Director. SOBO has long recognized these approvals as valid.

WHEREAS, Amendments to the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws require a two-thirds (2/3) majority approval. Amendments must be introduced at one meeting and then voted on at a secondary meeting.

Section 3: Action

Resolved, The following amendment will be made to Article I Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws.

Original Text: All persons registered in a post-baccalaureate degree granting program shall constitute the constituency of GPSG. Constituency is not determined by whether a student is represented by a member government or not.

New Text: GPSG's constituency will be comprised of all students registered solely in a post-baccalaureate degree granting program. Constituency is not determined by whether a student is represented by a member government.

Students enrolled in the University of Iowa's Undergraduate-to-Graduate (U2G) program will fall within Undergraduate Student Government (USG)'s constituency during their "blended" or "U2G year." Students within the U2G program will fall within GPSG's constituency during their graduate year, or after conferral of their bachelor's degree.

Resolved, The following amendment will be added to the end of Article I Section 3.1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws.

U2G students are not eligible to fill a delegate seat during their blended year.

Resolved, The following amendment will be added to Article II Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws.

U2G students are not eligible to hold a director position during their blended year.

Resolved, The following amendment will be made to Article I Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

Original Text: ...Committee via the GPAC Chair and Grants...

New Text: ...Committee via the GPAC Director and Grants...

Resolved, The following amendment will be made to Article III Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

Old Text: Regular meetings shall occur no less frequently than monthly during the academic year. These meetings shall be in a hybrid format, allowing delegates, directors, and constituents to attend virtually or in-person.

New Text: Regular meetings shall occur no less frequently than monthly during the academic year. These meetings shall be in-person with a hybrid or virtual option available at the discretion of the President and Vice President.

Resolved, The following text will be removed from Article III Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

Meeting minutes shall be taken and approved by the delegates at the following meeting.

Resolved, The following amendment will be made to Article V Section 3 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

Old Text: a. Requests less than \$1500 can be approved by Presidential Executive Order.

New Text: a. Requests less than \$1500 can be approved by the President or Finance Director

Resolved, The following text will be removed from Article VI Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

All director, chair, and liaison positions are open to any graduate or professional students, including Delegates and Alternates.

Resolved, The following amendment will be added to the end of to Article VI Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

All director positions are open to any member of the GPSG constituency, as outlined in Art. 1 Section 1, including current delegates and alternates. There are two exceptions as outlined below.

Students in their blended year of the U2G program are eligible for GPSG elections. Despite not being graduate students at the time of their nomination, U2G students will be graduate students the following academic year and are eligible to hold GPSG offices. If a U2G student is elected and does not have their bachelor's degree conferred in May following the election and/or does not continue their U2G graduate program at the University of Iowa in the subsequent term, the student will forfeit their elected position. Eligibility will be confirmed by the Office of the Dean of Students.

Resolved, The following amendment will be added to Article VI Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

Current University of Iowa students, not in a U2G program, who will have their bachelor's degree conferred upon them in May following the election, and who have been admitted to a University of Iowa one year master's program are eligible for GPSG elections. Admitted students will be eligible to hold GPSG offices in the following academic year. If an admitted student is elected and does not have their bachelor's degree conferred in May following the election and/or does not begin their graduate/professional program at the University of Iowa in the subsequent term, they will forfeit their elected position. Eligibility will be confirmed by the Office of the Dean of Students Office.

Resolved, The following amendment will be made to Article VI Section 1 of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws

Students who are admitted to a graduate or professional degree-granting program at the University of Iowa, but who completed their undergraduate education at another institution or who are not currently an undergraduate student at the University of Iowa during the election term are not eligible for a position.

Therefore, be it Resolved, that upon a two-thirds vote by the delegates, the above amendments will become part of the GPSG Constitution and Bylaws, superseding all previous documents.

Section 4: Enactment

THEREFORE, be it enacted by the University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signature of the President.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Airiana Mohr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cabinet Director, Airiana Mohr

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Khyathi Gadag". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President, Khyathi Gadag

April 22, 2025