Preamble and Statement of Purpose

Graduate Students have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice in the University of Oklahoma separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of the undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate (hereinafter referred to as Senate) of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association (hereinafter referred to as SGA) was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

SECTION 1. Defined Terms

A. “Absence” is the absence of a Senator from a Committee Meeting or General Assembly Meeting unless a Proxy has been sent in the absent Senator’s stead.

B. “Active Membership” means all non-expelled Senators who have a current Senator Credential Form on file with the Secretary.

C. "Appropriate, Curative Action": includes, but is not limited to, removing an incumbent Senator and replacing him or her with a new Senator.

D. “Bad Standing” means that Graduate Students from a Department so labeled shall be ineligible for GSS conference and research grants.

1. If a Department only has one (1) Senator, and that Senator accrues Absences after the second regularly scheduled Meetings or Committee Meetings in a semester, the Department will be considered on probation the following semester. If a Department has two (2) Senators, and both of those Senators accrue Absences after the second regularly scheduled Meetings or Committee Meetings in a semester, the Department will be considered on probation the
following semester.

2. If a Department’s Senator(s) accrue Absences after the second regularly schedule Meetings or Committee Meetings for two consecutive semesters, the Department will be placed in Bad Standing the following semester. Thus a Department on probation will be placed in Bad Standing if the requirements aren’t met while on probation.

3. If a Department only has one (1) Senator, and that Senator is expelled, resigns, or removed by the Graduate Students of their Department prior to expiration of the Senator’s original term, the Department has one (1) month to send a replacement. If no replacement is sent, the Department will be placed in Bad Standing.

4. If a Department chooses to forfeit its representation, that Department shall be placed in Bad Standing after one (1) month.

E. “General Assembly Meetings” (hereinafter abbreviated as G.A.M.s) are meetings of the Senate body as a whole.

F. “Committee Meetings” are regularly scheduled meetings of Senate committees.

G. “Department” is an academic unit within the Graduate College which has a Graduate Liaison (advisor) recognized by the Graduate College. The College of Law shall be considered as a graduate Department for purposes of representation in the Senate.

1. To ensure proper representation in the Senate of both current and future Departments, the Executive Committee shall consult the Graduate College at least once every two years to determine Departmental eligibility in the Senate.

H. “Good Standing” means that Graduate Students from a Department so labeled shall be eligible for GSS conference and research grants.

1. If a Department has at least one (1) Senator that does not accrue absences after the second regularly scheduled Meetings or Committee Meetings in a semester, the Department will be
considered in Good Standing.

I. “Graduate Liaison” is a faculty/staff employee of the University of Oklahoma designated by the Graduate College as the link between the College and Graduate Students.

J. “Graduate Students” are those students currently enrolled on the Norman Campus in the Graduate College or College of Law. All Graduate Students are eligible to:

1. Select the voting members of the Senate from their Department;
2. Attend meetings of the Senate; and
3. Serve as voting members of the Senate when selected by their Departmental colleagues, provided that they are students in Good Standing with the Department and have not previously been expelled from the Senate.
4. Graduate Students not serving as a Senator are ineligible to:
   i. Vote on legislation presented to the Senate.

K. “Graduate Student Website” means

http://www.ou.edu/content/sga/graduate-student-senate.html

L. “Legislation” includes all acts, motions, and resolutions brought before the Senate for consideration.

1. All Legislation—excludes expulsions of Senators, officer elections, dismissals of officers and committee chairs, amendments to the SGA Constitution and By-Laws, adoption of Standing Rules of Order and amendments to Standing Rules of Order
2. Rules of Order— require only a majority vote of the Active Membership present to pass. This does not affect voting requirements found elsewhere in these By-Laws for excluded Legislation.

M. Probation” shall be defined as a temporary status of a Department based on attendance record of their Senator(s) after the second regularly scheduled Meetings or Committee Meetings in a semester. Departments so labeled shall be eligible for GSS conference and grants.

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N. “Quorum” shall be defined as at least 50% plus one of the Active Membership.

O. “Selection Method” includes, but is not limited to, appointment, volunteering, and election. It is the duty and decision of the Graduate Students of the respective Departments to decide the appropriate Selection Method.

P. “Senator” is a Graduate Student selected by his or her peers to represent their Department in a voting capacity in the Senate.

Q. “Senator Credential Form” is a document, containing both Senator Credentials and the Senator Responsibility Statement that must be filled-out completely by all Senators and returned to the Senate office by the second (2nd) G.A.M. of the any new Senator’s first term.

R. “Senator Responsibility Statement” is a document outlining the commitments owed to the Senate by incoming Senators.

S. “Vacancy” is defined as any departmental Senate seat not occupied by a Senator in Good Standing.

SECTION 2. Representation

A. Selection

1. Each Department shall be represented by up to two (2) Senators. These Senators shall be drawn from the Graduate Students within each Department. The power of selection of Senators is entirely vested within the Graduate Students of each Department.

2. Graduate Students within a Department have the sole power to determine whether they wish to send zero (0), one (1), or two (2) Senators to Senate. Any Department choosing to forfeit its representation shall be placed in Bad Standing after one (1) month.

3. The chair of the Senate does not represent a Department and does not count toward the two (2) Senators allotted to each Department.

4. Graduate Students within a Department shall make every effort to provide for a transition period when making any change to a
Department's Senate delegation. The Senate advises that Departments arrange for newly-selected Senators to attend at least one (1) Senate meeting with the Senator who is being replaced.

5. A Senator's tenure does not begin until that Senator has signed and submitted a Senate Credential Form and a Senator Responsibility Statement and has provided that form to the GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary. Additionally, the Graduate Student Senate Executive Council must be provided with an official document from the students of the department notifying the Senate of the Selection Method used and the results thereof before a Senator's tenure can begin.

6. All Senators serve at the pleasure of the Graduate Students in the Senator's department. The Graduate Students in each Department shall determine the length of their Senators' terms and the time, place, and method of their Senators' selection. The start and end dates of a Senator's term as determined by the Department shall be included on the Senator Responsibility Statement. If a Department wishes to have a Senator serve beyond the end of that Senator's original term, a new Senator Responsibility Statement must be send to the GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary before the Senator can begin a new term.

B. Vacancies, Expulsions, Removals, and Resignations

1. Vacancies
   a. Departments may fill any Vacancy at any time in the academic year unless otherwise outlined in these By-Laws.
      i. Any Senator filling a Vacancy shall not begin his or her term until he or she has completed and submitted the Senate Credential Form.
      ii. The GSS Executive Council shall notify all Graduate Students of any Vacancies existing at the beginning of each fall and spring semester via an OU Mass Message.

2. Expulsion by Senate
   a. Attendance
i. Attendance is the responsibility of each Senator. The Secretary shall regularly publish a list of the number of absences accrued by each Senator.

ii. In the event that a Senator accrues absences totaling more than 2 of the regularly scheduled G.A.M. and/or Committee Meetings per semester, the Senate may take action to expel the affected Senator. A motion to remove a Senator for exceeding this absence limit shall be in order at any regularly-scheduled Meeting of the Senate during the Special Orders portion of the Meeting Agenda. If such a motion is seconded, the GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary shall notify the affected Senator and the Senator’s Graduate Liaison via e-mail within three (3) days. The motion for expulsion shall be written as a piece of legislation by the motion's author in time for it to appear on the agenda for the next regular Senate Meeting. The Senator shall be expelled if such legislation passes by a two-thirds (2/3s) vote of the Senate. The GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary shall notify the affected Senator and the Senator's Graduate Liaison of the result of the vote on the expulsion legislation within three (3) days of such a result being finalized.

iii. If an expelled Senator was a Department's only representative to the Senate, the Department has one (1) month to send a replacement to avoid being placed in Bad Standing.

b. Negligence, Misconduct, etc.

i. Any Senator wishing to remove a colleague for negligence or misconduct may move to do so during the Special Orders portion of a regularly-scheduled

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Meeting. The GSS Chair shall ask for ten (10) seconding motions. If ten (10) seconds are heard, the GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary shall notify the affected Senator and the Senator's Graduate Liaison via e-mail within three (3) days. The motion for expulsion shall be written as a piece of legislation by the motion's author in time for it to appear on the agenda for the next regular Senate Meeting. The Senator shall be expelled if such legislation passes by a two-thirds (2/3s) vote of the Senate. The GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary shall notify the affected Senator and the Senator's Graduate Liaison of the result of the vote on the expulsion legislation within three (3) days of such a result being finalized.

3. Removal by Department
   a. A Senator may be removed by the Graduate Students of a Department prior to the expiration of the Senator's original term. The procedures governing such a removal are the responsibility of the Department. If such a removal occurs, the Graduate Liaison of the Department shall notify the GSS Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary at which point the Senator is officially considered removed.
   
b. Departments may choose to leave a Senate seat vacant after removal or they may choose to send a replacement Senator. If the removed Senator was the Department's only representative to the Senate, the affected Department shall enter Bad Standing after one (1) month has passed without any representation in the Senate. Any replacement Senator will take office once the EC has received a valid Senator Responsibility Statement.

4. Resignation
   a. If a Senator resigns, the Senator shall notify the GSS Chair, Vice-
Chair, or Secretary, the Department’s Graduate Liaison, and the leader of the Department’s Graduate Student Organization, if applicable, in writing. The Senator’s term is over once notice is received by any of the GSS Officers.
b. If the resigning Senator is the Department’s only representative to the Senate, the Graduate Students of the Department have one (1) month from the resignation to select a replacement to prevent their being placed in Bad Standing.

SECTION 3. Composition and Duties of Members

A. Senators have the responsibility to:
   1. Attend regular and emergency G.A.M.s and Committee Meetings;
   2. Serve on one standing committee, as appointed by the Chair;
   3. Serve on ad hoc and joint committees, when appointed by the Chair;
   4. Be informed of all upcoming Legislation;
   5. Report the proceedings of the Senate to all constituents; and
   6. Be available to meet with constituents.

B. Senators shall be empowered, so long as all Legislation is in compliance with Senate Standing Rules of Order, to:
   1. Vote on any Legislation introduced in either G.A.M. or Committee Meetings;
   2. Introduce Legislation for Senate consideration; and
   3. Introduce amendments to any Legislation under consideration by the Senate or in committees.

SECTION 4. Proxies

A. If a Senator is going to be absent from a G.A.M. OR Committee Meeting, the Senator may send a Proxy to the missed G.A.M.
B. The sending of a Proxy does not count as an absence.
C. For that missed Meeting, a Proxy shall have all of the powers of the represented Senator as long as the following condition is met:
   1. The Proxy must come to the Meeting with the Proxy Request Form.
completed by and signed by the Senator missing the G.A.M.

SECTION 5. Officer Elections

A. Election of Officers

1. The Senate shall elect officers at the next to last regularly scheduled G.A.M. of the spring semester. At this G.A.M., the Senate shall elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary to serve during the Summer Semester and following academic year.

2. To serve as an officer, a Senator must be in Good Standing and must have attended at least four (4) Senate Meetings as a Senator prior to taking office as a GSS Officer.

3. No elected officer may serve in two or more capacities, nor may any elected officer serve as chair of a standing committee.

4. The Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee shall oversee the election of officers. In the event that the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee is a candidate for office, the committee shall select one of its members to oversee the elections.

B. Election Guidelines

1. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Internal Affairs Committee or selected replacement by noon on the Friday two weeks before elections.

2. Only Senators may make nominations.

3. No candidate shall send out their own campaign e-mail. Each e-mail shall be sent to the GSS secretary and distributed from him/her.

4. Each candidate shall meet with the executive committee for a fifteen (15) minute Q&A, the week prior to addressing the general body on the night of elections.

5. On Election Day, each candidate shall have five minutes to address the Senate. During this time, as long as the candidate is present, others may be allowed to speak on a candidate’s behalf and questions may be taken from the floor.

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6. Elections shall be conducted with a plurality vote of the active Membership needed to win.

C. Mid-Term Elections

1. If for any reason any one of the GSS Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary) should resign and the chain of command cannot take over in due course, as previously stated in the by-laws; then an election shall be held to appoint a new GSS Officer.

2. The election guidelines are as follows for a mid-year election:
   a. The nomination period shall be open for one-week (Monday-Friday).
   b. The election will take place after the Executive Committee has met and been able to create a ballot for said election.
   c. Upon a vote by the Senate, the GSS Officer in question shall be immediately appointed, as the vote is the legislation appointing the GSS Officer.
   d. All vote counts are as previously stated in the by-laws (Needs a majority to be appointed)

SECTION 6. Elected Officers

A. Chair of the Senate

1. The powers and responsibilities of the Chair of the Senate (Chair) are to:
   a. Preside over all Meetings, voting only in case of a tie
   b. Serve as Chair of the EC, preside over its meetings, voting only in case of a tie;
   c. Act as official spokesperson and representative of the Senate to the administration of the University of Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents;
   d. Act as official delegate to any national convention or

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meetings involving Graduate Students;
e. Oversee the orientation session, which shall take place during the third (3rd) G.A.M. of the academic year;
f. Nominate personnel to assist in Senate activities subject to approval by the Internal Affairs Committee or Senate as a whole;
g. Prepare the Senate’s annual budget with EC approval, before submission to the Ways and Means Committee;
h. Appoint acting-chairs for standing committees to serve during the Summer Semester with Senate approval; and
i. Maintain at least forty hours of service per month.

B. Vice-Chair of the Senate
   1. The powers and responsibilities of the Vice-Chair of the Senate (Vice-Chair) are to:
      a. Preside over all meetings when the Chair is absent;
      b. Serve as Vice-Chair of the EC;
      c. Act in the capacity of the Chair, when authority is so delegated by the Chair, or upon premature termination of the Chair’s term for whatever cause, until the Senate can elect a successor;
      d. Post agendas in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act; and
      e. Ensure that all proposed legislation appears on the Senate Web Page no later than two business days prior to regularly scheduled G.A.M.s;
      f. Serve as liaison between the Graduate College and the Senate;
      g. Assist the Chair and Secretary in the performance of their duties; and
      h. Maintain at least thirty hours of service per month.

C. Secretary of the Senate
1. The powers and responsibilities of the Secretary of the Senate (Secretary) are to:

   a. Record minutes and other records of the Senate, and make the documents available on demand to any person should it be requested in writing (The Secretary reserves the right to consult General Counsel before releasing certain information.);
   
   b. Serve as Secretary of the EC;
   
   c. Maintain the roll of voting members to bring vacancies and absences to the attention of the EC.
   
   d. Act as archivist of the Senate, distributing copies of all relevant records to the EC and maintaining the archives of the Senate;
   
   e. Ensure that Senators are provided with copies of proposed legislation through posting on the Senate Web Page;
   
   f. Receive correspondence and bring it to the attention of the Chair;
   
   g. Delegate authority to perform any of these functions subject to approval of the EC;
   
   h. Assist the Chair and Vice-Chair in the performance of their duties;
   
   i. Act in the capacity of the Chair or Vice-Chair, when authority is so delegated by the Chair or Vice-Chair, or upon premature termination of the Chair or Vice-Chair’s term for whatever cause, until the Senate can elect a successor; and
   
   j. Maintain at least twenty-five hours of service per month.

D. If the Officers of the Senate are unable to attend a Meeting, or must temporarily recuse themselves, then the duties of the Chair fall to the Committee Chairs in the following order: Internal Affairs, Ways and Means,

SECTION 7. Appointed Officers
A. Appointment
   1. The Chair shall have the authority to appoint Senators to any Appointed Position.
   2. The appointment can be terminated earlier at the discretion of the Chair, but otherwise lasts until the next regularly scheduled officer elections.
B. Positions
   1. Parliamentarian
      a. The Parliamentarian advises the Chair, other officers, and Senators on matters of parliamentary procedure.
      b. The Parliamentarian does not have the authority to make official rulings.
      c. The position of Parliamentarian cannot be filled by the Chair. The position may be filled by either the Vice-Chair or Secretary if the position cannot be filled otherwise.

SECTION 8. Executive Committee
A. The EC shall be composed of the three (3) elected officers and the chairs of the eight (8) standing committees, when called upon to meet, or the three (3) elected officers until the committee chairs have been selected.
B. The EC is an administrative body and is not empowered to dismiss Legislation. Except for dismissal of officer motions by individual Senators, Legislation proposed for consideration by the Senate shall be brought first to the EC, which shall do only one of the following:
   1. Recommend consideration of Legislation by the Senate; or
   2. Refer Legislation to the appropriate committee.
C. The functions of the EC are to:

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1. Meet at least twice a month during the academic year at a regularly scheduled and published time;
2. Meet during periods when no G.A.M.s are scheduled, at which time the committee chairs shall act as fully empowered committees except for matters of budget allocations, grant allocations, Constitutional amendments, By-Law amendments, and the like;
3. Consider every piece of legislation brought before it;
4. Set the agenda for the consideration of Legislation on the Senate floor;
5. Ratify the Chair’s nominations for the membership of committees; and
6. Suggest representatives to the SGA President to serve on University Councils and Committees. This action does not replace the advice and consent role of the Senate once the SGA President nominates representatives to such Councils and Committees.

SECTION 9. Standing Committees

A. There shall be eight standing committees, listed as follows:

1. Academic Affairs - works on issues that affect the University and Graduate Students in terms of their academic missions and goals, such as exam preparation week, the language test for international graduate assistants, etc. The committee also selects the outstanding graduate assistants for the academic year.
2. Development and Philanthropy – Plans and executes events that promote personal development and inculcate values of community service and philanthropy among the members of the Graduate Student community.
3. External Affairs - confronts problems of wages, health insurance, facility access rights and the relationship of Graduate Students to their Departments and the University at large.
4. Human Diversity - regularly schedules a series of panel discussions, the “Diversity Discussion”, that allow students,
faculty, staff, and members of the community to come together and discuss issues of human diversity in an academic setting. The committee co-sponsors other activities with other cultural groups on campus as well as developing new ideas on how to address diversity issues.

5. Internal Affairs – helps manage the Senate’s relationship with other SGA branches, works on the Senate By-Laws, and oversees the Senate's internal policies and procedures.

6. Public Relations – oversees advertising for events related to the Senate, as well as general advertising for the Senate. Public Relations is tasked to get the word out and educate the student population about Senate activities.

7. Sustainability – focuses on identifying policies and practices University, state, nation and worldwide that promote the most efficient and responsible use of resources. Recommends and coordinates sustainability initiatives to University community that promote environmental sustainability on campus.

8. Ways and Means – manages the Conference Travel and Research Grant allocation process and serves an oversight role in the SGA budgetary process.

B. The Senate EC shall have the power to conduct the committee appointment process and to determine the composition of all standing committees.

C. The membership numbers for the committees shall be determined by the Chair and the EC with special consideration for the more time-intensive committees, mainly the Ways and Means Committee. Thus, Senators may be asked or required by the EC to transfer committees depending on need.

D. Standing committees shall be empowered to consider and amend all Legislation referred by the EC, and shall dispose of all Legislation in exactly one of the following ways:

1. By recommending immediate consideration of Legislation on the Senate floor;

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2. By amending and/or consolidating Legislation, then by recommending it for immediate consideration on the Senate floor; or
3. By failing legislation and reporting why it is unworthy of consideration. Any Senator may appeal a committee’s decision to the Senate as a whole. This appeal does not affect the status of the legislation, only whether the Senate will hear the appeal. If the appeal passes by majority vote, the Senate will hear the Legislation.

E. The Chair of the Ways and Means Committee shall be considered the financial officer of the Senate and shall oversee the disbursement of Senate funds. While the Ways and Means Committee manages the Conference Grants allocation process and advises the EC on the Conference Grants allocation process, the EC reserves the right to make changes to the Conference Grants allocation process. The Conference Grants shall be dispensed to approved Graduate Students at the end of each semester, upon approval by the Senate.

SECTION 10. Ad Hoc and Joint Committees
A. Ad hoc committees shall be formed to resolve issues which are not under the normal purview of standing committees or are of sufficient intricacy to require special attention.
B. Ad hoc committees may be formed to consider only one issue and shall be dissolved once the committee’s recommendation is made.
C. Joint committees consisting of members of both the Senate and the Congress shall be formed at the recommendation of the SGA President or in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

SECTION 11. Business and Rules of Order
A. The Senate shall meet regularly as designated by the EC.
B. The third (3rd) G.A.M. of the academic year shall be preceded by an orientation session. This session shall be mandatory for all new Senators.
C. The Senate may promulgate Standing Rules of Order.
D. The agenda for the Senate shall follow the pattern as found in the Standing

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E. Photocopies of legislation may be provided at the discretion of the Chair.
F. An overhead version of all legislation must be furnished or the legislation shall be out of order.

SECTION 12. Dismissal of Elected Officers or Committee Chairs

A. An elected officer or committee chair may be dismissed by the following procedures:

1. Committee Chair
   a. A majority vote of the effected committee is sufficient to remove the committee chair or
   b. EC may remove a committee chair with a three-fourths majority vote.
   c. The effected committee chair may appeal either the committee’s or EC’s decision to the Senate. The appeal must pass by a two-thirds majority of the Active Membership or the dismissal decision stands.

2. Elected Officer
   a. By a two-thirds vote, the EC may send a resolution to the Senate recommending dismissal. Until the Senate has voted on the matter, the officer shall be temporarily relieved of all duties and authority. The resolution shall be the first order of new business at the next G.A.M. A two-thirds majority of the Active Membership vote shall be required to remove the officer.
   b. Any Senator may motion to remove an officer. Once moved and seconded, the motion immediately goes to the Internal Affairs Committee for review. After review, the Internal Affairs Committee may forward the motion to the Senate for disposition or fail the motion in committee. The Chair shall read the recommendation or disposition of the motion as the first order of new business at the next G.A.M. If the motion fails, the author
may appeal to the Senate. The appeal does not validate a removal, it only determines whether the Senate shall hear the motion or not. The Senate shall hear the motion if a majority of the Senators grant the appeal. If the motion to remove comes before the Senate, the officer shall temporarily step down until the matter is resolved. A two-thirds majority vote shall be required to remove the officer. If the Chair is the subject of the removal motion, the Chair shall temporarily step-aside at the beginning of the G.A.M..

3. Appointed Officer
   a. All appointed officers may be removed by the Chair without appeal.

4. Except for an appointed officer, all resolutions or motions to remove an officer shall follow proper protocol and the Standing Rules of Order.

5. All officers or committee chairs, except for the Chair of the Senate, removed from office shall continue to represent their respective Departments unless expelled by the Senate. The Chair of the Senate, if removed, is expelled from the Senate.

SECTION 13. Amendments to the SGA Constitution and the Senate By-Laws

A. Any Senator may propose an amendment to the SGA Constitution.
   1. The proposed amendment to the SGA Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the EC at least one meeting in advance of the consideration of the amendment.
   2. Any amendment shall require a two-thirds majority of the Active Membership vote to pass.
   3. The amendment, once passed, shall be forwarded to the Congress for consideration.

B. By-Laws not in conflict with the SGA Constitution may be adopted by the Senate membership.

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1. The Senate By-Laws are to be attached to and considered an integral part of the SGA Constitution.

2. Any Senator may propose amendments to the By-Laws.
   a. Proposed amendments to the By-Laws shall be submitted in writing to the EC at least one meeting in advance of the consideration of the amendment.
   b. Moreover, any proposed amendment to the By-Laws must be written and typed in such a way that clearly indicates the proposed changes to the By-Laws. This includes the use of italic and strikethrough font to indicate additions and eliminations, respectively.
   c. Passage of a By-Law amendment shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Active Membership to pass.

3. Any Graduate Student may initiate a referendum procedure by providing a petition signed by two hundred Graduate Students.

SECTION 14. Policy Statement for the Administration of the GSS Foundation Account

A. This endowment is to be operated by the University of Oklahoma Foundation and shall assist the research and creative work of Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma.

B. The yearly interest on the principle of the endowment shall be distributed in the following manner:
   1. Seventy-five percent shall be used in fulfillment of Section 11, Subsection D; and
   2. Twenty-five percent shall be reinvested into the fund principal.

C. This distribution shall be dependent upon the yield of the fund and the current fiscal responsibilities of the Senate.

D. Applications made available through the Senate to all interested parties shall be reviewed by a Senate sub-committee appointed for that purpose. Guidelines for the use of these funds shall be established by a Senate sub-
committee, subject to the approval of the full Senate, in an effort to provide for the needs of as many Graduate Students as possible.

E. This endowment is intended to supplement the operation of the Senate Research and Creative Activity Grant Awards.

SECTION 15. Challenges to the By-Laws

A. If any word, phrase, paragraph, or section of the Senate By-Laws is found to be invalid or illegal by any body of competent jurisdiction, then the remaining words, phrases, paragraphs, and sections not found to be invalid shall remain in force.

SECTION 16. Standing Rules of Order

A. The Senate may adopt Standing Rules of Order to govern procedure by a two-thirds majority vote of the Active Membership.

B. The Senate may, from time to time, amend the Standing Rules of Order by a two-thirds majority vote of the Active Membership.