



Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Meeting Minutes | Fifth Session of the 45th General Assembly (2023-2024)

8 November 2023 at 7-8:30pm

Location: Jon M. Huntsman Hall (JMHH) G55

Minutes by Deputy Director for Records Grace Chang

Following minutes of 45.5 to be approved the 29th of November, 2023

7:07 pm

1 Opening (5)

Holtzer

- Meeting called to order and opening remarks by Speaker Dan Holtzer.
- Agenda approved.
- Motion to approve minutes from 45.4 (10/25). Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried.¹
- Quorum confirmed by Director of Logistics Aradhana Kasimsetty.

7:09 pm

2 Unfinished Business & General Orders (25)

Michael

Focus Issue Discussion on Public Safety (25)

Tandon

- Saloni created a QR code that can take you to an interactive google map, to indicate where in Philly you live. Please share the [link](#) with constituents so we can get a more accurate representation of the Penn graduate student body!

The purpose of this discussion is to get the numbers and insights we need in order for our conversations with admin to have weight.

We'll spend 15 minutes or so discussing in small groups on perspectives on public safety.

7:31 pm

- Dan brought the meeting back to order, ready to start the conversation.
- Penn Transit Services vs SEPTA:

Assembly Member: Penn transit is not very user friendly, and we don't know when the Penn bus is stopping, or if it is going to come. We often get to the Penn Bookstore and Franklin's Table bus stop and wait since it shows a bus nearby and on the way, but its

¹Please provide all suggested edits to the minutes to Director of Logistics Aradhana Kasimsetty by the Friday before next GA.

parked and not in service. If there is a way to show if the buses are in service or not that could be very useful information. ²

Assembly Member: Medical complex has the Lucy Loop, something more like Lucy throughout larger areas is an idea. Service areas around Grad Hospital and Center City would be very helpful since a lot of grad students live there as well.

Assembly Member: Does Penn transit offer something SEPTA doesn't? Should we just offer subsidized SEPTA cards?

Penn transit definitely has some stops SEPTA does not, and the door to door shuttle makes it safer/more accessible. Walking escorts are a unique feature of Penn Transit as well!

Assembly Member: Extending service area of the walking escorts or shuttles would be helpful. Updating the map of where students live to redistribute resources is also a relevant suggestion.

Assembly Member: other advantages of Penn Transit³ is that Lucy is already very frequent in the morning, but is more geared towards working people. Another point is that Penn added a Penn North bus recently but it wasn't advertised. Word of mouth is the extent of knowledge sharing.

Assembly Member: Instructions for how to use the Penn Transit App would be great as well.

7:42 pm

- Motion to to extend by five minutes. Seconded. All in favor. In the eyes of the chair, the motion is carried.

Assembly Member: Sometimes the shuttles get indefinitely delayed.

Assembly Member: In theory, a 7 min frequency is an ideal interval for buses to come in order to not inconvenience or disrupt movement in a city.

- Potential bias in these deliberations

Assembly Member: Note the bias in this population since the GA has people only available 7pm on a Wednesday night. We're not truly a representative body in that regard, as those who live far away are less likely to be here.

Great point, share the map with others so they can be represented, at least on the map.

- Anecdotes on safety

Assembly Member: Something to take back: I've been attacked more in Philadelphia than I have ever been in my life anywhere else.

Did a fist to five for people to express how safe they felt in Philadelphia, a fist being the most unsafe and five fingers being very safe. A lot of 2-3's.

What blocks do you feel the most unsafe on? Please share with Saloni.

General notes: People avoid the MFL. People fight, it stinks, sexual assault. Most importantly and actionable, UPENN alerts need to keep on top of public transit related incidents as they have historically failed to do so.

- Resources

²Penn Bus West and East also show empty ridership levels even when they are full, and cannot take more passengers.

³Penn Transit does not cover LUCY, LUCY is a SEPTA service. Penn donates though, so it is free for Penn employees and students.

Citizen is an app that is frequently updated on reports of crime in the area. Sometimes unfounded reports.

Transit is a great app showing real time where buses are when using SEPTA, and includes LUCY (more reliable and user friendly than the SEPTA app).

The Penn guardian app is a resource to use as well!

7:47 pm

- We will share an anonymous form for more personal anecdotes.

Assembly Member: Any updates on free transit for students?

It is are on the way, SEPTA key advantage program that may heavily subsidized is in the works.

7:50 pm

3 New Business (47)

Upcoming programs and volunteer opportunities (2)

Singhal

- Continuing work out series!
- Share [events](#) with constituents!

Second read of proposed amendment to RC Budget (25)

Glass, Zhao

- Second reading of [Bill 6](#): Research Council Budget Amendment

Full text of the amendment should be in front of you. There is one single resolved clause to merge two line items. Proposal of merging to create Research Individual and Group Grant Fund. No procedural changes, it will just allow flexibility based on demand.

- Q and A:

AEF is a joint between professional and research council. Has this been cleared by professional council?

It's not joint, it's only under the purview of RC. Where it gets confusing is that it's open to not only research student groups, but also professional, for the sake of enriching the entire graduate professional student experience. The fund and applications are not under the purview of the professional council.

What safe guards are there to keep individual grants from consuming the whole fund? ⁴

We have made a verbal agreement that AEF grants will take priority over individual grants. The normal amount of individual grant money will go into individual grants to start, but we will wait to award more money to individual grants until we know that the AEF is underutilized.

Why don't you take money from somewhere else, like the reserves?

We have many more individual grants than we can fund, always. Sometimes, the AEF is underutilized, sometimes not. This is the most self-contained way to add more funds in the case AEF is underutilized, rather than taking from another department to protect the interests of those departments.

It's my understanding that AEF is always utilized?

⁴Same concerns of lack of guard rails were raised at the last GA during the first reading.

No, in the years since COVID it has been underutilized. Is this due to advertising? Or other things? We're not sure.

Assembly Member: Despite the verbal agreements made, there's no guard rails in the Resolution at all.

Offer by Ben Glass to add these guard rails textually.

8:04 pm

Assembly Member: Regardless of these guard rails, we don't think eradicating the AEF will be constitutionally sound without an amendment to the constitution. To a second point, mid year release will show the utilization levels of different funds and we can maybe revisit then.

Assembly Member: I'd like point out the potential conflict of interest. If administration can divert funds, there is incentive to reject all AEF proposals. That incentive would need to be textually removed.

We would like to re-iterate that the goal isn't to take money away from anyone. Its to make sure it can be made readily accessible to all who need it.

For the record last year: All AEF applications were funded.

Assembly Member: I'd like to point out its not that we don't trust you. The point is this is a matter of fairness and ensuring everyone's interests are equally considered. Therefore, I think we should not go with this as it is written today. I think there can be more cooperative methods between professional council and research council of pursuing increasing individual grant funds.⁵

- Motion to end debate and move into voting. All those in favor. All opposed. Does not make the 3/4 vote to move to a vote on Bill 6. No motion to recount. There will be no vote, and the Bill fails.

8:10 pm

First read of proposed constitutional amendments (20)

Drafting Committee

- First reading of [Bill 7](#): Budget Timeline and Cleanup
 - Contents are mostly clerical corrections and aligning budget process to comply with provisional budget deadline of January 31st, and new final budget deadline of March 31st.
 - First reading of the provisional budget by December 1st so there is time for two readings.
 - March 31st deadline of final budget, so March 1st GA introduction deadline.
 - Ratification of previous budget process is retained by second meeting of the year.
 - Move up the election for executive board elections to allow flexibility.
 - Expect a red-lined version of the constitution soon.
- First reading of [Bill 8](#): Process and Rules
 - Contains substantive changes to some of the rules. Could be more controversial.
- Discussion on removing the ability for the GA to suspend the requirement for two readings.
 - Assembly Member: This is not something I support.
 - The rule is often abused, and exec board can act if its actually necessary.

⁵Due to lack of time and this not being phrased as a question, there was no opportunity by Glass or Zhao to respond to this statement.

Exec procedure: the board has authority to act when the GA is not meeting. When the exec does act on behalf of the GA, it must be presented to the GA and GA can vote it up or down.

Assembly Member: for context last year, common practice was trial by "ambush" meaning a lot of information was given with not enough time to fully process and understand the bill.

Why is the current requirement of 3/4 not enough?

Note: think about this, but lets let this sink in for next meeting. Continue conversations offline.

What have we seen that has truly required the suspension? Deeply consider why we need it, how has it benefited us, how has it harmed us.

To the last point: these two reading protections have been put in to protect GA from Exec steam rolling.

- Discussion on ticketing refunds and transfers.

Revenue rules: tickets are non refundable and non transferable. What is the reason for that? Students have classes or exams is there no room for flexibility?

It wasn't feasible for us to do. Enables people trying to resell tickets at a markup.

Making this a formal standing rule prevents from unfair enforcement of the already existing unofficial rule.

- First reading of [Bill 9](#): Drafting Bylaws
- Creating bylaws for this committees procedures.

8:27 pm

4 Open Forum (10)

Holtzer

Announcements and Questions from GA Members

Holtzer

- Assembly Member Ben Glass expressed feelings of hurt at the behavior of the GA during the debate on Bill 6. He felt ridiculed and there was a level of aggression that caught him very off guard, given the lack to opposition or interest shown during the bills drafting at research council meetings. He ended by urging the GA reflect on how we can create a culture of respect in our shared mission to improve the lives of graduate students.⁶
- University Council Open Forum: get there early to find a seat. Wednesday, November 29, 2023. 4:00 p.m. Hall of Flags, Houston Hall (PennCard required for entry).
- Trustee Meetings: See slides.

8:33 pm

5 Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned.

⁶Comment on decorum: While scrutiny of all bills is necessary to the mission of the GA, remain mindful of the fact that GA members on the floor are often one person debating 70 or more.

6 Attendance

IDEAL Council	Professional Council
<p>Christopher Johnny IDEAL BGAPSA Briana Edwards IDEAL BWGA Zihao Wang IDEAL CSSAP Samuelle Delcy IDEAL EE Just Absent Carlos Jarquin IDEAL LAGAPSA Absent Maxwell Piscotta IDEAL Lambda Virtual Catherine Zhang IDEAL PAGSA Sreen Assi IDEAL PGWISE Krishleen Kaur IDEAL Rangoli Absent</p>	<p>Lavnik Balyan Engineering (GSEG) Oliver Ma Engineering (GSEG) Sravana Nuti Engineering (GSEG) Joey Vitale Engineering (GSEG) Sophia Li Engineering (GSEG) Yilong Huang Engineering (GSEG) Virtual Harsh Yellai Engineering (GSEG) Akash Jain Engineering (GSEG) Megan Perelman Engineering (GSEG) Virtual Yiming Wang Engineering (GSEG) Virtual Aditya Chennapragada Engineering (GSEG) Hugh Strike Law (CSR) Virtual Olivia Heffernan Law (CSR) Laila Salame Law (CSR) Sooyong Kwon Law (CSR) Hayden Innes Medicine (BGSA) Virtual Muskan Lather Medicine (BGSA) Virtual Christian Bogardus Medicine (MSG) Absent Maya Alexis Medicine (MSG) Mo Soumaoro SP2 (SP2SG) Elyse Cinquino SP2 (SP2SG) Proxy by Joelle Virtual Isabelle Schlehr Veterinary (SAVMA) Sabrina Garcia Veterinary (SAVMA)</p>
Professional Council	Professional Council
<p>Daniel Ceva Arts and Sciencess (LPSGov) Anqi Pan Arts and Sciencess (LPSGov) Virtual Xinyu (Kathy) Li Arts and Sciencess (LPSGov) Virtual Rebekah Davis Business (WGA) Virtual Ashish Erasani Business (WGA) Absent Alison Lee Business (WGA) Virtual Divya Ahtani Business (WGA) Virtual Isaiah Matthews Business (WGA) Absent Rhea Datta Business (WGA) Virtual Loyd Bradley Business (WGA) Absent Cristian Navarro Business (WGA) Absent Shivani Daftary Dental (PDM) Lauren Verheyden Dental (PDM) Katherine Bencosme Dental (PDM) Tre Ambroise Design (WSC) Meagan Kearney Design (WSC) Absent Lauren Pawlowski Design (WSC) Duc Nhu Education (GSESG) Taylor Sullivan Education (GSESG) Proxy by Vani Virtual Ananya Mekapati Education (GSESG) Vani Kumari Education (GSESG) Virtual Xinzhu Shi/Madelynn Education (GSESG) Mengying Bian/Victoria Education (GSESG) Absent Varun Viswanathan Engineering (GSEG)</p>	<p style="background-color: #d9e1f2; text-align: center;">Research Council</p> <p>Ben Glass Arts and Sciencess (SASGov) Jenny Reiss Arts and Sciencess (SASGov) Virtual Jaydee Edwards Arts and Sciencess (SASGov) Ameen Sidhick Arts and Sciencess (SASGov) Alexandra Faeth Arts and Sciencess (SASGov) Adithya Raajkumar Business (WDC) Devo Probol Communication (AGCS) Catherine Zhang Education (GSESG) Simeon Ristic Engineering (GSEG) Stephen Lee Engineering (GSEG) Makyla Boyd Engineering (GSEG) Stephanie Schreiner Medicine (BGSA) Emily Getzen Medicine (BGSA) Jayme Nordin Medicine (BGSA) Adam Ziada Medicine (BGSA) Amanda Watson Nursing (DSO)</p>

Appendix

To: The General Assembly of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
Author(s):
Sponsor: GAPSA Research Council
RE: Research Council Budget Amendment

ABSTRACT:

GAPSA budget amendment to merge line items 6.5 (Research Individual Funds) and 6.6 (Research Group Funds) into a single line 6.5 (Research Individual and Group Grant Fund) to improve allocation and adjust for variation in application volume.

WHEREAS, Research Student Travel Grants, funded entirely by line 6.5 (Research Individual Funds), are among the most applied for and highly competitive grants, with less than one-third of the applications receiving funding on average, and are experiencing a significant increase in demand; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Event Fund, funded entirely by line 6.6 (Research Group Funds), experiences significant variations in spending depending on application volumes and funding cycles set by GAPSA Finance; and

WHEREAS, A merged budget line item for Research Council grants would create more opportunities to enable research students to attend conferences and workshops, promoting equity and diversity by providing flexibility in cases of variation in application volume; and

WHEREAS, The budget amendment process has become more complex and time-consuming due to additional approvals required from the Office of the Provost; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the GAPSA budget is amended by merging line items 6.5 (Research Individual Funds) and 6.6 (Research Group Funds)—re-designating line 6.7 (Research Council Development) as line 6.6 (Research Council Development)—into a single line item 6.5 (Research Individual and Group Grant Fund) with the allocation equal to the sum of the two current allocations of lines 6.5 and 6.6;

[END]

Budget Timeline and Cleanup

A Report OF THE Drafting Committee (GA/C.D)

OF THE

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

OF THE

University of Pennsylvania

GA/45/BILL/7/R.0

GA/C.D/45/M/1/R.1

A/Const/45/Amend.1/Pro.1

EB/BYL/45/Amend.1/Pro.1

A/SR/45/Amend.1/Pro.1

November 7, 2023

Abstract

The Drafting Committee was constituted by the GAPSA General Assembly on March 15, 2023. This report was prepared over the summer and fall, incorporating the previous report of the Drafting Committee, GA/C.D/44/M/3, recommended amendments to the GAPSA Constitution discovered upon the committee’s work compiling the most recently adopted set of amendments, and memorialization of changes to the budget process. This Bill is the first part of three of the committee’s report.

These constitutional amendments align the budget timeline; modify the schedule for elections; clarify notice requirements, apportionment, the Executive Board Bylaws amendment procedure, the Deputy Director for Revenue role description, conflict of interest rules, the appointment of the Drafting Committee chair; streamline rules of procedure; and fix errata.

Contents

1 Budget Timeline	2
2 Election Timeline	3
3 Minor Changes	3
3.1 Simplification	3
3.2 Clarification of Original Intent	4
3.3 Correcting Edge Case Behavior	5
4 Cleanup of Notice Requirements	5
5 General Cleanup	6
6 Enactment	10

RESOLVED, *by the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly of the University of Pennsylvania,*

Section 1. That the amendments in this instrument are applied sequentially and take effect simultaneously, even if this instrument is divided and voted on in separate questions at the same meeting; all punctuation included quotes is literal and interpreted as the content of the quote, not as part of the enacting sentence;

1 Budget Timeline

Section 2. That Articles VIII(A)(1) and VIII(A)(2) are substituted by the following:

“(1) Budget Process

“(a) Vice President for Finance shall, with the advice of the Committee on the Budget, on or before December 1, present a proposed budget Bill for the next academic year. Upon approval by majority vote of the General Assembly, this becomes the preliminary budget.

“(b) Vice President for Finance shall, on or before March 1, present a second proposed budget Bill, based on the preliminary budget. Upon approval by majority vote of the General Assembly, this becomes the provisional budget.

“(c) Prior to the second regular General Assembly meeting of the fall term, the Vice President for Finance shall re-present the identical provisional budget (save for secretarial corrections authorized by the form of the budget). Upon ratification by majority vote of the General Assembly, this becomes the final budget. The provisional budget cannot be amended before its ratification, though the General Assembly may reject it and instruct the Vice President for Finance to prepare and present a new budget to be ratified by the General Assembly.

“(2) The full text of any budget Bill must be distributed with ten (10) days’ notice before the final vote and any allowed amendments thereto require a three-fourths vote with ten (10) days’ notice of their full text. No GAPSAs funds may be spent after the second regular meeting without General Assembly ratification of the budget.

” *provided, the amendments in this section take effect for the 2024–25 academic year, and are followed as closely as possible for the 2023–24 academic year.*

Section 3. That Article VI(A)(1)(c)(1)(a) is amended—

- (a) by striking out “and spring terms” and inserting “term”;
- (b) by striking out “provisional”;
- (c) by striking out “in the spring”;

2 Election Timeline

Section 4. That Article IV(A)(1)(a) is amended by striking out “at the antepenultimate regular meeting of the spring term” inserting “in the spring term, no later than the antepenultimate regular meeting”;

3 Minor Changes

3.1 Simplification

Section 5. That Article II(A)(3) is amended by striking out “The results of any review of the apportionment of seats in General Assembly shall take effect on May 1 of the year in which the review was conducted.” and inserting “The reapportionment shall take effect on May 15.”;

Section 6. That Article II(A)(3) is amended by striking out “For purposes of apportionment only, students shall be divided into three categories: professional students, research students, and students who are IDEAL constituents.”;

Section 7. That Articles II(E)(4) and II(E)(6) are stricken out and the remaining paragraphs in Article II(E) are redesignated appropriately;

Section 8. That Article III(C) is substituted (renaming it “Executive Board Bylaws”) entirely by the following:

- “(1) The Executive Board is authorized to have Bylaws which govern its day-to-day functioning and such other functions as authorized by this Constitution.
- “(2) The Executive Board Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board and a majority vote of the General Assembly with ten (10) days notice of the full text, both on the same language.

”

Section 9. That Article V(J)(3)(b) is amended by striking out “in the manner required for notice per Article XII(B)(2) within 48 hours or before the relevant deadline, whichever is later, (or another period as they may previously determine and announce)” and inserting “within 48 hours”;

3.2 Clarification of Original Intent

Section 10. That Article II(G)(6) is amended by adding “The Speaker is not an executive officer or Executive Board member and may not represent GAPSA in their official capacity in meetings with administrators or partners.” at the end of the paragraph;

Section 11. That Article III(E)(1) is amended by striking out “two-thirds” and inserting “three-fourths”;

Section 12. That Article V(C)(8) is amended by striking out “maintain and manage” and inserting “assist with the maintenance and management of”;

Section 13. That Article V(C)(8) is amended by inserting “, all” before “as directed by the Vice President for Finance”;

Section 14. That Executive Board Bylaws Article 7.1.1.2 is amended by inserting “and Council Chairs” after “Vice Presidents” (to insert the complete definition of Level 2 officers per Article 2.2.2);

3.3 Correcting Edge Case Behavior

Section 15. That Article III(B)(8) is amended by inserting “(not *ex officio* of their GAPSA office)” after “Any officer of GAPSA with a leadership position” and before “in any GAPSA-funded group”;

Section 16. That Article VI(A)(5)(b) is amended by striking out “by the Parliamentarian” and inserting “by a member thereof the committee shall appoint”;

4 Cleanup of Notice Requirements

Section 17. That the Constitution is amended by striking out all instances (5 in the Constitution before any amendments in this Bill) of “previous notice” and inserting “notice”;

Section 18. That Article III(C)(1) is amended by striking out “simple majority vote of the General Assembly” and inserting “majority vote of the General Assembly with ten (10) days’ notice of the full text”;

Section 19. That Article VI(B)(1) is amended by striking out “simple majority vote of the General Assembly” and inserting “majority vote of the General Assembly with ten (10) days’ notice of the full text”;

Section 20. That Article VIII(A)(3) is amended by striking out “Bills that alter” in the phrase “The full text of Bills that alter any spending authority, authorizations, or provisions” and inserting “motions that alter or suggest altering”;

Section 21. That Article XII(B)(2)(a) is amended by inserting “, distribution,” after “If a measure requires previous notice” and before “or announcement to the General Assembly”;

Section 22. That Article XII(B)(2)(a) is amended by striking out “sent” and inserting “distributed/sent”;

Section 23. That Article XII(B)(2)(a) is amended by inserting “(to each officer’s official GAPSA electronic address and each other member’s electronic address in the Penn Directory)” after “electronic mail”;

Section 24. That Article XII(B)(2)(a) is amended by inserting “if notice of the full text is not required,” after “(2)” and before “announced at a meeting of the General Assembly and entered on the minutes”;

Section 25. That Article XII(B)(2)(a) is amended by striking out “, or (3) delivered by a method the General Assembly has approved by three-fourths vote” and by inserting “or” before “(2)”;

Section 26. That Article XII(B)(2)(a) is amended by inserting “The default minimum notice is thirty-six (36) hours unless otherwise specified.” at the end of the subparagraph;

5 General Cleanup

Section 27. That the Constitution is amended by striking out every instance of “ex-officio” (or “*ex-officio*”) and inserting “*ex officio*”;

Section 28. That the Constitution is amended by striking out ten (10) instances of “days notice” and inserting “days’ notice”;

Section 29. That the Constitution is amended by striking out two (2) instances of “days written notice” and inserting “days’ written notice”;

Section 30. That Articles II(C)(2) and II(C)(5) are amended by striking one instance of “Chair of Operations” in each and inserting “Vice President for Operations” in each;

Section 31. That Article II(C)(6) is amended by striking out “, i.e. malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance,” and inserting “ (i.e., malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance)”;

Section 32. That Article II(C)(6) is amended by inserting “be involuntarily” after “The membership and good standing of voting members of the General Assembly can only” and before “removed by the dismissal proceedings described in Article II, section C.”;

Section 33. That Article II(D)(3) is amended by moving each of the five (5) sentences of the paragraph (3) to a new subparagraph (designated (3)(a), (3)(b), (3)(c), (3)(d), and (3)(e)) and naming the paragraph “Procedure”;

Section 34. That Article II(D)(3)(e) is amended by inserting “the sole function of which is to deprive members of their right to speak in debate” after “most exceptional procedure”;

Section 35. That Article II(D)(9)(a) is amended by striking out “draft”;

Section 36. That Article II(D)(9)(a) is amended by striking out “Budget” and inserting “budget”;

Section 37. That Article II(D)(9)(b) is amended by striking out “ (but may also be rejected outright by a motion to postpone indefinitely).” and inserting “. A Bill may also be rejected outright by a motion to *Reject at First Reading*, subject to the same procedural rules as *postpone indefinitely*.”;

Section 38. That Article II(G)(3) is amended by striking out “Executive Officers” and inserting “executive officers”;

Section 39. That Article II(G)(5) is amended by striking out “if the Speaker is vacant or unwilling” and inserting “if the Speaker is unable or the office of Speaker is vacant”;

Section 40. That Article III(A)(1) is amended by striking out “according” and inserting “corresponding”;

Section 41. That Article III(B)(1) is amended by striking “successors are elected” and inserting “successors are elected or appointed, respectively”;

Section 42. That Article III(B) is amended by adding paragraph (9) “Voting members of the Executive Board may not be General Assembly Representatives.”;

Section 43. That Article IV is renamed “Elections and Appointments”;

Section 44. That Article IV(A)(2) is amended by striking out “(6) Vice President for Advocacy, and (7) Speaker” and inserting “, and (6) Vice President for Advocacy”;

Section 45. That Article V is renamed “Executive Officers”;

Section 46. That Article V(C)(4) is amended by striking out “Budget” and inserting “budget”;

Section 47. That Article V(I)(2) is amended by striking out “Planning” and inserting “Reporting”;

Section 48. That Article V(J)(3)(e) is amended by striking out the first instance of “Committee” and inserting “Division”;

Section 49. That Article VI is amended by moving the second, third, fourth, and fifth (last) sentences of the header paragraph of section (A) to a new section (A)(1) (redesignating sections (A)(1), (A)(2), (A)(3), (A)(4), and (A)(5) as (A)(2), (A)(3), (A)(4), (A)(5), and (A)(6), respectively);

Section 50. That Article VI(A)(1)(c)(1)(a) is amended by striking out “three and five year” and inserting “three- and five-year”;

Section 51. That Article VI(A)(2)(c)(3)(c) is amended by striking out “Public Relations” and inserting “Alumni Relations”;

Section 52. That Article VI(C) is amended by moving the text of the section to a new paragraph (1) thereof and naming the section “Committee Participation”;

Section 53. That Article VI(D)(4) is amended by inserting “at least” before “every two (2) weeks”;

Section 54. That Article VII is renamed “The Student Councils”;

Section 55. That Article VII(A)(7) is amended by inserting “of the Finance Division” after “Committee on the Budget”;

Section 56. That Article VII(B)(7) is amended by inserting “of the Finance Division” after “Committee on the Budget”;

Section 57. That Article VII(C)(7) is amended by inserting “of the Finance Division” after “Committee on the Budget”;

Section 58. That Article VIII(C)(2) is amended by inserting “of the Finance Division” after “Committee on Grant and Fund Management”;

Section 59. That Article IX is renamed “University Committee Representatives”;

Section 60. That Article IX(B)(3) is amended by striking out “Vice President” and inserting “Executive Vice President”;

Section 61. That Article XII(B)(1)(a) is amended by striking out “Budget” and inserting “budget”;

Section 62. That Article XII(B)(3) is amended by striking out “Budget” and inserting “budget”;

Section 63. That Article XII(B)(4)(b) is amended by striking out “the appointing organization they represent, the Council of which they are a member” and inserting “the constituency, council”;

Section 64. That Article XII(B)(4)(b) is amended by striking out “, (5) non-voting General Assembly members, and (6) ” and inserting “, (5) vacant seats of the General Assembly, noting the constituency and council, (6) non-voting General Assembly members, (7) non-voting General Assembly members who are absent, and (8)”;

Section 65. That Article XII(C)(2) is amended by striking out “in subdivision (0) thereof” and inserting “—including reference to the source of the authority—in subdivision zero (0) thereof”;

Section 66. That Article XII(C)(2) is amended by striking out “subsidiary organ” and inserting “subsidiary organ/unit (Board, Division, Committee, Council, or officer)”;

Section 67. That Article XIII(A) is amended by—

1. moving all the subparagraphs of paragraph (1) and moving them (keeping the same designations) under a new paragraph (2) with the title “List of Amendments”;
2. moving the first sentence of paragraph (1) to a new subparagraph (1)(a), the second and third sentences to a new subparagraph (1)(b), and the fourth (last) sentence to a new subparagraph (1)(c); and
3. naming paragraph (1) “Amendment Process”;

Section 68. That Appendix A (currently a stub) of the GAPSA Constitution is stricken out;

Section 69. That Executive Board Bylaws Article 5.1.2 is amended by striking out “Standing Committee” and inserting “Steering Committee”;

Section 70. That GAPSA Standing Rule 1 is updated to match Article XII(C) in accordance with Article XII(C)(4);

Section 71. That GAPSA Standing Rule 10 is amended by striking out every instance of “PC/”, “RC/”, and “IC/” in subdivisions 3.8, 3.9, and 3.10 (and all subdivisions thereof) and inserting “GA/PC/”, “GA/RC/”, and “GA/IC/”, respectively;

Section 72. That GAPSA Standing Rule 10.5.17 is amended by adding “Documents protected by the secrecy of a closed session use the date component subgroup exclusively without incrementing the main *<number>* element value to obscure the existence of the protected document.” at the end of the paragraph;

Section 73. That GAPSA Standing Rule 17(0) is amended by inserting “pursuant to Executive Board Bylaws Article 7.1.1.5” after “This Rule is created on the authority of the General Assembly”;

Section 74. That GAPSA Standing Rule 101(0) is amended by inserting “pursuant to Constitution Article VIII(A)(8)(b)” after “This Rule is created on the authority of the General Assembly”;

Section 75. That GAPSA Standing Rule 102(0) is amended by inserting “by GAPSA Standing Rule 101” after “authority vested in the same”;

Section 76. That GAPSA Standing Rule 301(0) is amended by inserting “pursuant to Constitution Article VIII(A)(8)(b)” after “This Rule is created on the authority of the General Assembly”;

Section 77. That GAPSA Standing Rule 401(0) is amended by inserting “pursuant to Constitution Article VIII(A)(8)(b)” after “This Rule is created on the authority of the General Assembly”;

6 Enactment

Section 78. That the official abstract of the constitutional amendments in this proposal is: “These amendments align the budget timeline; modify the schedule for elections; clarify notice requirements, apportionment, the Executive Board Bylaws amendment procedure, the Deputy Director for Revenue role description, conflict of interest rules, the appointment of the Drafting Committee chair; streamline rules of procedure; and fix errata.”

Process and Rules

A Report OF THE Drafting Committee (GA/C.D)
OF THE
Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
OF THE
University of Pennsylvania

GA/45/BILL/8/R.0
GA/C.D/45/M/2/R.0
A/Const/45/Amend.1/Pro.1
EB/BYL/45/Amend.1/Pro.1
A/SR/45/Amend.1/Pro.1

November 7, 2023

Abstract

The Drafting Committee was constituted by the GAPSA General Assembly on March 15, 2023. This report was prepared over the summer and fall, incorporating the previous report of the Drafting Committee, GA/C.D/44/M/3, recommended amendments to the GAPSA Constitution discovered upon the committee’s work compiling the most recently adopted set of amendments, and memorialization of changes to the budget process. This Bill is the second part of three of the committee’s report.

These constitutional amendments refine budget reallocation rules, clarify the scope of the sunshine policy, require two Readings for all Bills without exception, modify the schedule for elections, prohibit members of the Executive Board from being Speaker, regulate the appointment of Deputy Directors, and refine Bylaws authorization and amendment.

This Bill also proposes changes which refine budget authorization rules and implement ticketing rules.

Contents

1 Budget Rules	2
2 Revenue Rules	3
3 Sunshine Policy	3
4 Readings	3
5 Election and Appointment Process	3
6 Bylaws	4
7 Enactment	4

RESOLVED, *by the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly of the University of Pennsylvania,*

Section 1. That the amendments in this instrument are applied sequentially and take effect simultaneously, even if this instrument is divided and voted on in separate questions at the same meeting; all punctuation included quotes is literal and interpreted as the content of the quote, not as part of the enacting sentence;

1 Budget Rules

Section 2. That Article VIII(A)(8)(c) is amended by adding “The Finance Division Bylaws may specify a mechanism for the reallocation of unspent or underspent line items (including constitutionally protected ones).” to the end of the paragraph;

Section 3. That GAPSA Standing Rule 101 is amended by adding an additional subdivision (2) with the text “GAPSA Finance shall be the authorizing agent for every line item whose purpose contains a “fund” or “funds”.”;

Section 4. That GAPSA Standing Rule 101 is amended by adding an additional subdivision (3) with the text “Except as specified under this rule, if a line item does not explicitly specify an authorizing agent, GAPSA Finance shall act as the authorizing agent.”;

2 Revenue Rules

Section 5. That GAPSA Standing Rule 401 is amended by adding the following two new subdivisions:

“(2) Every attendee must be uniquely identified on every ticket.

“(3) Tickets are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

”

3 Sunshine Policy

Section 6. That Article VIII(B)(2) is amended by striking out “GAPSA activities and direct or indirect support by GAPSA” and inserting “GAPSA activities (e.g., spending, funding, grants, events, and programs) and GAPSA-funded activities (whether directly or indirectly)”;

Section 7. That Article VIII(B)(7) is amended by inserting “(e.g., spending, funding, grants, events, and programs)” after “GAPSA activities”;

4 Readings

Section 8. That Article II(D)(9)(e) is substituted by “The requirement for two Readings cannot be suspended.”;

Section 9. That Article II(D)(9) is amended by striking out subparagraph (d) in its entirety and by redesignating subparagraph (e) as subparagraph (d);

5 Election and Appointment Process

Section 10. That Article II(B)(1)(a) is stricken out in its entirety;

Section 11. That Article II(G)(3) is amended by striking out “after the annual election of Executive Officers” and inserting “at the penultimate regular meeting of the spring term”;

Section 12. That Article II(G)(3) is amended by striking out “Elected members and members-elect (except outgoing members) of the Executive Board may not run for Speaker if there are other qualified candidates” and inserting “No member of the Executive Board may simultaneously hold the office of Speaker”;

Section 13. That Article II(G)(4) is amended by striking out “at noon on May 15” and inserting “with the final adjournment of the General Assembly in the spring term”;

Section 14. That Article IV(A)(1)(a) is amended by striking out “at the antepenultimate regular meeting of the spring term” and inserting “on or before March 1”;

Section 15. That Article III(B)(6) is amended by inserting “The General Assembly may define the roles of, regulate, and limit the appointment of Deputy Directors by Standing Rule.” at the end of the paragraph;

Section 16. That Article VI(D)(1) is amended by inserting “The committee may appoint a chair *pro tempore*.” at the end of the paragraph;

Section 17. That Executive Board Bylaws Article 8.4.5 is amended by striking out “, one member making counterpoints to previous members’ speeches, and” and inserting “followed by”;

6 Bylaws

Section 18. That Article XII(A)(1) is amended by striking out “that conform” inserting “explicitly authorized by and conforming”;

Section 19. That Article XV(B)(2) is substituted by “GAP is authorized to have Bylaws which may only be enacted or amended by three-fourths vote of participating governments and majority vote of the General Assembly with ten (10) days’ notice of the full text, both on the same language.”;

7 Enactment

Section 20. That the official abstract of the constitutional amendments in this proposal is: “These amendments refine budget reallocation rules, clarify the scope of the sunshine policy, require two Readings for all Bills without exception, modify the schedule for elections, prohibit members of the Executive Board from being Speaker, regulate the appointment of Deputy Directors, and refine Bylaws authorization and amendment.”

Drafting Bylaws

A Report OF THE Drafting Committee (GA/C.D)

OF THE

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

OF THE

University of Pennsylvania

GA/45/BILL/9/R.0

GA/C.D/45/M/3/R.0

GA/C.D/BYL/45/R.0/Pro.1

November 7, 2023

Abstract

The Drafting Committee was constituted by the GAPSAs General Assembly on March 15, 2023. This report was prepared over the summer and fall, incorporating the previous report of the Drafting Committee, GA/C.D/44/M/3, recommended amendments to the GAPSAs Constitution discovered upon the committee’s work compiling the most recently adopted set of amendments, and memorialization of changes to the budget process. This Bill is the third part of three of the committee’s report.

This Bill implements the first set of Bylaws for the Drafting Committee.

RESOLVED, *by the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly of the University of Pennsylvania, by majority of the General Assembly and consensus of the Drafting Committee,*

Section 1. That the following Drafting Committee Bylaws are enacted:

- “(1) Advice on Legislative Process. The committee should advise members of GAPSAs—
 - “(1.1) on the notice deadlines for bringing measures to the General Assembly;
 - “(1.2) how to write up an idea into a resolution, taking care to emphasize—
 - “(1.2.1) concision and clarity;
 - “(1.2.2) the distinction between preambulatory (e.g., “whereas”) and operative clauses;
 - “(1.2.3) the inclusion of references to the authority on which an action is taken;
 - “(1.2.4) that budget reallocations be fully specified;
 - “(1.2.5) that motions and amendments to motions be written out in full properly;
 - “(1.2.6) that documents be specifically identified with version numbers from the Standardized Symbol System, in accordance with Article XII(B)(1)(d); and
 - “(1.2.7) that Constitutional Amendments include official abstracts for insertion into Article XIII;
 - “(1.3) on the primarily used motions and processes in meetings by preparing a summary card and/or sheet.
- “(2) Committee Opinions. The Drafting Committee shall be automatically referred all matters regarding controversies about the application of the rules of GAPSAs outside of General Assembly meetings, for the issuance of an opinion specifically describing the rules applied to the case, before their consideration by the General Assembly.
- “(3) Committee Operations. The Drafting Committee is authorized to meet by videoconferencing technology that is accessible to all members of the committee. The Committee should ordinarily meet regularly in the week prior to General Assembly meetings, to review upcoming Bills.

”