

**CONSTITUTION OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

Preamble

We, the students of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development do hereby establish this constitution.

Article I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development Student Association, herein referred to as the GSEHD SA.

Article II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the GSEHD SA is to represent the students of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development, to elucidate, express, and further their interests and concerns regarding School and University matters.

Article III: OBJECTIVES

1. The GSEHD SA shall act as an umbrella organization for the Schools' student organizations to facilitate accomplishing their goals and objectives.
2. The GSEHD SA shall act as a liaison between the Student Body and the Deans' Offices to address any concerns that may arise regarding administrative, academic, or other business related to the Schools.
3. The GSEHD SA shall act as the liaison between the Student Body and Schools' Alumni Association.
4. The GSEHD SA shall encourage School unity between students enrolled in the teacher preparation and special education, counseling and human organizational studies, and educational leadership departments.

Article IV: DUTIES

1. The GSEHD SA shall:
 - a. Act promptly on all matters of business submitted and disseminate all decisions to students, faculty, and administration as appropriate.
 - b. Maintain contact with all student organizations, and act as an advisory board to them.
 - c. Cooperate and collaborate with other GWU student organizations, both graduate and undergraduate.
 - d. Cooperate with the School and University administrations on joint projects as needed and deemed appropriate.
 - e. Allocate funds according GSEHD SA policy as deemed appropriate.
 - f. Prepare a budget for the ensuing year at the end of each school year.

- g. Have the power to make all rules and policy that shall be necessary to carry out the foregoing powers and all other powers vested in the GSEHD SA by this constitution and bylaws.
2. Furthermore, the GSEHD SA:
- a. The GSEHD SA does not unlawfully discriminate against any person on any basis prohibited by federal law, the District of Columbia Human Rights Act, or other applicable law, including without limitation, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.
 - b. Abides by the following Conduct and University Values Statement: The George Washington University values respect, communication, community, and diversity, and our organization and its members are expected to uphold and espouse these values. Members whose actions do not reflect these values are subject to removal from the organization. Grounds for removal may include, but are not limited to, the following actions:
 - i. Discrimination
 - ii. Harassment
 - iii. Illegal activity
 - iv. Sexual assault
 - v. Violence and other abuse

Members who have allegedly acted in a way that does not live up to the values of the University and/or the Constitution and Bylaws of the GSEHD SA are subject to removal.
 - c. Will abide by all University policies.

Article V: MEMBERSHIP

- 1. The GSEHD SA shall be composed of 8 voting members and additional members according to Article V, number 3.
- 2. Only registered GW students are considered members of the organization; all others (friends, family, faculty, staff) are considered guests. Guests are welcome to attend events and vote, but they cannot hold officer positions or handle money on behalf of the organization.
- 3. Voting members are as follows:
 - a. The President of Chi Sigma Iota
 - b. The President of the Education Policy Student Association
 - c. The President of the HOL/OLL Student Association
 - d. The President of the International Education Association
 - e. The President of the Museum Education Student Association
 - f. The President of the GSEHD SA
 - g. The Vice President of Communications of the GSEHD SA
 - h. The Vice President of Education & Outreach of the GSEHD SA

- i. The Vice President of Finance of the GSEHD SA
 - j. The Vice President of Social Activities of the GSEHD SA
- 4. All aforementioned members shall be considered members of the Executive Committee of the GSEHD SA, with officers described in Article VI.
- 5. No person shall have more than one voting seat on the GSEHD SA unless appointed as proxy for another voting member.
- 6. Vacancies on the GSEHD SA will be filled by the organization lacking representation within 30 days, after which time the Executive Committee reserves the right to appoint appropriate representation.
- 7. Term of office is one year, commencing at the opening of the last regularly scheduled meeting during each academic year but not later than May 31 of any year. Expiration of term shall be at the last regularly scheduled meeting each year, but not later than May 31 of any year.
- 8. Members may serve more than one term provided the following:
 - a. In their upcoming term, the incumbent will be taking office as President of Chi Sigma Iota, the Higher Education Student Association, the Organizational Leadership and Learning Student Association, or the International Education Association, or,
 - b. In their upcoming term, the incumbent has been appointed to the GSEHD SA by the incoming President of Chi Sigma Iota, the Higher Education Student Association, the Organizational Leadership and Learning Student Association, or the International Education Association.
- 9. Any body electing representative to the GSEHD SA, either voting or ex-officio, will retain the right to discipline or remove their representative by a method of its own design.
- 10. Voting members can be recalled from the GSEHD SA by the Executive Committee or a 2/3 majority vote and the next meeting for not meeting attendance requirements.
- 11. The duties of each member includes aiding in the organizing of events sponsored by the GSEHD SA, acting as representatives for their respective constituents, and reporting the happenings of the GSEHD SA back to their respective organizations and departments.

Article VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1. From the general Graduate School of Education and Human Development student body shall be elected by popular vote to the following positions:
 - a. President
 - i. Act as the official spokesperson for the GSEHD SA.
 - ii. Act as liaison between the student organizations represented by the GSEHD SA and the Deans' Offices.
 - iii. Preside at all GSEHD SA meetings.
 - iv. Be responsible for the observance of the constitution and bylaws.

- v. Call special meetings when appropriate.
 - vi. Appoint chairpersons of GSEHD SA committees with approval by majority vote of the GSEHD SA Executive Committee unless otherwise stated in this constitution or bylaws.
 - vii. Shall retain power to create new committees as deemed appropriate.
 - viii. Present the constitution and bylaws to the GSEHD SA at the first fall meeting of each academic year.
- b. Vice President of Finance
 - i. Act as custodian for GSEHD SA funds.
 - ii. Prepare and submit a budget to be voted on by the GSEHD SA for each academic year, to be approved by GSEHD SA voting members by two weeks prior to the Student Association submission deadline
 - iii. Organize and direct a mid-year budget review in accordance with Student Association timelines and regulations.
 - iv. Develop and maintain a system for budget allocation and cosponsorship.
 - v. Act as GSEHD SA representative to the George Washington University Student Association budget reviews.
 - vi. Keep a record of all funds and expenditures.
 - vii. Give a financial report at each regularly scheduled GSEHD SA meeting.
- c. Vice President of Social Activities
 - i. Chair the Social Committee, which will consist of the social chairpersons/directors from all GSEHD student organizations and any other interested parties.
 - ii. Plan and organize social events as deemed necessary.
- d. Vice President of Education & Outreach
 - i. Chair the Academic Affairs Committee, which will consist of the academic chairpersons/directors from all GSEHD student organizations and any other interested parties.
 - ii. Develop collaborative academic programs spanning disciplines both within the field of education and outside the field.
 - iii. Collaborate with other graduate programs to program meaningful academic events, panel discussions, conferences, and initiatives.
- e. Vice President of Communication
 - i. Showcase GSEHD Student Organizations and their activities.
 - ii. Make sure organizations are aware of the available public relations, marketing, and communications resources provided by the GSEHD SA and Office of Student Life.

Article VII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order, revised shall serve as the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not provided herein or should questions or procedural problems arise.

Article VIII: MEETINGS

1. The GSEHD SA shall hold regular meetings.
2. A quorum shall consist of 2/3 of the voting members present or by proxy.
3. The majority vote of the quorum shall constitute a decision in all matter unless otherwise stated in this constitution.
4. Voting members may submit a signed written or electronic proxy on any specific matters before the GSEHD SA if they are unable to attend in person. This written or electronic proxy shall be counted as a vote on that particular issue before the GSEHD SA.

Article IX: AMENDMENTS

Any voting member at any meeting of the GSEHD SA may propose amendments to the constitution in writing. Such amendments, once the property of the floor, will automatically be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting. At this time the amendment must be taken off the table to be acted upon by the GSEHD SA. A $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the Executive Committee of the GSEHD SA shall constitute passage of the amendment.

Article X: ADOPTION

This constitution shall become the Constitution of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development Student Association when all of the following are met:

1. A vote in the affirmative by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the voting members GSEHD SA present or by proxy.
2. Its publication to the members of the student bodies represented by the GSEHD SA.

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