

The Graduate Student Assembly
The University of Texas at Austin

Resolution: G.B. 13 (S) 2

Sponsor(s): GSA Executive Board

Action Taken _____ passed _____

Certified:

Michael Redding
President, GSA

Revision of the Graduate Student Assembly Constitution

Summary: A bill amending the Graduate Student Assembly Constitution.

1 **WHEREAS** The Constitution of the Graduate Student Assembly may be
2 amended by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote; and,
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4 **WHEREAS** The Executive Committee of the Graduate Student Assembly has
5 reviewed and endorsed several proposed constitutional
6 amendments;
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8 **NOW THEREFORE,** **Article III, Section2 of the Graduate Student Assembly**
9 **BE IT RESOLVED** **Constitution shall be amended as follows:**

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11 Section 2. Election Oversight. Elections shall be conducted
12 and overseen by the Election Supervisory Board. This shall
13 include all elections required by this Constitution or referred
14 by other University policy-making boards or administrative
15 bodies.

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17 2.1. Composition. The members of the Election
18 Supervisory Board shall be selected according to the
19 process defined in the Common Election Code.
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21 2.2. Election Appeals Board. **The members of the**
22 **Election Appeals Board shall consist of a chair and**
23 **two members appointed by the President and**
24 **approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the Assembly.**
25 **Election appeals shall be conducted according to the**
26 **Graduate Student Assembly-Specific Election Code.**

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Article III, Section 3 of the Graduate Student Assembly Constitution shall be amended as follows:

Section 3. Election Code. The President shall appoint a representative to negotiate any changes to the Common Election Code. He or she may appoint him or herself as this representative. Changes to the Graduate Student Assembly-Specific Election Code may not be enacted within four (4) weeks prior to an election.

BE IT RESOLVED

Article III, Section 4 of the Graduate Student Assembly Constitution shall be amended as follows:

Section 4. Voting. Each graduate student may cast one (1) vote for President, one (1) vote for Vice-President.

4.1. Results. The candidate for each departmental representative or alternative representative receiving the highest number of votes for the Assembly seat shall be certified in the respective position. A candidate for President or Vice-President must receive a majority of the total votes cast in the general or special election.

4.2 Run-Off Procedures. If the top candidates for a position receive a tie vote in a general or special election where more than two candidates ran for a position, a runoff election will occur. The runoff election shall proceed as described in the Election Code. The candidate who receives a majority of the vote in the runoff election shall be certified the winner of the election. Should the runoff also result in a tie vote, the Assembly shall decide the election by majority vote of voting members present. Should the second runoff vote result in a tie, the current President shall cast the tie-breaking vote by way of coin flip, with respective candidates assigned sides of said coin ex ante.

BE IT RESOLVED

Article III, Section 5 of the Graduate Student Assembly Constitution shall be amended as follows:

Section 5. Disputes. The Election Supervisory Board shall first hear election disputes and grievances. The GSA Election Appeals Board shall hear appeals of the Election Supervisory Board decisions. Contested election results shall be referred to the Assembly, as described by the GSA

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BE IT RESOLVED

Election Code.
Article III, Section 7 of the Graduate Student Assembly
Constitution shall be amended as follows:

Section 7. Term of Office. All officers shall serve one-year terms, beginning at 12 noon on the day of the first meeting in April of each year. All departmental representatives and alternate representatives shall serve one-year terms beginning in the fall semester.

BE IT RESOLVED

The revised and amended constitution of the Graduate Student Assembly is sent to all of the necessary and proper channels for its ratification.