

Constitution and By-Laws of the Graduate Student Association of High Point University and Norcross
Graduate School

Article I—Name and description of the organization

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be the Graduate Student Association, hereafter known as “GSA”, of High Point University, hereafter known as “HPU”, and Norcross Graduate School, hereafter known as “NGS”.

Section 2: The GSA is an organization for all students pursuing post-baccalaureate studies through HPU and NGS.

Article II—Function of the organization

Section 1: The GSA will provide representation in the governance structure of HPU and NGS for all students seeking post-baccalaureate studies at HPU.

Section 2: Members in good standing shall be defined as a student fully matriculated at HPU and through NGS and having paid GSA dues.

Section 3: The GSA will act as a point-of-contact for incoming HPU and NGS students and will provide a support group for post-baccalaureate students currently enrolled who encounter difficulties on campus.

Section 4: The GSA will serve as a source for information about research and graduate study and will provide support for the professional activities of its members whenever possible.

Section 5: The GSA will serve as source of recruiting for future HPU and NGS students.

Article III—Membership Qualifications

Section 1: Full membership in the GSA shall be open to any person currently matriculated in post-baccalaureate studies at HPU and the NGS.

Section 2: Membership will normally be from September of one year through August of the ensuing year if the student continues in registration at HPU and NGS. Membership in GSA shall be from the semester in which they join GSA until the next full academic year begins.

Section 3: Attendance at scheduled meetings is encouraged of all members to maintain close relationships with other graduate students, and to be informed of upcoming events and fundraising activities.

Section 4: Dues will be administered as directed under Article IV.

Section 4: The GSA openly admits students to its membership and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, personal appearance, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

Article IV – Financing topics: Dues and Fundraising

Section 1: Dues

Subsection 1: The amount of the dues shall be set on an academic year basis by the Executive Council of the GSA.

Subsection 2: Dues are to be paid each academic year. Students matriculating at other times shall pay dues on pro-rated basis determined by the student's entering semester.

Subsection 3: Dues are payable by the first meeting of each semester.

Subsection 4: Dues will be collected and held in an appropriately labeled general ledger account within the Student Accounts office.

Subsection 5: Dues may be utilized to provide membership in national GSA registries, and other activities and programming as deemed appropriate by the Executive Council.

Section 2: Fundraising

Subsection 1: In addition to the dues collected each semester, fundraising activities may be pursued to enable the Association to hold activities and programs deemed appropriate by the Executive Council with approval from the faculty advisor and the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Subsection 2: Funds collected will also be held in the same general ledger account as dues within the Student Accounts office.

Subsection 3: All fundraising activities will be discussed and approved by the faculty advisor and the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Article V - Meetings

Section 1: Full membership meetings shall be held at least once per semester. The Executive Council shall set the date and agenda for the meeting.

Section 2: A special meeting may be called by the GSA membership by vote or petition of the majority of members in good standing.

Article VI - Executive council

Section 1: The Executive Council members shall be responsible for establishing goals and objectives of the GSA and for setting policy to execute such objectives. The Executive Council will designate the form and function of any GSA committees, standing or non-standing.

Section 2: The Executive Council of the GSA shall be comprised of representatives from each school of HPU and NGS. To be eligible to serve as a representative the person must be matriculated in a post-baccalaureate program within one of the schools of HPU and NGS.

Section 3: Terms on the Executive Council of GSA shall be for one academic year. Council members may succeed themselves.

Section 4: Selection of the college representatives shall be determined by vote of the post-baccalaureate students within each college on a yearly basis. Elections will be held in Spring semester of each year for terms to begin in the Fall.

Section 5: In the event of a mid-term vacancy on the Executive Council, a replacement will be selected by the Executive Council. The replacement should be from a list of volunteers from the school requiring a replacement member of the Council.

Section 6: Officers of the Executive Council shall be a chairperson, secretary, and a treasurer. They shall be elected by the members of the executive council at the first meeting of the council for the academic year and will serve for a one-year term.

Section 7: The faculty advisor shall sit on the Executive Council in a non-voting, advisory capacity.

Section 8: The Executive Council of GSA shall meet once per month. Meetings may also be called by the chairperson at the request of any member of the executive council.

Article VII – Advisor

Section 1: The GSA shall have a faculty advisor to assist with guidance in all affairs.

Section 2: The faculty advisor shall be invited to all meetings.

Section 3: As stated in Article IV, Section 2, Subsection 3, the faculty advisor shall be consulted concerning fundraising activities. Approval must be obtained from the faculty advisor before commencing any and all fundraising.

Article VIII - Amendments

This constitution and by-laws may be amended by a member submitting the proposed change to Executive Council. The Executive Council will submit the amendment to the membership of GSA in the form of a written proposal. The amendment will be made if it is approved by fifty percent (50%) of the Executive Council of GSA or fifty percent (50%) of the meeting's attendees, whichever is greater.