

# CONSTITUTION OF THE SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## **Article I – *Name of Organization***

The name of the organization shall be the School of Economic Sciences Graduate Student Association and is hereafter referred to as SES GSA.

## **Article II – *Affiliation***

This organization shall be affiliated with the School of Economic Sciences and shall abide by its constitution and by-laws. The constitution and by-laws shall not be in conflict with Washington State University policies and procedures. WSU policies and procedures shall take precedence over the constitution and by-laws of SES GSA.

## **Article III – *Purpose***

The purpose of SES GSA is to create a supportive space for the graduate students of the School of Economic Sciences to interact with each other and faculty.

## **Article IV – *Membership***

**Section 1 - *Full voting members*** - All graduate students in the School of Economic Sciences.

**Section 2 - *Non-discrimination clause*** - Consistent with all applicable federal and state laws and university policies, this organization and its subordinate bodies and officers shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, gender identity or expression, age, disability, or protected veteran status.

## **Article V – *Advisor***

**Section 1 - *Advisor selection*** - Advisors for SES GSA shall be selected from among the faculty, staff, or administration of the School of Economic Sciences.

**Section 2 - *Advisor's duties and responsibilities*** - The advisor must fulfill the administrative duties required for SES GSA to be a registered student organization.

## **Article VI – *Officers***

**Section 1 - *Titles of officers*** - Officers of the organization shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Executive Secretary.

**Section 2 - *Election of officers*** - The officers of the student organization will be elected during spring semester. They will be elected by private ballot during a meeting of the membership of SES GSA. The outgoing officers shall preside and conduct the election unless one of the members is running for re election in which case they shall not participate in administering the election. The candidate who garners the most votes will assume the office.

**Section 3 - *Transition of officers*** - The newly elected officers will work alongside the previous officers over the summer and shall officially take office the first day of fall semester and shall

serve for a period of one full calendar year.

**Section 4 - *Officer requirements*** - Officers shall not be on academic or university probation at the time of their elections or throughout their term of office. Additionally, SES GSA officers must be in good standing with the organization by abiding by all organization policies.

**Section 5 - *Officer possibility for removal*** - Officers failing to fulfill their given responsibilities and duties may be removed by their fellow officers.

**Section 6 - *Process for office removal*** - The removal of an officer requires 1) notification of the officer in question of both the intent and reasoning for removal\*, 2) notification of the SES GSA advisor of the reasoning for removal, and 3) a majority vote of their fellow officers and the advisor.

\*Such notification shall be provided in writing no less than seven days prior to the vote.

#### **Article VII – *Meetings***

**Section 1 - *Meeting frequency*** - A regularly scheduled general meeting of officers shall be held at least monthly. The officers may call additional meetings as the need arises.

**Section 2 - *Quorum requirements*** - A quorum shall consist of at least 3/4 of the individuals comprising the SES GSA officers.

**Section 3 - *Official business requirements*** - A quorum shall be present in order for any official business to be conducted. Official business shall include election of officers and any other SES GSA-affiliated activities.

**Section 4 - *Meeting minutes*** - Minutes of any official meeting must be kept and archived; otherwise, any actions or policies resulting from the meeting will be considered void.

#### **Article VIII – *Standing Committees***

Committees may be appointed as needed by any SES GSA officer to assist in conducting organization business or carrying out organizational activities.

#### **Article IX – *Graduate and Professional Student Association Senators***

**Section 1 - *Officer Exclusion*** - Those members holding office with the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) can hold an office in SES GSA, provided it presents no conflicts of interest.

#### **Article X – *Method for Amending Constitution***

**Section 1 - *Notice of intent to amend*** - All amendments to this constitution require notice to the president prior to being discussed and voted upon.

**Section 2 - *Approval of amendments*** - The constitution may be amended by quorum of SES GSA officers after approval of current GPSA senators for SES.

## **Article XI – *Funding***

**Section 1 - *Fund solicitation*** - SES GSA funding may be solicited through grants such as the CougParents Grant, GPSA, and student involvement office, among others. All grant funds are to be used in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the grant provider. In addition, SES GSA may fundraise in accordance with the policies outlined in the handbook for student organizations.

**Section 2 - *Fund use*** - All SES GSA funds are to be used for activities and programs that are designed for the benefit of the graduate students at large (e.g., providing graduate student lab resources, food for campus activities). No individual initiatives shall be funded without approval of the SES GSA officers as outlined in Article VI, Section 1.