Bill to amend the GSC By-Laws Policy in Appendix II on Funding Policies
GSC-2014-16

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Parliamentarian: Paul Harold
Submitted for Consideration: Mar 12, 2014
Action Requested: Consensus of the GSC or majority approval of the voting members of the GSC

WHEREAS by Article 1, section 3, C: “The GSC policies shall be included as an appendix to these By-Laws.”

WHEREAS by Article 1, section 3, D: “The GSC Policies may be modified by a consensus of the members if the GSC. In the event that that consensus cannot be reached, a majority of GSC’s voting members is required to modify GSC policy”.

WHEREAS by Article III, section 1, E1: it is provided that “the Funding Committee shall review funding and Special Fee requests from all Graduate Student Organizations, and present a recommendation on each to the GSC.”

WHEREAS by Article III, section 1, E5: it is provided that “the procedure for formulation and review of requests shall be specified in the GSC Funding Policies.”

WHEREAS it would be nice if the GSC By-Laws are consistent and complete.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

That the following replaces corresponding sections of Appendix II of the GSC By-Laws effective from date of approval.
B. What the Funding Committee Will and Will Not Recommend

12. Inclusiveness:
In funding VSO events or activities—including, but not limited to those that may have religious or political overtones—the GSC seeks to promote cultural understanding and the free exchange of diverse viewpoints. With this in mind, VSOs seeking event funding should demonstrate a concerted effort to welcome and promote the participation of diverse segments of the graduate student community. Events and activities involving politically charged issues should focus on the education of the general community regarding the history and relevance of the issue. The GSC will not fund events or activities that:

a. Have any appearance or tone of exclusivity.
b. Create an environment where a given segment of the graduate student population are made to feel unwelcome at the event due to religious, political, or other conviction.
c. Require prayer or involve campaigning.

The Funding Committee’s recommendation is not a judgment on the inclusiveness of the event. For events where inclusiveness may be in dispute, the GSC must perform due diligence in ascertaining the nature of the event and ensuring inclusiveness possibly through additional stipulations and funding conditions for the event.

Section 4: Verification

A. Funding Committee Auditing
The Funding Committee includes an Internal Auditor who may be present at meetings with VSOs and perform audits of events and VSO reimbursements.

1. The Internal Auditor may audit events in person on a random basis, in order to gather information including but not limited to event attendance, type and quantity of food served, ticket charges and event duration.

2. The Internal Auditor may audit some or all reimbursements involving VSO partition funds for some or all VSOs. Results of the audit will be made available to the Funding Committee. The Funding Chair may decide to arrange meetings with the President, Vice President and/or Financial Officer of the VSO to discuss audit results, and options for dealing with irregularities. Reimbursement irregularities involving $500 or more must be reported to the GSC for discussion and possible imposition of penalties. All reimbursement irregularities may be reported to the GSC for discussion and imposition of penalties at the discretion of the Internal Auditor.

3. The Internal Auditor may audit some or all dues-paying membership lists provided by VSOs by contacting some or all of the members listed to verify their membership. Results of the audit will be made available to the Funding Committee. The Chair may decide to arrange meetings with the Financial Officer of the VSO to discuss audit
results, and options for dealing with irregularities.

4. The Internal Auditor reserves the right to refuse to audit any event prior to the event for reasons of unavailability, personal objection and/or concern over potential retaliation.

**B. GSC Auditing and Penalties for Violation of Funding Conditions**

The GSC may perform additional event auditing and impose penalties for violation of funding policies and conditions, including those outlined in this document as well as additional stipulations as a condition of funding.