

STUDENT ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION

Date of Adoption: August 26, 2008

ARTICLE I - Name

The name of this organization shall be: Black Graduate Student Association University of Arizona (BGSA-UA). The organization is a student organization at The University of Arizona.

ARTICLE II - Objectives

The objectives of the organization shall be:

- A.** to encourage and promote excellence in teaching and research among graduate students of African descent.
- B.** to increase professional development relationships with professors of African descent at University of Arizona.
- C.** to increase the number and quality of graduate trained professionals of African descent in education, business, and industry.
- D.** to advocate and assist in the increased recruitment and retention of students of African descent at University of Arizona.
- E.** to disseminate information to students of African descent pertaining to academic, financial, and social needs.
- F.** to establish and maintain liaisons with faculty, staff, student organizations, and the community at large.
- G.** to create an environment where each student's academic and social potential is nurtured.
- H.** to develop opportunities for professional and leadership development through workshops, forums, seminars, and other related activities.
- I.** The Black Graduate Student Association of University of Arizona shall adhere to The Graduate College Handbook and abides and supports established University of Arizona policies, state and federal laws.

ARTICLE III - Membership

- A.** Any student at The University of Arizona is eligible to be an active member and may hold office.
- B.** Non-students may act as associate members, but may not vote or hold office.
- C.** Active membership will consist of registered graduate students of University of Arizona.
- D.** Only active members are eligible to vote and/or hold office.

ARTICLE IV – Officers

Section I: Executive Council

The Executive Council of the Black Graduate Student association shall consist of elected officials.

Section II: Members of the Executive Council must be present at all meetings. Any member who does not attend three consecutive meetings without a reasonable cause will have to prepare a written explanation discussing why they should not be impeached. Impeachment procedures are listed in the bylaws.

ARTICLE V – Voting

Section I: Elected Officials

Elected officials include the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Executive Secretary, and Public Relations Chair. All officers will assume office for the period of one year

Section II: Grade Point Average Requirement

All elected officials must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0. The exact requirements and maintenance of minimum grade point average is outlined in the bylaws.

Section III: Election of Officers

Election of officers shall occur during the spring semester by majority vote of active members. Interested parties must meet the GPA requirements as outlined in the bylaws.

- A.** all written nominations for officers must be submitted two weeks prior to the April elections meeting.

B. candidates must accept their nomination one week prior to the April elections meeting.

C. voting and installation of officers shall take place at the April elections meeting.

D. an absentee ballot may be submitted to the secretary three days prior to the date of the April elections meeting.

E. voting for officers will be by secret ballot unless circumstances necessitate other means of voting.

Section IV: Successors to the President

If for any reason the office of President becomes vacant, the following method of succession shall be employed: Vice President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and then Public Relations Chair.

Section V: Impeachment

A. Officers are subject to impeachment for non-performance of duty, ineffective administration, and/or inappropriate use of administrative authority. The plaintiff must provide a written complaint of charges with three active member signatures to the president.

B. Impeachment requires a formal hearing of charges presented to the members of BGSA. The meeting for impeachment will be open to all members. See the bylaws for exact description of impeachment procedures.

C. Impeachment must be approved by 2/3 of the active voting membership.

Section VI: Amendments

This constitution and by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of those voting, a quorum being present. Voting on amendments must be conducted after a minimum notice of 2 weeks.

ARTICLE VI - Not-for-profit Statement

This is a not-for-profit organization.

ARTICLE VII - Statement of Non-discrimination

This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of age, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, disability or handicap, race, religion, sexual orientation, Vietnam Era veteran status. This policy will include, but is not limited to, recruiting, membership, organization activities or opportunities to hold office.

ARTICLE VIII - Financial Obligations

Section I: Membership will cover an academic year beginning mid August through May, renewable each year. Black Graduate Student Association employs a rolling membership policy. That policy states that interested students must pay their dues by their second attended BGSA meeting.

Dues

Active \$15.00

Associate \$ 10.00

Section II. A majority of voting members of this organization may determine reasonable dues and fees assessed to each member at the beginning of each semester. A specific member or members, designated by this organization shall be responsible for payment in full of all debts accumulated by the organization not covered by funds on deposit.

ARTICLE IX - Statement of Non-Hazing

This organization will not conspire to engage in hazing, participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or person attending the institution.

ARTICLE X - Statement of Compliance with Campus Regulations

This organization shall comply with all University and campus policies and regulations and local, state, and federal laws