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The Constitution of the Psychology Graduate Student Council  
Last Updated January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Preamble

We, the Members of the Psychology Graduate Student Council within the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology, having been elected to guide and foster a sense of community, information, and achievement within the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology, do ordain and establish this constitution for the Psychology Graduate Student Council.

Article I

This organization shall be known as the Psychology Graduate Student Council within the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology.

Article II  
Membership

Section 1: Non-Discrimination Clause

No student enrolled as a graduate student within the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology shall be denied membership in this organization solely on the basis of age, sex, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Section 2: Eligibility

- A. Any graduate student pursuing a degree in psychology who is enrolled at Georgia Institute of Technology.

Section 3: Membership

- A. To become a member of the Psychology Graduate Student Council, the prospective member must have been voted on by the graduate students in the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology.

Section 4: Suspension of Membership

- A. A member may have their membership suspended in the following way:
  - i. By a majority vote of current graduate students within the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology.

Section 5: Reinstatement of Membership

- A. A suspended member may petition to have their membership status restored.
- B. Suspension shall be lifted as a result of any of the following way:
  - a. By a majority of current graduate students within the Psychology Department at Georgia Institute of Technology.

Section 6: Expulsion

- A. A member may be expelled for cause or for any conduct prejudicial to the Council, or any of its members, or for refusal to accept all the responsibilities of membership, or if they choose to switch to a degree outside of the Psychology Department, or if they choose to disenroll from Georgia Institute of Technology.
- B. A member may be expelled only after specific charges have been referred against them to the President and/or Faculty Advisor.
  - a. The member complained of shall be notified by the President of the meeting to hear such charges.
    - i. At this meeting, evidence shall be heard on behalf of both sides and both parties may call witnesses.
  - b. The Council shall report its findings with its recommendation thereon to the psychology graduate student body.
- C. Upon expulsion, an election shall take place to fill the empty position.

### Article III Council Positions

#### Section 1: Elected Officers

- A. The elected council officers shall consist of the following positions
  - a. President
  - b. Vice President
  - c. Treasurer
  - d. Faculty Representative and Alumni Officer
  - e. First-Year Mentor
  - f. Social Chair
  - g. Secretary
  - h. First-Year Representative
- B. The psychology graduate student body will elect all members

#### Section 2: Non-Elected Officers

- A. The non-elected council officer is:
  - a. Faculty Advisor
- B. The faculty advisor is appointed by the Chair of the Psychology Department

### Article IV Elections

#### Section 1: Term Length

- A. Elected officers shall serve a term of approximately one year beginning when the elected officer is sworn into office and ending when the new officer is sworn in.

#### Section 2: Vacant Office

- A. Should any elected office become vacant for any reason whatsoever, it shall be filled by a special election.
  - a. If a member holding an elected position is elected into a vacant position, their previous position is vacated.
  - b. Nominations for a special election regarding the newly vacant elected position will be taken immediately after the previous officer takes his new position.

- B. All graduate students in the Psychology Department shall be notified of the impending special election immediately following the vacation of office.

### Section 3: Recall

- A. Violation of this Constitution, incompetence, misuse of office, neglect of duties, or any other deficiencies shall be sufficient justification for recall of any officer.
- B. The President and/or Faculty Advisor must call a recall election if:
  - a. At least 1/3 of the psychology graduate student body signs a petition demanding the recall of an officer.
    - i. Said petition must state the reason said recall is being sought.
  - b. Recommended by Faculty Advisor
- C. Upon receiving the recall petition, the President and/or Faculty Advisor shall notify the officer whose recall is being sought that they are facing recall.
- D. The officer facing recall shall be immediately suspended from their office and duties pending the recall election.
  - a. The Council shall work together to fulfill the duties sought
- E. All graduate students in the Psychology Department are entitled to vote at said recall election.

## Article V

### Standing Committees

Section 1: The standing committees of the Psychology Graduate Student Council shall be as follows:

- A. PIG Grant
  - a. The Psychology Interlab Grant application and decision-making process will be handled by a PGSC committee
  - b. Committee membership
    - i. The committee will consist of three members
    - ii. PGSC members who submit PIG applications can not be a committee member
  - c. Committee responsibilities
    - i. Draft and send PIG announcement emails
    - ii. Elect raters from appropriate areas to conduct blind reviews of the proposals
    - iii. Handle review forms and compile form responses
    - iv. Communicate with faculty about results
    - v. Contact successful proposal groups after nomination

### Section 2: Ad Hoc Committees

- A. Ad Hoc committees may be created, and its members appointed by the Council when deemed necessary.
- B. All ad hoc committees must be created with a specific goal.
- C. When that goal has been completed or is no longer relevant the committee shall be dissolved.

### Section 3: Committee Membership

- A. The chairmen of each committee shall be approved by the Council.
- B. Committee membership will be approved by the chairmen and the President.

Article VI  
Finances

Section 1: Student Government Association

- A. The Treasurer shall maintain contact and create a budget with Georgia Institute of Technology's Student Government Association.

Section 2: Psychology Department

- A. The Council shall have a budget internally controlled by the Psychology Department.

Article VII  
Constitutional Review

Section 1: Yearly Review

- A. The constitution shall be reviewed under the supervision of the Council yearly.

Article VIII  
Amendments

Section 1: Constitutional Amendments

- A. Amendments to this constitution must be proposed in writing and must be presented to the Council.
  - a. The proposed amendment shall be discussed and either accepted, denied, or edited.
- B. All amendments to the constitution shall take effect immediately unless otherwise noted.

Article IX  
Distribution

Section 1: Constitution Distribution

- A. The constitution shall be distributed to all graduate students in the Psychology Department yearly in conjunction with elections.