Resolution NE 2014.02

A resolution amending the Bylaws of the Northeast Region of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students

Whereas, the Bylaws of the Northeast Region no longer follows general practice of the region and;

Whereas, the Bylaws are in conflict with the aims of the Association generally, therefore be it

Resolved, that the name of the Bylaws of the Northeast Region of the NAGPS be changed to “Bylaws of the Northeast Region of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students”, this document hereafter referred to as the “Bylaws”, and;

Resolved, that any further references to “National Association of Graduate and Professional Students” be changed to “National Association of Graduate-Professional Students”, “constitution” be changed to “Constitution”, and “bylaws” changed to “Bylaws” within the Constitution and;

Resolved, that Article I, Section 1(B), (D), and (G) of the Bylaws be amended as follows (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “(B) Each member of the Executive Board shall prepare an annual report of management procedures and recommendations for succeeding board members one month prior to the end of the fiscal year the Northeast Regional Conference. (D) The Executive Board is responsible for determining the Regional Mission Statement and individual positional objectives one month into the term of the Regional Chair. The Executive Board’s Mission Statement and positional objectives shall be published immediately, on the Regional website, and through other established communications. (G) The Chair Members of the Executive Board shall be permitted under law to enter into contracts, subject to the approval of the NAGPS National Board of Directors, President, which are necessary to execute the duties of the Board and its Officers, their Office. Members of the Executive Board shall be considered to be acting on behalf of the Region as agents thereof.” and;

Resolved, that Article I, Section 2(B) and (H) of the Bylaws be amended as follows (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “The Chair President shall have the following responsibilities: [...] (B) To stay abreast of all Executive Board business and ensure the Executive Board acts in accordance with the purpose
as stated in the Regional Constitution and the duties defined in these Bylaws. (H) To publish objectives for each Officer and the entire Executive Board during the first month of his/her term.” and;

Resolved, that Article I, Section 3 of the Bylaws be amended as follows with appropriate re-lettering (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “The Vice Chair President shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To perform the duties of the Chair President in the Chair’s President’s absence.
B. To strive to produce a positive image of the Region by providing assistance to the Chair President in his/her duty as the official spokesperson of the Region.
C. To serve as the secretary of the Executive Board.
D. To record the proceedings of all official business meetings and distribute them to the Executive Board within 5 working days.
E. To initiate, maintain, and improve the relations between the Region and other professional organizations.
F. To investigate opportunities for outside support of Regional activities.
G. To coordinate the election of members of the Executive Board and to establish election procedure.
H. To oversee the process of amending the Bylaws and Constitution in accordance with the goals of the Association.
I. To keep the Executive Board informed of companies contacted and activities involving professional organizations.” and;

Resolved, that Article I, Section 4 of the Bylaws be amended as follows with appropriate re-lettering (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “The Director of Communication shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To work with the National Director of Communications and serve on the Communications Committee.
B. To publish at least three issues of a Regional newsletter each year. The first issue of the newsletter shall be posted no later than two months after the fiscal year with content introducing the new Executive Board, Mission Statement, and positional objectives along with content focusing on the upcoming Regional Conference. The second issue shall be published and distributed for the National Conference. The third issue shall be published before the end of term, with content regarding the motions passed and events of the National Conference, and closing remarks from the outgoing Executive Board.
C. To coordinate the Regional social media presence.
D. To assist the Chair, the National Director of Administration, and the National Director of Communications in maintaining an up-to-date Regional website.” and;

Resolved, that Article I, Sections 5 and 6 of the Bylaws be struck in their entirety: “Section 5. The Director of Administration shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To provide for communication venues between the Regional Officers.
B. To record the proceedings of all official business meetings and distribute them to the Executive Board within 5 working days.
C. To establish, maintain, and administer email distribution lists and a Regional website.
D. To make available online a comprehensive database of all member information.

Section 6. The Director of Finance shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To administer the general operating funds of the Region.
B. To manage the collection of the Regional Membership Fee from members.
C. To keep accurate records of all monies of the Region and accounts.
D. To work with the Executive Board in preparing an annual budget financial statement for the Region.
E. To be responsible for preparing a projected budget for the following fiscal year and presenting this budget to the Voting Delegates’ meeting at the National Conference.
F. To send monthly financial statements to the Executive Board.
G. To have the proper material and documentation available at the National Conference in order for the incoming Executive Board to sign granting access to the appropriate positions for the respective accounts.” and;

Resolved, that Article I, Section 7 of the Bylaws be renumbered as Section 5 and amended as follows with appropriate re-lettering (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “The Director of Outreach shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To create and maintain a current membership database to be made available online by the Director of Administration.
B. To promote NAGPS and the Region to eligible members not currently participating.
C. To assist the National Director of Outreach and the Chair in Regional member recruitment and retention.
D. To collect annual reports from each Officer.
E. To publish and distribute a comprehensive annual report no later than thirty days after the end of his/her term. This report shall include, but is not limited to, the following items: the past year’s Executive Board members’ annual reports, highlights of the national conference, the Regional Constitution and Bylaw, and a directory of members. This directory shall include, but is not limited to the following information: official member and member organization names, school affiliation, mailing addresses, electronic mailing addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers.
F. To acknowledge excellence in member activities through an awards programs, the details of which are decided upon by the Executive Board.” and;

Resolved, that Article I, Section 8 of the Bylaws be renumbered as Section 11 and;

Resolved, that the following sections be added to Article I of the Bylaws: “Section 6. The Legislative Affairs Chair shall have the following responsibilities:
A. To work with the National Director of Legislative Affairs and serve on the Legislative Concerns Committee.
B. To report on the activities of the Legislative Concerns Committee to the Region, and bring the issues of the Region to the Legislative Concerns Committee.
C. To monitor pending federal legislation and provide analysis.
D. To recommend Regional advocacy efforts.
E. To issue policy statements or calls to action when needed.

Section 7. The Employment Concerns Chair shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To work with the National Employment Concerns Chair and serve on the Employment Concerns Committee.
B. To report on the activities of the Employment Concerns Committee to the Region, and bring the issues of the Region to the Employment Concerns Committee.

Section 8. The Legal Concerns Chair shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To work with the National Legal Concerns Chair and serve on the Legal Concerns Committee.
B. To report on the activities of the Legal Concerns Committee to the Region, and bring the issues of the Region to the Legal Concerns Committee.

Section 9. The Social Justice Concerns Chair shall have the following responsibilities:

A. To work with the National Social Justice Concerns Chair and serve on the Social Justice Concerns Committee.
B. To report on the activities of the Social Justice Concerns Committee to the Region, and bring the issues of the Region to the Social Justice Concerns Committee.

Section 10. The International Student Concerns Chair shall have the following responsibilities:

1. To work with the National International Student Concerns Chair and serve on the International Student Concerns Committee.
2. To report on the activities of the International Concerns Committee to the Region, and bring the issues of the Region to the International Concerns Committee.” and;

Resolved, that Article II of the Bylaws be amended as follows with appropriate re-numbering of Sections (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions):
“Section 1. All nominees for Executive Board positions must be a tenured member or a constituent of a tenured member organization.

Section 2. Nominees for an Officer position, with the exception of the Director of Regional Conference position, shall be required to complete an application.
Section 3. The order of election shall be: President, Vice-Chair, President, Director of Communication, Director of Administration, Director of Finance, Director of Outreach, Legislative Affairs Chair, Employment Concerns Chair, Legal Concerns Chair, Social Justice Concerns Chair, and International Student Concerns Chair and a Director of Regional Conference. The Director of Regional Conference shall be elected as part of the Regional Conference bid process.

Section 4. During the elections, each candidate who has not run for a previous position that same election cycle will be given three minutes to speak on his/her behalf. A maximum of three minutes per candidate will be allotted for questions. No other nominees for this position shall be present during this time.

Section 5. If a candidate is not elected for a particular position, he/she shall be eligible to run for another position that has not yet been filled. The candidate will then have one minute to speak on his/her behalf and a maximum of two minutes will be allotted for questions.

Section 6. Prior to voting for each position, a five minute closed discussion will be held by the Voting Delegates. No nominees shall be present during this time. A simple majority vote shall be by secret ballot, the votes shall be tallied in full view of the Voting Delegates, and the results of the election disclosed immediately.

Section 7. Except for the Chair, in the event that there are no nominations for a given Executive Board position, the members of the Executive Board shall fill this vacant position by a simple majority vote at any first Executive Board meeting following the National Conference. "and;

Resolved, that Article III of the Bylaws be struck in its entirety: “Membership Fee

Section 1. Tenured Members
A. The Regional Membership Fee of $20 shall be collected from members annually so that the member may gain tenure.
B. To gain tenure, a member shall pay the Regional Membership Fee to the Director of Finance prior to the National Conference, by a date specified by the Director of Finance. The tenure shall coincide with the fiscal year. Members joining the region, at any point in the fiscal year, shall be required to pay the full Regional Membership Fee by a deadline set by the Director of Finance.
C. Only tenured individual members and constituents of tenured member organizations may serve on the Executive Board. "and;

Resolved, that Article IV, Section 1 of the Bylaws be amended as follows (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “Organizations wanting to become the Regional Conference Coordinating Council must inform the Executive Board current Regional Conference Coordinating Council in writing at least one month prior to the Regional Conference and must give a presentation at the Voting Delegates’ meeting at the Regional National Conference. This presentation shall include a tentative agenda, facilities available, accommodations, sponsors, and budget. Only tenured member organizations are eligible to host the Regional
Conference. These interested organizations shall nominate one of their members to serve as the Director of the Regional Conference.” and;

Resolved, that Article IV, Section 3 of the Bylaws be amended as follows (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “The Regional Conference Coordinating Council shall be elected by a simple majority vote at the Voting Delegates’ meeting at the Regional National Conference.” and;

Resolved, that Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws be struck, with appropriate renumbering of Sections and change to the section reference in old Section 5: “The Regional Conference Coordinating Council shall maintain their voting member status and have their annual membership dues waived, or if already paid, reimbursed for the year it serves.” and;

Resolved, that Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws be struck in its entirety: “The Regional Conference Coordinating Council shall assemble a conference notebook containing information about the activities and structure of the councils attending the Regional Conference.” and;

Resolved, that Article V, Section 3 of the Bylaws be renumbered as Section 2 and amended as follows (strike-throughs are deletions, underlined text are additions): “The Regional Conference Coordinating Council shall ensure that the Regional Conference occurs between February 15 March and April 31 May each year.” and;

Resolved, that Article VI of the Bylaws be struck in its entirety: “Usage of Regional Funds

Section 1. The budget and financial reports of the Region shall be presented at each Voting Delegates’ meeting.

Section 2. A projected budget for the following fiscal year, prepared by the Director of Finance, shall be approved by a simple majority at the Voting Delegates’ meeting at the national conference.

Section 3. All expenditures not outlined in the budget shall require approval by three-fourths of the Executive Board.” and;

Resolved, that all Articles of the Bylaws be renumbered as appropriate.

Final Action: on

Nicole Baran
Northeast Regional Chair