



RESOLUTION 2015.10.02

A resolution to amend Articles III and VI of the NAGPS Bylaws to restructure the Advocacy Board and create an Advocacy Committee

National Association of Graduate-Professional Students, Inc.

Date: October 30, 2015

Author(s): Board of Directors, NAGPS

Underlines are additions while strikethroughs are deletions.

Whereas, the NAGPS Advocacy board is comprised by the chairs of the NAGPS Standing Committees as outlined in Article VI of the NAGPS bylaws and chaired by the Director of Legislative Affairs and;

Whereas, the Director of Legislative Affairs also chairs the Legislative Concerns Committee and;

Whereas, membership of each standing committee is comprised, in part, by regional committee chairs and;

Whereas, for many years, with the exception of the Legislative Concerns Committee, it has been difficult to maintain a critical mass of membership on each of the other standing committees and;

Whereas, it would improve the functionality and efficiency of NAGPS's advocacy efforts if the standing committee chairs worked as one advocacy committee, while also assisting the Director of Legislative Affairs and other board members as needed and;

Whereas, the Director of Legislative Affairs would be empowered to focus more on legislative affairs by not having to chair two committees and;

Resolved, *that* Article III, Section 11; Article VI, Section 4 item D; and Article VI, Section 7 of the Bylaws of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students be amended as follows, thereby creating and Advocacy Committee;

Resolved, *that* a copy of this resolution be sent to the membership of the Association within 30 days of its passage.



Article III. Board of Directors

Section 11. Duties of the Director of Legislative Affairs

The Director of Legislative Affairs shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. To serve as Chair of the Advocacy Board;
- B. To monitor pending federal legislation and provide analysis;
- C. To recommend advocacy efforts;
- D. To issue policy statements or calls to action when needed;
- E. To coordinate grassroots efforts to support the legislative mission of the Association;
- F. To plan the Association's bi-annual Legislative Action Days;
- G. To develop the Association's Legislative Platform. Changes to the Platform must be approved at the National Membership Meeting.
- H. To serve as Chair of the Legislative Concerns Committee.

Article VI. Association Legislative Concerns Committee, Advocacy Board Committee, and Outreach Board, and Committees

Section 1. Advocacy Board Committee

~~The Advocacy Board shall be comprised of the Chairs of the Standing Committees of the Association. The Advocacy Board shall serve to coordinate advocacy campaigns and exchange information between the Standing Committees. The Director of Legislative Affairs shall serve as the Chair of the Advocacy Board.~~

The Advocacy Committee shall be comprised of the Employment Concerns Advocate, International Student Concerns Advocate, and the Social Justice Concerns Advocate. The three advocates will chose a chairperson among themselves who will maintain a non-voting position on the Executive Committee. Any NAGPS member shall be invited to participate on the Advocacy Committee. The Advocacy Board shall work together on projects and campaigns to address issues which affect graduate students from their respective areas of focus.

Section 2. Outreach Board

The Outreach Board shall be comprised of Director of Outreach, Regional Chairs or Regional designees, Director of Communications, and any NAGPS member in good standing who indicates interest in serving on the Committee. The Outreach Board shall designate appropriate membership categories for each applicant and certify satisfaction of requirements for membership. The committee shall advise the Board



of Directors concerning strategies for

member recruitment and retention. The Director of Outreach shall

serve as Chair of the Outreach Board and a simple majority of Regions shall constitute quorum.

Section 3. Committee Membership

Any member in good-standing shall have the right to serve on any Standing Committee of the Association.

Section 4. Standing Committee

The Standing Committees of the Association shall be the:

- ~~A. Employment Concerns Committee.~~
- ~~B. International Student Concerns Committee.~~
- ~~C. Social Justice Committee.~~
- ~~D. Legislative Concerns Committee.~~
 - A. Advocacy Committee
 - B. Legislative Concerns Committee

Section 5. Employment Concerns ~~Committee~~ Advocate

The Employment Concerns ~~Committee~~ Advocate shall plan and formulate action concerning the issues of employment during and after the attainment of a graduate and/or professional degree.

Section 6. International Student Concerns ~~Committee~~ Advocate

The International Student Concerns ~~Committee~~ Advocate shall monitor campus issues and legislative developments that affect the ability of graduate and/or professional students from other countries to study in the United States. The ~~committee~~ advocate shall work with members of the Advocacy Committee to ensure that international students are well-informed, fairly treated, and able to participate in the governance of the Association.

Section 7. Social Justice ~~Committee~~ Advocate

The Social Justice ~~Committee~~ Advocate shall work to ensure that the Association membership reflects the diversity of our nation's many cultures and lifestyles through contact with student groups working for diversity on a local or national level. The ~~Committee~~ Advocate shall coordinate the development and advocacy of policies and programs which provide for a diverse learning environment for graduate and/or professional students and shall recommend such policies for implementation to the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Legislative Concerns Committee



The Legislative Concerns Committee shall monitor pending federal legislation, recommend advocacy efforts, issue policy statements, provide analysis, issue calls to action when needed, and coordinate grassroots efforts to support the legislative mission of the Association. The Committee shall assist the Director of Legislative Affairs in developing the Association's Legislative Platform. The Director of

Legislative Affairs shall be the chair of this committee. Regional Legislative Concerns Chairs shall be members of the Legislative Concerns Committee.

Section 9. Ad Hoc Committees

The President shall have the right to establish ad hoc committees to pursue specific goals of the Association. The Chair of each ad hoc committee must meet the qualifications of a Director and shall serve as a non-voting Director of the Board of Directors. All ad hoc committees shall terminate with the Board of Directors under whom it was established.

Section 10. Suspension of Committees

A majority of the membership shall have the right to initiate an inquiry into the proceedings of any committee and suspend a committee until such a time as a majority vote is cast by the membership to return the committee to active status.

Passage:

Date:

Kristofferson Culmer
President

Zach Brooks
Vice President