

Graduate Student Association

Spring 2015

Re: Proposal to amend the University Council By-Laws to allocate specific University Council seats for graduate students and undergraduate students.

Explanation: The attached proposal to amend the Part V, Section III, Subsection F of the University Council By-Laws to allocate specific University Council seats for graduate and undergraduate students.

Background: In an effort to enhance the collective voice of graduate and professional students at the University of Georgia, this would guarantee that at least one graduate or professional student would serve on the University Council from each school or college with graduate students, professional students or both. As currently written, the University Council By-Laws found in V, III, F allocate one student seat per school or college, except the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences with six seats and the Graduate School with two seats. Although not designating any seats as either graduate, undergraduate, or professional, the historical allocation of student seats on University Council has consisted of two graduate students from the Graduate School, one professional student from the College of Pharmacy, College of Veterinary Medicine, and School of law, and one graduate or professional student through the President of the Graduate Student Association, with all remaining student seats going to undergraduate students. This proposed amendment merely codifies the existing situation for undergraduate seats, while creating new seats specifically for graduate students.

<https://apps.reg.uga.edu/UniversityCouncil/publicCommittee/showBylaws/13>

F. Students shall be elected to the University Council, apportioned as follows: one graduate and one undergraduate student from each of the schools and colleges, except for the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, which shall have six undergraduate and one graduate seats, and the Graduate School, College of Pharmacy, College of Veterinary Medicine, and School of Law, which will each have one student representative. Students elected by the schools/colleges may be graduate or undergraduate status with the exception of Graduate School representatives who must be graduate status. Students of sophomore status or above, in good academic standing, may stand for election to the Council for a one-year term and may stand for election to one additional term only. Each spring the Vice President for Student Affairs shall poll the schools and colleges to determine whether they wish to conduct the election of student Council members. Schools or colleges which wish to conduct their own elections shall file an election plan with the Student Affairs Committee of the Council. Other schools or colleges will have the Vice President for Student Affairs conduct elections for them, according to a plan approved by the Committee on Student Affairs and the Executive Committee of the Council. The Vice President for Student Affairs may, with the approval of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Student Affairs, transfer in whole or in part the responsibility for conducting elections of student Council members to the Student Government Association. Elections will be conducted in the spring of each year prior to the August in which student terms on the Council begin.