Preamble

We, the Graduate Students of the University of Denver, do establish this Constitution.

Article I. Name and Mission.

Section 1. Name.

The name of this organization shall be the Graduate Student Government (GSG) of the University of Denver, henceforth referred to as GSG.

Section 2. Mission.

The mission of GSG shall be to represent and serve all graduate students at the University of Denver. This shall be accomplished by soliciting the views of graduate students and by representing those views in University-wide committee and Board of Trustees meetings.

Article II. Membership.

GSG shall be comprised of the following members:

A. GSG Executive Council
B. Graduate Student Association Presidents
C. Graduate Student Association GSG Representatives

Article III. Powers and Duties

Section 1. General Powers

GSG shall have the powers necessary to carry out the mission of GSG in accordance with this constitution. GSG shall have the power to recognize Graduate Student Associations, henceforth referred to as G.S.A.s, as provided in the By-Laws of this constitution. All GSG Executive Council members, G.S.A.
Presidents and GSG Representatives shall have the powers and duties commensurate with the nature of their respective offices.

Section 2. Association Funds

GSG shall have control and supervision of all GSG funds. The GSG President and the GSG VP and Director of Finance shall be required to sign all requests for allocations. In the event of an absence of the GSG Director of Finance, the GSG VP and Director of Finance may appoint, in writing, another officer to sign in his/her place for a specified time.

Section 3. Voting.

All GSG members shall have the power to vote in the course of GSG meetings. Each GSG member shall have only one vote, thus giving each G.S.A two votes. GSG members may send a designated person to attend meetings and vote in their absence.

Section 4. Responsibilities of GSG

GSG responsibilities shall be the following:

A. Shall respond to issues concerning graduate students at the University of Denver.
B. Shall act on behalf of the Graduate Student Associations on University-wide issues.
C. Shall develop a budget for each academic year.
D. Shall maintain a point of contact with the graduate student community at the University of Denver.

Section 5. The GSG Executive Council.

The GSG Executive Council shall be comprised of the GSG President, GSG Vice President and Director of Finance, GSG Director of Communication, and GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence.

A. GSG President.
   i. The GSG President shall align GSG activities with GSG’s mission.
   ii. The GSG President shall administer all the GSG meetings.
   iii. The GSG President shall attend University-wide committee meetings, including, but not limited to, Board of Trustees, Board of Trustees Student Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate Student Relations Committee, and Graduate Council.
   iv. The GSG President shall monitor and direct the GSG Executive Council in their duties.
v. The GSG President shall meet with Undergraduate Student Government and Student Bar Association presidents once a quarter to assess cross-campus issues.

B. GSG Vice President and Director of Finance
i. The GSG Vice President shall temporarily take the place of the GSG President in the event that the GSG President is absent.
ii. The GSG Vice President shall support and assist the GSG President as necessary.
iii. The GSG Vice President shall attend University-wide committee meetings.
iv. The GSG Vice President shall coordinate all GSG events under the committee they chair.
v. The GSG Vice President shall be responsible for maintaining GSG member contact records.
vi. The GSG Vice President shall review the constitution and by-laws to ensure GSG is following current guidelines, or propose changes in the GSG constitution and by-laws.
vii. The GSG Director of Finance shall propose an annual budget to the GSG Executive Council for approval each academic year.
viii. The GSG Director of Finance shall coordinate the budget allocation and approve all expenditures.
ix. The GSG Director of Finance shall be responsible for handling any graduate student activity fee issues.
x. The GSG Director of Finance shall work with the Office of Graduate Studies to lead the Graduate Student Professional Development Fund process
xi. The GSG Director of Finance shall collect funding reports from all G.S.A.s once per quarter and create a quarterly report of graduate student expenditures
xii. The GSG Director of Finance shall coordinate all GSG events under their committee

C. GSG Director of Communication.
i. The GSG Director of Communications shall keep the records of the organization, including the creation and distribution of GSG meeting minutes.
ii. The GSG Director of Communications shall create and administer a quarterly GSG newsletter.
iii. The GSG Director of Communications shall promote and publicize GSG to the graduate student population.
iv. The GSG Director of Communication shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the GSG website.
v. The GSG Director of Communication shall be responsible for communicating information from the GSG to each individual G.S.A. as well as to the greater graduate student community.
vi. The GSG Director of Communications shall coordinate all GSG events under the committee they chair.

D. GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence
   i. The GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence shall perform an assessment on GSG as an inclusive organization
   ii. The GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence shall serve as a main liaison and representative for campus and community wide diversity and inclusivity work with the following, but not limited to:
      a. DU’s USG Diversity Committee
      b. DU’s Center for Multicultural Excellence
      c. DU’s Diversity Development Team with Housing & Residential Education
      d. Higher Education’s Inclusive Excellence Fellows
   iii. The GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence shall represent GSG at DU and community events
   iv. The GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence shall assist and support other members of GSG
   v. The GSG Director of Inclusive Excellence shall plan and coordinate events and workshops related to Inclusive Excellence.

Section 6. Graduate Student Association Presidents and GSG Representatives.

A. Shall attend all GSG meetings.
B. Shall serve as the liaison between students in their respective graduate units and GSG
C. Shall publicize their role as this liaison to the graduate students within their respective graduate units.
D. Shall report on issues, matters, and concerns brought to their attention by the graduate students from their respective graduate units.
E. Shall participate in one of the GSG committees.
F. Shall designate a proxy to attend the GSG meetings if their G.S.A. cannot be present.

Section 7. GSG Committees

A. Each year, GSG shall create necessary outreach committees based on the current needs of the graduate students.
   i. Past committees have included: philanthropy, social, professional development, student issues, and fundraising.
B. Each committee will be chaired by a member of the GSG Executive Council.
C. The committees shall meet at the GSG meetings as well as special GSG Committee meetings called for by the respective GSG Committee chair.
D. The GSG board will vote on the committees to be created at the beginning of the year.
   i. At the beginning of each subsequent quarter, the GSG board will decide if any committees need to be added and/or discontinued.

Section 8. GSG Advisor

A. The position of GSG advisor is open to full-time appointed faculty or permanent staff in any graduate or professional program or office at DU
B. The role of the GSG advisor is to act as a resource for the GSG executive council and maintain consistency during GSG executive council transitions
C. At the first meeting of each academic year, GSG will select and appoint an advisor for a one-year term; however, the advisor serves at the pleasure of the GSG executive council and may be removed from the position if necessary.
D. The GSG Advisor will be periodically reviewed by the Office of Graduate Studies to ensure this person is kept current of all policies regarding graduate students and serves in the advisory role accordingly.

Article IV. GSG Executive Council Officer Elections.

All GSG officer positions shall be open to all GSG members and to all University of Denver graduate students.

Section 1. GSG Officer Nomination and Elections

A. GSG members shall make up the GSG officer nomination and election committee.
B. The officers will be elected by a majority of the voting members present during the election meeting.

Section 2. Terms of Office.

The GSG Executive Council shall hold office from the first day of summer interim following elections to the last day of the following spring quarter.

Section 3. Vacancies.

An officer position will be deemed vacant if a GSG officer shall resign or be absent from two meetings per quarter without excuse. The voting members of GSG shall make the decision as to whether or not an absence is unexcused.

1. If the position of the President shall become vacant, the Vice President shall succeed to the office.
2. If another officer’s position becomes vacant, the position shall be filled by an appointment of the GSG Executive Council until an election is held.
**Article V. Amendments.**

Proposed amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws shall be circulated to all members of the Council.

1. The GSG shall have the power to create and adopt By-laws, not inconsistent with the constitution, as they may deem necessary or proper for carrying out the mission of the council.
2. Proposed amendments to the Constitution or By-laws shall be considered at the same meeting in which they are presented. Adoption of the amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws shall require a majority vote from the members of GSG

**Article VI. Graduate Student Body Voting.**

1. GSG shall approve any vote of the University of Denver graduate student body.
2. GSG approval shall be required for any referendum that could result in change to University policy affecting graduate students.
3. Approval of a graduate student body vote shall require a majority vote from the voting members of GSG
4. In order for a graduate student body vote to be considered valid and binding, at least five percent (5%) of the enrolled graduate student body must vote. If less than five percent (5%) of the enrolled graduate student body votes, another vote will be scheduled.
5. A majority vote by five percent of the currently enrolled graduate student population shall be required for passage of the item under consideration.

**Article VII. Parliamentary Authority.**

The parliamentary authority of GSG shall be the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, revised.