



**Resolution No. 1415-06**  
**A Resolution to Amend the Bylaws to Formalize “Good Standing”**

---

UPDATE REPRESENTED AREAS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE GATHERED THAT:

**WHEREAS,** The existing language in the bylaws regarding “good standing” for Representatives does not comport well with the variation in how both internal and external committees operate; and

**WHEREAS,** the existing language can therefore lead to uneven treatment of Representatives, depending on their committee appointments; and

**WHEREAS,** there is precedent among successful graduate and professional student governments at peer institutions to tie participation to eligibility for co-programming funds and travel funds; and

**WHEREAS,** participation is a crucial component of the well-functioning of a student government, and representation is the vehicle by which student voices are heard, and accountability ensures that both of these mechanisms work as intended; and

**WHEREAS,** adopting and enforcing such policies has resulted in significant improvement in both attendance and participation in graduate and professional student governments that have enacted them, which has in turn led to significant improvements in graduate and professional student representation at the local, regional, state, and national level; and

**WHEREAS,** it is important for Represented Areas at the University of Missouri to have a voice at the level of the official graduate and professional student government; and

**WHEREAS,** there exists no language in the bylaws defining “good standing” and its implications for Represented Areas; and

**WHEREAS,** there exists no language defining “proxies” or “attendance”, despite these terms appearing numerous times throughout the bylaws; and

**WHEREAS,** there exists no language in the bylaws defining “good standing” for Executive Officers, be it

**RESOLVED,** by majority vote of the General Assembly here gathered that that the Graduate Professional Council bylaws shall be amended to reflect the following changes, which shall be valid effectively upon adoption.

**SUBMITTED,**

Mr. Matt McCune  
Director of State Affairs

Mr. Alex Howe  
Treasurer

## **SECTION IV: DUTIES AND ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

### **4.9 Executive Officer Elections:**

#### **7) Voting:**

(B) With the exception of the Presiding Election Officer, all GPC assembly members in good standing are eligible to vote and may participate in the election process. Members of the Executive Board ~~in good standing~~, with the exception of the Presiding Election Officer, are also eligible to vote.

## **SECTION I: GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES**

### **1.1 Duties of Representatives:**

Each Representative is required to attend each monthly GPC general assembly meeting, ~~which is determined by signatures on the attendance logs~~, and to serve on at least one external committee (Faculty/Student, GPC/ MSA Campus Programming, or specially appointed) and be involved with at least one internal standing committee during his/her term. Any assembly member who is not able to attend a monthly meeting may send a proxy in his/her place ~~who shall sign in on the attendance form in his/her place~~.

#### **1.2: Definition of "Proxy"**

A proxy must satisfy the following requirements: (i) be a current graduate or professional student within the same represented area as the absent General Assembly Representative, (ii) who is not a current Representative or a current Executive Officer, and (iii) who is not currently serving as a proxy for another absent Representative.

#### **1.2.1.3 Commitment to Committees:**

All assembly members are encouraged to be involved with an external/internal committee by the October General Assembly meeting.

#### **1.3.1.4 Proxy Voting:**

A General Assembly Representative may give his/her power to vote in his/her place to ~~any member of his/her electoral representative unit a proxy. Each representative is responsible for finding a proxy from his/her representative unit to vote in his/her absence~~. Any such proxy shall act and vote with the full privileges and responsibilities of the assembly member s/he is representing, provided the proxy has registered with the GPC Secretary before the meeting in question.

#### **1.4.1.5 Proxy Eligibility to Vote During Executive Officer Elections:**

Proxies are eligible to vote during Executive Officer elections only if s/he (1) has previously served as a proxy for a General Assembly meeting during the same academic year in which the election takes place or (2) is serving as a proxy for a General Assembly member who has attended every previous meeting of the

academic year in which the election takes place. At-large Representatives may not have proxies vote in **Executive Officer** elections.

### 1.6 Definition of “Good Standing” for Representatives

Good standing for a Representative shall be defined as follows: (i) attending, or having a proxy attend, the majority of General Assembly meetings each semester, and (ii) attending and actively participating in the majority of committee meetings per semester OR adequately fulfilling the committee responsibilities in a manner approved by the committee chair. “Good standing” for Represented Areas (departments, divisions, colleges, schools, etc.) is defined below in Section 5.2.

#### 1.5.1.7 Removal from Office:

~~Representatives who are absent from any three General Assembly meetings or three committee meetings, without sending a proxy or providing sufficient reason for not appointing a proxy, will do not satisfy the requirements for “good standing” may be immediately brought up for removal. The validity of excuses for Assembly meetings is to be determined by the Executive Officers. The validity of excuses as to committee meetings will fall under the discretion of the committee chair. Good standing is defined as adequate attendance at GPC assembly meetings (missing no more than 3) and service to a committee. Representatives brought up for removal may request a review by the Executive Officers, who will determine the validity of any excuses for failing to fulfill the requirements of “good standing”.~~

## **SECTION V: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### 5.2 “Good Standing” for Represented Areas (departments, divisions, colleges, schools, etc.)

#### (A) Definition

Represented Areas are in “good standing” provided that a Representative for the Represented Area, or a proxy, has attended the majority of GPC General Assembly Meetings during the previous semester.

#### (B) Determination

Following the final GPC General Assembly Meeting each Fall and Spring semester, the attendance logs for the semester will reviewed by the GPC Secretary and a list of ‘Represented Areas in Good Standing’ will be created and posted to the GPC website. Good standing may only be reinstated provided a successful passing of an end-of-semester review.

#### (C) Implications

i. Organizations wholly within a Represented Area that is in “good standing” are eligible for GPC group funding (co-programming), and individual students in the Represented Area are eligible for 100% of the maximum GPC travel award.

ii. Organizations wholly within a Represented Area that is not in “good standing” are not eligible for GPC group funding (co-programming), and individual students in the Represented Area are eligible for at most 50% of the maximum GPC travel award.

(D) Exemptions and Appeals

i. Represented Areas with fewer than 10 on-campus enrolled students are exempted from Sections A-C.

ii. Represented Areas may appeal the results of an end-of-semester evaluation to the GPC Executive Officers.

**ALL SUBSEQUENT SECTION NUMBERING WILL BE PROPERLY ITERATED**