

ARTICLES OF COOPERATION

Between the

Graduate Professional Council

And the

Missouri Students Association

Revised February 2020

A. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMUNICATION:

1. **MEETINGS AND COLLABORATION:** To ensure communication between MSA and GPC, the Advisors, Presidents, Vice Presidents and MSA Speaker of the Senate and, if they should choose, any other MSA/GPC Executives, shall strive to meet twice a semester to discuss issues of either government, planned referenda, position statements, policy decisions, inter-organizational workings, and the composition of internal and external committees.
2. **YEARLY PRESENTATIONS:** During the Fall semester of each year, and as early in the semester as is feasible by both bodies, the MSA and GPC officers or Leaders shall strive to appear before the other's legislative body to make a presentation, discussing planned student activities and programming for the next year, the goals and activities of each government, and function/membership of policy boards and internal committees.
3. **MEETING MINUTES:** MSA and GPC shall send copies of the minutes and programming events of their senate meetings to the presiding officer of the other legislative body.

B. THE STUDENT FEE REVIEW COMMITTEE:

1. **PURPOSE:** MSA and GPC shall assist the operations of the Student Fee Review Committee in the review of mandatory non-academic fees assessed to students.
2. **AUTHORIZATION:** The Student Fee Review Committee is a committee governed by the Vice Provost for Student Affairs and serves as a Vice Provost's Standing Committee. The Student Fee Review Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Vice Provost for Student Affairs regarding the allocation of mandatory non-academic fees assessed to students.
3. **APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR:** The Chair must be a full-time student of the University of Missouri throughout their full term and must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average or equivalent. The chair is appointed by a majority vote of the MSA President, GPC President, and outgoing Student Fee Review Committee Chair.

4. MSA AND GPC REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. LEADERSHIP: The MSA Senate Budget Committee Chair and the GPC Treasurer shall serve as co-vice-chairs of the Student Fee Review Committee.
- b. MEMBERSHIP: The regular membership of the Student Fee Review Committee shall be composed of three full-time graduate-professional students and seven full-time undergraduate students, two of whom shall be freshman in standing at the time of their service. Regular members shall be appointed by an application process.

5. SPECIAL RULES:

- a. BYLAW MODIFICATIONS: Change to these bylaws governing the Student Fee Review Committee shall not go into effect until the consent of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs' staff advisor for the Student Fee Review Committee has been received.
- b. DISPLAY OF COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE: Rules for the governance of the committee shall be displayed prominently on the website for the Student Fee Review Committee and not in these bylaws.

C. FUNDING OF CO-SPONSORED SERVICES:

1. BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS:

- a. SERVICES: Both MSA and GPC provide student services. To avoid unnecessary duplication of services, MSA will continue to offer services to graduate, professional, post-baccalaureate, and undergraduate students. GPC will continue to partially fund these co-sponsored services as a transfer to MSA of a specific dollar amount for co-sponsored services from MSA. All funding which would be for these co-sponsored services and which would be paid by graduate and professional students will be included in GPC's annual budget.
- b. GPC SUPPORT: GPC shall include any planned changes in financial support for these co-sponsored services in its yearly request from the Student Fee Review Committee, and must be explicitly outlined in the GPC Budget. GPC shall increase the budgeted amount of financial support for these co-sponsored services at least by a percentage equal to the inflationary increase granted to GPC's student fee by the Student Fee Review Committee during the financial year for which the next GPC Budget is planned.
- c. PROTECTION CLAUSE: In order to facilitate budget planning for both MSA and GPC, a decrease in financial support for any of these co-sponsored services must be ratified prior to the passage of a budget for the next fiscal year, and must be ratified by passage of a joint resolution through the MSA Senate by 3/5ths

majority and the GPC General Assembly by 2/3rds majority.

- d. **FUTURE SUPPORT PROVISION:** Financial support for a co-sponsored service not currently paid for by GPC must be ratified by passage of a joint resolution through the MSA Senate by 3/5ths majority and the GPC General Assembly by 2/3rds majority, and it must be ratified prior to the passage of a budget for the next fiscal year.
 - e. **NEW SERVICES PROVISION:** In the event a new co-sponsored service is proposed by either GPC or MSA, a transfer payment amount will be negotiated prior to the passage of a budget for the next fiscal year, and this new service and budgeted amount will be ratified by a joint resolution passed by MSA Senate by 3/5ths majority and the GPC General Assembly by 2/3rds majority.
 - f. **USAGE REPORT:** All available financial information and usage statistics of auxiliaries shall be given annually by the MSA advisor to the GPC President and Treasurer, and by request by the aforementioned officers.
2. **MSA BUDGETING CONDITIONS:** During the drafting process of the MSA annual budget, a proposal of how MSA plans to use the financial support for co-sponsored services provided by GPC shall be provided by the MSA Treasurer to the GPC President and Treasurer for approval. In June of each year, the MSA Treasurer shall provide to the GPC President and Treasurer a summary of how the financial support for co-sponsored services were spent during the previous academic year.

D. REPRESENTATION:

1. **DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES:** GPC shall be allowed to send at most one non-voting representative to each meeting of each Senate committee of MSA, ensuring input of the graduate-professional student body.
2. **ADVERTISEMENTS:** There shall be an advertisement logo for both MSA and GPC on any cosponsored activity or service. GPC and MSA shall be acknowledged as sponsors at any activities or services co-sponsored by the organizations (i.e., introduction of program, posters, all publicity, etc.). Advertising of events and programs generally shall strive to make graduate students aware that they are welcome at these events.

E. STUDENT REFERENDUMS:

1. **FORMATION OF JOINT ELECTION COMMITTEE:** On those occasions when a student referendum directly affecting both undergraduate and graduate-professional students is needed or desired, a joint election committee will be formed. The composition of the committee will consist of the three GPC representatives designated by the GPC president and three MSA representatives designated by the MSA President. The MSA Board of Election Commissioners (BEC) shall serve as non-voting, ex-officio members of the joint election committee. The joint committee is charged with preparation of the

initiative's wording, which will be agreed upon with a 1 vote MSA and a 1 vote GPC decision.

2. **FIRST AND SECOND READINGS:** The approved referendum language shall be presented for a first reading at a joint meeting of the GPC General Assembly and the MSA Senate during a regularly scheduled MSA Senate meeting, and shall not be passed by vote during this first reading. At the first reading, amendments may be proposed and incorporated into the referendum only with a two-thirds majority vote of all voting members in attendance. The proposed language will then be heard for a second reading at a joint meeting of MSA and GPC held at the following regularly scheduled GPC General Assembly meeting, where it may be amended with a two-thirds majority vote of all voting members in attendance, and then it shall be voted upon for passage.
3. **IMPLEMENTATION:** The MSA Board of Election Commissioners shall handle the implementation of the student referendum process. Any polling sites shall be identified as "MSA/GPC Poll Sites." Ballots shall be prepared in a manner which gives equal recognition to MSA and GPC.
4. **VETO PROCESS:** The GPC President or MSA President may initiate a veto process of the referendum in question, and if the referendum is found by the MSA Student Court, with nonbinding advisory input from both the MSA and GPC Advisors, to have not followed the procedures outlined in Articles E.1-E.3, then that referendum shall thereby be immediately removed from the ballot on which it was intended to appear, and it may not appear on another ballot until the procedures outlined in Articles E.1-E.3 have been completed. If the referendum has already passed the student body, but has not financially gone into effect (e.g., students have not been charged), then the referendum passage shall be considered void, and it may not appear on another ballot until the procedures outlined in Articles E.1-E.3 have been completed.

F. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE:

To change the Articles of Cooperation, both the MSA Senate and the GPC General Assembly must ratify the proposed change by two-thirds majority in each legislative body.

G. REVIEW CLAUSE:

The Articles of Cooperation shall be reviewed by MSA and GPC at least every two years. The results of the review shall be reported to the Advisors of MSA and GPC and to the MSA Senate and the GPC General Assembly.

H. APPEALS CLAUSE:

All conflicts and controversies arising between GPC or MSA may be appealed to an agreed upon third party only after the organization initiating the conflict makes a good-faith attempt to resolve it with the other organization. If no third party is agreed upon, the

conflict or controversy will be appealed to the Office of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs, who may appoint a proxy.

I. VIOLATIONS CLAUSE:

The failure by either party to require performance by the other party of any provision herein shall not affect either party's right to require performance of the same at any time thereafter, nor shall a waiver of any breach or default of these Articles constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach or default or a waiver of the provision itself. Additionally, if any provision herein is held unenforceable or unsatisfiable, then such provision will be modified to reflect the parties' intention, and the remaining provisions of these Articles will remain in full force and effect.

J. TERMINATION CLAUSE:

Termination of the Articles of Cooperation shall only occur after all options in Article H of this document have been exhausted. Should these options be exhausted, then the Articles of Cooperation may be terminated by a three-quarters majority vote of the total filled seats of either organization's representative body. Notice will be given to the other party prior to the fiscal year during which the Articles of Cooperation will be deemed terminated.