

Constitution of the English Graduate Student Association
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Article I - Name

The name of the organization shall be the English Graduate Student Association of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. (Hereafter referred to as the EGSA.)

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the EGSA shall be to facilitate the exchange of ideas among English graduate students and provide a forum for discussion of issues relevant to the academic and professional welfare of these students; to act as a liaison between the Department administration and graduate students, and better facilitate communication between these groups and between graduate students and faculty; to represent the interests of graduate students within the Department of English and the larger campus community; and to develop and promote a collegial and professional sense of community among graduate students and faculty.

Article III - Membership

1. This organization does not discriminate in the selection of members or appointments when discrimination is defined as denying individuals membership or appointment on the basis of a person's age, race, national origin, color, gender, sexual orientation, creed, handicap or place of residence.
2. Membership shall be open to all students currently pursuing post-baccalaureate studies in the English Department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
3. All English Department Graduate Students are eligible to be active members of the EGSA and are eligible to run for a two-year term on the EGSA Executive Board.
4. A student organization shall consist of at least five currently enrolled student members. Non-students will be allowed to participate in any organization activity, but will not be voting members, or elected or appointed officers of said organization. A non-student is someone who is not currently enrolled at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the Fall or Spring semester.

Article IV – Executive Board Membership and Duties

1. The eight-member Executive Board will serve as a nominating committee for EGSA representatives on department committees; direct activities of the graduate student organization; represent graduate students as voting members of the department; and conduct the annual elections of EGSA.
2. The Executive Board shall call at least one general meeting each year for the graduate student membership at large, with an open invitation for the Department

Chair to attend.

3. The EGSA Executive Board shall consist of eight voting members and one non-voting Graduate Student Representative from the Graduate Committee. The eight elected members shall include a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Events Chair, Master's Program Representative, and First-Year Student Representative.
4. Positions and Representatives:
 - A. Master's Program Representative:
 - i. Shall be pursuing a Master's degree within the Department and represent the needs and interests of this group to the EGSA Executive Board.
 - ii. Shall serve a one-year term.
 - B. First Year Student Representative:
 - i. Shall be in his or her first year of graduate work in the Department and shall represent the needs and interests of this group to the EGSA Executive Board.
 - ii. Shall be elected for a two year term but will serve in the position of First-Year Student Representative for only the first year of his or her term and then as a general member of the Executive Board for the second year of the term.
 - C. Graduate Committee Representative:
 - i. Shall be selected by the department Chair of Graduate Studies as a member of the Department's Graduate Committee and will serve a one-year term as a non-voting member of the EGSA Executive Board.
 - ii. Shall serve as liaison between the Graduate Committee, the Graduate Chair, and the EGSA Executive Board.

Article V: Officers

1. President:
 - A. Shall serve as coordinator of the meetings and activities of the EGSA.
 - B. Shall be elected by and from the eight-member Executive Board and will serve for one academic year.
2. Treasurer
 - A. Shall collect, keep records of and arrange safe keeping of such monies as the Executive Board may obtain, and to disburse, at the direction of the majority of the Executive Board, such monies as are required to meet the obligations of the organization. Each disbursement shall have signatures from two officers of the Executive Board.
 - B. Shall be elected by and from the eight-member Executive Board and will

serve for one academic year.

3. Vice President:
 - A. Shall take minutes at each meeting, or appoint a proxy to do so; distribute minutes of meetings to the other Board members; and make the minutes available to the larger English Graduate Student community.
 - B. Shall be elected by and from the eight-member Executive Board and will serve for one academic year.
4. Events Chair
 - A. Shall guide the Executive Board in the planning of EGSA events and take the lead in organizing and facilitating these events.
 - B. Shall be elected by and from the eight-member Executive Board and will serve for one academic year.

Article VI - Elections

1. Executive Board members will be elected for a two-year term. The terms will be staggered such that three new general members, a Master's Student Representative, and a First-Year Student Representative will be elected each year; the remaining three general members and the previous year's First-Year Representative (a general member in the second year of his or her term) will remain members for the second year of their terms.
2. Early in each Fall, semester nominations will be solicited from English Department graduate Students by the standing EGSA Executive Board. All eligible nominees will be listed on the election ballot, which will be distributed to all English Department Graduate Students.
 - A. In the event of a tie in these elections, the standing EGSA Executive Board will break the tie through a vote of the Board.
3. Position Vacancies
 - A. If, for any reason, an Executive Board member cannot serve out his or her term, a replacement will be selected from the most recent nominating ballot by the EGSA Executive Board.
 - B. If, for any reason, an officer cannot serve out his or her term, a replacement will be selected from the remaining Executive Board members by the Executive Board members; the Board will select a replacement for the vacant general seat from the most recent nominating ballot.
 - C. In the case of all vacancies (general seats or officer positions) the individual elected to fill the vacancy will serve for the remainder of the vacant position's term.
 - D. In the case of all vacancies, if the most recent nominating ballot options

have been exhausted, the Executive Board will solicit nominations from the EGSA at large.

Article VI - Adviser

1. All advisors must be Academic/Administrative or Managerial Professional faculty staff of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
2. The department's Graduate Chair will serve as adviser to the EGSA.

Article VII - Rules of Procedure

The EGSA Executive Board will meet as necessary.

Article VIII - Finance

There will be no dues for membership in the EGSA. Organization monies will be handled by the Student Activities Financial Services regardless of the source.

Article IX - Amendments

Amendments must be ASUN approved.

Article X - Executive Date of Constitution

10 October 2014 by unanimous approval of the EGSA Executive Board.